



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4 • December 17, 2013

Celebrations

Rotary donates books to GCCF, Wetten

Preschoolers attending the GCCF Story Hour will get a free book at each event, thanks to a \$1,000 donation from the Gladstone-Oak Grove Rotary. The most recent Story Hour had a record attendance, with 140 children present.

Third graders at John Wetten also benefited from Rotary's generosity, with each student receiving a dictionary.

Churches to launch clothes closet at GHS in January

The Gladstone Ministerial Association seeks donations for a new clothes closet that will serve children from birth to 18 at Gladstone High.

Donations of gently-used clothing in current fashions and new packages of socks and underwear are needed.

Donation drop off times at the GHS portable (down the fire lane off Nelson St.) are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. or from 4 to 6 p.m. on Dec. 22.

Dance team takes first

The Gladettes dance team from GHS are the state champions in Hip Hop, with a third place finish in Kick.

The team competed against 5A and 6A teams in the Category State Championships.

Gladstone opens 395 open enrollment spots

Gladstone Schools will open its doors to up to 395 students from outside district boundaries in 2014-15. Applications are available in mid-January and due April 1.

"As a small, close-knit community, Gladstone offers an innovative, caring education experience," explained Superintendent Bob Stewart.

Kindergarten will open 45 spots in the free, full-day program. Curriculum includes weekly technology, P.E., music and art taught by specialists.

John Wetten Elementary will open 30 spots per grade. A front-runner in Common Core mathematics, the school offers weekly technology, P.E., art, and music, plus after school support and enrichment programs.

Kraxberger Middle School will open 40 spots in each grade. Besides academics that include Spanish, band, and technology, the school offers afterschool programs from robotics and choir to volleyball and academic support.

Gladstone High will open 40 spots each in grades 9 and 10. The college preparatory program offers 17 AP and college credit classes, as well as fine arts and 14 career-technical courses.

To apply, call Sandi at 503.496-3935 in mid-January.

Education Foundation sells tickets, seeks auction donations

"Country Chic" is the theme of the Gladstone Education Foundation dinner and auction, a fund raiser for classroom and school projects in all Gladstone schools.

The auction will take place at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds on Saturday, February 15.

Tickets are on sale now for \$40 each or \$320 for a table of 8 by contacting Tammy Tracy at district office.

The auction team seeks donations of gift baskets, gift certificates, vacation home use, sports equipment, services, jewelry, works of art, and event tickets. To donate, call Kathy at 971.227.2655 or email KathyB@farmer-spdx.com.

The Education Foundation also plans a spring Garage Sale. They are gathering donations of clean, gently-used items. (Please no old TVs, old computers, or "junk".) To arrange for pickup or drop off of your donation, call Corinne at 503-722-2284 or Kathy at 971-227-2655.

Calendar

Winter Break

December 23 - January 3

School Board Meeting

@ 6:30 p.m. January 8

Kraxberger to offer free parent classes

Parents whose New Year's resolution is to learn positive discipline strategies like Love & Logic will benefit from the Parent Power course offered in January.

The free class will be offered from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays: January 9, 16, 23, and 30. Free childcare is provided.

To register, call 503-546-6377 or visit www.lastingrelationships.org. Sample lessons are available at www.nclack.k12.or.us/Page/18006.

Nancy Golden visits GCCF

In November, Oregon's new education czar Nancy Golden joined Early Learning System Director Jada Rupley for a tour of the Gladstone Center for Children and Families.

The leaders met with Bob Stewart to discuss early childhood education, wraparound social services for families, and the Governor's plan for connecting education from birth to age 20.



Board News & Employee News

From the December 11 Board meeting

Board Members present :

Sharon Soliday, Vice Chair
Denise Browning
Rod Cole
Susan Cronin
Bruce Wadsworth

The Board:

- Recognized the fall sports teams from Gladstone High.
- Expressed appreciation of the Board Room art work from students at Gladstone High.
- Discussed the district's annual independent audit report.
- Discussed a report on homeless students in the district.
- Approved a travel request for the GHS bands to attend a retreat at Camp Tapawingo.
- Approved a Kraxberger band trip to Seattle.
- Approved a Gladstone High student trip to Costa Rica.
- Approved a Gladstone High wrestling team trip to Seaside.
- Approved a revision to the district's Open Enrollment plan. By state law, applicants may come from any Oregon county.
- Approved the election of two new teachers: Nathan Mann, a .6 FTE art teacher at Kraxberger Middle School, and Danna Nelson, a 1.0 FTE CTE/business teacher at Gladstone High.
- Heard a report from student representative Sterling Berks on happenings at Gladstone High.
- Received program and school briefings from all district administrators.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Approved a Regular member to the Budget Committee.

Family Resource Coordinator helps families with kids from birth to 8

Sometimes the challenges faced by students and their families are bigger than educators can solve.

Families who need counseling, medical care, food and clothing, parenting support, job search assistance, housing assistance, or help with other social needs can contact Family Resource Coordinator Ellyn Jeck at the GCCF by calling 503-496-3945 or by emailing ejeck@nwfs.org.

Ellyn is a navigator who can help stressed families find the resources they need from social service providers at the GCCF, the County, and elsewhere.

Calling 211 is a way to get help for any family.

Certified Labor Relations Team formed

A Certified Labor Relations Team has been established this year and will convene monthly

The purpose of the team is to maintain open lines of communication between the licensed staff, administrators, and the Board. The goal is to create an environment in which all parties gain a greater understanding of the other's interests. The LRT will focus on constructive problem-solving techniques, with the goal of strengthening relationships and establishing procedures that will be for the betterment of all concerned.

The current team is comprised of:

Celeste Pellicci	Association President
Molly Wilson	Association Vice President
Karen Zerzan	Association Secretary
Ellen Guenther	Association Treasurer
Tia Diaz	JWE Building Representative
Laura Vierra	JWE Building Representative
Liz Watkins	JWE Building Representative
Kailey Dieker	WLK Building Representative
Mary Klum	GCCF Building Representative
Jill Merolla	GHS Building Representative
Bob Stewart	Superintendent
Pia Leonard	Deputy Superintendent
Susan Cronin	Board Representative
Sharon Soliday	Board Representative

GCCF seeks volunteers to assist relief nursery, Head Start, and kindies

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.