

Community Connection - Fall 2018

Crisis Reality Training

Training students, staff, and families for emergency situations.



Jesus Villahermosa presents a course on Crisis Reality Training to students.

Imagine a school classroom suddenly interrupted by the intercom, announcing, “Staff, this is a lockdown. Initiate your lockdown procedures immediately. Law enforcement has been notified and will be arriving soon.” Will students, staff, and any visitors know what to do? South Kitsap School District is making sure everyone will be able to say, “YES!”

Results from a recent Thought Exchange survey, made it loud and clear to District officials that crisis training was needed for staff, students, and parents. As a result, Jesus Villahermosa, was selected to conduct a series of Crisis Reality Training

sessions. Jesus, has extensive Crisis Reality Training and, as a S.W.A.T. team member, he has responded to numerous life and death situations including active shooters. He and his company provide the latest strategies to use in active shooter situations. They teach schools and businesses across the United States strategies such as running, barricading doors, and fighting back.

South Kitsap Superintendent, Karst Brandsma, said safety is a top priority for the District, and Villahermosa’s presentations are part of a series of district-wide improvements and response to safety evaluations by Safe Havens International. These improvements include additional staffing to support safety and security, installation of security cameras, automatic door locks, and other measures.

“While we don’t want our schools to feel like prisons, we want to empower our students and staff to have current information and options when it comes to reacting to and surviving a crisis,” Brandsma said.

The training will be presented to school administrators, high school and middle school staff, parents, and then 6th-12th grade students. All trainings will be completed by the Spring of 2019.



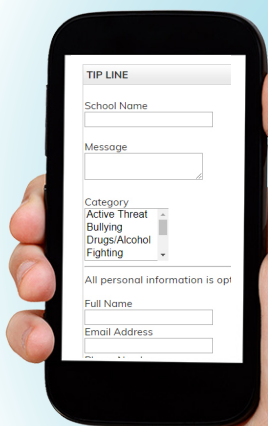
Karst Brandsma
Superintendent

SKSD TIP LINE

www.skschools.org/district/tip_line

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING
SAY SOMETHING!**

We all have a part in
keeping our schools safe!



Proud to be South Kitsap

Community Facility Advisory Committee

Community and staff look at “big-picture planning”

The South Kitsap School Board of Directors has asked Superintendent Brandsma to establish a Community Facility Advisory Committee (CFAC). The committee is charged with big-picture planning related to the opening of a second high school and to review long-range capital facility plans.



The work of the committee will position the SKSD Board and staff to move forward with construction as soon as possible following voter approval of the November 6 Bond and Capital Levy. Representatives from the community as well as school staff will make up the committee. Designated members of the Board will attend the CFAC meetings from time to time but will not serve

on the committee. Meetings are underway and work is expected to conclude by the end of 2018.

Committee Tasks

Reports to the Superintendent with recommendations to the Board of Directors that will include:

- Provide high-level direction on major steps and timelines needed for future capital projects.
- Recommend a Design Planning and Educational Specifications Committee for the second high school.
- Recommend an Attendance Area and Boundary Committee for the second high school.
- Recommend a Long Range Facility Planning Committee for future ballot measures.
- Review and recommend the second high school construction calendar.

Board advisory committees, when needed, are used to support the work of the Board and broaden the Board's perspective. The Instructional Materials Committee is the only other current committee. More information can be found in GP-6 on the Policy Governance section of the District website.

Tax relief program for senior volunteers



South Kitsap School District's Senior Tax Exchange Program offers qualifying residents an opportunity to receive a tax break on their local school tax (levy and bond) in exchange for their time and skills working within the South Kitsap School District.

The program was created in response to concerns of local citizens who are living on fixed incomes. It also offers more opportunities to increase the contributions of senior citizens in public schools.

To qualify for the program, residents must meet all the following criteria:

- Be 62 years of age or older.
- Own and reside in their own home within the SKSD boundaries.
- Receive Social Security or retirement income.
- Have a gross household annual income of more than \$40,000 and less than \$65,000.
- Volunteer a minimum of 20 hours.

The next session will begin in January, 2019. Applications are now being accepted.

For more information call Andrea Miner 360-874-7002.

New School Board Meeting Time



School Board meetings are scheduled at 6:00 PM the first and third Wednesday of each month (except on holidays).



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Career & Technical Education (CTE)

Be beyond college ready – be career ready!



As students enter a highly competitive workforce, they need to be able to integrate and apply 21st century technical skills, and core academic knowledge.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) offers a unique opportunity to engage students in numerous career pathways including: Engineering, Manufacturing and Industrial Technology, Health and Agriculture Sciences, Arts and Communications, Business and Marketing, Information Technology and Human Services including the military. CTE is focused on providing students with real-world experiences including industry recognized certifications, job shadows, work site experience, internships and apprenticeships.

CTE provides an integral part of every student's education so that all students graduate from high school globally competitive for work, prepared for post-secondary education, and ready for life as positive, contributing members of a 21st century society. CTE prepares students to be beyond college ready – to be career ready.



High School ProStart Culinary Arts gives students the opportunity to use their skills to cater special functions.



Professional Video Production gives students "real-world" experience in TV productions.



Project Lead the Way allows students to learn about brain anatomy.

Education Foundation Supports Students and Staff

Would you like to donate? Visit www.skpef.org



No one can learn when they're hungry. The Lunch Angel Program supports learning by ensuring EVERY student is fed.

Thank you to the South Kitsap Public Education Foundation (SKPEF) for their renewed focus and partnership. The Foundation provides support for student learning in the Kindergarten Jump Start and Third Grade Summer Boost programs. They also support basic student needs through the Lunch Angel and Backpacks for Kids programs. SKPEF welcomed nearly 100 new teachers to the District at the new staff orientation breakfast and recognized student academic excellence through the Superintendent Scholar Awards.

The Foundation's mission is to invest in projects that enhance the quality of education in the South Kitsap School District, giving students the opportunity to excel in learning and development.

South Kitsap Public Education
Foundation

PO Box 1953, Port Orchard, WA

Proud to Be South Kitsap

Your Tax Dollars at Work



A new fire alarm system was installed at South Kitsap High School.



Safety and security at South Kitsap High School was improved with the addition of electronic door locks.



Two old Sunnyslope portables were demolished to make room for a new modular unit.



Roof replacements were made to Explorer and John Sedgwick portable classrooms.



The SKHS boys baseball field was leveled and a new drainage system was installed to help the field stay dry.



A new modular classroom unit with four classrooms and a restroom is being installed at Sunnyslope Elementary.

Gattenby Selected as District 1 Director

SKSD School Board has selected Mr. Eric Gattenby as District 1 Director. He fills the position vacated by Mr. Seward Stevens in June.

Mr. Gattenby has thirty years of experience in organizational leadership. He served 22 years in the United States Navy and eight years in civil service. Mr. Gattenby served on the Board of Directors for Central Kitsap Foodbank from 2015-2018. He has two daughters in South Kitsap schools and strongly believes in the correlation between education and strong communities.

"I am honored and humbled to have been selected from a very competitive field of candidates. I look forward to serving our community in ensuring the best possible education for our students," stated Mr. Gattenby.

School Board meetings are held the first and third Wednesday each month at 6:00 PM.



Eric Gattenby - District 1 Director

Board of Directors:

Rebecca Diehl, President
Keith Garten, Vice President
Liz Sebrén, Greg Wall and Eric Gattenby
Karst Brandsma, Superintendent



SKSD Non-Discrimination Statement

The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation – including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws.

The Title IX Officer and Section 504 Coordinator with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing and ensuring compliance with this policy are:
Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator: Jerry Holsten, Executive Director of Human Resources 2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-874-7006, holsten@skschools.org
Section 504 Coordinator: Robin Christman, Assistant Director Office of Special Services, 2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-874-3627, christmanr@skschools.org

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South Kitsap School District