



December 4, 2015



School News

A message from Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent

With the month of December and the holiday season upon us, many thoughts turn to gift giving, and with gift giving often comes shopping.

As customers, we have choices and options for where we shop and spend our hard-earned dollars. Typically we tend to frequent establishments where there is excellent customer service and excellent value. Dedicated store owners and managers make concerted efforts to ensure that their customers are receiving excellent service and value for their dollars.

These efforts are similar to the concerted efforts that our building administrators, department managers, central office leaders, staff members, and I are making to ensure that our "customers" - our students, parents, community members, and tax payers - receive excellent service and value for their investment. [Read more.](#)

Lake Washington earns place on prestigious Advanced Placement District Honor Roll

For the second year in a row, the College Board named Lake Washington School District (LWSD) to its [Annual AP District Honor Roll](#). LWSD is one of only 425 public school districts in the nation and one of ten in Washington to be honored.

The Honor Roll recognizes districts that increase access to Advanced Placement (AP) coursework while maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP exams. Districts that reach these goals successfully identify motivated, academically prepared students who are likely to benefit from rigorous AP course work. [Read more.](#)

LWSD School Board Accepts Task Force Recommendations, Including Recommendation to Build More Schools

School board member Chris Carlson called the Long Term Facilities Task Force's recommendations "spectacular, very useful to us." At its November 23 regular meeting, the Lake Washington School District Board of Directors unanimously approved those recommendations and charged Superintendent Traci Pierce with taking action on them. The district has begun to implement the Task Force's recommendations. One next step addresses the Task Force's recommendation that the district build new schools to accommodate its rapidly growing enrollment. Several Task Force strategies involve efficiency and cost-effectiveness. It provided strategies to lower costs, such as specific cost-effective design principles.

Dr. Pierce has convened a Bond Advisory Committee to provide feedback and advice to the Superintendent on a short-term and long-term funding strategy and project timing plan that is aligned to the Task Force recommendations. The Advisory Committee includes parent and community representatives including members of the Task Force, business and city government representatives. [Read more.](#)

Reminder: 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 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.



[Mead El. teacher named Symetra Hero in the Classroom](#)

Students in Stacy Jeremiah's second grade class at Mead Elementary are quick to share good qualities about their teacher. She has "made a really big difference in my learning," said one student, while another pointed out that Jeremiah "helps with math and writing and she's just a really hard-working teacher." That is why Allison Eidinger, a parent of a Margaret Mead student, nominated Jeremiah for a Symetra Hero in the Classroom award. On Monday, November 23, representatives from the Seattle Seahawks and Symetra honored Jeremiah during a surprise all-school assembly. [Read more.](#)



[EAS students participate in a puzzling event](#)

On November 20, Environmental & Adventure School students participated in a unique "Puzzle Event" involving puzzle-solving and treasure hunt activities around the school. Organized by parents who work at Microsoft, small teams of four to five students tackled puzzles, which then led to clues around the school. These clues unlocked additional puzzles. [Read more.](#)

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](#).

Reminder: We value your feedback

The district's fall climate survey is now available. In order to participate, [Click on this link](#) or paste this link into a web browser: <http://www.k12insight.com/k/SsWYVTsQRURsPsPsP>

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. The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. The survey will close on **Friday, December 18**.

We appreciate your time. District-wide results from last spring's survey are posted on the [Your Voice](#) page on the district website.

- [Quick Links](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Peachjar e-flyers](#)

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 425-936-1266.

