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**Kevin Taylor chosen as principal of Gladstone High**

The Gladstone District selected Kevin Taylor as the new principal of Gladstone High School. Taylor, with 20 years in education, holds a master’s degree in teaching and a master’s in business administration from Oregon State University.

“I am so excited!” said Taylor. “Schools are focal point for the Gladstone community, and I am thrilled for the opportunity to be part of it all. Gladstone High has an excellent reputation across the state for academics, athletics, and activities. I can’t wait to start working with students, parents, and staff to help each student find their passion and reach their potential.”

"Kevin has a big heart for students, and he brings a wealth of experience in staff leadership and program management," said Superintendent Bob Stewart. "His extensive work improving attendance, building cultural competency, and mentoring new teachers will be an asset to our team."

Taylor served as Assistant Principal at Cleveland High School for nine years and at David Douglas High School for three years. He succeeds Interim Principal Nancy Bailey.

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**Gladstone Education Foundation awards grants**

The Gladstone Education Foundation [GEF] this week awarded five grants totaling \$4,775 to support a spectrum of projects benefiting Gladstone youths.

“From family support programs and music to athletics and literacy, the foundation’s mission is giving kids a solid foundation for a healthy, happy life,” said Grant Committee Chair Leslie Robinette. “Thanks to strong community support of our auction, we are delighted to award a second round of grants this school year.”

Winners included:

Gladstone Schools Music Program	\$275	3-School Band & Choir Concert
Gladstone High Athletic Program	\$1,500	Coaching to Build Character
Gladstone Public Library	\$1,500	Summer Reading: Pre-K & Teens
Gladstone Kids Clothes Closet	\$1,000	Sock & Underwear Fund
Kraxberger Middle School	\$500	Track Uniforms

To contribute to the GEF’s fall grant fund, contact Executive Director Tammy Tracy at 503.655.2777.

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**Gladstone invites community to share their vision for schools**

What could schools provide for students if Oregon had the national average in per-student

funding? The Gladstone School district will gather input on that vision in a series of community meetings in May.

All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m., with free childcare provided. Participants are encouraged to bring smart phones to participate in an on-line survey. All are welcome.

Scheduled events:

Tuesday, May 10	Gladstone High School: 18800 Portland Avenue
Thursday, May 19	Kraxberger Middle School: 17777 Webster Road
Wednesday, May 25	Gladstone Center for Children & Families: 18905 Portland Ave.
Tuesday, May 31	John Wetten Elementary: 250 East Exeter Street

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**Backpack Buddies program seeks sponsors**

Kids learn better when they are well fed. That’s why Gladstone Schools is seeking organizations to partner with their Backpack Buddies program, which provides an extra meal or two to families in need.

“Seventy families is a lot to feed each week,” explained project coordinator Leslie Robinette. “To continue the program, we are working to build a coalition of 10 community groups who can each provide \$1,000 worth of food donations each year.”

Besides supporting hungry families, Backpack Buddies also provides job and life skills training to special education students from Gladstone High School. Teens in the program are responsible for sorting donations, inventory, and packing food for delivery.

To find out more about becoming a partner, call Leslie Robinette at 503.974.5077.

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**Saturday event includes electronics recycling, drug turn-in, shredding**

Spring-cleaning just got easier thanks to a Gladstone event that includes electronics recycling, drug turn-in, and free document shredding.

The event will take place Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gladstone Police Department, 535 Portland Avenue. Sponsors include the Gladstone Police and the Kraxberger Gearheads Robotics Club.

Community members may bring

- old computers, cell phones, cords, routers, laptops, flat screen televisions under 32”, and anything with an electrical cord
- leftover prescription, over-the-counter, and pet medications
- old documents to be shredded