



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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Celebrations

Kraxberger launches community food drive

Middle School students at Kraxberger will learn the importance of community service by helping with the school's annual food drive.

From November 18 to 22, students will collect canned food to help families in the community during the holiday season.

Donations of high-protein, nutritious foods are especially needed, including peanut butter, tuna, stew, ravioli, chili, canned meats, and hearty soups. Donations can be dropped off at the school.

Veterans flock to GHS

More than 60 veterans and military personnel attended the annual tribute to Veterans at Gladstone High School. The November 7 event included musical performances by the school's bands and choirs.

Linda Alberico, a 23-year career veteran, was honored for her service. She is now head secretary for John Wetten Elementary School in Gladstone.

"The event was an opportunity to bridge the generation gap between teens and seniors," said Athletic Director Ted Yates. "We wanted students to see that service is honorable, whether that's to one's home, school, community, or nation."

GHS students help their neighbors

Homecoming week usually includes class competitions, a football game, and a dance. But this year Gladstone High students added something new – an afternoon of community service.

"Our community does a tremendous job of volunteering, buying cookie dough, and making donations to support student programs," said Athletic Director Ted Yates. "This was an opportunity for the kids to demonstrate their gratitude by giving back to their community."

Gladstone Gives Back involved 167 student athletes and Key Club members who spent a Sunday afternoon – October 20 --helping seniors and other neighbors with yard work and other chores. The teens went door-to-door offering their help, and also took the opportunity to invite community members to the homecoming football game.

"What a blessing to have them visit and make my property look so nice," said Gladstone resident Gretchen Moravec. "I am overwhelmed with the students' thoughtfulness and the good way they worked so hard."

Education Foundation raises funds for GCCF, Wetten programs

A crowd of 100 gathered for a breakfast fund raiser sponsored by the Gladstone Education Foundation in support of new initiatives at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families and John Wetten Elementary. The group included local leaders, education experts, and philanthropists.

The event was an opportunity to showcase three new projects in Gladstone Schools—a whole child inclusive preschool, the Family Resource Coordinator program, and resiliency counseling for children overcoming the trauma of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

"The event did more than raise thousands of dollars for school programs, explained event organizer Lennie Bjornsen. "It also cemented long-term relationships with foundations, politicians, and government agencies that will lead to future partnerships and funding to benefit Gladstone children"

Calendar

No school
November 25 to 29

Report Cards inservice
December 2

School Board Meeting
@ 6:30 p.m. December 11

John Wetten debuts new report cards

John Wetten Elementary has redesigned school report cards to align with the school's new proficiency-based grading system, which evaluates students on the mastery of specific skills.

Brochures explaining the learning standards for each grade are on the website: <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/elementary/proficiency-based-report-cards/>

Gladstone Center for Children & Families seeks volunteers to help kids

Head Start, Family Stepping Stones, and kindergarten classes at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families need volunteers who can give an hour or two a week.

Volunteers can mentor small groups, supervise playtime, guide art projects, supervise learning zones, and help children build reading skills. To get involved, call Volunteer Coordinator Susan Trone at @ 503-496-3939, ext. 306.



Board News & Employee News

From the November 13 Board meeting

Board Members present :

Kristin Eaton, Chair
Sharon Soliday, Vice Chair
Denise Browning
Rod Cole
Susan Cronin
Jay Schmidt

The Board:

- Discussed the 2012-13 Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for English Language Learners.
- Approved Linda Eskridge as the candidate for OSBA Board of Directors Region 8.
- Approved Chris Groener as the candidate for OSBA Legislative Policy Committee representative position 7.
- Approved Liz Hartman as the candidate for OSBA Legislative Policy Committee representative position 8.
- Approved Jon Clark and Loren Watts as alternate budget committee members.
- Approved numerous policy changes discussed at the two prior board meetings. For a complete list, see the November Board agenda here: <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/images/13-11-13-agenda.pdf>.
- Approved the budget calendar for 2013-14.
- Approved imprest checking accounts.
- Approved personnel decisions.
- Approved open enrollment for the 2014-15 school year, with 395 openings as follows: 45 openings in kindergarten; 30 openings each in grades 1-5; 40 openings each in grades 6-10. There are no openings in grades 11-12.
- Got an update from the student representative Erica Ward on happenings at Gladstone High.
- Received briefings from each district administrator on each school and department.
- Received a briefing on the financial report and annual audit.
- Discussed the Student Body Accounting Handbook.
- Discussed fall enrollment.
- Discussed the class size report.
- Discussed personnel matters.
- Discussed a planned joint meeting of the School Board and the City of Gladstone.
- Michele Kremers suggested that the school post a sign on the bioswale at the high school, taking the opportunity to educate the community about its purpose. She suggested perhaps such a sign could be designed by art students.
- Loren Watts from Watts Heating and Cooling discussed an opportunity for the Associated Builders & Contractors to partner with the school on a career-technical grant.

Employee wellness program invites participants

Gladstone Schools is expanding its wellness initiative, for employees, with plans to expand the program to Kraxberger and the GCCF. Each site is forming a committee that will consider an array of fun options for groups, teams, pairs, or individuals. The programs they develop will be customized for each site, but open to employees across the district. To share your ideas for wellness offerings, contact Kailey Dieker or Debbie Gorton at Kraxberger and Amy Marlia or Kristina Whitley at the GCCF.

At John Wetten Elementary, fitness classes are offered from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. on the schedule described below. Classes are cancelled on holidays, report card days, and in-service days. Each class runs through the week of December 16.

Monday:

The Why Club: Dealing with life and life stressors
Led by Bill West in JWE Room 33

Tuesday

Zumba: dance/fitness
Led by Dana Olsen in the JWE gym

Walk/Run Club

Led by Liz Watkins & Wendy Mudd in the JWE cafeteria

Wednesday

Group Fitness: resistance training
Led by Bill West in the JWE gym

Thursday

Sports Games
Led by Greg Wendling in the JWE gym

Walk/Run Club

Led by Laura Vierra & Katie Kaufman in the JWE cafeteria

Friday

Celebrating your Participation in the JWE library