



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
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January 3, 2025

TO: Green Hill School Staff & Young People

FROM: Jennifer Redman
Green Hill School Interim Superintendent

SUBJECT: Green Hill School Update – January 3, 2025

Good afternoon, Green Hill School,

I hope you all took some time to enjoy the holidays with your loved ones. I especially want to thank those who spent their holidays at GHS with young people. As you know, whenever we successfully intercept contraband, we see an uptick in aggression on campus. Due to our recent drug reduction interventions, as well as overcrowding not giving staff space to separate residents, fights have escalated over the past week, with a few larger in scale.

We are actively working to move eligible residents to community facilities. However, fights and incidents can impact that eligibility. Due to various reasons, including the current overcrowding on campus, we are experiencing an increase in residents' self-requesting or seeking information about transferring to DOC.

This week we have a few updates on safety, security, recruitment, and behavior management.

Safety Updates: Maintenance continues to conduct ongoing lock assessments on resident doors. Staff are asked to continue to shake and rattle doors regularly to ensure they are secure and check nothing is jammed in the locking mechanism. Additional lock boxes are being installed in the big units to protect the sockets from being popped to ignite items.

Security Updates: We implemented the new mail screening process to keep contraband out of our facility. We also ordered clear bags for point of entry.

Recruitment: Interviews have been scheduled for the GHS superintendent position and the Emerging Leaders Program at Stafford Creek. The interviewing and hiring event for the Emerging Leaders Program at Stafford Creek is scheduled for Jan. 6, 2025, at Grays Harbor College.

Behavior Management: Two weeks ago, DCYF hosted a webinar to discuss the Behavior Management System. JR leadership joined Juvenile Justice advocate Hasan Davis, who has collaborated with DCYF in developing the system, to go over the updated rule violations and hearing process. The webinar video will be uploaded next week and the Q&A submitted during the webinar will be posted in the coming weeks.

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For staff, if you have questions, please address them with your supervisor. Young people can reach out to their living unit manager.