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**Gladstone High blood drive will help 168 patients**

The Key Club at Gladstone High School held an October blood drive for the American Red Cross. For many students, it was their first opportunity to donate blood.

The event resulted in 61 registered donors and a total donation of 56 units of blood.

“We are truly grateful to the student and parent volunteers and most especially the blood donors who participated in the drive,” said Red Cross manager Joyce Tkel. “Up to 168 patients may receive the gift of life as each donation may help up to 3 people.”

The next Gladstone High blood drive will take place January 23, 2019. For more information contact Lynnda Prom at [proml@gladstonel.k12.or.us](mailto:proml@gladstonel.k12.or.us).

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**Middle school invites volunteers to run a club or share a hobby**

Kraxberger Middle School is on a mission to help each student find a place to connect and belong. A keystone of this effort is expansion of the school’s after school clubs and activities. While teachers have stepped up to staff the fall session, the school is recruiting parents and other volunteers to lead activities this winter and spring.

“This is an opportunity for talented parents and community members to share their passion or hobby with a small group of students,” said Principal Len Reed. “We are open to a range of activities from dance, crafts, and chess to basketball, knitting, cooking, or running.”

Clubs run four to six weeks and meet once or twice each week from 3:20 to 4:20 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Thursdays. Snacks and late buses will be provided, and participation is free to students. Session 2 runs November 26 to December 21, followed by Session 3 from January 14 to February 22.

To volunteer, contact Principal Len Reed at [reedl@gladstone.k12.or.us](mailto:reedl@gladstone.k12.or.us).

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**Gladstone invites early learning professionals to seminar**

The Gladstone Center for Children and Families [GCCF] plans a seminar for early childhood professionals on building children’s resilience through early learning. The seminar welcomes participation from preschool and daycare employees, primary teachers, and early childhood program directors. Presentations will be offered in English and in Spanish.

The event will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, October 27, at the GCCF, 18905 Portland Avenue in Gladstone. The cost to participate is \$20, including breakfast and lunch. To register, visit <https://events.clackesd.org/Public/Course/Browse>, click on Workshops and Trainings, then CCRR. Scroll down to the event to register.

Presentation topics include:

- Developing resilience in families with young children
- Building friendship skills
- Promoting pro-social behavior in preschoolers
- Resiliency: Helping kids bounce back
- Responding to stress in young children’s lives

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**Clackamas County school districts host candidates’ forum**

Education was the topic at an October 3 candidates’ forum hosted by the ten school districts in Clackamas County. Twenty-one state legislative candidates and elected officials participated, including Representative Mark Meek, Senator Alan Olson, and Senatorial candidate Charles Gallia of the Gladstone area.

The event included presentations by a parent, a high school student, and several educators on the region’s most

pressing topics: the need for stable and adequate school funding; the increasing need for mental health resources for students; bullying; and Oregon's looming teacher shortage.

In recent years, funding for K-12 schools has dropped from 45 percent of the state budget to 39 percent, resulting in one of the nation's shortest school years. In the past two years, the percentage of eighth grade students reporting depression jumped from 23 percent to over 31 percent. The number of Oregon teachers-in-training is now 38 percent below the number needed. Participating candidates had the opportunity to respond to these issues.

A video of the event is available on the Gladstone School District YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U04c8ZMQWqU&t=1174s>