



Connections



November 21, 2017

Learning-Focused

The Legislature's McCleary Plan: Impacts to Lake Washington School District

A message from Dr. Traci Pierce, Superintendent

If you have opened a newsfeed or read a newspaper article lately, you are likely seeing information about the "McCleary Plan" and how this plan relates to local school district funding. There is a lot of information and data being circulated about the McCleary Plan's impacts to different school districts.

Each individual school district in the state has a different McCleary Plan story to tell. As we plan for the upcoming February 2018 election, it is important that we provide information to our parents and community members to ensure that you have accurate information, data, and facts about the McCleary Plan impacts to Lake Washington School District.

[Read more about how the McCleary Plan impacts LWSD.](#)

Safety Spotlight

We care about student safety. In fact, providing safe and innovative learning environments is one of our strategic goals. Lake Washington School District's 2014 Capital Projects Levy focused on a number of safety projects across the district. Interior window treatments were installed throughout the district. When drawn, these window shades prevent people from seeing into classrooms during a lockdown. The district also installed new classroom door locks. These locks allow classrooms to be locked from the inside, rather than having to exit the classroom to lock the doors.

Community Engagement

Redmond-Area Attendance Boundaries Finalized

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) started the work of redrawing Redmond-area attendance boundaries in January 2017. The boundary committee was charged with drawing attendance boundaries for new schools and to redistribute student enrollment due to overcrowding. Many families and community members provided feedback throughout the boundary process. The committee analyzed all feedback to develop a final recommendation. On Monday, November 20, the LWSD Board of Directors took formal action and approved the adjustment of school attendance areas in the Redmond area. The board adopted the final boundary recommendation which can be reviewed on the [LWSD boundary review process webpage](#).

LWSD Summer Programs

Lake Washington School District offers a variety of Summer Programs for students in elementary, middle and high school. We are interested in providing expanded summer enrichment experiences for families this upcoming summer. We need your input! Please take a few minutes to complete [this brief survey](#) to help us learn more about the types of summer enrichment programs your family might be interested in. This information will be used to expand summer enrichment program options beginning summer 2018. Summer Program Catalogs will be available in April 2018.

School Start Time Advisory Committee Update

The School Start Time Advisory held its second meeting of the year on October 19. During the meeting, the group heard a "Transportation 101" presentation from Barbara Posthumus, Associate Superintendent, Business and Support Services and Jeff Miles, Transportation Manager. The presentation was designed to help the group understand how our tiered bus transportation system works. [You can read more about this meeting or follow the work of the School Start Advisory here.](#)



Building on Success

"Topping Out" ceremony held at New Elementary School in North Redmond

Construction crews cheered as the last steel beam was set into place at the new elementary school in north Redmond on Monday, October 30. For the traditional "topping out" ceremony, workers signed the last piece of steel, which was hoisted – along with a tree – to the top of the building. The custom of including a tree dates back to early Scandinavian mythology.



Important Reminders & Updates

Enjoy Thanksgiving Break!

We hope that you enjoy your Thanksgiving Break, November 23-24. Please remember that Wednesday, November 22 is a half day of school. For more information, visit the [Half-Day Dismissal Times page](#) of our district website.

Is your child too sick for school?

While school attendance is important, so is the health of all students and staff. If your child

experiences any of the following symptoms, please keep him/her at home or make appropriate child care arrangements: fever, vomiting, lice/scabies, diarrhea, chronic cough and/or runny nose, sore throat, rash, ear infection (with fever), or eye infection. If he/she experiences any of these symptoms at school, the school nurse or office staff may ask you to pick your student up as soon as possible.

[Read more.](#)

Middle school and high school options booklets available

Parents of students in grades five or eight should watch their mailboxes for the [Middle School Options booklet](#) and [High School Options booklet](#). These booklets will be mailed out this week. They outline the opportunities in these respective levels, including information about neighborhood schools and choice schools. Parents of students in grades five will receive a middle school options booklet. Parents of students in grade eight will receive a high school options booklet in the mail. The booklets are also available on the [district website](#).



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.



Student & Staff Success

Back-to-Back Symetra Hero in the Classroom Winners from LWSD!

Congratulations to **Franklin Elementary third-grade teacher Becky Kjolso**, and **Smith Elementary third-grade teacher Cara Byrne**. Both have been named Symetra Heroes in the Classroom —Seattle. Only 16 teachers in the Seattle-area will win these awards this Seahawks season. Kjolso was recognized on the field at the October 29 Seahawks game. Byrne was recognized at last Sunday's Seahawks game. Each received \$2,000 for their school, along with a custom Seahawks jersey.



[Watch Becky receive her surprise award at an all-school assembly here.](#)

[Watch Cara receive her surprise award at a staff meeting here.](#)

Veterans Powwow teaches Native American students about their cultural heritage

Through dances, songs and language, Native American students are learning about their cultural heritage. One event that brings together the students and their elders is the annual Veterans Powwow. The Eastside Native American Education Program (ENAEP) hosted the 11th annual event on October 14 at Juanita High School. Students make gifts for the veterans while learning Native traditions. The ENAEP is a federally-funded program that serves Native students in the Lake Washington, Bellevue, and Northshore school districts in grades K-12. [Watch the video.](#)



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

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

