

Exploring, Learning, Growing



Students in the STEM class at College Place Middle School build a wind-powered car.

INSIDE: How project-based learning enriches student education and puts thinking in action.

Thinking in action

How project-based learning takes students from problem to solution

With straws, wax paper, tape, sticks, index cards and wheels, students in Mr. Simpson's College Place Middle STEM class are demonstrating project-based learning at its finest.

The assignment: With the materials provided, create a car capable of carrying 10 marbles using wind power.

In groups of two, students use straws as axles or car frames, index cards turn into sails and the tape holds it all together. Mr. Simpson answers questions and keeps an eye on the clock, but the students are running the production line for each pair's wind-powered car.

When it's time to turn on the wind machine, there are successes and opportunities to head back to the repair shop to try again.

As Principal Andrea Collins says, the benefits of project-based learning are clear.

"How do you problem solve? How do you get back to square one? Go back to your original plan and original idea. Let's see how we can grow and develop together."

Back in the classroom, time is winding down and Mr. Simpson notices



students could use a little extra time for their designs.

"Who could use another class period?"

Hands shoot up in the air, with one student eyeing the wind machine in the corner.

"Can we test them?"

The eagerness to test the prototypes spreads across the workbenches and the first group gingerly sets their nearly finished car, complete with 10 marbles balanced carefully on top, in front of the big yellow industrial fan.

It's go time.

With "The Slida" on its note card sails, we see our starting vehicle skirt, tip and lose its marbles on the polished concrete floor.

Ready for car two.

"Turn it on when you're ready," says Mr. Simpson to the students by the fan.

The fan blows, and car two rolls. This prototype has two note card columns holding marbles, wheels with balsa wood axles and a frame of colorful straws. No marbles are lost.

Another group, "Can we do ours?!"

The excitement of testing the nearly complete cars permeates the classroom as students discover where they can make improvements to their designs.

Principal Collins says this is just one example of students creating learning opportunities for themselves.

"Risk is a part of growing and developing. These enrichment classes are right where it happens and it grows and goes into other content areas to make students feel successful."

To see video highlights of the STEM students working on their wind-powered cars, head to bit.ly/CPECars



YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

Tracking 2021 Capital Levy projects



Spruce Elementary: Construction progress report

Construction on the new Spruce Elementary is moving right along! The exterior walls and framing are up, and the view from the mezzanine on the second floor is priceless.



Construction is on time and Spruce is scheduled to welcome students and staff at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Bonus:

Hear an update from Principal Emily Moore in this video tour of the new school!

bit.ly/ESDNewSpruce



Safety improvements at Edmonds Stadium

A new concrete wall secures the hand railing at Edmonds Stadium to keep the supports firmly in place and replace deteriorating concrete. The safety replacement comes from the voter-approved 2021 Capital Levy.

A message from Superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas

Thank you voters!

I want to thank our voters who approved the 2022 Education Levy. Your vote plays a critical part in allowing the district to offer high-quality education. We are committed to providing exceptional opportunities to all students so they can be lifelong learners and responsible world citizens. Your vote helps to make this happen.

Levy funding helps support the work happening in our classrooms. In the photo to the right, you see Origami cranes created by



Superintendent
Dr. Gustavo
Balderas

Meadowdale High School students. The artwork they created accompanies their Haiku project displayed at the Cascadia Art Museum in Edmonds in the month of February. The students in Alison Ersfeld's English class drew their inspiration from Japanese American painter

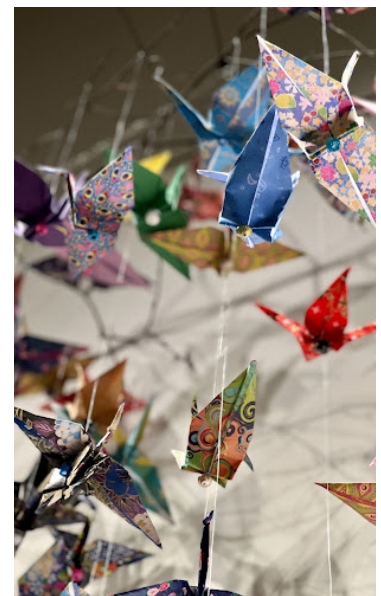
Kenjiro Nomura's art and the words and work of Martin Luther King, Jr.

After a year and a half as your superintendent, I continue to be impressed with the support from the community for our kids. Your vote is a large part of that.

Thank you again for all you do for our students, staff and families.

A handwritten signature of Dr. Gustavo Balderas in black ink.

Dr. Gustavo Balderas
Superintendent





Calling all future kindergartners!

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Get the enrollment process started by grabbing the required paperwork:

Preschool opportunities

We offer different programs, including free options, to meet the needs of young children and families.

Learn more: bit.ly/ESDPreKprograms



CHECKLIST

- Proof of residency (utility or other bill works just fine)
- Certification of Immunization Status (go to wa.myir.net to download your student's immunization status)
- If applicable - previous school information (report card or transcript)
- Proof of age (birth certificate or passport)



Dual Language teacher Angelica Lopez spends time reading in Spanish to her kindergarten students at Cedar Valley Community School in Lynnwood.



Interested in your child learning in both English and Spanish?

Children entering kindergarten or 1st grade for the 2022-23 school can apply to be part of the district's dual language program. Learn more: bit.ly/ESDdual-language



¿Le interesa que su hijo(a) aprenda dos idiomas?

El Programa de lenguaje dual español/inglés del Distrito está abierto para las/os alumnas/os entrantes de Kindergarten y 1º grado para el año escolar 2022-23. Para mayor información: bit.ly/ESDdual-language