



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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Celebrations

Bob's Red Mill donates to Gladstone food pantry

Thanks to donations from Bob's Red Mill, Backpack Buddy weekend food packages now include nutritious, whole grain products: brown rice, granola, and oatmeal.

"Besides providing food to struggling families, this donation also provides job training to our adult special education students, who help count, package, and sort the food," said Principal Natalie Osburn.

Kraxberger again hosts motivational speaker

For the second time this year, nationally known motivational speaker Kevin Carroll visited Kraxberger Middle School.

This fall, students studied Carroll's book *What's Your Red Rubber Ball?* and completed individual projects about their hopes and dreams. The author came to see the student projects.

GHS toy drive aids fire department effort

After helping more than 20 families with holiday gifts of food, clothing, and toys, GHS students donated several boxes of toys to the Gladstone Fire Department's holiday toy drive.

"Students and staff showed how much they care," said Vice Principal Patti Alexander."

GHS alum Leif Coorlim fights child trafficking

Educators devote their careers to *Growing Great People*, but don't always get to see the end result. Not so with Leif Coorlim, a 1997 graduate of Gladstone High. Now an Executive Editor for CNN International, Coorlim has devoted his journalism career to fighting human trafficking around the world.

Coorlim launched *The Freedom Project*, a series of documentary films about modern day slavery. His films have taken him around the globe, from Mauritania and The Philippines to Egypt and Cambodia.

Suddenly the topic no one ever discussed came to the forefront for both corporations and government leaders. This fall, Coorlim was recognized for his achievements as a nominee for the Sakharov Human Rights Prize, awarded to 16-year-old Malala Yousafzai for her work on girls education.

Coorlim credits his Gladstone High coaches and teachers --including Steve Carigg, who introduced him to journalism -- for encouraging him to explore a wide diversity of interests. Being well-rounded helped earn him a college scholarship.

His advice for students? "Identify what you love doing and immerse yourself in it."

Gladstone Schools accepts Open Enrollment applications

Looking for free, full-day kindergarten? An elementary program with technology, music, PE, and free after school enrichment? A proficiency-focused middle school with after school support and clubs? A small, college preparatory high school? Consider Gladstone schools.

While in past years, Open Enrollment in Gladstone Schools was limited to residents of Clackamas County, due to a change in state law, this year, *any* student may apply. Employees who have hoped for their children to attend Gladstone Schools now have the opportunity to reconsider that option.

This year, Gladstone Schools has opened spots for students in grades K to 10. Applications for 2014-15 are available in mid-January and are due by April 1.

Calendar

Martin Luther King Day
No School -- January 20

Progress Reports --no students
January 27

School Board Meeting
@ 6:30 p.m. February 12

140 attend GCCF Story Hour

A record-setting crowd of preschoolers attended Story Hour at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families.

The December event, jointly sponsored by eight GCCF partner agencies, provides storytelling and activities to help children build vocabulary and boost pre-reading skills. The Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary donated books to give away to attendees age five and under.

John Wetten to offer free parent classes

Parents whose New Year's resolution is to learn positive discipline strategies like Love & Logic will benefit from the Parent Power course offered in January.

The free class will be offered from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays: February 4, 11, 18, & 25. Free childcare is provided.

To register, call 503-546-6377 or visit www.lastingrelationships.org. Sample lessons are available at www.nclack.k12.or.us/Page/18006.



Board News & Employee News

From the January 8 Board meeting

Board Members present :

Kristin Eaton, Chair
Sharon Soliday, Vice Chair
Denise Browning
Susan Cronin
Jay Schmidt
Bruce Wadsworth

The Board:

- Appointed Jeff Marco and Kevin Johnson as Alternate members of the Budget Committee.
- Approved the hire of Siri Carlson as a .6 FTE Language Arts teacher at Kraxberger Middle School.
- Reviewed the financial report for December 2013.
- Reviewed a report on the Special Education Child Count. 14 percent of Gladstone students are served by special education.
- Reviewed policy change proposals to comply with changes in state law on injury and illness reports, graduation requirements, restraint and seclusion, administering injectable medicines to students, and criminal records checks and fingerprinting.
- Received recognition for their volunteer service to Gladstone Schools.

GCCF seeks volunteers to work with children

The Gladstone Center for Children & Families relies on many volunteers to help the families served by the 8 partner agencies. Whether they can help an hour a week or more, Volunteer Coordinator Susan Trone works to can find a role that fits each person's unique talents and interests.

"Positive adult mentors are so important in helping children learn work habits, planning, cause and effect, and self-efficacy, all traits that help students learn better," explained Lenny Bjornsen, Director of Student & Family Support.

Volunteer roles include supervising recess and learning zones, running the reception desk, helping with the community garden, tutoring students in reading and math skills, supervising mealtimes, event assistance, helping with art projects, or reading at story hour.

To complete a volunteer application (background check required), contact:

Volunteer Coordinator Susan Trone:
trones@gladstone.k12.or.us
503-496-3939



A fifth grader gets help learning algebra concepts during math class.

GEF Dinner & Auction to raise funds for Gladstone schools

The Gladstone Education Foundation plans a February 15 Dinner & Auction to raise funds for students, social needs, and staff projects in Gladstone schools.

Tickets for the gala are on sale now for the "Country Chic" themed event at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds: \$40 per person, or \$320 for a table of 8.

Auction items include a wine wall, vacation home weekends at Long Beach or Palm Springs, a helicopter ride to wine tasting, gift baskets, a ski weekend, Timbers tickets, golf, and more. For tickets (or to donate auction items) call Tammy Tracy at 503-655-2777 or extension 577.