



Connections



October 27, 2017

Learning-Focused

A message from Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent

Bond, Levies, and Building on Success - #proud2bLWSD

Our district mission and vision centers on graduating students *Future Ready*. As a district, our goal is to provide students with the best learning environments possible and provide classrooms for our ever-growing student population. We want to ensure our students have safe school facilities and access to technology for learning. We also want to ensure our students have access to the staff, programs, and course offerings they need to be successful and ultimately graduate *Future Ready*.

"Building on Success" is the name for our long-term plan to continue to provide quality learning environments and experiences for our growing number of students and families. "Building on Success" is accomplished through passage of bonds and levies. Bonds and levies fund school construction; facility and technology needs; and staff, programs, and course offerings not funded by the State. They help us reach our *Future Ready* vision for students.

School districts in Washington state rely on funding from two primary sources: 1) State Funding and, 2) Local Funding. State Funding pays for what the state deems "Basic Education." Local funding, through bonds and levies, pays for important programs, services, and operations that are not funded by the State.

Lake Washington School is planning for three ballot measures in February 2018: the second of four planned bonds and two replacement levies. A recommendation was presented to our Board of Directors on October 2, 2017, and they took formal action on October 16, 2017.

[Read more from Dr. Pierce.](#)

Check out more on the [Bond and Levies webpage](#), or sign up for future updates about current bond projects on the [Building on Success webpage](#).



Important Reminders & Updates

Remember to Vote: November 7

November 7 is election day! Remember to vote. [Ballot drop box locations](#) can be found on the King County Elections website. You can also find more information about the November 2017 General and Special Election here: <https://info.kingcounty.gov/kcelections/Vote/contests/ballotmeasures.aspx?eid=9>.

School Menus and Nutrition Information available online

Starting in November, Nutrition Services will post all breakfast and lunch menus [online](#). These new interactive online menus allow you to see expanded nutritional information for each item. There is also an app that you can download. Printed menu copies will no longer be sent home with all elementary students.

Safety Spotlight: Are you ready for inclement weather?

When emergency conditions such as snow and ice or windstorms result in school schedule changes, the district will notify families directly through our SchoolMessenger automated phone system. You can learn how to know when school is delayed or cancelled on the [School Closures and Late Starts](#) page of the district website. 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. Want to make sure you receive alerts about school closures right away? Sign up on [flashalert.net](#) to be notified about the latest school delay and school closure news from LWSD.

Reminder: Welcome Event for New and International Families

LWSD and the LWPTSA Council are hosting another Welcome Event for New and International Families. These events will be held at the LWSD Resource Center on Saturday, October 28 from 9:30 a.m.—Noon. These events will feature guidance for new and international families, including:

- Understanding the school system
- Resources/support from the district
- Sports and activities in our area
- America 101 for international families
- Find out about the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and how to get involved
- Relocation tips for those who are new to the area
- Supporting your child through Transition - talk by Sheri Gazitt and Jennifer Kennett

[Families can register here.](#)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and our schools

In 2015, Congress passed a new federal education law, called the Every Student Succeeds Act. This law works to shine a light on performance gaps between student groups that persist in our schools. In Washington, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is responsible for implementing this law.

One of the key changes in the plan is to provide more flexibility and support to schools. Under ESSA, our freedom to help students has been greatly expanded. We can use evidence-based strategies that will address the unique needs of our students to help all our students succeed.

Washington's ESSA Plan outlines initiatives to attract and retain effective educators, especially for students of color and low-income students. Additionally, OSPI will identify more schools that have gaps in student performance between student groups. With this identification comes targeted funding and other supports to help reduce and eventually eliminate those gaps.

To learn more or ask questions, email essa@k12.wa.us or visit k12.wa.us/ESSA.



Work With Us

We're Hiring: Health Services Specialists

Lake Washington School District is seeking qualified candidates for a School Nurse/Health Services Specialist position. This position works eight hours per day on a 190-day working calendar. The hourly rate is \$37.86. School nurses provide nursing and school-related health care needs for students, parents and staff. They ensure delivery of appropriate health care services and a safe school environment. [Learn more about Health Services Specialist positions.](#)

Looking for a new job? We're hiring!

LWSD needs bus drivers and substitute custodians. Job descriptions are available on the [district website](#), under "Employment" then "Classified Positions." Bus drivers earn \$24.80 per hour. [Learn more about why driving a bus for LWSD is a great job.](#) Substitute custodians earn \$16.78 per hour. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors.

Sodexo/Nutrition Services is Hiring

Are you looking for a way to get involved in Lake Washington School District? 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

Alcott teacher named STAR 101.5 Teacher of the Week

Alcott Elementary School teacher Jennifer Kuehnle and her kindergarten class were surprised by STAR 101.5 and the Washington State Dairy Ambassador on October 12. The students were treated to chocolate milk and cheese sticks because Kuehnle was the recipient of the STAR 101.5 Elementary Teacher of the Week award. She was nominated by her student, Emerson Cousens. Emerson's mom, Paige Cousens, said Emerson likes Mrs. Kuehnle because she is nice and funny. [Read more.](#)



Bulldogs refresh Bell Elementary grounds with flowers and a tree

Parents joined their students after school on Friday, October 13 to clean up the grounds around Bell Elementary School. They also planted shrubs and a dogwood tree, which they nicknamed "Bulldog-wood," for their mascot.

Parents pruned around the natural drainage area of the school, where they found five playground balls that had disappeared into the thick vegetation.



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

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

