



Connections



April 13, 2018

Lake Washington School District Superintendent to Step into New Role

Lake Washington School District Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce announced on Tuesday, April 10 her plans to step out of the role of superintendent and into a different role within the organization.

In a message to district staff and families, Pierce shared, "I am very proud of what we have accomplished together over these past six years. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as superintendent. I am grateful for the talented and dedicated team of professional educators who work in this district. I truly love this district and the work that we do, and I am excited to continue to serve the district in a new role as I enter the next season of my career. As a lifelong educator, I am very passionate about fulfilling our district vision of Every Student Future Ready. By assuming the role of Director, College and Career Readiness, I will be able to focus all my time, talent and energy on helping every single student reach this vision. I look forward to continuing to develop district systems for engaging students in Career and Technical Education and WANIC coursework; in building opportunities for internships and externships for students; and in continuing to cultivate relationships with community and business partners to benefit our students."

[Read the full release here.](#)

Lake Washington School District Board of Directors Shares First Steps in Selecting New Superintendent

Lake Washington School District's (LWSD's) Board of Directors will be initiating a national, open search for LWSD's next superintendent with the support of a consulting firm experienced in identifying and recruiting leaders for high-performing school districts like LWSD. The same process and search firm will be used for considering internal and external applicants.

[Read the full release here.](#)

Learning-Focused

District Equity Team – Helping to Ensure Academic Success for Every Student

As one of the top performing districts in the state, Lake Washington continues to strive to ensure that every single student experiences academic success and graduates Future Ready. As such, the district is committed to closing opportunity and achievement gaps for students where they exist. As part of the Lake Washington's ongoing strategic improvement efforts, the district formed a District Equity Team in spring 2017. Staff members, parents and community members were invited to apply to serve on this team. The invitation was sent out to parents through our Connections e-newsletter.

Over 100 applications from staff and parent/community members were received for the 39-member team. All applications were carefully reviewed and considered. The district selected 39 members to

represent staff and parents/community on the District Equity Team. The selection of participants was based on ensuring diverse representation of a wide range of experiences, perspectives and geographic locations. After forming the initial team, additional members were added in subsequent months to ensure a more racially diverse team. The team now represents parents and families from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds.

Over the past several months, the District Equity Team has been convening monthly to participate in professional learning, review data, and review other district's equity-focused policies. The Team is now providing input on the district's development of an equity policy and plan. All district parents will have the opportunity to provide feedback and comment on the policies and plan once drafted.

[Follow the work of the District Equity Team here.](#)

Change to the first day of Kindergarten for 2018-19

Kindergarten students will start school on Friday, September 7 instead of Monday, September 10 as originally published on the LWSD calendar. Kindergarten students start three days later than students in grades 1-12, as kindergarten teachers spend those three days holding Family Connection meetings with their incoming families. [You can view the updated 2018-19 calendar here.](#)

We Value Your Feedback: Take our Parent Survey

Lake Washington School District uses an annual strategic planning process to ensure its resources and efforts are used effectively toward reaching the district mission, vision and strategic goals. Each year, the district seeks input from parents to inform the planning process. We value our partnership with parents in ensuring our district, schools and students are successful. Your feedback and input is important. We invite and encourage you to participate in the annual survey. To see how input from last year's parent survey was used, visit the Communications section of the LWSD website: <https://www.lwsd.org/programs-and-services/communications/parent-voice-influences-district-planning>. This year's survey will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete, depending on whether your children are in elementary, middle, and/or high school.

To participate, you may: [Click on this link](#) or Copy-paste the entire following link between quote marks (NOT including the quote marks) in a web browser " <https://survey.k12insight.com/r/T18gH1> " Please respond by April 30 so that we can include your answers.

Lake Washington School District Offers Parent Information/Input Sessions on Sexual Health Curriculum

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) will offer two parent information and input sessions where community members will be able to view the proposed materials being considered for sexual health education, and give input.

Information nights will be held:

- Monday, April 23 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Resource Center (16250 NE 74th St, Redmond 98052)
- Thursday, May 3 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Resource Center (16250 NE 74th St, Redmond 98052)

[Read more about the Sexual Health Curriculum Parent Information/Input Sessions here.](#)

Core Academic Summer School registration begins on April 16

Registering for Core Academic Summer Programs is scheduled to begin next week on April 16. Summer 2018 course offerings include enrichment and core academic options at both the elementary and secondary levels. Courses run July 6-August 2 in a variety of session formats. Catalogs are available in schools or by visiting the [Summer Programs section of the district website](#).



Building on Success

Sammamish community celebrates groundbreaking of new Margaret Mead Elementary

Margaret Mead Elementary School students welcomed visitors to their school with drumming and singing during a ceremonial groundbreaking ceremony on March 28. Parents, dignitaries and contractors, who will help build the new school, attended the event. Sammamish Mayor Christie Malchow and Sen. Manka Dhingra were among the guests who came to celebrate the milestone with students. [Watch the video](#).



Kirkland community celebrates groundbreaking of new Peter Kirk Elementary

"We are Peter Kirk!" Students sang enthusiastically during the ceremonial groundbreaking for Peter Kirk Elementary School on March 30. The new building will house 690 students and is expected to open in September 2019. Among the guests who came to celebrate were Siri Bliesner and Cassandra Sage from the LWSD School Board, and Toby Nixon and Jon Pascal from Kirkland City Council. [Watch the video](#).



City of Redmond Partners with Lake Washington School District

Redmond City Council and Lake Washington School District (LWSD) Board of Directors approved both an inter-local agreement and a lease at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse in March.

The City of Redmond Parks and Recreation and LWSD have a long-term partnership for joint use of facilities. This partnership supports a wide selection of programs, classes, and opportunities for youth to be healthy and connected to the community through recreation, art, and social gathering. Both LWSD and Redmond Parks and Recreation are committed to continuing and growing their partnership related to programs and space/facility use. The inter-local agreement provides guidelines

and maximizes the use of facility spaces, fields, and parks. [Read more about our partnership with the City of Redmond.](#)



Important Reminders & Updates

Registration for WANIC Summer Skills Academy 2018 starts April 13

Classes are held weekdays Tuesday, June 26 through Friday, July 13, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. (No School July 4)

Washington Network for Innovative Careers (WANIC) offers courses at various high schools in local districts. These programs are open to students entering grades 9 through 12.

- Tuition is free; the only cost to attend a WANIC Summer Skills Academy class is the \$50 supply fee (assistance may be available for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch).
- Students earn .5 Occupational Education high school credits except where noted differently in the description.
- Students provide their own transportation and lunch.
- Visit <https://wanic.lwsd.org/academics/summer-courses> for class descriptions, locations and applications (open April 13-22).
- Visit your high school's Career Specialist for more information

Reminder: Tell your neighbors and friends: Kindergarten Registration for 2018-19

If you live in Lake Washington School District (LWSD) and your child will be 5 years old on or before August 31, 2018, it is time to register him or her for kindergarten. Registration takes place at your neighborhood school during regular school hours through the beginning of the 2018-19 school year.

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.

[Visit the Kindergarten Registration webpage for more information.](#)



Work With Us

We're hiring!

LWSD needs bus drivers, para educators and instructional assistants. Job descriptions are available on the [district website](#), under "Employment" then "Classified Employees." Bus drivers earn \$24.80 per hour. [Learn more about why driving a bus for LWSD is a great job.](#) Please share this information with your friends and neighbors.

Sodexo/Nutrition Services is hiring

Are you looking for a way to get involved in LWSD? Would you like a part-time job that gives you the flexibility to be with your kids before and after school? Shifts that range from two hours to eight hours are available, helping serve students breakfast and lunch. Starting pay depends on experience. If interested, contact Nutrition Services at 425-936-1385.



Student & Staff Success

Rose Hill Middle School Counselor receives Human and Civil Rights Award

Danielle MacDonald, a counselor at Rose Hill Middle School (RHMS), works hard to make the school inclusive and welcoming for all students and parents. She started the Natural Leaders program at RHMS and co-leads the Multi-Cultural Club. She organized several opportunities for international speaking parents to register for Parent Access and learn to navigate Skyward. Danielle also finds volunteer interpreters for major school events, such as back-to school Prep Day and Curriculum Night. [Read more about Danielle MacDonald and her Human Civil Rights Award.](#)



Good for their health – dozens of LWSD students excel in future health professionals competition

Several students from Lake Washington Schools are ready to make a big splash in the health sciences industry. Seven individuals or teams finished in first place and many more placed in the top three at the 2018 Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) State Leadership Conference in Spokane, Wash. March 15-17. [Read more.](#)



[Read more student and staff success stories here.](#)

Quick Links: [LWSD Website](#) | [Upcoming Events](#) | [Peachjar Community eFlyers](#)

