



Connections



April 18, 2016



A message from Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent

We want to provide our students with the best learning environments possible, and this means responding to our ever-growing student population.

There are now eight days to Election Day. Ballots have arrived in homes, and citizens of the Lake Washington School District are voting on:

Proposition 1: Bonds to Reduce Overcrowding and Enhance Student Learning Environments

The outcome of the April 26 election has the potential to fundamentally shape the future of the Lake Washington School District. Our district mission is: *Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding, responsible life as a contributing member of our community and great society.*

Voting is one of the greatest ways to contribute to our community and greater society. As adults, we can teach students the importance of voting by voting ourselves. We can affirm that the right to vote is the cornerstone of a democratic society. Every vote matters. Every vote counts. [Read more.](#)

25 LWSD schools receive 2015 Washington Achievement Awards

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the State Board of Education (SBE) have announced the 258 schools statewide that will receive Washington Achievement Awards. Of those 258 schools, 25 are in Lake Washington School District (LWSD), the fourth largest district in the state. More schools in LWSD earned awards than any other district including the three districts that serve more pupils than LWSD. The 25 LWSD schools will receive a total of 47 recognitions, including 17 awards for overall excellence. All award-winning schools will be honored during a ceremony on May 10 at Union Gap School in Union Gap, Wash. [Read more.](#)

Remember to vote

King County Elections mailed ballots to all registered voters on April 6. Ballots must be returned or postmarked by April 26. If you are a registered voter and have not received your ballot, contact the elections office at 206-296-VOTE (8683). The Lake Washington School District Proposition No. 1 Bonds to Reduce Overcrowding and Enhance Student Learning Environments is the only item on the ballot in our district. For more information on the specific projects funded by the measure, go to <http://www.lwsd.org/>.

Cheers for our volunteers!

Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 18-22, 2016

School News



Two Redmond High School seniors selected as Intel Science Talent Search 2016 Semifinalists

Two seniors from Redmond High School have been selected as semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search (STS), a program of Society for Science & the Public. **Adarsh Karnati** was selected for his research titled, "A Novel Design of an Ocean Wave Energy Harvester Using a Linear Cam Release Approach."

Richard Zhang was selected for his research titled, "The Effect of Asymmetrically Coated Nafion Membranes on the Performance and CO-poisoning Resistance of Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells". Karnati and Zhang are two of six students representing Washington state as semifinalists.

[Read more.](#)



"Bookthirsty Brainiacs" win middle school Battle of the Books for second time

For the second year in a row, Kirkland Middle School's (KiMS) "Bookthirsty Brainiacs" won the Lake Washington School District Middle School level Battle of the Books competition. On Tuesday, March 29, one team from each middle school competed in the district-level competition. Students worked

Some volunteers go on one special field trip each year. Others are at the school each day. Whatever their schedule or specific tasks they perform in the school, volunteers play an important role. Our students would miss out on projects, field trips and activities each year if parent and community volunteers did not offer their time to support classrooms and after school programs in our schools.

[Read more.](#)

School libraries support learning

April is school library month

Your student's school library supports learning during the school day and serves as the information hub for the school. School libraries also serve as an information source when students are not at school. Just go to your school's website and click on "Library" in the left hand column. You will find links to the library's catalog as well as a variety of resources for students.

On the district website, the [For Students](#) tab leads to a page where you can choose Research and Homework Help for either grades K-5 or grades 6-12. On those pages, there are links to a variety of resources, including databases just for students. Your student may need to get a user name and password for some of those databases from their school librarian. And wish them a happy school library month!

Want to help improve this publication?

The LWSD Communications department is planning three focus group on this publication (*Connections*), to improve it for all parents and guardians. If you are interested in providing your input into how we can make this publication better, please contact [Shannon Parthemer](#) at 425-936-1300. Three focus groups are planned for the following dates at the Resource Center:

- Thursday, April 28 from 4-5 p.m.
- Friday, April 29 from 10-11 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 4 from 3-4 p.m.

If you can't attend the focus group but want to provide input, watch for a survey about *Connections* in this publication at the end of May.

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 people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Title IX: Matt Gillingham, PO Box 97039, Redmond, WA 98073, 425-936-1289, mgillingham@lwsd.org; Section 504: Stacey McCrath, PO Box 97039, Redmond, WA 98073, 425-936-1201, smccrath@lwsd.org; Civil Rights Compliance: Pat Fowler-Fung, PO Box 97039, Redmond, WA 98073, 425-936-1266, pfowler-fung@lwsd.org.

within their school teams of four to six students each to answer a variety of questions about the 12 books they read this fall and winter. Each team competing at the district level won a school level competition before they moved on to the district event.

[Read more.](#)



[20 high school girls honored with STEM awards from AAUW](#)

The Kirkland-Redmond branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) honored **20 LWSD 11th-grade girls** on March 16 during its STEM Scholar Recognition event. The selected honorees have excelled in math, science, or technology at their high schools. [Read more.](#)

Quick Links

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Peachjar e-flyers](#)