



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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Celebrations!

Kraxberger club donates to school

The fundraising efforts of the Kraxberger Gearheads robotics club have been so successful that they routinely give grants to support other programs at Kraxberger Middle School.

Recently they donated \$500 to the school's leadership program for gardening supplies, and \$500 to the school to help with the purchase of a new sign.

"Our club puts a lot of effort into electronics recycling, as well as can and bottle recycling," said robotics coach Shawn Price. "The kids are proud that they can give back to their school."

GCCF to add on-site dental clinic

On-site dental services will be added to the Gladstone Center for Children & Families [GCCF] starting in the next school year.

The project is a collaboration between CareOregon, Clackamas County Health, the Gladstone Education Foundation, and the Gladstone School District,

"In the past two years, we've seen a big need for dental care when we provided services through the Tooth Taxi and Arrow Dental van," said GCCF Director Jere Applebee.

The facility will provide dental treatments and oral health education for all preschool and kindergarten students.

Education Foundation raises \$52,000 for schools

Over 280 people attended the Gladstone Education Foundation [GEF] dinner and auction, netting \$57,000 for Gladstone schools and youth programs.

Of that, \$13,000 will support development of a new dental clinic at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families.

"We are so fortunate to witness the generosity of the Gladstone community when the opportunity arises to support its children," said GEF President Terry Marsh.

"Auction attendees responded overwhelmingly to support youth dental services," he added. "Many uninsured children will now have the opportunity to receive dental care to keep them healthy and promote their self-esteem."

The Foundation's next fundraiser is the annual Golf Tournament at Stone Creek Golf Course on July 10. For registration and sponsorships, contact GEF Executive Director Tammy Tracy at 503.655.2777.



On May 8, Gladstone teachers joined 25,000 local educators at a Portland rally to support the Student Success Act, HB3427, which would invest an added \$2 billion per biennium in Oregon Schools.

To contact your state senator and share your views on HB3427, visit www.oregonlegislature.gov/FindYourLegislator/leg-districts.html

Calendar

Memorial Day Holiday

May 27

Last day for students [half day]

June 12

Professional Development Day

June 13

Report Card Day

June 14

Wetten students improve watershed

Fifth graders from Wetten learned about watershed restoration through a service-learning project organized by the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership [LCREP].

"LCREP taught students about native and invasive plants, the food chain, and birds of Oregon," said fifth grade team leader Cathy Mitchell.

On Earth Day, students put their knowledge to use, improving the watershed by removing invasive ivy in Mary S. Young State Park.

Two GHS blood drives help Red Cross

The Gladstone High Key Club and math teacher Lynnda Prom's family held blood drives this spring.

The Prom family blood drive was to honor Dave Prom, now battling multiple myeloma, a cancer of the blood.

The two events resulted in the donation of 122 units of blood.

"Each unit of blood can help up to three people," said Prom.

School Board update & other news

From the May 8 Board meeting:

Board Members:

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

The Board:

- Recognized students from the Gladstone High drama program.
- Discussed the Board Room artwork from Gladstone High School.
- Discussed the textbook adoption process for social studies.
- Approved the girls basketball trip to San Diego.
- Approved the dance team trip to Pacific University in Forest Grove.
- Approved a revision to the 2019-20 interdistrict transfer process.
- Approved the substitute rate for 2019-20.
- Approved a request for resignation/release of contract.
- Approved the 2019-20 School Board meeting calendar.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Discussed personnel updates.
- Received a legislative update.
- Discussed Board participation in high school graduation and 8th grade recognition ceremonies.

June payroll date has changed

The Thursday, June 13, payday has moved to Friday, June 14, in accordance with the change to the School Calendar.

Neighbor donates freezers to Gladstone Food Pantry

Michelle Chao was shopping at Hamilton's Appliance when she overheard volunteer Bill Kemnitzer asking about a freezer purchase for the Gladstone Food Pantry. After talking with him about the pantry's needs, she made a snap decision to buy two freezers and donate them to the organization.

"Michelle told us there was a time in her life when she had a setback and needed extra support. Now that she's successfully established herself, it's her mission to give back," said Food Pantry Coordinator Alex Van Pelt.

"We are so thankful for this incredible donation. Our existing freezers were small and old," she added. "The two new units are not only more energy efficient, but greatly increase our storage capacity so we can provide more meat and frozen foods to the families we serve."

The volunteer-run Food Pantry partners with the Oregon Food Bank and Northwest Family Services to provide free groceries to any family in need. Located on the north side of the Gladstone High School campus off Nelson Lane, it is open Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Vice principal honored as mental health hero

This year Kraxberger Middle School Vice Principal Jeff Waters is one of the Mental Health Heroes celebrated by the Keep Oregon Well campaign for his work supporting mental health for students.

Waters spent last summer building and planning the new Student Wellness Center at Kraxberger Middle School. The soothing oasis offers students 15-minute appointments to practice self-calming and de-escalate strong emotions. In the first year of the program there have been 1,300 student visits, and the school has seen a decrease in discipline referrals and suspensions.

"Kids today are experiencing a greater degree of anxiety and stress," said Waters. "Mental health means learning how to take care of yourself, and we need to give students the strategies to do that."

Waters will be recognized at Trillium's gala on May 18 and featured in the Keep Oregon Well social media campaign on May 28.

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