



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 5 • February 15, 2017

Celebrations!

GHS alumni wins state honor

Gladstone High alumni Daniel Diaz Rodrigues will be honored this month with the Matt Bailey Student of the Year Award. The honor celebrates a student with disabilities who succeeds in launching a career.

This is the second time in five years that a Gladstone Student has won the statewide award.

Daniel's developed job skills through courses and activities in high school. As a result, he was able to land a paying job working in the cafeteria at John Wetten Elementary.

Sponsors support kindergarten kids

The GCCF kindergarten launched a new "Adopt-a-Classroom" sponsorship program. The program helps provide enrichment activities, hands-on projects, and student support to the district's youngest students.

Each sponsor provides a \$250 contribution, used for field trips, science and art supplies, books, and help for struggling families. To date, the program has raised \$2,500.

Gladstone graduation rate tops state average 5%

In 2016, Gladstone High School surpassed the state graduation rate by over 5 percent, with more than 80% of students graduating in four years. Over 88 percent of Gladstone students graduated within 5 years of starting high school.

"We continually re-focus our efforts with the goal of getting each student over the bar," said Principal Kevin Taylor. "Providing support programs after school and Saturday mornings has helped us provide more individual support to students who struggle."

At Gladstone High more than 76 percent of students in underserved races graduated on time, 8.4 percent above the state average.

"Achievement gaps for disadvantaged students are beginning to close, but we still have work to do," Taylor said. "Some students need a fifth year to achieve graduation, and we stand ready to give them the support they need to cross the finish line, whether by providing mentors, tutors, support classes, or extra help."

Gladstone welcomes out-of-district applicants for fall 2017

The Gladstone School District will admit students from outside its borders in the 2017-18 school year. Spots are open in grades K-10.

District schools offer a small town school experience that provides for individual needs. Kindergarten offers art and science specialists. Elementary students get weekly music, P.E., technology, and library. Middle school has the AVID college readiness system. And Gladstone High has a wide array of college level courses, career technical programs, and the arts.

Each school will offer tours or student shadow experiences starting in February. To arrange for a tour, contact the school office. Applications, due April 1, are available at <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/>. For information, call Natalie Weninger at 503.496.3935.

Calendar

President's Day holiday
February 20

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

Grants launch new Kraxberger programs

A grant from Nike is funding a new competitive wrestling club at Kraxberger this winter. The club provides a chance to build skills and fitness while connecting with staff and peers.

A First Book grant will provide a free summer reading club for grades 5 to 8 tied to the Summer KAOS program and the free summer lunch program. Students will keep the books they read.

Wetten students shine at all-state choir performance

Gladstone 5th graders Payden Schumacher, Chloe black, and Maggie Meyer performed with other top singers at the All-State Elementary Choir performance in Eugene in January.

"The girls did an amazing job representing our school, and they learned a lot from this experience," said music teacher Kelly Jacobs.

School Board News & other news

From the February 8 Board meeting:

Board Members :

Sharon Soliday, Chair

Nicole Vera-Vera Couzens, Vice Chair

Carlos Castañeda

Rod Cole

Kristin Eaton

Jay Schmidt

Bruce Wadsworth

The Board:

- Discussed the audit and management reports.
- Discussed the student work on display from the kindergarten.
- Approved the local service plan provided by ESD,
- Approved the GHS softball trip to Klamath Falls.
- Approved the GHS baseball trip to Ontario.
- Approved the minutes of the January board meeting.
- Approved the hiring of licensed employees.
- Approved updates to policies regarding student conduct and use of tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, or inhalant delivery systems.
- Heard updates from Administrative staff.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Discussed the annual Measurable Achievement Objectives Report.
- Approved changes to the school calendar in response to snow days.
- Discussed Response to Intervention.
- Discussed special district elections in 2017.
- Discussed the planned equity training for Board members.

Food Pantry seeks volunteers

The Gladstone Food Pantry located behind Gladstone High School seeks volunteers to serve in a variety of roles. Together our team feeds 50 families a week!

Join us, and help out once a month in one of these roles:

- One Saturday shift a month, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Help clients choose nutritious foods to meet their family's needs.
- Occasional Saturday cooking demonstrations. Volunteers are needed on first, second, and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.
- Tuesday morning merchandising: Re-stock shelves, sort produce, and highlight the recipe of the week.

To volunteer, contact Theresa Schmidt at schmidtt@gladstone.k12.or.us.

Food Pantry awarded grant funds

The Gladstone Food Pantry received a \$2,000 grant from Clackamas County to provide monthly cooking demonstrations by a professional nutritionist. The program is funded through the Healthy Eating/Active Living initiative. The program will provide recipes nutrition information, and ingredients.

"Many families we serve lack basic kitchen skills, have limited cooking facilities, or are not familiar with the produce we provide," said Food Pantry leader Leslie Robi-nette. "These cooking demonstrations will help pantry visitors learn to prepare delicious meals from healthy foods like kasha, cauliflower, garbanzo beans, and butternut squash."

The Gladstone Food Pantry, located behind Gladstone High School off Nelson Lane, is open Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Two easy ways to help Gladstone schools while shopping

Two shopping programs make it easy for supporters of Gladstone schools to benefit education, social service, and youth programs in Gladstone schools. Both provide deliver funding to the Gladstone Education Foundation, which supports grants to classrooms, schools, and youth programs across Gladstone.

Fred Meyer shoppers can link their rewards card to the Gladstone Education Foundation to support Gladstone Schools. They still get personal fuel points & rebates, and Gladstone Schools gets a quarterly donation from Fred Meyer. With 150 people signed up, the GEF raised \$3,500 last year. To sign up, visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and enter Gladstone Schools, #80945.

Amazon Smile is another program that supports the Gladstone Education Foundation. To participate, shoppers should visit this website: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-1284265>. Each time shoppers use this Amazon site, .5% of their purchase price will benefit Gladstone students.