

Washington Police Department

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SPECIAL PRESS RELEASE- For Immediate Release

Washington Police Chief Steven Marshall and the Washington Elementary School Leadership Team jointly announce the fourth graduation of Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) students recently. This class also marks the first time that a Washington Police officer has taught the course. Previous courses have been taught by officers contracted from other agencies.

The students were taught a ten-week course of instruction by Officer Timothy Puchtler. During that time he focused on lessons on positive peer relationships, making good decisions, and personal safety. The students had to do assignments and find articles in the papers relating to the lessons taught in school.

Because of the smaller enrollment in the Washington Elementary School, DARE is taught every other year to a combined 4th & 5th grade class. This year's class however, was comprised solely of 5th graders. The culmination of the class was a formal graduation ceremony for students, parents and relatives on April 15th at the school. In addition to Marshall and Puchtler, speakers were the authors of the two best DARE essays written by the students, Danielle Armstrong and Jamie Griffin. Approximately 40 parents, friends and relatives attended the ceremony, as well as other students and teachers. All but one member of the Washington Police Department attended as well.



The 2009 graduates were: (front L-R) Jamie Griffin, Danielle Armstrong, Cierra Gould, Emeri Cilley, Joey Goodale, Jeffrey Dagesse, Brendan Doherty, Matthew Campbell (middle row L-R) Jordan Whiton, Forest Giove, Dylan Zubryzski, Colton Gregg, James Bruno, Elizabeth Rivest, Shawna Gates, Mikayla Goodale, Michael Carter, classroom teacher Nancy Stehno, (back row L-R) Department Administrative Assistant Michelle Dagesse, Ofc. John Corrigan, Ofc. Aaron Smith, Ofc. Tim Puchtler, Chief Steven Marshall