



Connections



February 7, 2017

Message from the Superintendent

Helping Students Realize Their Potential

This year's theme for National School Counseling Week in February is "Helping Students Realize their Potential." In Lake Washington School District, we are proud of our longstanding and ongoing commitment to maintaining high standards for learning and high standards for safe and inclusive learning environments for all students.

Our high standards for learning are aligned to the state standards and articulated through our preK-12 curriculum framework. We begin preparing students to reach our vision of *Every Student Future Ready* at the primary grades as they learn early literacy and math skills. At the intermediate grades we are preparing students for success in middle school. In middle school, we prepare students for high school. In high school we focus on preparing students for college, the global workplace, and personal success – our definition of *Future Ready*.

Our *Every Student* focus extends to our high standards for safe and inclusive learning environments. We recognize and value that we are a diverse community. We believe in providing a positive, harmonious environment in which diversity is respected and encouraged. [Read more.](#)

New School Board President/Vice President

Each year, the Lake Washington School Board reorganizes itself and determines who will serve in the roles of president, vice president and legislative representative. This year, they reorganized at their January 23 meeting. The following officers were elected:

- School Board President - Christopher Carlson
 - School Board Vice President – Siri Bliesner
 - School Board Legislative Representative – Mark Stuart
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Serving on the school board: An informational meeting

Have you ever considered serving on your local school board? As elected officials, school boards provide a vital link between their communities and public schools. Their governance role is about the "big picture." They set school district direction and allocate resources. They monitor performance and hold the district accountable for progress.

Nancy Bernard, a member of the Lake Washington School District Board of Directors, will lead an informational meeting for those interested in learning more about Board service and the process of running for school board. She will provide information on the role of the school board and what it is like to serve in Lake Washington. She will also cover the basic information about running for school board. [Read more.](#)

School Board Service Informational Meeting

Monday, February 27, 7-8 p.m.

Bob Hughes Room

Lake Washington School District Resource Center

16250 NE 74th St., Redmond

Thank a counselor - National School Counseling Week is February 6-10

February 6-10 is National School Counseling Week. Lake Washington School District recognizes its 71 school counselors who help students reach their full potential every day. School counselors are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development. Thank a school counselor today.

Reminder: Open enrollment is February 1-28

Lake Washington School District holds an open enrollment period once each year for parents who want their children to attend a school other than their neighborhood school. To take advantage of open enrollment for students in grades one through 12, parents may apply for a change to that school assignment, also known as an in-district transfer or variance, between February 1 and February 28.

For kindergarten students, parents must request the variance at the time of registration. This open enrollment option only applies to those schools that have space available. [Read more](#).

Prepared for the global workplace: February is Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month

February 1-28 is Career and Technical Education month. Approximately 6,287 students participate in 115 different career and technical education course options taught by 75 CTE teachers in Lake Washington School District. If your students are in elementary school, they will begin to experience CTE courses in middle and high school.

High School PE credit option deadlines coming up

To earn a high school diploma, students must earn two health and fitness credits. Some students may need an alternative option to meet the fitness portion of this requirement. These alternative options are available beginning in the student's 11th grade school year.

One option, the Fitness Knowledge Assessment, will be given on March 8. Students must register by February 15. For information on this option and how to sign up, go to [the district website](#). Students who want to use a different option, the Fitness Plan, will need to submit their plan by March 8. The Fitness Plan directions will be available starting on February 6 on [the district website](#).

Reminder: Help Tesla STEM students win "Fan Favorite," make app to help disabled get around

It can be a challenge for someone with a disability to find comprehensive transportation information. Typical mapping tools don't include accessibility ramps or walking distances, for example. A team of students from Tesla STEM High School won



\$5,000 from the [Verizon Innovative Learning app challenge](#) for their app concept, “Take Me There.” This app would take advantage of crowdsourcing to help users who need more detailed accessibility information in their mapping tool. The students took top honors in Washington state and the Pacific region. Now they want to be the national “Fan Favorite” and win the chance to develop a working app. Text TAKEMETHERE to 22333 by Feb. 14 to help them win.

School News

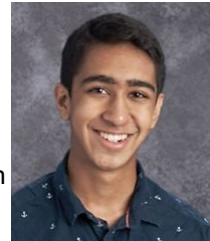
Activity helps ELL students learn English from peers

It’s not always easy to strike up a conversation with someone you don’t know. Especially if you are still learning that person’s language. To ease the transition, Redmond High School teacher Ruth Schemmel paired up English Language Learner students with student volunteers during homeroom. The school uses a split homeroom schedule that allows students to seek help on their own. [Read more.](#)



Tesla STEM High School student named Regeneron Science Talent Search Finalist

Apoorv Khandelwal, a senior at **Tesla STEM High School**, has been named a Regeneron Science Talent Search Finalist. Forty finalists were selected based on the scientific rigor and world-changing potential of their research projects. Khandelwal’s work is titled, “Molecular Dynamics Simulation and Experimental Fabrication of Nanoporous Graphene Membranes for Optimal Water Permeability in Reverse Osmosis Desalination.” Khandelwal is the only finalist from Washington state. [Read more.](#)



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



Lake Washington School District, 16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond, WA 98052

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