



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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Celebrations!

Kraxberger teaches kindness

All sixth graders participated in an Above Between Below assembly. The educational theater program invited students to identify their personal values and explore ways to put them in practice both in person and online.

The workshop allowed students to build skills in conflict resolution, self-management, and empathy for those with different perspectives.

It also included social media topics such as identity, privacy, and how to contribute to a healthy online community.

Rotary donates books to GCCF students

Thanks to a \$1,000 grant from Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary, each month kindergarten students will receive a different book to call their own.

"By having each student read the same book, children will be encouraged to share their reading with each other," said Rotarian Baldwin Van der Bijl. "This project also encourages kids to read at home with their parents, an essential part of learning to read."

"Research shows that children who have at least 25 books in their home are more likely to succeed academically," explained GCCF Principal Jere Applebee. "This project and also monthly book donations from The Clackamas Bookshelf will make that possible."

Education Foundation awards grants to schools

This fall, the Gladstone Education Foundation [GEF] invested more than \$21,500 in 10 education projects across the district, from sports equipment and microscopes to robots and dyslexia supports.

Inspired by watching a TED talk in class, students in Kraxberger's AVID college preparedness program wrote a proposal to attend a TEDx event.

"Students spent a few days working diligently to complete their grant proposal, and several came to present it to the GEF grant review panel," said teacher Audrey Delgado. "They were awarded the grant, and will be attending a TEDx event this January at Linfield College."

"We were able to provide well over our stated goal of \$15,000 for our fall grant cycle," said GEF Vice President Mike Landis. "Grants supporting STEM, JWE curriculum enhancements, the arts, and athletics will enhance the student experience at all of our schools."

Community groups join forces for Adopt-a-Family

Several groups are working together to make the holiday season brighter for over 120 Gladstone families, providing food boxes, toys for children, and gift cards for teens. Partners include the Gladstone Fire Department, Gladstone School District, Gladstone Kiwanis, and Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary.

Staff members are invited to contribute to the effort by dropping off non-perishable foods in the blue donation barrels located at the Gladstone Library, Gladstone Fire Department, and many Gladstone businesses.

Most needed foods include peanut butter and honey, tuna or canned chicken, pancake mix and syrup, canned beans, breakfast cereals, chili, soup, stew, canned fruits and vegetables, oatmeal, pasta, or rice.

To volunteer as a delivery driver, come to Gladstone High School at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 22 and line your car up in the bus loop. Students will fill your car and give you the address for delivery.

Calendar

Winter Break

December 24 to January 4

GCCF 10-Year Celebration!

January 16, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

JWE adds 5th grade math supports

To address the individual math needs of fifth graders, John Wetten teachers created a new 30-minute support program that groups children by the specific skills they need to work on.

The Walk to Math program mixes students from six homerooms into leveled groups.

Teachers provide targeted instruction, hands-on games, number talk conversations, and collaborative, real-life problem solving.

GHS holds college application week

To support students through the college application process, GHS held college application week.

"This was a big success, with our College and Career Center presenting 18 informational sessions," said counselor Alison Howell. "Sixty nine students participated."

During the event, nine seniors were accepted to Oregon Tech, seven were accepted at Portland State, and two were accepted at Warner Pacific University. In addition, 22 completed their OSAC college scholarship applications and 12 started or submitted their Oregon Promise applications.

School Board update & other news

From the [December 12 Board meeting](#):

Board Members:

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

The Board:

- Presented the Growing Great People Award to Sai Stone of Trillium Family Service for the non-profit's work on the Kraxberger Rising project, including creation of a student wellness room.
- Discussed progress on the Kraxberger Rising project,
- Approved a request for GHS cheer to Anaheim, CA.
- Approved the release from contract of two teachers.
- Approved an agreement between the district and the Gladstone Teachers Association.
- Approved the complete review and revision of district policy with the support of OSBA.
- Approved the appointment of regular and alternate budget committee members.
- Heard updates on schools and programs from members of the administrative team.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Discussed the Governor's budget proposals, including a balanced budget and an investment budget for K-12 schools.
- Discussed dates for a February work session.

Save the Date!

Gladstone Education Foundation Dinner & Auction

April 6, 2019 @ World of Speed

Food Pantry wins 3-year, \$60,000 county grant

Clackamas County awarded a three-year, \$60,000 grant to the Gladstone Food Pantry, part of the Blueprint for a Healthy Clackamas County program.

The pantry, a partner with the Oregon Food Bank, serves more than 7,000 visitors a year, providing free groceries to families in need. Over 70 volunteers and partners including Bob's Red Mill Natural Foods, Grocery Outlet, and Dave's Killer Bread contribute to the effort.

"These funds will enable us to provide information and referral for a variety of social service needs," said Lennie Bjornsen, Director of Student and Family Supports for Gladstone Schools.

"Visiting service providers will provide nutrition information, cooking demonstrations, gardening instruction, and other opportunities for low-income families," Bjornsen added. "We will also train our volunteers in trauma-informed practices because the relationships we build with customers are as important as the food we provide."



Getting in the holiday spirit, Kyle Kasner and Jo Strong of the district technology team adorned their office with gift wrap wallpaper, an electronic crackling fire, twinkling lights, and a wreath made of recycled circuit boards.

GCCF to celebrate 10 years of early learning innovation

In January 2009, the district opened the Gladstone Center for Children and Families [GCCF]. This groundbreaking project transformed a former grocery store into a special place for preschool and kindergarten students, plus several on-site health and social service supports.

To celebrate GCCF's first decade, the district plans an open house on January 16 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. All staff, students, and community members are welcome, including the current GHS freshmen and sophomores who were the first students to attend school there.