



Connections



November 3, 2016

Lake Washington School District grows to third largest in state

Lake Washington School District's enrollment grew by 1,178 students last year, from 27,830 students in 2015 to 29,008 on October 1, 2016. This enrollment increase moved Lake Washington from fourth largest district in Washington state to third largest, passing the Tacoma School District, enrollment 28,111. Lake Washington trails only Seattle and Spokane School Districts in size. The district was sixth largest in the state in 2014.

"As our cities grow, so does our enrollment," noted Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent. "We are fortunate to serve vibrant, attractive communities where people want to live and work. With this growth comes the need to provide classroom space to so many additional students. We appreciate the community-developed long-term plan to continue to build schools in the district." [Read more.](#)

Building on Success

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) is a high performing and successful public school district by many measures. The district's growing enrollment is evidence that LWSD attracts families to the area it serves in Kirkland, Redmond and Sammamish, Washington. To serve that growing enrollment, the district is "Building on Success." That's the district's long-term plan to continue to build schools and to provide quality learning environments and experiences.

A community-based Long-Term Facilities Planning Task Force developed a set of [recommendations](#) to reduce overcrowding and accommodate growing enrollment. They were adopted by the district's Board of Directors in December 2015. This long-term plan will help the district build toward future success. A bond measure passed in April 2016 funded the first set of projects in that plan. The Long-Term Facilities Planning Task Force included recommendations to keep the public informed about progress on these projects. A Building on Success logo will help community members quickly identify news and reports on projects in the program. Extensive information will be available on the district website and through regular mailings to the community..

[Read more.](#)

LWSD Board named Board of Distinction

Congratulations to the Lake Washington School District (LWSD) Board of Directors, one of 24 school boards in Washington state to be named a "Board of Distinction" by the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA).

The annual Boards of Distinction program honors school boards that demonstrate effective use of the Washington School Board Standards. These standards promote research-based governance practices that lead to high levels of student and district achievement, and help close the opportunity

gap. [Read more.](#)

New K-5 Choice School to share Mead Elementary campus in 2019

The Lake Washington School district has a long-standing tradition of providing a continuum of educational program choices for students.

Student enrollment continues to rapidly grow. The long-term facility planning task force recommended the district consider exploring potentially innovative projects, programs, and practices. Expanding choice options to keep pace with district growth is part of the district's long-term plan. Future planned bond measures in 2018 and 2022 include additional choice high schools. In addition, each year the district reviews opportunities for innovative programs. Currently, the Eastlake Learning Community is the only region without an elementary choice school.

When considering placement of new choice programs and schools, the district strives to ensure equitable access to students from all regions through program location placement. With the planned rebuilding and enlarging of Mead Elementary comes the opportunity to site an elementary choice school on the campus when Mead Elementary rebuild and expansion project is completed in 2019.

[Read more.](#)

Reminder: Your voice matters - Vote on November 8

Be sure to mail or return your ballots by November 8 to make your vote count. Ballots can be dropped off at the following locations:

- Kingsgate Library (12315 NE 143rd Street, Kirkland, WA 98034)
 - Kirkland City Hall (123 5th Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033)
 - Redmond City Hall (15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, WA 98052)
 - Sammamish City Hall (801 228th Avenue SE, Sammamish, WA 98075)
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Is your child too sick for school?

While school attendance is important, so is the health of all students and staff. If your child experiences any of the following symptoms, please keep him/her at home or make appropriate child care arrangements: fever, vomiting, lice/scabies, diarrhea, chronic cough and/or runny nose, sore throat, rash, ear infection (with fever), or eye infection. If he/she experiences any of these symptoms at school, the school nurse or office staff may ask you to pick your student up as soon as possible.

[Read more.](#)

School News

Schools practice kindness and inclusion for Unity Day

Students and staff around the district wore orange on October 19 to celebrate Unity Day. October is the 10th anniversary of National Bullying Prevention Month, which is devoted to uniting communities around the world to educate and raise awareness of

bullying prevention. Schools also hosted other activities to help show students how to practice kindness, acceptance and inclusion. [Read more.](#)



Mead Elementary teacher named STAR 101.5 Elementary Teacher of the Week

Thursday, October 20, was the “best day ever!” for many students in **Lindsay Ciccone’s first grade class at Mead Elementary.**

STAR 101.5, Sound Credit Union and the Dairy Farmers of Washington interrupted the students’ rainy day recess to surprise Ciccone as the STAR 101.5 Elementary Teacher of the Week. Ciccone was nominated for this award by her student, Martin Bunat, and his mother, Dawn Lovely.

[Read more.](#)



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