



# Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

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## Celebrations

### Kraxberger field trips focus on environment

Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Gray Family Foundation, Kraxberger students are experiencing environmental learning through several field trips.

Seventh graders will travel to the Metro Learning Garden at the Oregon Zoo to compare 1970s gardening with 2014 gardening.

Sixth graders visited the water treatment plant and removed invasive species at Meldrum Bar Park. Grades 6 & 7 traveled to Bonneville Dam. A math class will learn to use public transportation and conduct a trash and recycling audit at the mall.

### GCCF celebrated at Children's Institute event

At the annual Children's Institute lunch and award ceremony, the Gladstone Center for Children & Families was recognized as a front runner among Oregon's early childhood programs.

The Center, which integrates kindergarten, Head Start and preschool programs, provides social services via several agency partners in the building.

## Superintendent visits schools in China

For two weeks in March and April, Gladstone Superintendent Bob Stewart joined a group of Oregon educators for an education shadow program in Xi'an, China. The trip, funded by the Freeman Foundation in Massachusetts, had the goal of building cross-cultural connections, friendship, and understanding.

Stewart visited the school of Principal Lu, who spent a week in Gladstone schools last November. Stewart toured a magnet school of Chinese arts, a preschool, an elementary school, and a secondary school. He interacted with students and teachers.

"Principal Lu and I signed a Memorandum of Understanding to continue communication between students and staff at Gladstone High and School 89," said Stewart. "The district is exploring the possibility of offering classes in Mandarin Chinese, and long term, we hope to have student and staff exchanges between our schools."

For photos and stories from Stewart's trip, read his blog at <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/bobs-blog-musings-from-the-superintendent/>

## Community invited to review new elementary textbooks

The Gladstone School District is considering the adoption of new math instructional materials for grade 1 and kindergarten and new English language arts instructional materials for kindergarten through grade 5.

New books will help Gladstone elementary teachers implement the rigorous Common Core State Standards and prepare students for the new state exams next year.

Parents and community members can review and comment on the textbooks being considered. The curriculum will be available in the Gladstone School District Office at 17789 Webster Road from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from April 7 to April 26.

Public comments will be considered before a final recommendation is made to the School Board at the May Board meeting. The new curriculum will be used in classrooms beginning with the 2014-15 school year.

## Calendar

**GCCF 5 Year Celebration**  
3:45 to 5 p.m. on April 22

**School Board Meeting**  
@ 6:30 p.m. May 14

## John Wetten offers free May parenting course

Northwest Family Services will offer a free, 4-night Parent Power class at John Wetten Elementary in May. The class will help improve family communication, boost student motivation, and build effective discipline strategies.

The class will be offered from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday nights, May 6, 13, 20, and 27. Free childcare will be provided. To register, visit [www.lastingrelationships.org](http://www.lastingrelationships.org) or call 503-546-6377.

## GHS dance team takes third in state

The Gladettes took home the 3rd place trophy at the OSAA state Dance & Drill Team Competition.

GHS competed against 17 teams in the small schools division, finishing just two tenths of a point behind the 2nd place team. Other honors included: Erica Ward: All State Team & Academic Scholarship Winner Kenzie Williams: All State Team Ashley Hale: 3rd in Drill Down Nicole Hart: 6th in Drill Down Denise Harris: Coach of the Year

# Board News & Employee News

## From the April 9 Board meeting

### **Board Members present :**

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

### **The Board:**

- Recognized winter sports athletes.
- Received a legislative briefing from Representative Brent Barton.
- Learned about student work on display from students at Gladstone High School.
- Heard a report on the District's Special Education Report Card.
- Approved an appropriation transfer.
- Approved the calendar for the 2014-15 school year.
- Approved two employee requests for unpaid Leaves of Absence.
- Approved an employee request for Resignation/Release from Contract.
- Heard an update on happenings at Gladstone High School from student representative Kendall Shumaker.
- Heard updates from administrative staff.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Discussed the Division 22 school standards report.
- Discussed the District's Achievement Compact.
- Discussed policy revisions regarding Student Rights and Responsibilities, Student Conduct, Weapons in the Schools, and Student Discipline.
- Discussed the July Board Meeting.
- Discussed Staff Appreciation Week.

## **Employee wellness program offers fun & fitness opportunities**

Thanks to OEA grant funding, Gladstone District employees can now enjoy wellness program offerings at three schools. Any employee can participate at any site. Contact each building's committee chairs for a schedule of available activities:

**GCCF:** Amy Marlia and Kristina Whitley

**JWE:** Greg Wendling & Nancy West

**WLK:** Kailey Dieker and Debbie Gorton

## **More comments from the Parent Survey**

"My child's teachers are very approachable and supportive. They are all willing to take time to help if needed."

— Kraxberger Parent

"I appreciate that teachers show interest in my child's own individual learning progress." — John Wetten Parent

"I love the caring teachers who go above and beyond to help students be successful in and outside the classroom."

— Gladstone High School

"Teachers, support staff, and all school staff are always encouraging students. All these great role models provide excellent support for my boy." — GCCF Parent

## **Gladstone Education Foundation seeks donations for garage sale fundraiser**

If spring cleaning led to the discovery that you have *too much stuff*, consider donating clean, gently-used household items, clothing, sports equipment, baby gear, books, furniture, office supplies, craft supplies, and collectibles to the Gladstone Education Foundation garage sale.

For item drop off or pick up, call Corinne at 503-722-2284 or Kathy at 971-227-2655. All donations are tax-deductible, and all proceeds will benefit students in Gladstone Schools. The garage sale will take place at Gladstone High School on June 12, 13, and 14.

## **Save the date for Gladstone Education Foundation golf tournament fundraiser**

Golfers, kick off your involvement in the Gladstone Cultural Festival at the golf tournament fundraiser organized by the Gladstone Education Foundation. All proceeds benefit Gladstone Schools.

The tournament is the morning of Friday, August 1 at Stone Creek Golf Course. Participation is \$125 per Golfer. Hole sponsorship is \$1000 and includes golfing for 4. To sponsor a hole or to register your team, call Bill Kemnitzer at 503-522-2884 or email [billkemnitzer@aol.com](mailto:billkemnitzer@aol.com).