

Freshmen explore careers through hands-on learning

Gladstone High freshmen are getting a hands-on introduction to engineering science, digital media, trades, and robotics thanks to a new class called GATES: Gladstone Arts, Technology and Engineering School.

The twelve-week course is taught by a team of three, with each student rotating through a four-week session with each instructor.

Science engineering teacher Kevin Zerzan teaches students about electricity as they build and test a generator and a wind turbine.

Design and build teacher Mike Leone introduces computer-aided design, 3D printing, and robotics as students try their hand at woodcraft and programming.

Digital multi-media teacher Brenden Thwing teaches digital design as students master the technology behind wood engraving and creating vinyl stickers.

“Using tools is a new experience for me. It’s pretty fun,” said freshman William Cooper. “I like the opportunity to build things. Now I’m thinking about taking construction tech.”

Besides hands-on technology learning, students are also building the soft skills needed to succeed in the workplace: adaptability, collaboration, communication, and problem solving.

“We hope students will gain exposure to career fields they may not know about, as well as exposure to the variety of course offerings we have in Gladstone High’s growing career-technical departments,” said Zerzan. “I also hope students leave GHS with the skills employers want so our graduates have as many options open to them in the future as possible.”

“We want education to feel real, so we are giving our students real-world problems to solve,” said Thwing. “I try to make each day meaningful for our students so they have a sense of pride and accomplishment with their academics.”

PHOTO: Gladstone High freshman Jasmine Morris-White tests a wind turbine she constructed in a new class designed to give students a broad foundation in technology skills.

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GHS to host Parents Night Out

Gladstone High students and staff will host a night of fun for children, giving parents the opportunity for an evening out. The event for ages 4 to 11 is February 15 from 5 to 9 p.m. Activities include a pizza dinner, movies, games, crafts, and dodge ball.

The cost is \$15 per child with a \$40 maximum per family. All funds raised benefit the Gladstone High Key Club and Softball Team. Students can be dropped off at the main gym entrance: 18800 Portland Avenue.

For information, contact teacher Lynnda Prom at proml@gladstone.k12.or.us or call 503.655.2544 ext. 414.

Gladstone seniors honored at last home wrestling meet

Next week is the last chance this season to see the Gladstone High wrestling team compete at home, as they host a 3-school meet with Corbett and Madras.

Six seniors will be celebrated at the event, including Carlos Rodriguez, Chael Williams, Josh Heywood, Logan Greco, Stefan Smith, and Hunter Leman.

The event is at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11 at Gladstone High School, 18800 Portland Avenue. The community is invited to cheer on the team!