



# Connections



December 18, 2015



## Lake Washington School District Seeks Input on Possible Bond Plan: *Plan would implement Task Force recommendations over time*

At its December 7 meeting, the Lake Washington School District Board of Directors received an initial draft report on potential funding measures that would enable the district to build new schools and address aging schools. Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent, presented a draft short-term and long-term funding plan to implement the project recommendations of the Long-Term Facilities Task Force. That 63-member representative group spent almost a year looking into the district's facility needs.

The Task Force recommendations include a list of specific construction projects needed for the district through 2029-30. They also recommended strategies for efficient and cost-effective facility designs. The draft funding plan implements the construction projects over time. A 2016 bond measure would fund the most immediate needs. Subsequent bond measures in 2018, 2022, and 2026 would fund the longer-term needs. The bond measures would not increase tax rates. They would maintain the 2015 tax rate and keep it steady over the next 15 years.

The district has launched a survey for community members to provide feedback on the draft funding plan. Take the survey online here: [LWSD funding plan survey](#). [Read more.](#)

## Redmond Elementary named 2015 School of Distinction *School recognized for five years of continuing improvement*

The Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) has named **Redmond Elementary** one of its "Schools of Distinction." Redmond El. was among 90 schools statewide in the top 5 percent for improvement on the state's English / language arts and math index test scores for students. [Read more.](#)

## Seven Lake Washington teachers achieve National Board Certification

Seven Lake Washington School District teachers achieved National Board Certification®, as announced by the [National Board for Professional Teaching Standards \(NBPTS\)](#). In addition to the seven newly certified teachers, three teachers renewed their certification this year. That makes a total of 10 teachers completing the process. (Certifications must be renewed every ten years.) Teachers from around the district completed the process, including a district-high two teachers from Eastlake High School. [Read more.](#)

## Task Force working on high school credit options, schedule, start times

The College and Career Readiness Task Force, composed of staff and parents, is working to study, analyze, and make recommendations in two areas:

- the impacts of the new state 24-credit graduation requirements

## School News



### [AVID: Helping Students Succeed](#)

How do we help students in the "academic middle" reach their full potential? **Evergreen Middle School** and **Redmond Middle School** have a new solution this year in the AVID Program. Through AVID, students get the tools they need to be successful in school. Community volunteers facilitate tutorial sessions where students ask each other questions to help them learn how to help themselves. [Read more.](#)



### [An Hour of Code - with Frozen, Minecraft, and even Star Wars](#)

Last week, students around LWSD joined millions of kids around the world to learn about computer coding during Hour of Code events. Watch **Rush Elementary** and **Kamiakin Middle School** students enhance their technical skills by learning the basics of coding, while also having fun. Visit the [Hour of Code website](#) to learn more. [Read more.](#)

## Quick Links

and the potential for a seven-period day or other ways to expand options for grades 9-12, and

- school schedule and start times

## [Upcoming Events](#)

## [Peachjar e-flyers](#)

The first phase of the Task Force's work focuses on the impact of the 24-credit requirement. The goal is to provide recommendations on that work by April 2016. The second phase of work focuses on school start times. The Task Force expects to develop recommendations for this phase by December 2016.

During each phase, the Task Force will develop models or options before engaging staff, students, and parents for feedback. To follow this work, go to [the Task Force web page](#) and sign up to receive email alerts.

**Parents offered a chance to learn more about ALICE** Students cannot learn if they are not safe. Schools are responsible for the safety of children in their care. Lake Washington School District works closely with the police and fire departments in the cities we serve to continually improve our knowledge of safety procedures.

The Redmond Police department introduced a set of principles called ALICE to our safety committee. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate. It is not in any specific order of priority nor are all steps required. These are tools to use in the event of an emergency. They add options to our lockdown response, which already incorporates some of these principles.

There will be a series of evening training sessions for parents in early 2016 for those interested in learning more. These training sessions will be hosted by the Redmond, Kirkland and Sammamish Police Departments and held at LWSD schools. Information will be available on how you can use ALICE principles and on the information your students will receive. They will take place at 7 p.m. on the following dates/places:

- **January 6** - Lake Washington High School Library
- **January 7** - Juanita High School Library
- **January 12** - Redmond High School Cafeteria
- **January 13** - Eastlake High School Commons

Additional resources about the ALICE program can be found at [www.alicetraining.com](http://www.alicetraining.com).

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.