



Deaf Picnic 2020

- ❖ The World Health Organization declared the coronavirus a pandemic on, March 11, 2020.
- ❖ Governor Inslee has restricted large gatherings in King, Snohomish and Pierce counties to limit the spread of COVID-19 until further notice. This includes social gatherings of 250 or more.
- ❖ Schools in in Pierce, Snohomish and King counties have announced closure as per the Governor's request from March 17, 2020 – April 24, 2020.
- ❖ Birney Elementary is under construction and at this time, space is very limited. When considering approximately 700 were in attendance last year, safety is a major consideration. The space available is not sufficient to guarantee adequate safety for all.
- ❖ Several other school districts were contacted and unable to accommodate us.
- ❖ Renting a space in a local park is costly and restricted in the number of people that can gather.

While the picnic is not scheduled until June, Sertoma members feel it is in the best interest of the school districts, programs, parents and communities as a whole to postpone the Deaf Picnic until 2021.

We want to thank you for your understanding at this time and promise we will continue this event the following year at the new Birney Elementary which will continue to provide both a safe space and a welcoming atmosphere to all. Please share this information with staff, students, administration and parents.