



# Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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## Celebrations!

### Tooth Taxi provides free care to GCCF kids

The Tooth Taxi visited the Gladstone Center for Children & Families, providing free dental care to some who had never before visited a dentist.

The program screened 149 children and then provided additional care for 27 people. Nearly \$19,000 worth of care was provided, including cleanings, fillings and tooth extractions. Most of those served were preschool and kindergarten students.

The program is funded by the OEA Choice Trust, Moda Health, and the Dental Foundation of Oregon.

### GHS students perform dragon dance

Mandarin language students from Gladstone High shared their knowledge of Chinese culture, performing a dragon dance routine at a festival to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

"The performance in West Linn was a success for the students," said Chinese teacher Hao Li. "They had fun and built a lot of confidence."

To share this cultural experience with students across the district, the group hopes to perform dragon dances at assemblies for the kindergarten, John Wetten, and Kraxberger.

Video of the performance is available at <http://bit.ly/2BZMhoa>

## Graduation rate beats state by 9 percent

Gladstone's class of 2017 had a district graduation rate of nearly 86 percent. That is 9 percent over the state average.

"I give credit to our students and teachers working together to achieve this success in the classroom. We've worked hard to address the individual needs of students," said Principal Kevin Taylor.

Special education students had more than a 29 percent increase in graduation rates over the past five years and this year topped the state average by 17 percent.

Gladstone's economically disadvantaged students made a gain of more than 16 percent in three years, with 2017 graduates beating the state average by nearly 10 percent.

"We are proud to show continuous improvement and achieve a graduation rate among the best in the state," said Superintendent Bob Stewart.

## Education Foundation offers spring grants

The Gladstone Education Foundation [GEF] invites staff to apply for spring grants. GEF has a total of \$10,000 to award this season.

Applications are available at [www.gladstonefoundation.org](http://www.gladstonefoundation.org). Grant applications must be signed by an administrator before submission.

Applicants will be invited to a 10 minute face-to-face interview on either March 5 or March 7 between 5 and 8 p.m.

All grant applications must be returned to Tammy Tracy no later than 3 p.m. on February 28. Emailed electronic copies are preferred. If sending a hard copy or using the district courier, please be sure to allow enough time for delivery prior to the deadline.

## Calendar

**March 9 -- no school**  
Report Card Day for staff

**March 26 to 30**  
Spring Break

## Kraxberger robotics team goes to State

Kraxberger Middle School sent two teams to the Super Qualifier, facing tough competition from a group of 31 teams.

Team 8132 earned the Connect Award for their work to build connections between their team, their community, and local engineering, science, and technology businesses. They finished in 12th place and will advance to the state competition in Hillsboro with their robot, Mr. Roboto.

Team 8188 won its first match, but did not advance to the finals.

## JWE launches Battle of the Books

Gladstone kids are reading more thanks to Oregon Battle of the Books, an after school club tied to competitions across the state.

This year over 50 fourth and fifth graders from John Wetten Elementary are participating. Each has agreed to read all 11 titles selected by the state organization.

The program is led by library assistants Nancy West and Julie Kempster, who are working to expand reading interests, to improve reading comprehension skills, and to promote cooperative learning and teamwork.

# School Board update & other news

From the February 14 Board meeting:

## Board Members :

Sharon Soliday, Chair [absent]  
Kristin Eaton, Vice Chair  
Nicole Vera-Vera Couzens  
Tracey Grant  
Greg Lind  
Jay Schmidt  
Steve Stewart

The Board:

- Presented an award to the Gladstone Fire Department for their partnership on Adopt-a-Family and CPR instruction.
- Heard a presentation from the Key Club at Gladstone High.
- Discussed the Board Room art work by students at GCCF.
- Discussed the annual Pest Management Report.
- Approved a GHS Varsity Softball trip to Sisters.
- Approved a revision to the 2017-18 inter-district transfer process.
- Approved a Board calendar revision.
- Approved school board policies on nondiscrimination and the discrimination complaint/grievance procedure.
- Approved policy revisions on public comment at board meetings, evaluation of administrators, injury/illness reports, communicable diseases [staff], criminal records checks and fingerprinting, staff evaluation, identification of students with disabilities, special education evaluation procedures, special education/Free Appropriate Public Education, graduation requirements, graduation exercise, compulsory attendance, admission of resident students, and use of tobacco/inhalants/alcohol and drugs.
- Discussed changes to administrative regulations.
- Heard a presentation about happenings at Gladstone High School from student representative Kaitlyn Coy.
- Discussed the financial report.
- Discussed personnel.

## Education Foundation seeks new board members

The Gladstone Education Foundation (GEF) will be seeking applications for new board members in the near future. The GEF was formed in 2000 with a mission to raise funds to promote academic achievement and enhanced learning opportunities for Gladstone students, educators, and youth organizations.

Those looking for an opportunity to get involved with a fun and motivated group of individuals may want to apply. Posting of the positions will occur in late February. If you would like more information contact Tammy Tracy at 503.650.2577 or [tracyt@gladstone.k12.or.us](mailto:tracyt@gladstone.k12.or.us)



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## Gladstone Fire District honored for partnership with School District

Gladstone's school board presented a Growing Great People award to the Gladstone Fire Department for their partnership with the school district on multiple projects.

The Fire Department has worked with both Kraxberger Middle School and Gladstone High School to train students in CPR, a state requirement for graduation.

In addition, the Fire Department played a leading role in the Adopt-a-Family project, organizing food donations from the Sunshine Division, raising thousands of dollars to buy toys, and helping to deliver the items to 115 Gladstone families.

## Gladstone invites out-of-district students to apply

The Gladstone School District will admit students from outside district borders for the 2018-19 school year, with spots for students in kindergarten to grade 10. Applications, due April 1, are available at <http://gladstone.k12.or.us>

Outstanding programs include:

- Kindergarten science, music, P.E., and art
- Elementary technology, music, library, and P.E.
- Culture of Care and trauma-informed education
- Middle school AVID college readiness program
- 5-day Outdoor School for all sixth graders
- 36 college-level courses
- 17 on-site career-technical classes

Each school will offer opportunities for tours or student shadow experiences starting in February. To arrange a tour, contact the school office. For more information, call Natalie Weninger at 503.496.3935.

## Rotary donates to Backpack Buddies

A \$3,200 grant from Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary will provide 14 weekly food deliveries to 75 families with children in Gladstone Schools.

"Our goal is providing nutritious foods so families are stabilized and children learn better," said program coordinator Leslie Robi-nette. "Need is increasing as rents rise. This generous grant will allow us to expand the number of children we serve."

Partners in the project include Bob's Red Mill, Dave's Killer Bread, Gladstone First Baptist Church, The Source Church, The Table Church, Gospel Fellowship Community Church, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, and Gladstone Christian Church.