



Gladstone Schools Employee Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 5 • December 16, 2015

Celebrations!

Wetten students get free books

Thanks to the Clackamas Bookshelf, each student served by the Backpack Buddies program received a gift of 10 age-appropriate books in November.

Backpack Buddies serves 70 families with children in every Gladstone School.

"Research shows that if students have at least 25 books in their home, their odds of school success increase," said Bookshelf leader Katy Preston.

Kraxberger food drive helps families

Kraxberger's annual canned food drive brought in 15 boxes of non-perishable foods.

The food will be used for the community-wide Adopt-a-Family effort, which hopes to provide over 130 Gladstone families with food boxes and toys.

This year's effort is a partnership between the Gladstone Fire Department, Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary, Kiwanis, and Gladstone Schools.

Those wishing to help load cars or deliver to families on December 19 can call Patti Alexander at 503.655.2544, ext. 408.

Gladstone sets Open Enrollment numbers for 2016-17

Gladstone Schools opened its doors to students outside district borders, announcing openings for students from kindergarten through grade 10 for the 2016-17 school year.

The number of spaces open varies by grade level based on the space available. If the number of applicants for a grade level exceeds openings, a lottery will be held to determine admission.

Applications are on the district website, and are due by April 1. Families interested in information or a tour can contact Natalie Weninger at 503.496.3935.

"As a small community, Gladstone offers an innovative, caring educational experience," said Superintendent Bob Stewart. "We take the time to know each student as an individual."

Education Foundation awards grants

The Gladstone Education Foundation this month awarded 14 grants totaling more than \$20,400 to support education and youth programs across Gladstone. Winners included:

- \$1,400 --JWE Leveled Take-Home Books
- \$863 --WLK Field Trip to Universities
- \$4,100 --GCCF Early Childhood Science
- \$2,000 --GHS Non-Eurocentric Social Studies
- \$356 --WLK Felix Writing Project
- \$400 --JWE After School Enrichment Programs
- \$280 --GHS Art Room Document Cameras
- \$780 --GCCF Cookies, Cocoa & Carols Night
- \$1,390 --WLK Clay Slab Roller for Tile Mural
- \$620 --JWE iPad Minis for Behavior Support
- \$1,800 --GHS Effective Photojournalism
- \$940 --WLK Indoor Soccer & Volleyball
- \$4,481 -- NWFS Summer Enrichment, grades 5-8
- \$1,000 --The Clackamas Bookshelf; books for kids

Calendar

Winter Break

December 21 to January 1
School Board @ 6:30 p.m.
January 13

GCCF teachers use data to guide social/emotional development

Kindergarten staff use SWIS data to track student behavior as part of a PBIS effort.

Teachers analyze the data and then provide social/emotional lessons in target areas.

Lessons focus on five areas: Self management, self-awareness, responsible decision-making, social awareness, and relationship skills.

Compared with last year's data, physical aggression has declined from 112 incidents to 51. Referrals for defiance dropped from 58 to 39.

Nancy Bailey now Interim GHS Principal

Nancy Bailey is good at a lot of things, but apparently retirement is not one of them.

Just five months after retiring as Kraxberger Principal, she has returned as Interim Principal at Gladstone High for the rest of the year.

"The biggest advantage I have is that I already know the students," said Bailey. "It's been fun to work with them at the high school level and see how they've changed since middle school!"

School Board News & other news

From the December 9 Board meeting:

Board Members present :
Sharon Soliday, Chair
Nicole Couzens, Vice Chair
Carlos Castañeda
Rod Cole
Kristin Eaton
Jay Schmidt
Bruce Wadsworth

The Board:

- Recognized fall sports teams.
- Learned about some GHS clubs.
- Discussed the Kraxberger art work on display.
- Recognized Byron & Cynthia Grant for their support of the kindergarten readiness program.
- Discussed the annual GCCF performance report.
- Approved Open Enrollment for the 2016-17 school year.
- Approved the hiring of licensed staff.
- Appointed Budget Committee members.
- Approved a policy revision regarding Inter-district transfers and admission of non-resident students.
- Heard a student update on happenings at Gladstone High.
- Heard updates from the administrative team.
- Discussed the monthly financial report.
- Discussed first and second readings of School Board policies.

Polar Body Age Assessments set for January

On January 11, the District Office Employee Wellness Program will offer free Polar Body Age assessments. Employees from any building are welcome to book a 15-minute appointment by emailing or phoning Natalie Weninger.

The assessment gives participants a quick baseline measurement of their overall functional ability level, including strength, flexibility, and fat to muscle ratio. This allows one to compare body age with chronological age, providing strategies to increase health. Assessments are private and results are confidential.

Let's Make Waves at February 20 auction!

The Gladstone Education Foundation plans a February 20 auction to raise funds for Gladstone schools. The event will be at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds.

This year's theme is "Let's Make Waves." In keeping with this theme, beach attire is recommended. The event includes a silent auction, a luau, and an oral auction.

Tickets are selling fast, so order now: \$40 each or \$320 for a table of 8. Auction donations are needed! For more information, contact Tammy Tracy at 503.655.2777 or email tracyt@gladstone.k12.or.us.

Food Pantry/Clothes Closet holiday schedules

The Gladstone Food Pantry and Youth Clothes Closet have adjusted schedules during the holiday season.

During the weeks of Christmas and New Years, the Food Pantry will close on Thursdays & Saturdays. However, it will open Tuesdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m. on December 22 and December 29.

The Youth Clothes Closet will be closed December 24, 26, and 31 plus January 2 for Winter Break.

Other weeks both facilities will be open during their regular hours, Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. & Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Recreation guide offers dozens of gift ideas

Gladstone's community education program invites you to launch your holiday shopping or jump-start your New Year's resolution by choosing a winter recreation class.

Adult options range from investing, Spanish, and quilting to yoga, oil painting, and Zumba. Youth options include sports, hip-hop, driver education, jazz dance, and guitar. Dozens of choices are available.

To register on-line, visit <https://apm.activecommunities.com/gladstonesdcommed>. For more information, phone 503.650.2570.