



Connections



May 12, 2017

A message from Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent

Building on Success

Last week I was honored to accompany 30 LWSD school teams to the 2016 Washington Achievement Awards ceremony. This year 30 schools in our district earned a total of 73 recognitions including: overall excellence, high progress, ELA growth, math growth, English language acquisition, and closing the achievement gap. These awards reflect the hard work and efforts of teachers/certificated staff, classified staff, and administrators. The awards also reflect the hard work and efforts of our students and parents. All our schools should be proud of the work they do every day to help every student learn, grow, achieve, and be Future Ready.

We are fortunate to experience success in many ways in our district. We are a high performing district with academically successful students. We also enjoy a high level of parent and community involvement and support. We rely on our resources, human and otherwise, to help us be successful.

[Read more.](#)

Redmond Learning Community Boundary online input

In January 2017, a [boundary committee](#) began the work to recommend new school attendance boundaries in the Redmond area due to the building of two new elementary and one new middle schools. The committee held two meetings to get feedback on multiple boundary options. If you were not able to make it to either meeting, you can still view the information and submit input to the committee. The boundary options are available on [the committee's page on the district website](#). Once you have reviewed the options, click on the link on that page to take the survey. The deadline for input is May 19.

Reminder: LWSD seeks input on 2018 Capital Projects Levy

The district runs a Capital Projects Levy on a four-year replacement cycle. The Capital Projects Levy funds critical technology and facility needs for schools and students. Voters passed the last Capital Projects Levy in 2014. The district is now planning for the upcoming 2018 Capital Projects Levy, as well as the upcoming 2018 Bond and Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy. In this survey, we are seeking input from parents/community members to help inform our Capital Projects Levy planning. [Take the survey here.](#)

Four LWSD students receive National Merit \$2500 Scholarships

Distinguished seniors part of only 50 selected statewide

The [National Merit Scholarship Corporation \(NMSC\)](#) announced today that four Lake Washington School District (LWSD) students will receive National Merit \$2500 Scholarships. Fifty students were selected statewide for these awards.

The students receiving National Merit \$2500 Scholarships are:

- **Shloak Jain** (Redmond), Redmond High School
- **Alicia Kacharia** (Redmond), International Community School
- **Abhinav Singh** (Redmond), Tesla STEM High School
- **Marium Raza** (Woodinville), Redmond High School

These students are four of the 2,500 distinguished high school seniors nationwide to win this scholarship. They were selected from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding Finalists in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. [Read more.](#)

Thank you from Lake Washington Schools Foundation

Thank you to our incredible community for helping us raise \$230,000 at our Spring for Learning Luncheon and Breakfast. Thank you for helping us to ensure that every one of our students has the skills and confidence to be successful, from kindergarten through senior year, from Juanita to Sammamish, **Every student succeeds!**

District statement regarding "Thirteen Reasons Why"

Recently, we have become aware of students discussing a new Netflix series called *Thirteen Reasons Why*. It is based on a popular novel by the same name. The show deals with graphic and sensitive issues including suicide, self-harm, rape, and bullying.

Given both the popularity and sensitive nature of the show we wanted to share resources with you as well as to share the supports in place at LWSD schools. Several organizations have put together helpful information for parents. [Read more.](#)

School News

Frost Elementary School's production of The Lion King KIDS

Frost Elementary School expected 30 or 40 students would audition for the school's production of Disney's Lion King KIDS. Instead, 70 students showed up – and almost all of them stayed for six months of rehearsals with coaches from Disney and Seattle Theatre Group. "Our kids are really craving an opportunity to express themselves through the arts," said Jeffrey Erickson, a teacher at Frost who directed the musical. [Watch the video.](#)



Eastlake robotics competes at world championships after successful season

The FIRST robotics team from **Eastlake High School**, Top Gun, concluded its season last week in the top 5 percent of robotics teams in the world. They competed at the world championships in Houston, Texas, from April 19-22. During the competition, they finished 5-4-1, ending 22nd in a division of 68 teams. They were selected in the first round of alliance selections by the 7th-seeded team.



They made it to their division quarterfinals and forced a tie-breaker match against the number 3 seed.

Quick Links: [LWSD Website](#) | [Upcoming Events](#) | [Peachjar e-flyers](#)



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