

NR 040418

Gladstone High offers new social studies class on food

The Culture and History of Food is a new social studies course at Gladstone High School this term. Students will explore food through the lens of social science.

“We wanted to create a class that gives kids a new and different option for elective credit while highlighting the importance of food to our human development and history,” said social studies teacher Ryan Browning. “Food is something that connects everyone on the planet in some way, and it can help us understand the complex relationships, issues, and events that have shaped our world.”

Each unit in the class will teach hands-on culinary skills, with an emphasis on safe food preparation. Bob’s Red Mill donated most of the basic food ingredients needed for the class, including flours, oats, and bread mixes.

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Gladstone High to stage Seussical the Musical

Gladstone High School will stage Seussical the Musical this spring. The whimsical play by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty brings to life several popular children’s books by Dr. Seuss, including Horton Hears a Who, Yertle the Turtle, and the Cat in the Hat.

“People of all ages will enjoy this uplifting and colorful story of love, loyalty, sacrifice, and caring,” said Director Emmett Pearson. “The musical performances are quite fun.”

Performances are 7 p.m. on April 13 and 14, with a 2 p.m. matinee on April 15 at the Gladstone High School performing arts center, 18800 Portland Avenue. Tickets, sold at the door, are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and children.

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Gladstone High School renews accreditation

Gladstone High school has renewed its educational accreditation with the Northwest Accreditation Commission. The quality assurance evaluation, completed every five years, is done to ensure that state standards are met and that programs are in place to meet a spectrum of student needs.

Educators who reviewed Gladstone High commended the school for its strong mentorship program for new teachers, the quality of the school improvement plan, and the focused use of financial resources to meet goals.

“The review committee was impressed by our students’ kindness, and our positive

school climate that emphasizes inclusion and encourages participation,” said Principal Kevin Taylor. “They could not stop talking about how polite our kids are.”

One improvement suggested by the review committee was finding more ways to support students’ mental health needs. This work is already underway via a new partnership with the Clackamas County Health Clinics.

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Gladstone Food Pantry seeks volunteers

The Gladstone Food Pantry seeks adult and teen volunteers for several open shifts. The facility, located on the Gladstone High School campus, provides food to 60 local families each week.

“Working at the Food Pantry is good for the soul,” said coordinator Leslie Robinette. “Between our caring volunteers and our friendly customers, it’s a great place to connect with our community while helping others.”

Open monthly customer service shifts include:

- First Thursdays, 2:45 to 5:45 p.m. [1 person needed]
- Second Thursdays, 2:45 to 5:45 p.m. [2 people needed]
- Third Thursdays, 2:45 to 5:45 p.m. [1 person needed]

A weekly shift is also open on the pantry prep team:

- Every Wednesday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Leslie Robinette at robinettel@gladstone.k12.or.us.