



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**  
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December 20, 2024

**TO:** Green Hill School Staff & Young People  
**FROM:** Jennifer Redman *Jennifer Redman*  
Green Hill School Interim Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** Green Hill School Update – Dec. 20, 2024

Good afternoon, Green Hill School,

Earlier this week, Assistant Secretary Felice Upton shared that the Governor released a proposed budget on Tuesday, Dec. 17. This budget will guide our work through the legislative session, and there may be some adjustments to these items as the session develops. There will be an internal staff webinar on Jan. 8, 2025 to give further information and details hosted by the DCYF Fiscal and Government Affairs teams. Until then, it is important that I share the highlights of the budget with you to ensure transparency:

- JR Stafford Creek
  - The Governor proposed a significant investment to stand up the Emerging Adult Leaders Program at SCCC in response to the population crisis at GHS
- Safety and Security
  - Of our Safety and Security ask, the Governor invested in Classification Specialists (3); Infractions Specialists (2); Echo Glen Perimeter Security; and a Records System (System and 2 technicians)
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
  - Of our MH and Wellbeing ask, the Governor chose to fund the POST OUD Intervention Contract with Seattle Children's Hospital; and increased access to MOUD via a nurse and physician to provide counseling, case management, direct medication delivery, and education to residents who have OUD.

If you're interested in learning more the proposals, you can find relevant documents here:

- [Governor's Proposed Budget](#)
- [DCYF Agency Recommendation Summaries](#)

A DCYF press release went out this week regarding the ongoing efforts and challenges at Green Hill School, especially as they relate to our recent uptick in suspected drug-related medical emergencies on campus. We want to limit the opportunities for contraband to enter our facility and place young people and staff at risk. The safety and security measures undergoing implementation include:

- Limiting resident access to units they are not assigned to
- Increasing the volume of searches

- Reducing the number of visitors per visit
- Implementing no contact during visitation
- Providing copies of mail to young people rather than the original piece of mail (except for legal mail)
- Implementing a clear bag policy for staff and contractors entering campus
- Limiting additional food from staff and contractors coming onto campus
- Identifying additional treatment options for young people struggling with substance use

This week we held two hiring events for JR. One of these events was held at GHS on Wednesday, Dec. 18. We had about 30 participants for a facility tour, meet and greet with current staff and leadership, and on-the-spot interviews. A second hiring event was held in Aberdeen on Thursday, Dec. 19 for the Emerging Leaders program. This event had about 16 interested candidates. We are holding another hiring event in the new year for the Emerging Leaders program on Jan. 6, 2025, at Grays Harbor Community College.

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, we partnered with DOC to hold Part 1 of drug identification training to teach staff what to look for when searching for contraband. Last week they focused on identifying Spice. This week, our DOC partners held Part 2 of drug identification training where we focused on identification of marijuana. There were about 80 staff in attendance for both trainings! Keep up the good work, GHS Staff! These trainings will help us to keep young people and staff safe, and to ensure we know what we're looking for during searches.

The Willow Living Unit common areas and resident rooms painting project continues with two wings nearing completion and one wing left. The interior fencing along the Recreation Building has been removed and adjustments have been made to the fencing near Maple, Spruce, and Hawthorn. Please remember to line up all movements inside the buildings and receive clearance over the radio prior to exiting the building. This protocol will help us ensure that we have safe movements across campus and align with our goals of lowering violence and increasing security for young people and staff.

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.