



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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Celebrations!

Kraxberger holds 6th grade science fair

Sixth graders spent a few weeks this fall learning the scientific method. Next they designed their own experiment to demonstrate their knowledge of the steps and their ability to perform a lab using the scientific method.

Each student formulated a question and a hypothesis, designed an investigation, collected and presented their data, and analyzed and interpreted their results.

Projects ranged from studies of chewing gum, ice melting, and paper airplane design.

GHS student leaders support holiday giving

The Student Senate sorted and packed toys, gifts, and books for 111 Gladstone families, part of a citywide Adopt-a-Family effort with Gladstone Fire, Kiwanis, and Rotary. The morning of December 17 they were on hand to load food and gifts into delivery vehicles.

Across town, the Key Club helped Santa with a food drive, gathering over 1,000 pounds of food for the Gladstone Food Pantry.

Gladstone Education Foundation funds grants

The Gladstone Education Foundation [GEF] awarded \$20,000 to support school and community programs that benefit Gladstone youths. In all, 17 proposals were submitted, totaling \$50,000 in funding requests.

Funded projects include:

- Virtual Welding at Gladstone High
- Expansion of the Backpack Buddies program
- Leveled literacy books for John Wetten Elementary
- Books for the library at Kraxberger Middle School
- Capturing Story Creations for kindergarten
- Early literacy programs at Gladstone Public Library
- Challenge Day for 7th graders at Kraxberger Middle School
- Thursday Hour educational events at Gladstone Center for Children & Families
- A ceramics kiln for Gladstone High School
- A Shakespeare Festival Trip for Gladstone High

"With another \$5,000 in total funds available this March, our hope is that we will see a variety of small proposals from those who have not yet submitted a grant request this year," said grant committee chair Leslie Robinette.

School	Submitted	Funded
GCCF	2	2
JWE	1	1
WLK	5	2
GHS	6	3
Community Programs	3	2

Classes make unique gifts

Looking for a unique Valentine gift? Making a New Year's resolution to learn something new? Gladstone's Community Schools program offers a wide variety of affordable classes for kids, teens, and adults.

Class options include dance, guitar, ukulele, fitness, martial arts, cooking, soap-making, crafts, art, driver education, iPhone or iPad skills, Spanish, wood working, investment, small engine repair, and sports.

To register on-line, visit www.gladstone.k12.or.us and click on Learning for Life.

Calendar

Progress reports/PD
February 6

School Board Meeting
February 8 @ 6:30 p.m.

Wetten student demonstrates lean, green cooking

Gladstone second grader Renatt Sokolov prepared salsa during a cooking demonstration for cooks in Gladstone Schools.

The training, provided by the Humane Society, taught the Nutrition Services team about lean and green cooking. Each year our cooks receive up to 12 hours of training.

Rotary funds book giveaway at GCCF story hour

Each child attending Story Hour will receive a free book each month thanks to a \$1,000 grant from the Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary Club.

Story Hour invites families with children under 5 to share books and fun activities to prepare children for success in kindergarten.

Activities include music and literacy crafts, print awareness activities, and letter and sound games. The free event takes place at 4:15 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

School Board News & other news

From the January 18 Board meeting:

Board Members :

Sharon Soliday, Chair

Nicole Vera-Vera Couzens, Vice Chair

Carlos Castañeda [absent]

Rod Cole

Kristin Eaton

Jay Schmidt

Bruce Wadsworth

The Board:

- Recognized fall athletic teams from Gladstone High.
- Discussed the array of Board room art work from Kraxberger Middle School.
- Approved a Gladstone High English Department trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.
- Approved a GHS Key Club trip to District Conference.
- Approved Open Enrollment for 2017-18. Applications for fall are due by April 1, with applications available immediately.
- Approved a revision to the 2016-17 Interdistrict Transfer Process.
- Approved requests for resignation/release of contract.
- Approved hiring of licensed employees.
- Approved a change to the 2016-17 school calendar.
- Approved changes and updates to policy regarding individual Board Member authority and responsibility; Board Member resignation; Board meetings; Executive Sessions; and Adoption and Revision of Policies.
- Discussed the GCCF Performance Report.
- Discussed the Section 122 report.
- Heard an update on happenings at Gladstone High School from student representative Megan Kuhn.
- Heard updates from district administrative staff.
- Discussed the District's monthly financial report.
- Discussed the transportation Request for Proposal.
- Discussed Healthy and Safe Schools.
- Discussed policy on student conduct, use of tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, or inhalent delivery systems.
- Discussed the hiring process for the new Middle School principal.
- Discussed the Legislative co-chairs' budget, in opposition to the Governor's budget, which would require the state to raise new revenue.

Calendar change may impact some staff schedules

The School Board adopted a revised school calendar to lengthen Second Trimester. The changes may impact staff work schedules for some classified employees. If you are not sure, please check with your supervisor.

Four changes are reflected on this calendar:

- March 17 will become a regular school day for students
- 2nd Trimester finals for Gladstone High School will move to March 22 & 23.
- March 24 will become a staff in-service day, with NO school for students.
- 3rd Trimester begins after Spring Break.

As of today this is the only change in our school calendar. However, please be aware that because of days missed due to winter weather, there may be other modifications to the calendar that are yet to be determined. The district will notify employees as soon as the decision is made.

Gladstone adds social service help at Kraxberger Middle School

For kids in struggling families, learning is hard until their family's basic needs like housing, food, and health care are met. To support youths from birth to age 14, Gladstone Schools will continue to provide social service navigation to preschool and elementary families, while also expanding the program to serve students at Kraxberger Middle School.

The program is funded by a three-year, \$450,000 grant from Family Care Health Plans, with two Family Resource Coordinators provided by Northwest Family Services. The social workers are experts in navigating the complex web of public and non-profit services, making needed connections between schools and organizations to ensure that families get what they need.

"Sometimes resolving a small issue like a car repair can prevent a bigger issue like loss of a job," explained Lennie Bjornsen, Director of Student and Family Supports. "We are excited to expand this successful program to support the needs of young adolescents, and we anticipate it will have a positive effect for middle schoolers."