

Dear Totem Falls Families and Friends,

I have had, what I feel are, and inordinate amount of people asking me lately who I am, why I am the Top Dog, and how do I have so much time to be at the school. To limit future questions I thought I should tell you a few reasons of who, what, and where I am right now. I realize I should have done this much earlier in the year but- later is better than never. So here goes a few pertinent points about your Top D.O.G. this year.



- I was asked to be the Top D.O.G. by Principal Hawk Cramer this last summer. He is really the reason this program is still going. After the last coordinating person moved away there was a vacancy and he filled it by asking me. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for ensuring this valuable program continued.
- I used to work for a company called Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes. I worked one-on-one with student of all ages for eight hours a day. Many, but not all, of these students were considered "on the autistic spectrum" or had learning disabilities. I truly enjoy seeing people have an "ah ha!" moment in learning.
- I have a degree in Comparative Studies in Religions with a minor in History. I have applied this in a few ways in my life but notably was able to put my knowledge to use during my 15 minutes of fame. I was on several episodes of a (silly) History Channel show some years back.
- I am primarily a stay-at-home dad but own my own business binding, restoring, creating and publishing books. I also collect rare books.
- I feel books are a primary component of life and support our school library by fixing and sometimes finding replacements for broken books.
- I have taken a leave from my business for the first half of the year in order to devote more time to volunteerism. I also volunteer at the Snohomish Foodbank.
- I have two children that attend Totem Falls. I am fortunate to have a wife that supports all my efforts and am a proud representative for our family in my volunteerism.
- I feel that our teachers and school system should be budgeted the same way we budget our sports teams but until that happens I will volunteer when I can.

I hope this answers a few questions.



Best,
Your Top DOG Joe Rose
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