




# Connections



September 11, 2017

Follow us on [Instagram](#)! LWSD launched our Instagram site last week as one more way to keep  families engaged.

## Learning-Focused

### Lake Washington students shine on Smarter Balanced Assessments

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) students continue to score well-above the state average in all areas tested by the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA).

“Student performance on state assessments is one important measure of academic achievement and progress,” noted Dr. Traci Pierce, superintendent. “We are pleased with our results and our teachers, staff and administrators will continue to work hard to ensure that every single student in our district is learning, growing, and succeeding.” [Read the full Smarter Balanced Assessment release here.](#)

### State test scores coming soon

Lake Washington School District Standards-Based Assessment (SBA) score sheets from last spring recently arrived at the district office, were sorted and are now out to the schools to distribute to parents. You can expect to get your student's scores by the second week in September at the latest.

### Lake Washington students' ACT scores remain above state and national averages

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) students are more likely to meet college readiness standards than other students in Washington state or the U.S. Comparatively, more LWSD students score high enough to meet the [ACT](#) college readiness benchmark. [Learn more about LWSD's ACT results here.](#)

### Attend to achieve - #Here2SucceedLWSD

A recent Associated Press report showed that the state of Washington has one of the highest rates of chronic absenteeism in the country. While the Lake Washington School District has one of the lowest rates in the state, nearly nine percent of our students are considered chronically absent (missing 10 percent or more of school).

To continue to reduce the number of students that are chronically absent, we've updated our attendance policies to focus on chronic absenteeism at all levels. During the month of September, as part of Attendance Awareness Month, we'll be communicating with students about the importance of

regular school attendance. [Learn more about attendance matters in LWSD.](#)

## LWSD statement on DACA

All Lake Washington School District students have the right to public education. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Plyler vs. Doe* (457 U.S. 202 (1982)) that undocumented children and young adults have the same right to attend public primary and secondary schools as do U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Lake Washington does not ask for or collect immigration status information.

Lake Washington remains committed to serving all students and providing educational opportunities for all. We will continue to uphold the U.S. Supreme Court ruling and serve all students, regardless of their status. [Read more.](#)

## Seven-period high school schedule

For the past two years, the College and Career Readiness Task force reviewed the impacts of the state 24-credit graduation requirement for high school students in the Class of 2019 and beyond. Our purpose, “why” we are doing this, is to provide more opportunity, access, and equity for every student. Currently, our high schools have a 6-period schedule. In a 6-period schedule, students can earn 6 credits per year for a total of 24 credits over 4 years. That doesn’t leave much flexibility in a student’s schedule for taking courses to explore interests or passions. In a 7-period schedule, students can earn 7 credits per year, for a total of 28 credits over 4 years. That’s 4 more opportunities for taking classes of interest to the student.

The Task force reviewed several scheduling options and models, including: 4x4, 4x8, trimester, and 7-period schedule. All with the aim of increasing flexibility for every student. In April 2017, having taken staff, student, and parent survey feedback into consideration, the Task force recommended adding time to the high school day to create a seventh period. Any change would not take place any earlier than the 2018-19 school year.

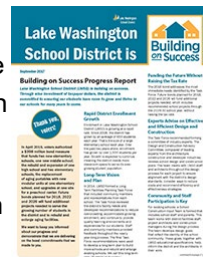
[Learn more about our plans and progress along the way here.](#)

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## Building on Success

Watch your mailbox for our first-ever Building on Success Progress Report. It should arrive in your mailbox next week, and contains information about each of the eight bond projects funded by the April 2016 bond. The report will also be posted on the district website this week.

Check out more bond project updates on the [Building on Success webpage](#), or sign up for future updates.



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## Important Reminders & Updates

### Upcoming Parent Information Nights for Highly Capable Programs/Quest

Applications for Highly Capable Programs/Quest will be available on the district website on Monday, September 25. All applications are due on Friday, October 27 at 4 p.m. Information sessions are available for parents on the following dates/times:

- **Grades 1-4 Highly Capable Information Night:**

Monday, September 25, Lake Washington High School Performing Arts Center  
4:30-6 p.m. or 7-8:30 p.m.

*Note: Both sessions are the same. Please plan to attend only one session.*

- **Middle School (Grades 5-7) Highly Capable Information Night:**  
Thursday, September 28, Lake Washington High School Performing Arts Center  
7-8:30 p.m.
- **Kindergarten Highly Capable Information Night:**  
Tuesday, October 3, Lake Washington High School Performing Arts Center  
4:30-6 p.m. or 7-8:30 p.m.  
*Note: Both sessions are the same. Please plan to attend only one session.*

Attendance at information sessions is optional and not required to apply to Highly Capable Programs.

If a family is unable to access the internet-based application or needs an application in a language other than English, please contact the Accelerated Programs Office at 425-936-1238.

More information on these programs can be found on the [Accelerated Programs section of the district website](#).

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## Work With Us

### 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.

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## Student & Staff Success

### Happy First Day!

Happy First Day! Staff at **McAuliffe Elementary** were excited to welcome students and parents back to school on Tuesday, September 5. [Watch the video on YouTube](#), or visit the [LWSD Facebook page](#) to see First Day of School photos.



### Juanita High School teacher named Washington Association for Career & Technical Education Teacher of the Year

**Genevieve Menino**, a teacher at **Juanita High School**, was named the 2017 Washington Association for Career and Technical Education (WA-ACTE) Teacher of the Year. She was honored at an event held in Spokane, Wash. on August 8. WA-ACTE Teacher of the Year award winners are recognized for demonstrating innovation in the classroom, commitment to students and dedication to the improvement of Career and Technical Education in their community. [Read more about Menino's award.](#)



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

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

