

# PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## *Compass*



## 2019-2020 Capital Projects

Artondale Elementary Replacement  
Evergreen Elementary Replacement  
Elementary School #9  
Pioneer Elementary

Fall 2019

# From the Superintendent

**Dr. Art Jarvis**

As we roll out the designs for the four new elementary schools, it is tempting to talk about all of the features of those wonderfully designed new buildings. What is evident to me, however, is that the conversation must turn to thanking the citizens and voters who enabled this work on behalf of the children and the staff.



The purchase of the Boys and Girls Club provided the classrooms that ensured a terrific opening this fall. Ninety more kindergarten children had classrooms in our schools because of them. No dollars were shifted into the purchase and installation of portables. Teachers were teaching within minutes of opening, instead of scrambling to handle the crush of shifting students between schools and rooms.

Even more long-lasting, and more impactful, our teachers and staff as a whole are concluding their hard efforts to dream and design places in which they are free to work their magic. They have continued to examine new and innovative schools and it is impossible to miss the excitement in the staff.

I was reminded the other day of my comment to a citizen relatively soon after my arrival. I stated my observation that this community has everything it takes to be a lighthouse district - except the facilities. The resources of time, money, and energy were being drained by the overcrowding and the needy, aging buildings. Now conversations about future programs, options, and passions throughout the district have elements that should thrill every parent and citizen. Stay tuned Peninsula; this is a district in which very good things are happening for staff and children - because of you!

## COMPASS

PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

### SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Art Jarvis

### SCHOOL BOARD

#### President

Deborah Krishnadasan

#### Vice President

David Olson

#### Directors

Lori Glover  
Marcia Harris  
Leslie Harbaugh

**The Compass is produced by the Peninsula School District's Communications Department**

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#### Pictured on Cover:

Artondale Elementary Principal Jessica Rosendahl,  
Pioneer Elementary/Elementary Annex Principal  
Stephanie Strader, Evergreen Elementary Principal  
Hugh Maxwell, Elementary School #9 Principal  
David Brooks

## 2019-2020

### Student Board Member Representatives



**Kira Rosenlind**  
Gig Harbor High School



**Lena Janson**  
Peninsula High School



**Ashley Phillips**  
Henderson Bay High School

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# Serving Our Community: Meet Deb Krishnadasan

## Q&A with our School Board President

PSD marketing interns sat down with our school board president to learn about the role the school board plays in supporting students and staff.

### What does the school board do for our schools?

The school board's main responsibility is to set district policies around students, human resources, instruction, and financial matters. The board also works with the superintendent to develop a vision and mission for the district, as well as make decisions regarding bond and levy campaigns, budget and curriculum adoptions, and decisions about district facilities.

### How does the school board work with the student representatives from each school?

The student representatives act as a liaison between the board and the school, providing insight and support to enhance the board's understanding of student issues. We've had fantastic representatives over the past few years. They have brought about change and impacted the way we think about our decisions.

### School board members represent the community. How do you hear from (or get feedback from) your constituents?

My favorite way to get feedback is to spend time in the schools talking to teachers, principals, parents, and students. Each board member has a public email and phone number. We work closely with the district to consider input and get responses back to people in a timely manner. Lastly, all of us try to be available and as approachable as possible. That's the best way to get feedback, really.



Deb Krishnadasan visits with students at Purdy Elementary School.

### As school board president, what do you hope to accomplish during your term?

As board president, I hope to continue to strengthen communication within our board, ensuring all individual voices are heard and that they feel valued. I also hope to continue to build trust for the district within the community. This trust really starts at the top with the board. I really feel like we are on a good path right now.

### What is your favorite part of serving on the school board?

That's easy: the kids. Whenever I feel overwhelmed in my role, I love to go into the classrooms, see the students, watch the teachers in action, and talk to principals. It just makes me think, "Oh, this is why I'm volunteering for the board." It's just a refreshing experience. I feel so energized and inspired to go out and do more things for our district. I just feel honored to be a part of the Peninsula School District. It's a really special place with a lot of wonderful people.

# 2019-2020

# Capital Projects

Our goal is to build schools that support best practices for teaching and learning, inspire our students to achieve their educational goals, sustain our resources, and enhance our community.



## » Pioneer Elementary New School:

Interior improvements to the former Boys and Girls Club facility were completed in the summer of 2019, allowing it to open in the fall of 2019 as the Elementary Annex. This provided critically-needed classroom space for the growing district student population.

Design and permitting for a 37,000 square foot addition is underway for a 30-classroom magnet school scheduled to open in the fall of 2020. The concept for this school is STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). This school will be open to all elementary students from across the Peninsula School District.



## » Evergreen Elementary Replacement:

Evergreen staff and community members held a series of meetings last spring to help inform the design of the new school building. TCF Architecture, along with the district's Capital Facilities Department, were able to replicate the deep sense of community established over time by the staff at the existing school. Design and permitting for a 46,000 square foot facility is underway to provide a 19-classroom school scheduled to open in the fall of 2021. After the new school is opened, the existing school will be demolished. The new field should be playable in the fall of 2022.



## » Artondale Elementary Replacement:

The new Artondale Elementary will be constructed on the existing site, allowing students and staff to remain in the old school until the new one opens. Design and permitting for a 68,000 square foot facility is underway to provide a 30-classroom school scheduled to open in the fall of 2021. After the new school is opened, the existing school will be demolished. The new Artondale Elementary will maintain the traditions of the Otter community in an all new state-of-the-art facility. The new field should be playable in the fall of 2022.



## » Elementary #9 New School:

School #9 will be located in the heart of Gig Harbor North, across the street from the YMCA on Harbor Hill Avenue North. Design and permitting for a 71,000 square foot facility is underway to provide a 30-classroom school scheduled to open in the fall of 2021. Naming of the school will happen next year.

*Project depictions are subject to change.*

Thank You  
Voters!

## Building Schools for the Future

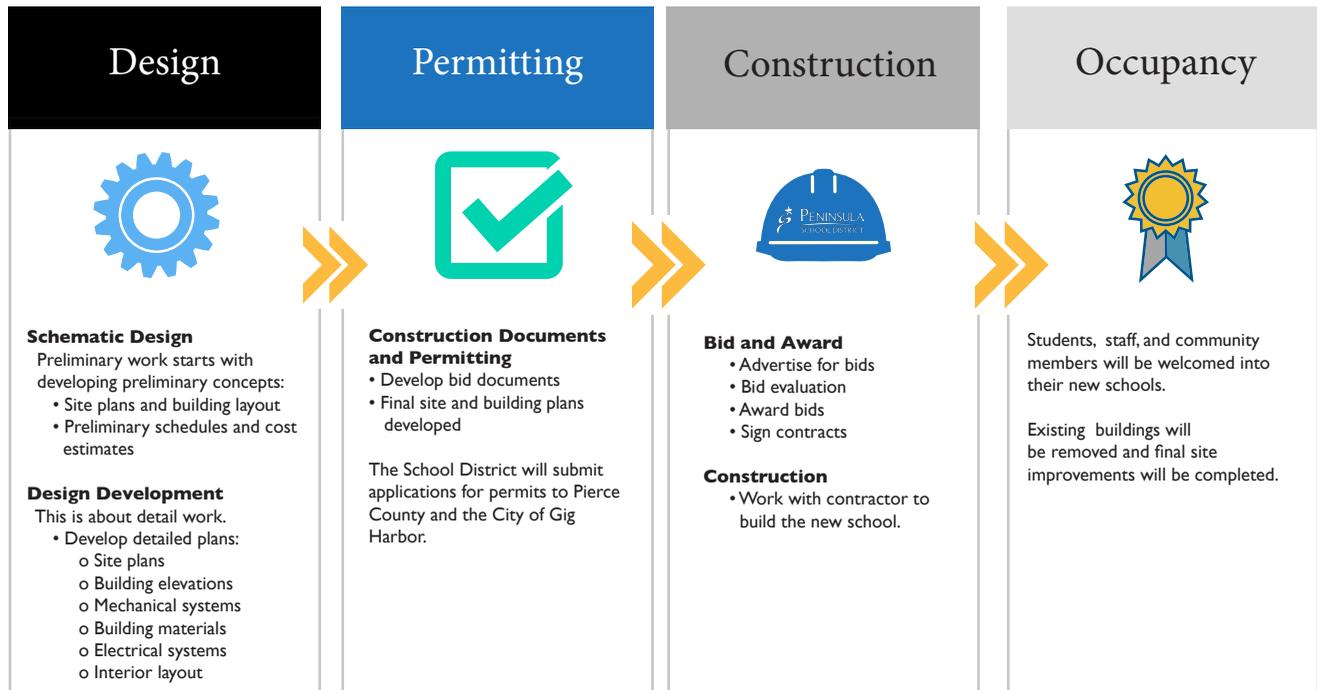
### What's the process?



Patrick Gillespie

Shortly after the 2019 construction bond was passed by voters, the district established a new Capital Facilities Department under the direction of Patrick Gillespie. Gillespie's team worked at record speed to create design and material standards to ensure new schools are efficient; requiring less cost to operate and maintain. The team also met with teachers, technology staff, and safety experts to learn about current trends and best practices for designing new schools. The Capital Facilities Department continues to evaluate the designs as they are developed to be sure that the district's standards are being met.

The Capital Facilities Department is following the usual steps in the school construction process. Please see the graphic below. All four projects are currently in the design and permitting stage. The construction phase is targeted to begin first with Pioneer Elementary in winter 2020. Construction for the other three schools will likely begin in spring 2020. Please follow our school construction progress at #psdbuilds.



## Building Local with Brian Ho



Brian Ho is a managing principal at TCF Architecture and the lead architect on the Pioneer Elementary and Evergreen Elementary replacement projects. Brian attended Artondale Elementary and Kopachuck Middle School. He graduated from Gig Harbor High School in 1996 and currently lives in Gig Harbor with his wife and children.

"The best part of these projects for me is to be involved in shaping the future of the community that I love and has given me so much. It is always rewarding to work on schools, but even more so when they serve your own family and friends."

# Pencils, Paper, and Crockpots

## Community Partners Provide for Peninsula Students in Need

Thanks to generous community partners, the Peninsula School District has a long tradition of providing school supplies for our students most in need. This year, one donor kicked off the year with school supplies and something a little less traditional – Crockpots.

Food Backpacks for Kids collected and donated 27 Crockpots this year as part of their effort to make sure no PSD student goes hungry over the weekend. The Crockpots will be distributed to families, along with recipes and ingredients to make healthy meals.

Chronic hunger can leave children distracted and unable to learn. Many students rely upon school lunch and breakfast to help meet their nutritional needs



during the week, but have less reliable access to meals on weekends.

Thanks to Food Backpacks for Kids, more of our students arrive to school on Monday mornings having had enough to eat all weekend. The organization currently provides more than 400 backpacks weekly for kids from each school within the Peninsula School District.

## Students in Action

### Key Peninsula Students Honored at Local Holocaust Art Competition

Artwork has the power to tell stories and stir emotions in an impactful way. Three Key Peninsula Middle School students harnessed that power recently to create moving and award-winning pieces for the Seattle Holocaust Center for Humanities 2019 Writing, Art, and Film Contest.

Grace Nesbit and Mia Stitt earned first place in their division for their film, "The Flame of Courage." The film tells the story of Carla Peperzak, a local woman who secured hiding places for Jews and created fake

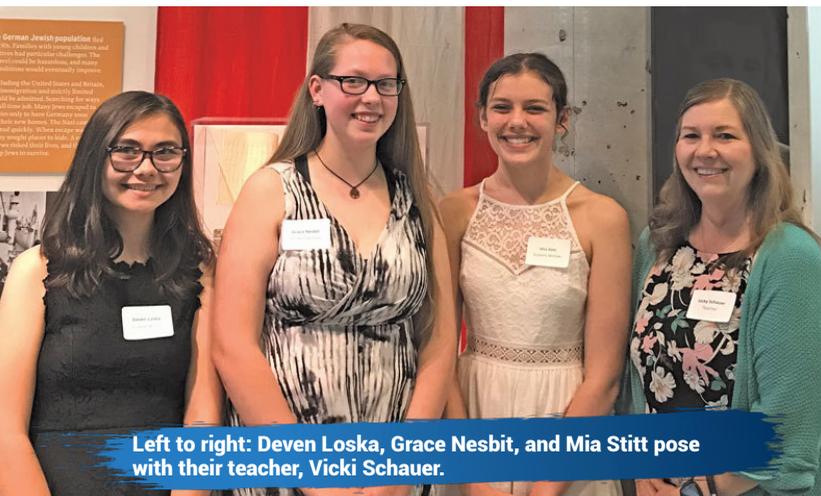
identification and ration cards for them. The film ends with a powerful statement: It only takes one person speaking up against injustice to make a dramatic impact.

Deven Loska received an honorable mention for her art piece, "Never Again." The artwork was inspired by the personal accounts of Holocaust survivors in Gig Harbor and also shows victims of several past and ongoing genocides.

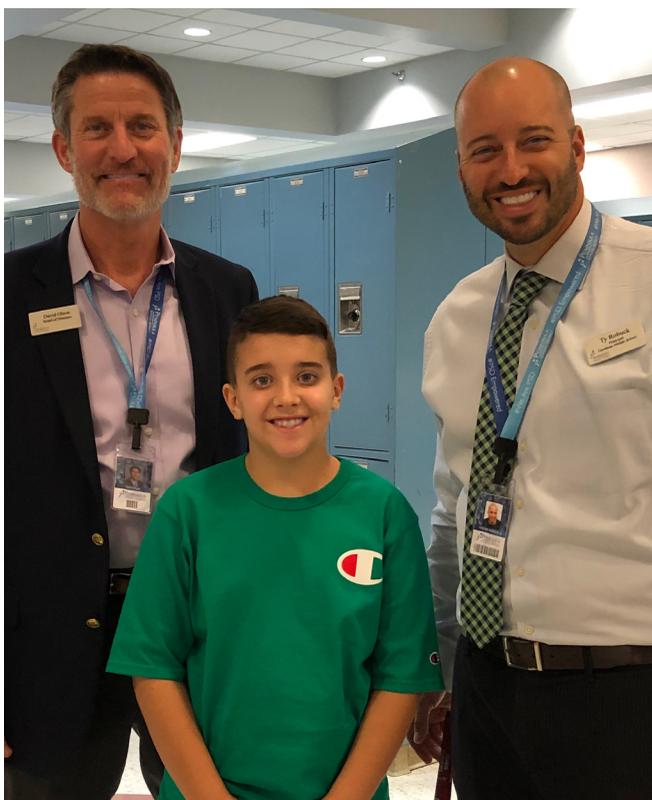
"When I first heard of this contest, I knew I wanted my piece to speak for all the victims of genocide," Loska said. "After every genocide, the world is horrified and says 'never again.' But what is the world doing to stop it? It happens again and again."

"The Seattle Holocaust Center for Humanity aims to inspire students to stand up to bigotry and indifference by teaching the lessons to be learned from the Holocaust," said Julia Thompson, a spokesperson for the organization. "Learning from local survivors creates a more impactful learning experience than studying history alone."

Congratulations again to these outstanding students. We are PSD proud of you!



Left to right: Deven Loska, Grace Nesbit, and Mia Stitt pose with their teacher, Vicki Schauer.



# 2019-2020

## We're off to a great start!

New beginnings all around PSD



**TOP LEFT:** Superintendent Jarvis presented capital project information to members of the Gig Harbor Lions Club. If your group or organization would like a similar presentation, please call 253.530.1002.

**TOP RIGHT:** New Discovery Elementary Principal, Delonna Halliday, greeted kindergarten students on their first day.

**MIDDLE LEFT:** Vaughn Elementary students, Bella and Logan Ruiz, had smiles and supplies in hand to start the new year.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Goodman Middle School Principal, Ty Robuck, with board member David Olson and student Hunter Ruiz, on the first day of school.

**BOTTOM MIDDLE:** PHS seniors, Amaya Sheets and Dani Rodriguez, joined their classmates to freshly paint the PHS commons to prepare for the first day of school.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** We love our bus drivers! Crystal Petasek had the honor of being the first driver on the road of the 2019-2020 school year.

# #PSDEMPowered

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*Tell us what you think!*

Please take this communications survey and bring it to your local school, or mail it to PSD at **14015 62nd AVE NW 98332**, OR take it online by scanning the QR code below with your phone's camera.



**Check all that apply:**

- I'm a student
- I'm a district employee
- I'm a parent
- I don't have students in PSD

**What are your MAIN SOURCES of information about the Peninsula School District?**

**Please check all that apply.**

- Newspaper (Key Pen News, Gateway, News Tribune)
- District or school website
- Social media
- School newsletter
- Printed district newsletter (COMPASS)
- Emails/text notifications from school/district
- Students
- Neighbors/other citizens
- School district employees

**How would you prefer to receive information about the Peninsula School District?**

**Please select your top 2.**

- Newspaper
- District or school website
- Social media
- School newsletter (printed or electronic)
- Printed district newsletter (COMPASS)
- Emails/Text notifications from district

**My age is:**

- 18-24
- 25-40
- 41-54
- 55-64
- 65+

**Closest elementary school to my residence is:**

- Artondale
- Discovery
- Elementary Annex (Pioneer)
- Evergreen
- Harbor Heights
- Minter Creek
- Purdy
- Vaughn
- Voyager
- Don't know