

EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
803 OAK BOULEVARD
EPHRATA, PA 17522



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Washington Educational Center Holds 20th Graduation Ceremony Program Gives Students a Second Chance to Succeed

January 26, 2010 – Over 35 students received diplomas at the twentieth Washington Educational Center (WEC) graduation ceremony on Thursday, January 14, 2010. WEC is an alternative education program operated by the Ephrata Area School District. More than 790 students have graduated from WEC since the program began in October 1999.

WEC offers a self-paced, individualized program for students who are looking for a second chance at academic success. Some have gone on to earn Bachelor and Master Degrees; others have earned military scholarships; and many go on to trade schools.

“I really enjoyed coming to class every day,” said Felicia Ramirez in her graduation speech. “Next month I will be attending York Technical Institute, where I will be studying to become a medical assistant. I am excited to be continuing my education.”

WEC diplomas are equivalent to a traditional high school diploma and open up a world of opportunities for graduates. The program currently accepts students, ages 17-20, from the Ephrata Area School District, as well as the school districts of Cocalico, Eastern Lancaster County, and Pequea Valley. Each student must complete a graduation project and earn 21 credits, which includes credits earned in high school before transferring to WEC. The flexibility of the WEC program gives students the opportunity to work or fulfill family obligations while receiving their education.

The following students graduated in the January 2010 class.

Ephrata Area School District

Michelle Abate	Deanna Keens	Sandra Piper
Jacqueline DeLue	Tiffany Lacefield	Taija Rauch
Shannon Fetty	Nicole Main	Tyler Risser
Marie Golub	Michelle Miller	Amber Stout
Cassie Houser	Jessica Mowday	Lee Yang

Cocalico School District

Timothy Eckert
Breanne Good
Brittany Grumbling
Meagan Hess
Timothy Heverling
Ashley Jay
Eric Kilhefner

Pequea Valley School District

Amy Geisel
Danielle Logan
Derek Mercer
Kimberly Register
Samuel Savage
Tiffany Smale
Kyle Stoltzfus

Eastern Lancaster County School District

Wade Breasette
William Conde
Ashlee Fields
Edward Medina
Corrine Morris
Felicia Ramirez
Russell Sweed

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Felicia Ramirez speaks at the recent Washington Educational Center graduation ceremony.

WEC graduate, Marie Golub, receives congratulations from Dr. Gerald Rosati, Ephrata Area School District Superintendent (left) and Timothy Stayer, Ephrata Area School Board President.

