

Connections



March 24, 2017

Lake Washington School District: Safe, welcoming and inclusive

Lake Washington School District has a long-standing commitment to ensuring that our schools are safe, welcoming, and inclusive learning environments. Read more for questions and answers pertaining the continuing efforts underway in our district and schools.

New LWSD website coming soon!

On March 29, you will get to see a preview of the new Lake Washington School District website. The new site will be available via a link from the current website. We will continue to run the old website until the new school websites and the remaining pages of the district website are completed. The goal is to switch over to the new website permanently at the end of this school year.



The front page of the new site is focused on the district's values: Student Centered, Learning Focused, Results Oriented, Community Connected. Navigation at the top of the page help to direct users and the new "Find It Fast" button at the top right corner is designed to help users search the site. Please look at the new site and use the Site Feedback button at the bottom of the page to let us know what you think.

L.E. "Bud" Scarr

We are sorry to share the sad news that former longtime LWSD superintendent Dr. LE "Bud" Scarr passed away earlier this week. Dr. Scarr faithfully served as LWSD superintendent for nearly 20 years from 1977–1996. On January 3, 2000, the district office building was named the L.E. Scarr Resource Center in dedication and recognition for the many outstanding contributions he provided to the students, staff and community of the Lake Washington School District.



Many staff members worked with Dr. Scarr. He is fondly remembered and will be sorely missed. Private family services will be held in Montana.

Expert advisory committee reviews school building projects to ensure efficiency, save money

Community volunteers are lending their expertise to help the Lake Washington School District create and build quality school designs that reduce costs without compromising quality. The group was part of a recommendation of the Long-Term Facilities Planning Task Force, a community-based group that advised the district on how to handle its growing enrollment and aging schools.



In its 2015 report, the task force recommended that LWSD appoint a small expert advisory group to review design and construction of funded projects. A <u>Design and Construction Advisory</u>

<u>Committee</u> was formed last spring. It has met seven times over the past year to review current projects at several stages in the design process.

"The purpose of the advisory committee is to provide expert industry advice on new school design and construction to ensure alignment with district design standards and the district's goal of making school buildings and sites effective and efficient in design, construction and operation," said Forrest Miller, Director, Support Services. "That means we can create innovative learning environments at a lower cost." Read more.

Review Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry and K-5 Visual Arts Curriculum Materials

Possible materials for adoption on display at Resource Center April 17 - May 5

Lake Washington School District invites the public to review and comment on Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry materials for use in grades 7-12, and visual arts materials for use in grades K-5. These materials are under consideration for adoption. If approved by the district's Board of Directors this spring, the materials will be purchased for use in the 2017-18 school year. The programs being recommended to the Board are:

- Big Ideas Math: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Common Core Curriculum
- Deep Space Sparkle: Art School for Kids, Grades K-5

Materials will be on display at the Lake Washington School District Resource Center (16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond, WA 98052) from April 17 through May 5. There is an opportunity to give written feedback. Read more.

Lake Washington Schools Foundation fills budget shortfall for test fees

The Lake Washington Schools Foundation Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to subsidize Advance Placement (AP) fees for low-income students in the Lake Washington School District. The emergency funding was provided to fill a budget gap left by a change to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that ended a federal subsidy for the exam fees. That change left students on free and reduced lunch faced with paying up to \$96 for each exam this year rather than \$12 per exam as in past years.

"These fees are a barrier for a lot of students in our district. We're pleased to help remove that obstacle so students can get on with the hard work of learning," says the Lake Washington Schools Foundation Executive Director, Larry Wright.

To learn more about how to access the subsidized test fees, parents can contact their school counselor.

District, King County Library increase access to online resources for secondary students

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) and King County Library System (KCLS) have formed a new partnership to increase student access to online resources. KCLS will be creating special library accounts in its system for all secondary LWSD students so they may seamlessly log in from school, home or from any computer or device.

LWSD will provide KCLS with student information for students in grades six through 12, based on the Directory Information Withhold information that each family completed at the start of the school year. If your child is currently listed as "No" to providing directory information publicly, your student's information will not be released to KCLS. If your child is currently listed as "Yes" to providing this information publicly, your child's information will be released to KCLS. Follow this process to change your current settings inside of Skyward Family Access.

Accounts will be created on March 31, so you will need to complete your changes by Friday, March 31 at 4 p.m. If you have any trouble completing the online process, please call or visit your school's office for assistance. You can also email ParentQuestions@lwsd.org for assistance. Read more.

Help us with hiring: Reserve your child's place in Kindergarten now

If you live in Lake Washington School District (LWSD) and your child will be five years old on or before August 31, 2017, it is time to register them for Kindergarten. Registration takes place at your neighborhood school during regular school hours. While registration will continue throughout the school year and summer, parents are highly encouraged to register students as soon as possible. Doing so helps ensure class sizes are balanced and adequate staff are hired in time for the new school year. Don't delay – register today! Read more.

Community invited to Mead Elementary School Open House event

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) is "Building on Success." That's the district's plan to build schools and to provide quality learning environments. It is based on a set of recommendations from a community-based Long-Term Facilities Planning Task Force. An April 2016 bond measure funds the first set of recommended projects. One of those projects is the project to rebuild and enlarge Margaret Mead Elementary school to accommodate 550 students.

Community members are invited to join LWSD staff for an update on this projects. Input from parents, staff, and community members is vital at this point in the design process. The meeting is scheduled for:

 Tuesday, March 28, 2017 from 6-7:30 p.m. at Mead Elementary (1725 216th Avenue NE, Sammamish)

An open house format is planned. Posters that illustrate various aspects of the project will be set out around the room. LWSD staff and architects will be available to answer questions and gather feedback. Read more.

Reminder: Ready Start Preschool Program accepting applications in March

Lake Washington School District's Ready Start Preschool Program will start accepting tuition based

applications for the 2017-18 school year, starting on March 21. Applications will be accepted at the Resource Center (16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond) on any school day from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. If more children are registered for any one location or session (a.m. or p.m.) than we have availability, a lottery for each Preschool building will be held March 27 to determine the students in those classes. Parents will be notified of results by the end of April. After March 21 Read more.

School News

Fourth-annual Teen CEO competition is toughest yet

Nine teen-owned businesses came prepared with polished presentations to share the vision of their business at this year's Teen CEO competition. From retail businesses to technology companies, each CEO came prepared to vie for their chance at prize money for their business.



Tesla STEM students Adriana Rush and **Indra Toepke** of Magic Carrot Candles, took home the first-place Rita Smith Founder's Award of \$3,000 for their business. This follows a second-place finish at last year's Teen CEO competition. Read more.

Thirty-seven LWSD students qualify for DECA International Career Development Conference

Thirty-seven LWSD students placed high enough at the DECA State Career Development Conference event to qualify for a spot at the International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Calif., in April. The state-level competition was held at Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, Wash., from March 2-4. Students from Eastlake High School (EHS), Juanita High School (JHS), Lake Washington High School (LWHS), and Redmond High School (RHS) competed against students from other schools from around the state. Read more.

Quick Links: <u>LWSD Website</u> | <u>Upcoming Events</u> | <u>Peachjar e-flyers</u>



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

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