



WE ARE FERNDALE

A FERNDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLICATION



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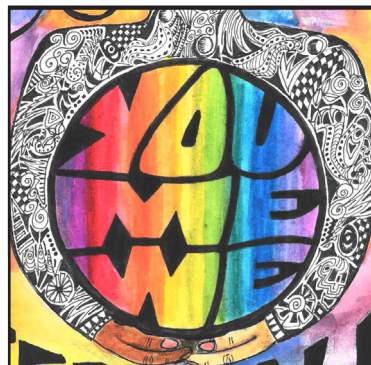
DEAR FERNDALE COMMUNITY,

The Ferndale School District employs a staff of over 700 people with diverse roles, responsibilities, and work schedules. It is no easy feat to get all 700+ of us in the same place at the same time, especially on the busy day before welcoming students back to school. However, that is exactly what we did to start the 2019-2020 school year.

I asked each of our staff members to attend an all-district staff meeting because it was very important for us to be together to hear the same message. Not some of us in one place and some in another. Not some of us cooking or setting up or cleaning up after other members of our team. All of us together in one place, on common ground.

We gathered as a full staff to focus on FerndaleCARES, our new way of talking about the mission of the Ferndale School District. We have always known that our mission is bigger and broader than just teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic. Our goal with FerndaleCARES is to consolidate, raise up, and expand the work we do with families, businesses, and members of the community to help every child and young person entrusted to our care develop into well-rounded, well-prepared, productive adults. To do this, we are renewing our emphasis on Character, Citizenship, and Career-focused learning.

Relationships are more important than ever in today's world, which is what we are signifying with our FerndaleCARES tagline: You-Me-We. I asked each member of our Ferndale School District staff to reach out to students, families, and our community in the same effective ways as in the past and also in new ways. I shared with them my belief that relationship-building needs to come first.



Sincerely,

Dr. Linda Quinn, Superintendent, Ferndale School District

Superintendent Quinn Asks Staff to Focus on Relationships

The entire Ferndale School District staff gathered together on Tuesday, September 3rd for an all-district meeting ahead of the 2019-2020 school year to learn about the new focus on FerndaleCARES.

FerndaleCARES is our new way of talking about the mission of the Ferndale School District, which in 2019 is bigger and broader than teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic. Our goal is to work with families, businesses, and members of the community to help every child and young person entrusted to our care develop into well-rounded, well-prepared, productive adults. To do so, we are renewing our emphasis on Character, Citizenship, and Career-focused learning.

As part of FerndaleCARES, we will be joining school districts across the United States to increase our focus on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). According to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), Social and Emotional Learning is, “The way that children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.”

In Ferndale, several substantive changes are part of FerndaleCARES:

At the elementary and middle levels, classroom teachers will be teaching the Second Step curriculum to every K-8 student. Second Step, which has been in our district in some places for several years, is a program aimed at creating a more empathetic and safe society by teaching students social and emotional concepts and skills.

At the high school level, we will be increasing our focus on teaching positive character traits, encouraging civic involvement, and ensuring each high school student is connected to a caring adult both inside the school and also beyond.

Regarding the latter, the community is helping us with partnerships like the Be the One mentorship program that pairs individual students with adult mentors and Lunch with Leaders that connects high school students with business and industry leaders to talk about job skills, job shadows, and potential employment.



District staff gather together for the all-district meeting on Sept. 3rd

For all of our students, we are increasing our investment in counselors and other support personnel. The Ferndale School District doubled down on its investment in counselors over the past two years and will continue this investment in the 2019-2020 school year with eleven counselors serving our ten schools.

For our teachers, we are reminding them that academic test scores represent only a fraction of what students need to be successful. We are giving them explicit permission to spend more time on building healthy relationships.

For all of our staff, we are making a concerted effort to include every employee group in this work and to honor the contributions that they make and the influence they have. We are also encouraging all of our staff to take care of themselves, and to help them do so we are making plans to bring back a wellness program for our employees.

“Much of this work is already happening in our schools because of our wonderful staff. We know that,” said Superintendent Dr. Linda Quinn. “What we want to do this school year is double our efforts and also bring them all under one umbrella. We want to name this work and agree on it together. If we only prepare students for academic success, we are sending them into the world on a bicycle with air in only one tire. It just isn’t enough. FerndaleCARES fills both tires and sends a strong message to staff that we support efforts to spend time in classrooms, on school buses, in the lunchroom, and wherever they work focused on what matters most.”

School Meals in Ferndale: New Leadership, New Focus, Great Service



FSD Director of Accounting & Child Nutrition Holly Graham (left) and Food Service Operation Manager Yvonne Green (right)

The Ferndale School District recently ended a thirty-year partnership with the food service management company Sodexo. During those years, Sodexo helped provide school meals to our students and staff. The district has decided to move away from contracting with an outside provider and, instead, bring the food service program in-house. The change will save the district money and allow more control over service and quality.

Assistant Superintendent Mark Deebach says, “We are taking a hard look at all of our programs and asking ourselves, ‘How can we do this differently?’; ‘How can we innovate?’; ‘How can we best steward public resources?’ In this case, the answer to those questions led us to consider bringing our food service program in-house.”

Ferndale School District Director of Accounting Holly Graham now manages the department in addition to her business department duties. Graham is an experienced manager with a passion for nutrition services and for the team members who make the food service program run so well. Graham looks forward to supporting the Ferndale Child Nutrition team as they continue to offer delicious, well-balanced meals with their trademark dedication to service.

As we kick off the 2019-2020 school year, students and staff are beginning to see some changes right away. One key change is that starting this fall families are using Skyward to pay for meals. There will also be a greater emphasis on scratch cooking and fresh, local ingredients as the school year progresses. Graham says that the district is fortunate to have great food service staff in place, which will help ensure a smooth transition.



“We want to support the great staff members who have made our food service department run smoothly for us for so long,” says Graham, “One of those great staff members is Yvonne Green, who will be heading up Food Service Operations for us. She is a talented long-term employee and she will do a phenomenal job in this new role.”

Green is enthusiastic about the road ahead, “I have been with the Ferndale School District for 18 years. Every day is different. My favorite thing about my job is the opportunity to feed kids and, by doing so, to support their success in school. It is an exciting time for our department as we bring the management of our food service department in-house. I look forward to helping to make that transition successful.”

Graham talks about what excites her most, “We are in this really unique place of looking forward to a new Ferndale High School. As that facility is built, there will be all kinds of opportunities for building a central kitchen that both meets our food service needs and integrates with the current and future classes offered to our students. I really look forward to being part of that process.”

For more information, visit the Ferndale School District Child Nutrition page at www.ferndalesd.org/food-service.

School Calendar Resources for the 2019-2020 School Year

The Ferndale School District provides school calendar resources in digital and hard copy formats each school year. If you have questions regarding calendar dates and events, please contact the school office associated with the event for further details and information.

Annual School Year Wall Calendar

Ferndale School District wall calendars have been distributed to schools and are available at the district office as well.

The monthly wall calendars feature student art submitted during an art contest last spring. All submissions were uploaded to an online gallery accessible via our online calendar resource page. Thank you to all students who submitted art!

Magnetic Calendars

Magnetic Ferndale School District calendars, donated by WECU, are also available at school buildings and the district office. The magnetic calendar is pictured on the adjacent page (page 9).

At-A-Glance Calendar

The Ferndale School District At-A-Glance Calendar is available online in PDF format as a printable one-page document. It can be viewed and downloaded via the school online calendar page at www.ferndalesd.org/calendar.

Website Calendar

The Ferndale School District website calendar features events from each of our schools along with district early dismissal and no-school dates. This calendar can be sorted to show events from the whole district, multiple schools, or one school. It displays as a monthly view and can be found at www.ferndalesd.org/calendar.

District Calendar School Closure and Early Dismissal Dates

A summarized table of school closure days and early dismissal days is also provided as a resource on our website. This resource can be found at www.ferndalesd.org/about/school-closure-early-dismissal-dates.

School Calendar

2019–2020



September 2019

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

October 2019

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

November 2019

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

December 2019

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

January 2020

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

February 2020

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

March 2020

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

April 2020

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

May 2020

M	T	W	T	F
			1	
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

June 2020

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

- ☐ First Day for Teachers
- ☐ Student First/Last Day
- ☐ No School
- ☐ Conference
- ☐ Snow Make-Up Days

- ☐ Early Release
- ☐ Grades K–5
- ☐ Grades 6–12
- ☐ All grades

Early Release Times:

Elementary 1pm (BES 11:50am) • HMS 11:13am
VMS 11:10am • FHS 11am

CALENDAR DONATED BY WECU



We value people over profits.

Because relationships matter most.

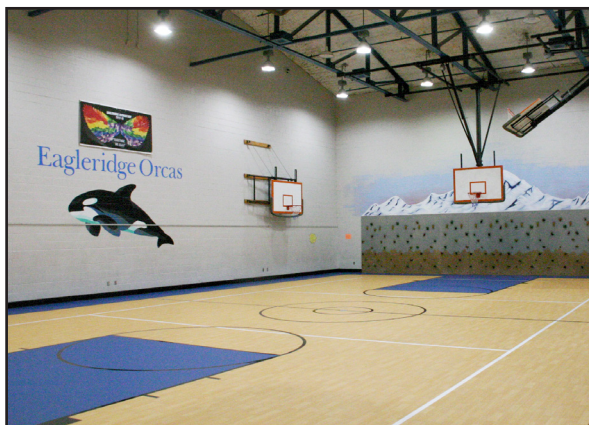
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Eagleridge PTO Effort Makes Gym Floor Replacement Possible

If you close your eyes and picture an elementary school gymnasium, you might envision climbing ropes, basketball hoops, and a shiny wood floor. It may never cross your mind to imagine carpet in a gymnasium. In the case of Eagleridge Elementary, that was the gym floor surface on which students and staff used to gather for gym classes, events, and gatherings.



The completed Eagleridge gym floor project

Eagleridge Elementary PTO Gym

Floor Committee Chair Megan Latham said that the PTO decided it was time for a change. “We knew it was going to take a huge lift to replace the gym floor but, as a PTO, we decided to pour our energy into the effort. We started with bake sales and put on a big Spaghetti Feed. We saw the little efforts add up, but we really gained momentum when Petrogas approached us and offered to partner with the PTO with a big donation towards the project.”

Community partnerships were key. Petrogas offered a \$10,000 donation to the Eagleridge PTO. The PTO was able to add \$7,000. Dawson Construction stepped up as a partner in removing the old gym floor which reduced the project cost significantly. The Ferndale School District put together a budget to fund the remainder of the \$48,000 project.

The project was completed over the summer and students returned to Eagleridge with a new gym floor this fall!

“I want to say again how appreciative we are for the donation from Petrogas and Dawson and for the work of our PTO,” Eagleridge Principal Mischa Burnett said. “It is amazing when a larger community can come together in support of the kids, and it’s a powerful message for our students that there are people in the world, even ones who don’t know them, who wish to support them.”

Committee Begins Work on Ferndale High School Design

Public input is an essential part of moving forward with a design for the new Ferndale High School. According to Ferndale School District Superintendent Dr. Linda Quinn, “We want this building to be reflective of what our community wants for its high school. In addition to serving the needs of today’s students, it will be a legacy we are leaving for future generations.”

The desire for community participation prompted the Ferndale School District to advertise for Design Advisory Committee (DAC) members. The Design Advisory Committee is (1) researching best practices for high school facilities; (2) soliciting community input; (3) sharing their own expertise; and (4) reviewing and providing feedback on design ideas.



*The Design Advisory Committee meeting
in the FHS library*

The application process for recruiting members began in mid-June and closed at the end of July. In total, 25 committee members were selected, and additional Ferndale School District Staff support the committee.

Design Advisory Committee members came together on August 13 for the first of a series of meetings. So far, the committee has had the opportunity to learn about the visioning process, participate in tours of recently-built high schools, and begin to prioritize design elements for FHS.

Planning Principal Jeremy Vincent commented on how excited he is to begin this phase of the work. “It feels like we are finally getting into the creative part of the process where we can start talking about what our new school will look like.”

View the list of Design Advisory Committee members and find more information at www.weareferndale.org/dac.

Ferndale School Bond Update

Weekly updates are sent each week regarding the bond projects

The Ferndale School District's bond proposal was approved at 62.04% during the February 12 Special Election – a rate that meets the super-majority requirement for municipal bonds.

Here are some recent progress highlights:

- ***Dykeman Architects has been hired as the architect firm for the high school and safety & security bond projects.*** The school district and Dykeman have developed a comprehensive plan for gathering input from the community regarding the design of the new high school facility.
- ***The Ferndale School District's credit rating went up as a direct result of the health of our finances.*** The credit rating upgrade is great news as it saves taxpayers money via lower bond interest rates.
- ***The Ferndale School District was approved to use the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) process for design and construction of the new high school.*** The GC/CM method allows the general contractor to participate as an adviser during the architect's design of a major construction project. In the long run, the contractor's suggestions about the affordability of different designs can save significant dollars.
- ***The Bond Oversight Committee has been meeting regularly since the bond passed.*** The committee's responsibilities are to make sure projects are delivered on time, on budget, as promised and with transparency. You can follow the work of the committee at www.weareferndale.org/committee.
- ***Five contractors submitted responses to the Ferndale School District's Request for Qualifications for the high school project.*** The school district selected three candidates to interview and the contractor selected for the project will be announced by the end of October.

Visit the school district bond information website, www.weareferndale.org/updates, to subscribe to weekly bond projects updates emails. The updates are also posted to the district website and bond information website.

High School Project FAQs

How many students will the school be built for?

A recent count of the Ferndale High School student population is 1,215. The new school will be designed with common spaces to accommodate up to 1,600 students.

How big will the school be?

The school will be approximately 191,000 square feet.

How many floors will the school have?

The new school will be a multi-story building. There will be either two or three floors.

What will the new building look like?

The new school has not yet been designed. Design will be developed through the visioning, education specifications and design development steps. The visioning process has begun, which includes determining the education and aspirational goals for the project.

Where will students be during school construction?

The existing Ferndale High School facility will still operate while the new school is built. Students will continue to attend school at the existing facility until the new school is complete.

When will the new high school open?

The planned opening of the new Ferndale High School will be Fall 2023. View a full timeline at www.weareferndale.org/visualresources.

Bond Projects

To meet the critical facility needs identified by community members, the following projects were recommended to the board:

New High School - \$105 Million

Rebuild Ferndale High School on the existing campus.

Performing Arts Center - \$2 Million

Modernize the Performing Arts Center.

Critical Building Needs - \$4 Million

Address critical needs at our other school buildings, like new roofs, HVAC systems, plumbing and structural elements.

Safety & Security - \$1 Million

Improve school safety by creating secure access with modern doors and entrances and exterior LED lighting.

Ferndale School District

Annual Public Notices

Child Find

Federal Public Law, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), requires that disabled children in the Ferndale School District, ages birth to 21, be identified, located and evaluated. If anyone suspects that a child (age birth to 21) has a disabling condition, and if that child resides in the Ferndale School District, please refer the child to Director of Special Services, Ms. Rebecca Champagne, at 360.383.9231. Upon referral, the student services staff will make the appropriate follow-up.

State and Federal Rules

Ferndale School District complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, age, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any physical, sensory, and/or mental disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, honorably-discharged veteran or military status or any other basis prohibited by law. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer Mr. John Fairbairn at 360.383.9206, and/or Section 504 ADA Coordinator Dr. Paul Douglas at 360.383.9221.

Public Participation

Any application and any required policies, procedures, evaluations, plans and reports are readily available to parents and other members of the public through the district's special education office and the office of the superintendent. A notice regarding the availability of such documents will be placed on the district's webpage and in the district's newsletter. Please call 360.383.9207 if you have questions or requests about this information.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Ferndale School District complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, age, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any physical, sensory, and/or mental disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, honorably-discharged veteran or military status or any other basis prohibited by law. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Civil Rights Coordinator & Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer, John Fairbairn, Executive Director of Human Resources; 360.383.9206; john.fairbairn@ferndalesd.org; Ferndale School District, 6041 Vista Drive, Ferndale, WA 98248 and/or Section 504 ADA Coordinator, Dr. Paul Douglas, Executive Director for Student Services; 360.383.9221; paul.douglas@ferndalesd.org; Ferndale School District, 6041 Vista Drive, Ferndale, WA 98248.

Right to Request Teacher Qualifications

Ferndale School District receives federal funds for Title I programs that are part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. You have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s). If you request this information, the district or school will provide you with the following as soon as possible: 1) if the teacher has met state licensing requirements for the grade level and subjects in which the teacher is providing instruction; 2) if state licensing requirements have been waived for the teacher on a temporary basis; 3) the type of college degree major of the teacher and the field of discipline for any graduate degree or certificate; and 4) if your child is receiving Title I services from paraprofessionals and, if so, qualifications. To request this information or for inquiries please contact Executive Director for Human Resources, Mr. John Fairbairn, at 360.383.9206.



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Contact us:

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