



November 20, 2015



Enjoy Thanksgiving Break!

We hope that you enjoy your Thanksgiving Break from November 26-27. Please remember that November 25 is a half day of school. For more information, visit the [Half-Day Dismissal Times](#) page of our district website.

Lake Washington School District honors community partners and celebrates student success during American Education Week

The Lake Washington School District (LWSD) recognized the many community partners, business leaders, elected officials, and parent leaders who support the district today as part of American Education Week. Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent, shared a "State of the District" presentation with community leaders and elected officials at a first annual Community Leaders Breakfast. [Read more](#). In addition to that event, the district launched a [Community Connections](#) web page that illustrates the many ways that the district works with community members and organizations to help students learn and to make our district a success.

Community Task Force recommends building more schools in Lake Washington School District

Group advises district on efficiency, cost-effectiveness, continued community involvement

After nearly a year of work by the Lake Washington School District (LWSD) Long Term Facilities Task Force, P.S. Reilly, Task Force member and parent, called its recommendations "a reasonable person's approach to what is a very tough problem." The tough problem was the issue of classroom capacity and aging schools in a rapidly growing school district. The "reasonable person" represents the collective wisdom of the 63-person community task force as well as the larger community, represented by input collected during the process. [Read more](#).

Middle school and high school options booklets available Parents of students in grades five or eight should watch their mailboxes and may already have received the [Middle School Options booklet](#) and [High School Options booklet](#). These booklets will be mailed out this week. They outline the opportunities in these respective levels, including information about neighborhood schools and choice schools. Parents of students in grades five will receive a middle school options booklet. Parents of students in grade eight will receive a high school options booklet in the mail. The booklets are also available on the [district website](#).

We Value Your Feedback

One of the goals of Lake Washington School district is to engage our communities. We welcome and value parent and community feedback, and each year we administer two district-wide parent and community

School News



[Honoring veterans in our community](#)

Veterans Day is a great opportunity for students to learn from and honor veterans on school staffs, in their families, and in our community. Since schools will be closed on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, school assemblies and events began last week and will continue through November 10. Students have written thank you cards, collected photos of family members or friends who have served, and created artwork to honor our veterans. [Read more](#).



[LWSD well-represented in state music honors](#)

Forty-nine LWSD high school music students have been accepted to 2016 Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA) High School All-State Honor Groups. These students will perform at the WMEA State Conference in Yakima on February 14, 2016. Another 52 students were accepted into Junior All-State Honor Groups. Six sixth grade students were also accepted to the Youth Choir. [See the full list](#)

surveys:

1. [An annual climate survey](#)

Each year we survey parents and community members to seek feedback about school learning environments, academic standards, communication, student support and more. This district and schools carefully reviews the feedback collected each year to help inform our continuous improvement processes. It helps us to understand what we are doing well and how we can continue to improve. This survey was last administered in spring of 2015. [You can see the results from last spring's survey by clicking here](#). We are now moving this survey to the fall, as we have another survey in the spring that focuses on specific program efforts.

2. [An annual program survey](#)

Each spring we survey parents to seek feedback about specific district programs and initiatives. The district carefully reviews the feedback collected each year and uses it to help inform our strategic planning processes. Look for this survey in spring 2016.

In addition, for many years our district has had an ongoing telephone poll in place. Pacific Market Research places calls on behalf of the Lake Washington School District to seek feedback from parents and community members. We regularly review the feedback collected and analyze the data trends over time.

Fall climate survey launching now: Since we are moving the annual climate survey to the fall, your chance to weigh in is happening now. In order to participate, [Click on this link](#) or past this link into a web browser: <http://www.k12insight.com/k/SsWYVTSQRURsPsPsP%20>

Please feel free to forward the link to friends and neighbors. We would also like to hear from community members who do not have students in our schools. It survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes. The survey will close on Friday, **December 18**.

We appreciate your time. District-wide results from the survey will be shared on the "Your Voice" page of the district website. School-wide results for selected questions will be published as part of each school's annual report, which will be distributed to all parents next fall.

Safety Spotlight: Are you ready for winter weather?

With winter quickly approaching, it is a good time to review the district's bad weather protocols and how to know when school is delayed or cancelled. Families with students who ride the bus should watch their mail in mid-November for a postcard with information about their bad weather bus route. [Read more](#).

The Lake Washington School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender, marital status, creed, religion, honorably discharged veteran, military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Director of Human Resources, 16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond Washington, 98052 or

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425-936-1266.

