



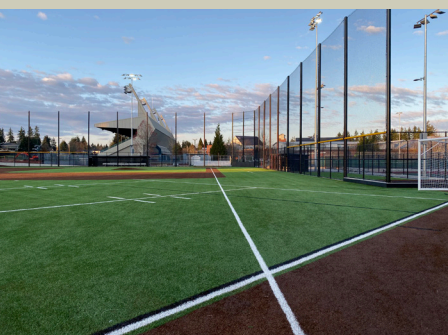
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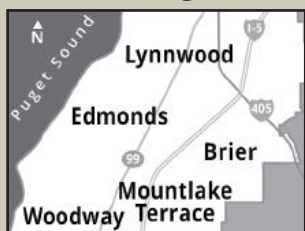
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Subscribe to the district's biweekly e-newsletter to discover what's happening in our schools and community. Visit [bit.ly/edmondsenews](http://bit.ly/edmondsenews) for subscription instructions.

### Serving...



and portions of Snohomish County

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE BY TUESDAY, FEB. 11, 2020**

*The district is committed to maintaining a level tax rate with the upcoming bond/levy.*

# Building Bright Futures

## Highlighting success stories of some of our graduates

Here at the Edmonds School District we are committed to helping build bright futures for all of our 20,784 students. As community members, families and students, we all play a role in helping our students succeed. We want to highlight some of our graduates as they share how they are building bright futures.

### AsiaLee Donnelly, Mountlake Terrace High

AsiaLee participated in the STEM Magnet program and graduated in 2016 with a STEM Honors diploma, Technical Honors School diploma and an Academic Honors Scholar diploma. She is now in the Bioengineering program at the University of Washington and recently studied abroad in Berlin and Madrid. She will graduate in June 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering. Post graduation she will continue to work for



AsiaLee Donnelly spent fall of 2019 studying abroad in Berlin and Madrid.

UW Medicine at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance in the Hematology Department. Her ultimate goal is to become a physician assistant. AsiaLee is very appreciative of the fiscal support she received through scholarships that are helping her reach her goals.

### Mariah Lotz, Edmonds Heights K-12

Mariah graduated from

*See Building Bright Futures, Page 2*



Photo by ONCE the musical

Mariah Lotz performing in the 2019-20 national tour of ONCE the musical.

## Message from the Superintendent: Information about bond/levy

Dear students, families, staff, and the greater Edmonds School District Community:



Superintendent Dr. Kristine McDuffy

As we start the new calendar year, we here at the Edmonds School District are looking forward to many new beginnings in 2020. You may recall from the in-

formation we sent you in the fall that the Edmonds School District is holding an election on Tuesday, Feb. 11, with two important measures on the ballot: 1) \$600 million Capital Construction Bond, and 2) \$96 million Replacement Technology/Capital Levy. Before we get into the spe-

cifics, it's important for voters to know that the **district is committed to maintaining a level tax rate**. It's also crucial that we all take a moment and remember that strong schools equal strong communities. By investing in our students, you are investing in not only their future, but yours as well.

*See Message From the Superintendent, Page 2*

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# Our goals

Equity of Opportunity

Strong Community

High Expectations

Global Readiness

Culture of Kindness

## District seeking a new superintendent; finalist interviews in March

The search is underway for a new leader of the Edmonds School District. Applications to become the next superintendent are due Feb. 2, 2020. Back in the fall, a survey went out to families, staff and the community asking for qualities sought in a new superintendent.

The top three are:

- Possesses excellent people skills, presents a positive image of the district and will listen to input and make a decision when necessary.
- Possesses the leadership skills required to equitably respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by an ethnically and culturally

diverse community.

- Inspires trust, has high levels of self-confidence and optimism, and models high standards of integrity and personal performance.

The finalist interviews will take place in March. The announcement of the new superintendent is expected in April.

## Building Bright Futures

### Continued From Page 1

Edmonds Heights K-12 in 2015. She then went on to study Musical Theatre at Rider University in New Jersey. She there earned a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre. She is currently making her dreams come true by playing the lead role in the 2019-20 national tour of ONCE the musical. Mariah says the musical theatre program at Edmonds Heights helped inspire her and prepare her for a professional career in the performing arts. She credits the supportive community and academic freedom for allowing her to follow her passions.



**Michelle Rumpel earned a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Northern Arizona University.**

Sacramento State, graduating in 2016. She then earned her Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Northern Arizona University in December 2019. Michelle is now working as a Physical Therapist in Arizona. She is grateful for the IB program that challenged her and helped her with her career ambitions.

### Michelle Rumpel, Edmonds- Woodway High

Michelle graduated in 2012 with a full IB (International Baccalaureate) diploma and then went on to get her Bachelor's of Science in Kinesiology, Pre-PT at



**Brandon Mason, a recent employee of the month, puts carts away as a part of his job at Lowe's.**

### Brandon Mason, VOICE program

After graduating from Lynnwood High School's LifeSkills program in 2018, Brandon began attending the district's VOICE (Vocational Opportunities In Community Experiences) program. The program is designed for young adults, 18-21, and provides

comprehensive instructional and vocational experiences to prepare for adult life. Brandon works at Lowe's, where he was hired full time in August and named August Employee of the Month. Brandon credits his vocational education from the school district for teaching him skills that have made him successful in his job.

## Message from the Superintendent

### Continued From Page 1

We are focusing on three key areas for improving our school community.

#### 1. Design spaces for today's standard for learning.

Our elementary schools are over capacity. The bond will help make space for current and future students. Our older schools do not support current educational programs and are reaching the end of their useful service life. New buildings will be designed to improve student learning.

#### 2. Maintain advanced technology program for our students

The 2020 Replacement Technology/Capital Levy provides funding for technology for stu-

dent learning and capital facilities improvements. This means one-to-one computers in grades 2-12 and two students to one computer in grades K-1. The replacement levy will also support classroom technology, teacher training and provide internet access for students at home who can't afford this educational tool.

#### 3. Take safety to a new level

Student safety is our top priority. The 2020 Bond and Levy will provide funding for the district to continue to not only keep up with the latest safety, security and emergency preparedness improvements, but take our safety commitment to a new level with technology improvements, physical building/site improvements and training and support.

All 34 of our schools will benefit from the passing of the bond and levy. All schools will get funding to maintain the district's advanced technology program and will benefit from the districtwide integrated safety program.

In addition, the bond will fund the following buildings:

- Complete Spruce Elementary School
- Replace College Place Middle School
- Replace Oak Heights and Beverly elementary schools
- Build an additional elementary school near Lynnwood High School
- Build an additional middle school at the former Alderwood Middle School site
- And build an Innovative

Learning Center next to the district office — Scriber Lake High School would be located in this new facility.

We encourage you to learn more about the bond and levy by visiting our website:

<http://bit.ly/ESD2020Election>.

I want to thank our students, families and staff for all the hard work they have already shown as we enter into this second half of the school year.

With deepest respect and gratitude,

Dr. Kristine McDuffy

# Mark your calendars!

Kick off to Kindergarten Feb. 10; registration for kindergartners, all new students March 4

**ATTENTION parents and guardians of students starting kindergarten in September 2020.**

You are invited to Kickoff to Kindergarten on Monday, Feb. 10 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at your neighborhood (assigned) school. Free childcare is available for children 5 years and older. Attendees will:

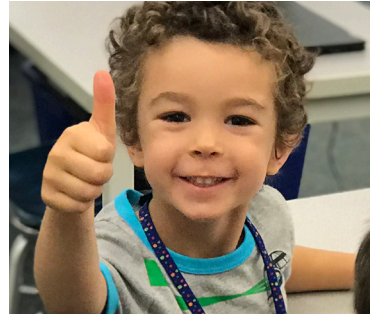
- Meet school staff and other incoming families,
- Learn about the school and registration process,
- Gear up for Jump Start in Aug. 17-20.



Students must be five years old by Aug. 31, 2020 to be eligible for kindergarten, and are assigned to a school by their home address. Please go to [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu) to access Neighborhood

School Finder to find out which school your child will attend. Contact Shelley Roehl at 425-431-7176 for information about Early Entrance for students who will turn five between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31, 2020.

Registration for students entering kindergarten and new students in all grades officially begins March 4, 2020.



## Did you know? – Pre-K programs are available

We offer a few different programs to meet the needs of young children and their families:

**Alderwood Early Childhood Center (AECC)** is a developmental preschool and provides services for children ages three, four and five. Children with disabilities may receive developmental screening, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Therapy.

AECC also offers a fee-based integrated preschool program for students who are developing typically to learn alongside

students who are receiving special education services. Scholarships may be available based on documented need.

**Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)** is a pre-school program that serves income-eligible children and families, ages three and four.

The program includes play-based activities that support reading, writing, language, math, art, science, and social skills. The program is located at Mountlake Terrace Elementary and also provides nutritious meals and health and develop-

mental screenings.

**Family Pre-K** is a preschool program designed for children, ages four and five, together with parents or caregivers who do not attend another preschool.)

The free program is offered at eight schools throughout the district and focuses on six developmental areas: literacy, language, math, cognitive, motor, and social-emotional.

For more information about each of these programs visit <http://bit.ly/ESDPreKprograms>.

## Katims newly sworn in as an Edmonds School Board director; Chase and Noble re-elected

Directors Carin Chase (District 1), Gary Noble (District 3) and Nancy Katims (District 5) took the oath of office during the Dec. 10, 2019 school board meeting. Directors Chase and Noble were re-elected to serve another term. This will be Director Katims's first term. Katims has served in various roles in public education for over 40 years, including in the district, and currently conducts part-time consulting for educational organizations. She and her husband Michael have two children who graduated from the Edmonds School District.



Photo by Cody Sexton, My Neighborhood News Network

**Directors Carin Chase, Gary Noble and Nancy Katims were sworn in on Dec. 10.**

## Thank you to outgoing Director Diana White

After eight years serving on the Edmonds School Board of Directors, Diana White stepped down in December 2019 as her term ended. White remains an active volunteer serving in various capacities within our community. She and her husband Steve are parents of four children in the Edmonds School District. The district wants to thank Diana for her many years of service and wishes her well in her upcoming endeavors.



**Diana White**

## Edmonds School District Board of Directors



Carin Chase  
District 1  
Legislative Representative



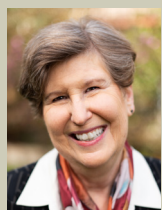
Ann McMurray  
District 2



Gary Noble  
District 3  
Vice President



Deborah Kilgore  
District 4  
President



Nancy Katims  
District 5



Superintendent  
Dr. Kristine  
McDuffy

Comprising five director districts, the Board of Directors conducts the business of the Edmonds School District. The board meets alternate Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Educational Services Center, 20420 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood, 98036. Study sessions, at which the board does not vote on matters, are held as needed on alternate Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

# Your bond/levy dollars at work



The Edmonds-Woodway High School baseball field and tennis courts improvement project has been completed.

## Edmonds-Woodway High gets new playfield

Spring sports will look a little different at Edmonds-Woodway High School this year. Thanks to funds from the 2016 Levy, the 2014 Bond and a grant from the Verdant Health Commission, the Edmonds-Woodway High School baseball field and tennis courts improvement project is now complete.

The \$7 million project consisted of installing a new full-size synthetic turf baseball field, which will double as a practice

field for football, soccer and other uses. The project also added tennis courts with new lighting and resurfaced the existing softball fields. The district's Capital Projects team worked with school and community members to design and upgrade these spaces to meet the needs of both the school and the district in a cost-effective manner. Wyser Construction is on track to complete the project in January 2020.

## One year ago ... the new school for Madrona K-8 opened

Thanks to the 2014 bond approved by voters in our community, the district was able to build a new school for Madrona K-8. The building, designed specifically for the educational needs of students and staff at this school, opened in January 2019.

The passing of the 2020 Capital Construction Bond on Feb. 11, 2020, would mean similar building projects for the district.

Those would include:

- Finishing Phase II of Spruce Elementary,
- Replacing Oak Heights and Beverly elementaries,
- Replacing College Place Middle and adding an additional elementary school and an additional middle school to our district.
- The bond would also allow



Photos by Benjamin Benschneider Photography, LLC.

for an Innovative Learning Center, which would initially host Scriber Lake High School, and include space to eventually add other programs.

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## Foundation for Edmonds School District helps children with severe mobility restrictions

A young student enjoys the experience of mobile independence in a customized car.



Did you know the Foundation for Edmonds School District (FESD) has been partnering with our school district for 35 years? FESD develops community partnerships and bridges funding in support for the district's children, families and educators in their pursuit of educational excellence. One of the many examples of the Foundation's support is the Notions of Motion grant it secured for young children in our district with severe mobility restrictions.

The grant will fund two adaptive cars that will soon arrive at the Alderwood Early Childhood



Center, allowing some of the 3 and 4 year old students to get into the driver's seat and experience independent motion for the first time.

Based on University of Delaware's GoBabyGo! program, a battery-operated car was modified with switches to control start, stop, direction changes, music and lights. Larger control buttons, as well as adaptive

seats, backrests and posture support can be added or removed to meet a child's individual needs. A remote control provides a safety override.

Bernadette Roberts – a physical therapist who has worked for our school district for 18 years – and her colleagues built a prototype last year. Freedom to move has lasting educational and social benefits. "Movement is just really important at an early age," says Roberts. "If you don't explore because your body doesn't work well you miss play, and play is how very young children learn."

Edmonds School District News provides school and education information to all the residents of Edmonds School District. For more information about the District, please call the Administration Office at (425) 431-7000 or visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu). To request this newsletter in a different format for people with disabilities please call (425) 431-7045. Board of Directors: Carin Chase, District 1 Legislative Representative; Ann McMurray, District 2; Gary Noble, District 3; Deborah Kilgore, District 4 Vice President; Nancy Katims, District 5; Superintendent: Dr. Kristine McDuffy; Writing, Editing: Communication & Public Relations staff; Photography: District and School staff, and various individuals as noted. ♻️ Printed with soy ink on paper that is recyclable and renewable.

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**Why am I getting this newsletter?** This newsletter is intended to reach all residents in our district including the nearly 70 percent of households without school-age children. We use bulk mailing rather than individually addressing each newsletter because it is the least expensive way to distribute this newsletter.