



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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Celebrations!

GHS launches college and career class

To help each student make a successful transition from high school to their adult future, Gladstone High School has launched a new College and Career Readiness [CCR] class that meets at least twice a month.

“Every student in the school joins a small group of same-grade peers, with a mentor teacher assigned to them for four years,” said Vice Principal Patti Alexander.

“We’re excited about being able to provide regular, age-specific guidance as students plan for careers or college,” she added.

“So far student feedback has been really positive,” said Alexander.

Wetten students visit advertising studio

This fall, some John Wetten students were invited for a behind-the-scenes tour of Hinge Studios to learn about the 3D technology used to produce digital animation and smart phone apps.

“Students saw the whole project development process step by step, from a roughly sketched story board to the professionally-produced commercial created by Hinge Studios,” said Volunteer Coordinator Theresa Schmidt.

“They also learned how writers and animators work together on projects for the Cartoon Network and Pixar.”

District gathers staff, student, parent input on Student Success Act funds

Before writing a plan for the use of an added \$1.4 million in state funds coming to the district annually starting next fall, the Gladstone District is asking staff, students, and parents for their input.

“This is a turning point for Oregon schools, and we want to be sure our whole community has the chance to weigh in on student needs and education priorities,” said Superintendent Bob Stewart.

The district launched an unprecedented public involvement effort, starting with the all-staff Welcome Back event in August.

Other input opportunities include the national Youth Truth surveys of staff, grade 3-12 students, and parents October 7 to 18, as well as district surveys of all GHS students and parents.

The District is also holding nine Soup with the Superintendent focus groups, including one at each school, as well as meetings with parents of English Learners and students with disabilities, Black families, Latino families, Asian, Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander families, and families of multiracial students.

The district is also convening committees to gather input on technology, nutrition services, and Measure 98 programs. The ultimate goal is making measurable improvements in student well-being and academic achievement.

GHS staff tackles step count challenge

The Employee Wellness Program at Gladstone High is off to a fast start, with employees tackling the monthlong Step Count Challenge in teams of two.

“To level the playing field, we matched up each staff member with a partner at random,” said organizer Emmett Pearson-Brown. “This has the added benefit of helping staff members get to know each other better.”

“I am already receiving excited emails and some trash talking! This is going to be a challenge for the books!” said Pearson-Brown.

Calendar

Veteran’s Day Holiday --
No School: November 11

GCCF offers free parenting classes

Help is available to parents of children six and under thanks to a series of monthly parenting classes at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families [GCCF]. All classes are free, with free dinner and childcare provided.

Each class runs once a month from 6 to 8 p.m. September through June at the GCCF, 18905 Portland Avenue. To register, call Chelsea Hamilton at 503.367.9116 or email ClackamasParenting@gmail.com.

Courses include Beautiful Babies [first Thursdays], Terrific Toddlers [second Thursdays], and Growing Up [third Thursdays].

Kraxberger kids learn science at Outdoor School

Sixth graders from Kraxberger experienced a rite of passage at Outdoor School, a tradition in Gladstone for over 35 years. Along with camp songs and skits, they are learning environmental science in forests and rivers from Canby to Welches.

“Hands-on lessons taught them about the water cycle, habitats, sustainable practices, native plants, and the components of soil, including sand, silt, and clay,” said teacher Azure Akamay. “The kids have discovered that nature is the best science lab ever.”

School Board update & other news

From the [October 9 Board meeting](#):

Board Members:

Jay Schmidt, Chair
 Steve Stewart, Vice chair
 Tracey Grant
 Greg Lind
 Stacie Moncrief
 Erik Richter

The Board:

- Presented the Growing Great People Award to Shawn and Kelley Price, mentors for the Kraxberger Gearheads Robotics Club.
- Discussed highlights from the spring trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.
- Discussed the Board Room art work from Gladstone High School.
- Discussed the Integrated Pest Management Report.
- Discussed This is All of Us, a Children's Center program.
- Approved the 2020 drama/language arts trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.
- Approved a request for retirement/release from contract.
- Approved a post-retirement contract.
- Approved a resignation/release from contract.
- Approved the hiring of licensed employees.
- Approved the Budget Committee calendar.
- Discussed Budget Committee member openings.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Discussed the first reading of the Policy re-write of Section D.
- Discussed the Continuous Improvement Plan.
- Discussed the Student Success Act.
- Discussed the joint City Council/School Board meeting planned for October 16.
- Discussed OSBA's fall regional dinner meeting on October 22.
- Discussed OSBA's 2019 annual convention.

District celebrates length-of-service award winners

30-year employee Wes Cox has devoted his entire career to custodial service at Kraxberger Middle School.

25-year employee Debbie Gorton started as a fifth grade teacher. She then taught 8th grade block before settling in as a sixth grade teacher for the past decade.

25-year employee Patti Bisenius spent her whole career at Kraxberger, teaching fifth and sixth graders before settling into sixth grade for the past several years.

30 Years:	Wes Cox	Kraxberger
25 Years:	Debbie Gorton	Kraxberger
	Patti Bisenius	Kraxberger
20 Years:	Trey Mott	John Wetten
	Frances Severson	Kraxberger
	Tracy Stoughton	Kraxberger
	Karen Zerzan	Kraxberger
	Kevin Zerzan	Gladstone High
	Ryan Johnson	District Office
	Lori Green	John Wetten
15 Years:	Jo Strong	District Office
	Patti Alexander	Gladstone High
	Heather Bigbee	John Wetten
	Laura Fuller	Kraxberger
	Marilyn Furamasu	John Wetten
	David Hill	John Wetten
	Jamie Jenson	Gladstone High
	Brad Kuntz	Gladstone High
	Amy Otto	Kraxberger
	Kassy Babeckos	GCCF
	Becky Waverly	John Wetten
	Greg Wendling	John Wetten
	Carol Hess	Kraxberger
10 Years:	James Dallas	District Office
	Katie Exum	John Wetten
5 Years:	Cody Aker	Gladstone High
	Lennie Bjornsen	District Office
	Audrey Delgado	Kraxberger
	Kerry Jeffrey	Kraxberger
	Mike Leone	Gladstone High
	Emmett Pearson-Brown	Gladstone High
	Stacy Shinault	Gladstone High
	Deborah Welder	Kraxberger
	Casey Wendling	John Wetten
	Siri Carlson	Gladstone High
	Melissa Clark	GCCF
	Debera Knetzger	Kraxberger



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EAP

Work
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 Money
 Depression
 Relationships
 Time