



# Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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## Celebrations!

### Kraxberger band takes 2nd at festival

The Kraxberger Advanced Band took second place out of 13 middle schools at the Baker Prairie Band Festival with ratings of "Superior" from each judge. They missed first place by just one point.

"The students organized multiple rehearsals outside of school and rehearsed diligently every day to be get to this level," said band director Seth Arnold. "I couldn't be more proud!"

### Kindergarten studies... butterflies

Kindergarten science classes at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families have been studying the life cycle of butterflies this spring.

"Together they observed the progression from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly," said science teacher Kassy Babeckos. "They also planted a butterfly garden to provide habitat for the butterflies they will release."

"My kids have a rapport with the staff that take care of facilities, and the cooks! Gladstone school and teaching staff really do care about the kids."  
— Tracy Hymas, parent

## Entry security systems added at each school

To increase staff and student safety, the school district will add a "buzz-in" entrance security system at the front door of each school May 29.

"Putting the system in place at the end of the school year will allow us to test it, so we can make any needed procedural or mechanical modifications before the next school year begins," said Technology Coordinator Ryan Johnson.

Cameras are installed near the front entry of each school. To request entry during the school day, visitors should push the call button to communicate with office staff, who will unlock the door for those approved for entry.

Staff members can continue to use their fobs for entry as usual. All back and side entrances will remain locked during the school day in keeping with district practice.

The district will continue the full spectrum of safety procedures already in place. These include our multi-agency threat assessment team, routine school safety drills, the Safe Oregon tip line, partnerships that bring students mental health services, staff training in Run/Hide/Fight strategies, and close partnership with our School Resource Officer Lee Gilliam.

## Two Gladstone educators vie for Teacher of the Year

Of the 13 Gladstone teachers nominated for Oregon Teacher of the Year, two completed the application process for consideration as the Clackamas region honoree.

Third grade teacher Ashley Black and Gladstone High English teacher Jake Rondema were honored at a reception at the Clackamas ESD.

## Calendar

**May 28 -- No School**  
Memorial Day Holiday

**June 14 -- Last student day**  
Half day for all students  
Graduation at 7 p.m.

**June 15 -- Last staff day**  
GHS .5 compensatory day  
Report card day

## Wetten students help families in conflict zones

The Leopard Leaders at John Wetten led a school wide project to raise funds for Students Rebuild, which helps children and families around the world impacted by conflict.

The Facing the Difference Challenge encouraged students to submit self-portraits reflecting their uniqueness and the diversity of their school. Each portrait resulted in a \$6 contribution to the project. This year 375 students submitted artwork,

## GHS blood drive saves many lives

The Key Club at Gladstone High held a May blood drive, collecting 58 units of blood.

"Our event will help up to 174 people, including cancer patients, car wreck victims, and people having surgery," said club sponsor Lynnda Prom.

# School Board update & other news

From the May 9 Board meeting:

## **Board Members :**

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

## **The Board:**

- Recognized the Backpack Buddies program with a Growing Great People Award.
- Presented a gift to departing Chinese teachers Hao and Qianling Li, who have taught in the district's Confucius Classrooms for the past three years.
- Got an update on Unity Week at Gladstone High.
- Discussed the spring musical with drama students from Gladstone High.
- Discussed student art work on display from Gladstone High School.
- Heard a report from the textbook adoption committee.
- Approved a baseball team trip to Bend.
- Approved a dance team trip to Pacific University.
- Approved a choir and band trip to Disneyland.
- Approved a contract for roof replacement.
- Approved a request for resignation/release from contract.
- Approved the substitute rate for 2018-19.
- Approved the Position 4 vacancy on the School Board.
- Approved the application process for the Position 4 Board vacancy.
- Approved the School Board meeting calendar for 2018-19.
- Approved a reduction in FTE.
- Approved recommendations for budget reductions.
- Approved for adoption policies on license requirements, the expanded options program, annual options program notification, volunteers, admission of resident student/establishing residency, student safety, reporting suspected abuse of a child, child abuse investigations conducted on district premises, directory information, public records, public complaints, public complaint procedure, appeals to the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies, and investigations on district premises. They agreed to delete outdated policies on child abuse investigations on district premises, compliance with standards, public appeals and complaints about alleged standards, and appeals to the State Superintendent for alleged standards violations.

## **Backpack Buddy Program honored for service to families in need**

The School Board presented a Growing Great People award to Backpack Buddies for their supplemental nutrition program.

Each week, the program provides a bag of nutritious food to low-income families with children in Gladstone Schools and Head Start. Since the start of the school year, the number of families served has increased from 60 to 94.

Gladstone High special education students from Linda Fletcher's vocational skills class sort, inventory, and pack the food each week, learning practical job skills and the importance of community service.

Food for the program is donated by Gospel Fellowship Community Church, Gladstone First Baptist, The Table Church, The Source Church, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, and Gladstone Christian Church.

The program also gets regular donations from Dave's Killer Bread and Bob's Red Mill. Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary donated \$3,200 to the program this year.

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## **Leopard Leaders perform play to counteract bullying**

Elementary students in John Wetten Elementary's Leopard Leaders group performed a play, The Juice Box Bully, for a school wide audience.

"Their performance encouraged students to speak up against negative behavior and solve problems peacefully," said Leopard Leader and teacher David Hill. "The play conveyed an important message of kindness and love." ||

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## **Gladstone High students win art awards**

Art students from Gladstone High School had a strong showing at the Tri-Valley Art Show, with several students taking awards. Winners included:

- Adrian Peterson 1st in sculpture
- Maia Candia, 1st in printmaking
- Emily Lind, 2nd in drawing
- Kelsi Cone, 2nd in printmaking
- Eponine Toddy, 2nd in printmaking
- Eponine Toddy, 3rd in multi-media
- Tearzah Harrel, 3rd in ceramics

In addition, Tiana Greene won the Small School Award at Clackamas ESD's countywide art show.