



Connections



May 25, 2018

Dr. Pierce recognized as 2018 Outstanding Educator by Washington State PTSA Board of Directors

Lake Washington School District **Superintendent, Dr. Traci Pierce**, was honored by the Washington State Parent Teacher Association (WSPTA) Board of Directors with its highest and most prestigious award, the Outstanding Educator Award. Dr. Pierce received her award at the WSPTSA Annual Conference, held last weekend in Vancouver, Wash.

The WSPTA Outstanding Educator Award recognizes and honors an individual who has exhibited continued and dedicated statewide contributions, hard work and effort to enhance the educational outcomes of all children and youth. And, that those efforts align with WSPTA's vision and mission supporting the whole child through advocacy, education, family and community engagement, health and well-being, and safety.

In the words of a Lake Washington PTSA Council member, "Dr. Pierce is totally accessible to parents and supports our mission and vision. She makes a difference to us every day."

Reception for Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce

The Lake Washington School District Board of Directors invite you to a reception honoring Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce in recognition of her service to the students, staff, and communities of the Lake Washington School District through her leadership as Superintendent.

June 4, 2018

3:00—5:00 p.m.

Resource Center Board Room

The official program will be held at 4:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served. Please RSVP to Diane Jenkins by May 30: djenkins@lwsd.org or 425-936-1257.

Superintendent Search Update

The Lake Washington School District Board of Directors is working with Ray and Associates, a Superintendent Search firm, to hire the next LWSD Superintendent. Starting in late April, Ray and Associates held five community forums and 32 focus groups around the community. They also posted two surveys on the LWSD website, gathering 1,470 responses. The results of those meetings, focus groups and surveys are posted on the [Superintendent Search webpage](#). This feedback also informed the creation of the [job profile](#), also available on the LWSD website.

The job is now posted, and is open through June 4. An **updated timeline** is available on the [Superintendent Search webpage](#).

Save the date! The community is invited to a Town Hall event with the final 2-3 candidates on Thursday, June 28. The Town Hall is scheduled from 5-8 p.m. at the Lake Washington School District Resource Center (16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond, WA 98052). This event will also be broadcast live from the LWSD website. Community members will have an opportunity to submit feedback on the candidates that evening. More details will be shared soon.

Learning-Focused

Sexual Health Community Input Survey

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) is requesting input on the proposed adoption of updated sexual health standards and curriculum through [this survey](#). The survey will be open from May 25 - June 5.

The committee is seeking parent and community input on the recommendations through [this survey](#). This input will be used to help make a final recommendation to the district's Board of Directors in June.

Information about the FLASH curriculum is available [here](#) and the full curriculum is available for view upon request in our Curriculum Library at our Resource Center (16250 NE 74th St, Redmond).

For further information or comments, please contact Jen Rose, Director of Teaching and Learning at jerose@lwsd.org.

[Read more about the committee process during the development of the survey.](#)

New seasons and a new sport for middle school athletics in 2018-19

Middle school sport seasons are changing for the 2018-19 school year so that there will be at least one sport every season for every gender and every grade.

These changes come from recommendations following a two-year study of the middle school athletic program which were informed by several student surveys. The study group was tasked with making recommendations to address equity in athletic programming, capacity issues with court sports, and transportation costs.

[Read more about the new middle school sport seasons.](#)

New student laptop selected!

After a rigorous Request for Information (RFI) process, a new student laptop has been selected for grade 6 and 9 students. The Hewlett Packard x360 G2 with an M3 processor was chosen, as it most closely aligned with our requirements specified in the RFI. The review process spanned four months and included assessment of pricing, serviceability, performance, community feedback, and quality assurance testing. Based on feedback and data, the HP x360 was the clear choice.

The device has a long battery life with working time up to 11 hours and weighs 3.2 pounds, which is 1.1 pounds lighter than the last model. In addition, the device includes a pen that allows for digital inking, which allows students to take full advantage of the tablet qualities. The laptops are being prepared for back-to-school deployment.

Lake Washington School District partners with King County Metro to offer free ORCA cards to eligible students

LWSD is partnering with King County Metro to offer free unlimited ORCA passes to eligible high school students to help them get around during the summer. Representatives Vandana Slatter (Bellevue) and Mia Gregerson (SeaTac) secured funding through Transportation Budget Proviso – SSB 5096 to run the program as a pilot in LWSD and Highline Public Schools during the summer of 2018. The ORCA unlimited passes will work from May 14, 2018 to September 7, 2018. Only students who qualify for free and reduced price lunch are eligible for the program. Applications are available [online](#) or in each high school office.

2018-19 School Start Times Update

Many families have connected with the District through our Let's Talk tool to share their questions and concerns about the change to school start/end times for 2018-19. One of the main concerns we have heard is the need for before/after school care for elementary students. As a result, Lake Washington School District staff are working to add more space to its current Extended Day programs. There is a need to hire additional staff to accommodate more students in these programs. More information about this program expansion will be shared with families directly through the schools.

Lake Washington School District receives clean audit

Each year, the Washington State Auditor's Office conducts two audits of our district: Accountability and Financial Statements and a Federal Single Audit. The district received clean audits. The accountability audit examines financial records, reviews compliance with laws and regulations and reviews whether districts have effective internal controls. The financial and federal single audit issues an opinion on the fair presentation of our financial statements and reviews compliance with federal grant requirements.

The auditor was very complimentary of the work done by our staff and their cooperation with the audit team. The auditor highlighted that our results are excellent, especially given the size and complexity of our district. Audit reports can be found on the [Washington State Auditor's Office website](#).

Reminder: Core Academic Summer Program registration is now open!

Core Academic Summer Program registration is now open! LWSD is pleased to announce the expansion of summer programs to include both core academic and enrichment/acceleration options. There are a number of new courses offered at all grade levels for summer 2018. Core Academic Summer School will run from July 6-August 2, 2018. Elementary programs will be located at Ben Rush Elementary School and middle and high school programs will be located at Lake Washington High School. Transportation and need-based scholarships are available.

Visit www.lwsd.org/students-families/summer-school to view the catalog and register for classes. Schools will also have paper copies of catalogs and registration materials available. Register early as courses will fill quickly!

Help OSPI plan budget requests to the Governor and the Legislature

Your feedback will help the OSPI as they develop a budget that moves public schools from "basic" funding toward a system better designed to meet the needs of all learners. Please take five minutes to complete the entire survey – your feedback will be invaluable. The survey will remain open until Friday, June 8. Thank you!

[Take the Survey](#)

Also available in: [Khmer](#) | [Korean](#) | [Punjabi](#) | [Russian](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Traditional Chinese](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

[Watch the Video](#)

Available in: English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Somali, Traditional Chinese, Khmer, Korean, Punjabi, Tagalog

Celebrate the arts

May is Arts in Education Month

May is Washington State's Art Education Month – a time to celebrate the wonderful arts education in our school and the terrific art our students create as a result. What does art mean to you? For LWSD students, art provides a way to express themselves. It is fun, magical, creative, beautiful and awesome.

[Read the proclamation for Arts in Education Month.](#)

[Watch this video for more on Arts in Education Month.](#)



Building on Success

New elementary schools countdown: 100 days!

Like other elementary schools, Clara Barton Elementary in north Redmond and Ella Baker Elementary at Redmond Ridge east will host meet-and-greets leading up to the first day of school on Sept. 4 – in just 100 days (on Sunday)!

But for the planning principals, there is work to do before moving into their new schools. The two have been busy hiring and ordering classroom furniture. The growing teams of teachers and staff meet regularly to discuss school vision and logistics.

Families also receive regular communications about upcoming family nights, the new PTSA's and the fifth-grade fall camp.

Principals Kim Bilanko and Karen Barker actually met and became friends in second grade. Barker's school in Bellevue had closed and boundary changes put them in the same school. "I remember being worried about moving to a new school," Barker recalls. "But Woodridge felt like home right away! Kim and her friends were very welcoming. We want to be sure that our new schools feel like home next year!"

The new elementary schools are two of eight projects funded by voters in 2016 to help reduce overcrowding. The Lake Washington School District is now the third largest district in the state, up from sixth largest in 2014.



Countdown to the first day of school 2016 Bond Projects Update



[Read more about our Building on Success program and updates on Ella Baker and Clara Barton construction.](#)



Important Reminders & Updates

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

LWSD honors LWPTSA Council Family And Community Engagement (FACE) group at WASA Community Awards Luncheon



Photo (left to right): Associate Superintendent Mike Van Orden, Associate Superintendent Matt Manobianco, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Jon Holmen, LWPTSA Council Executive Vice President Jay Pulacode, FACE Co-Vice President Swarnima Aswinkumar, FACE Co-Vice President Irene Newmann, Superintendent Dr. Traci Pierce and Associate Superintendent Barbara Posthumus. Not pictured: LWPTSA Council President Liz Hedreen.

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) honored the Lake Washington PTSA Council Family and Community Engagement (FACE) group with a Community Leadership Award. The award was presented at the annual Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) Region 110 Community Awards Luncheon on May 12. These awards are presented to community members or groups in recognition of their outstanding contributions to education.

Lake Washington PTSA Council's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) serves to ensure that all families in Lake Washington have a voice and are represented in the PTA and district. They work tirelessly to achieve their vision to see "the diversity that is present in our community reflected in our membership" by examining participation, reaching historically underrepresented families, and reducing access barriers to ensure that PTAs represent the demographics of the students and parents in our schools. This year FACE partnered with the district to host two welcome events for new and international families with topics such as: understanding the school system; accessing resources/support from the district; and, supporting children through transitions.

Girl Power! – LWSD students attend powerful ‘Girls Power Tech Day’ conference

CISCO’s “Girls Power Tech Day” event inspires female students to pursue careers in STEM fields. This is the first year students from Lake Washington School District participated in the event. [Read more.](#)



Going places: LWHS Sophomore wins congressional art contest

LWHS Sophomore, Nicole Carpenter received the Congressional Art Competition award from Rep. Suzan DelBene at VALA Art Center in Redmond on April 30. Nicole won for her work entitled Peace Within, using ink and watercolor. [Read more.](#)



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

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

