



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES  
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December 13, 2024

**TO:** Green Hill School Staff & Young People

**FROM:** Jennifer Redman *Jennifer Redman*  
Green Hill School Interim Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Green Hill School Update – Dec. 13, 2024

Good afternoon, Green Hill School,

As you know, we have had a recent increase in contraband and drug-related events, some requiring emergency medical services to be activated on campus. We are taking additional steps to mitigate the introduction of contraband into the facility, with the goals of keeping staff and young people safe and healthy. Those updates include:

- Visitation will be reduced to 3 visitors with no contact allowed
- Resident mail will be given out as a copy rather than the original piece of mail with the exception of legal mail. This new process will be forthcoming.
- Limiting additional food from staff and contractors coming onto campus
- Room and common area searches will continue according to policy
- Prioritizing improvements in milieu supervision
- Identifying additional treatment options for young people struggling with substance use

You will also be seeing additional communication about adjustments in our point of entry process soon. While this recent increase is something we must address, I want to thank you for your cooperation on the measures implemented. Safety for young people and staff is our highest priority.

We are continuing to host hiring events to increase staffing on campus. We are hosting a hiring event on campus on Wednesday, Dec. 18, where we will have a facility tour, meet and greet with current staff and leadership, and on-the-spot interviews. On a separate but related note, there will also be a hiring event on Thursday, Dec. 19 for the Emerging Leaders program we're developing for the new JR facility in Aberdeen.

All-staff training continues to occur weekly. Information about previous weekly trainings and other topics included in the weekly update can be found on our [Juvenile Rehabilitation webpage](#). Last week, a refresher of previous trainings was held with a focus on radio etiquette, conducting line movements, and small team tactics. This Wednesday, we partnered with DOC to hold a drug identification training to teach staff what to look for when searching for contraband. About 80 staff attended and we heard numerous reports that this training was highly informative and helpful!

Painting has begun in the Willow Living Unit common areas and resident rooms, one wing at a time. The recreation door locks have been installed, with keys distributed to staff keysets across

campus. The doors to recreation will be locked unless in use, and this will allow us to begin the process of removing some of the interior fencing along the recreation building while still maintaining staff and youth safety.

Our annual holiday meal occurred last Saturday, Dec. 7. It was a wonderful event where we shared over 900 meals with family members and loved ones, and appreciation was extended from all who attended.

On Monday, Dec. 9, we held our second family summit on campus. We shared information about the current conditions of GHS and how concerns are being addressed. A final summit is scheduled for late January to finalize the framework for the ongoing Family Advisory Council for GHS.

Our first Youth Forum meeting was held last Monday, Dec. 9 as well. The resident representatives worked with us to identify solutions to concerns on campus, especially in regards to the smoking occurring on campus and the impacts to staff and their programming times. These solutions will be shared very soon.

Thank you, as always, for being part of GHS. If you have questions, please address them with your supervisor. Young people can reach out to their living unit manager.