The Flagship

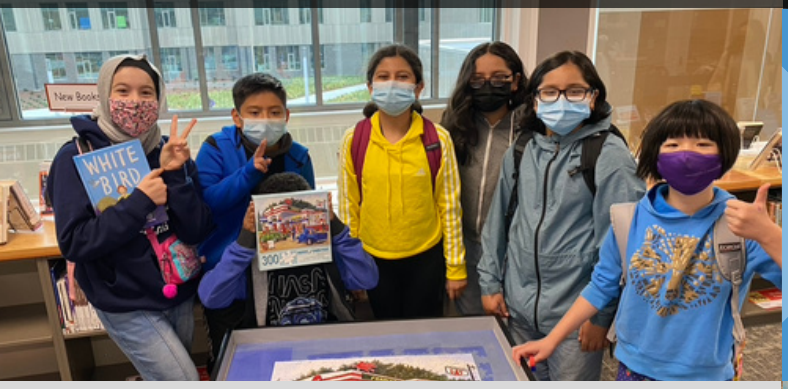
A Newsletter of Shoreline Public Schools

SHORELINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Spring/Summer 2022



Schools Resume Treasured Traditions and Create New Celebrations



Three Grades of Middle Schoolers Welcomed into New Buildings

Activities, Arts, and Traditions Return at High Schools



SHORELINE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

18560 1st Ave. NE
Shoreline, WA 98155
206.393.4412
www.shorelineschools.org

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Dr. Susana Reyes

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Superintendent's Message

Reflections of gratitude as our school year draws to a close



Dr. Susana Reyes
Superintendent

As we near the end of this school year, I want to express my gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for an incredibly wonderful school year. Shoreline and Lake Forest Park are amazing communities filled with deep care, love, and support for our students and our schools.

I also want to acknowledge that this school year presented us with a number of ongoing challenges as a result of the pandemic. Working together with our staff, our families, and our community, we navigated everything from staffing shortages to contact tracing, and COVID-19 testing and supporting our students and staff through the transition from strict safety measures to more relaxed "back to normal" school settings. Thank you for your patience, grace, and partnership in this regard.

Through the course of the year, our community came together in ways that are supportive and safe, bringing back time-honored Shoreline traditions. We have also continued our strong focus on ensuring that we are providing our students with what they need. This includes our work that focuses on our students who are furthest from educational justice. To this end, we are proud of the progress of our work on ethnic studies, anti-racism, and our special education visioning work. Our continued efforts to ensure high-quality, equitable learning experiences for students across our schools will lead to positive outcomes and success for all.

We are also proud of the coordinated focus on literacy skills at the elementary level. This work is already paying off, and our students and our community will reap the benefits for years to come. I'm appreciative of the hundreds of staff who have rallied behind this important work this year to serve all students. In the words of Kareem Weaver, who spoke at the fall 2021 staff kickoff event, "This is social justice. Literacy is social justice. Literacy is equity." We are so proud of the work that our staff and leadership teams have accomplished!

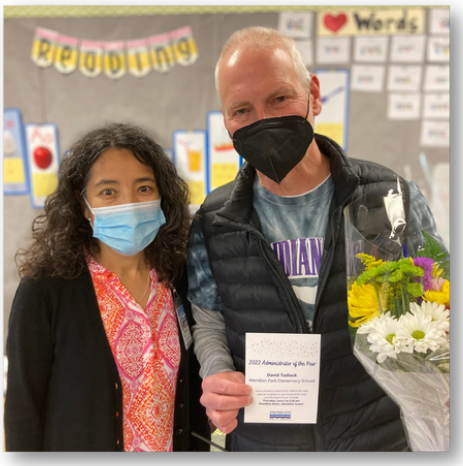
Personally, I've been uplifted by the interactions I've had throughout our schools and community. I've been able to meet with Shoreline and Lake Forest Park city officials, almost every neighborhood council, and many student clubs and leadership. The thoughtfulness and care exhibited by those I have spoken to is apparent, and it is clear why our community is so rich in our appreciation for each other. I also wish to express gratitude to our communities for their support of the educational programs and technology levies. I am grateful for what this will provide Shoreline Schools students in the coming years.

This message wouldn't be complete if I didn't acknowledge outgoing Deputy Superintendent Marla Miller and her vast contributions to our district and community that will last for generations. We've worked together for just a year, but I've been so inspired and learned so much from her in this time. Marla's career has been one of selfless service and stewardship that is truly unparalleled.

I wish our community good health throughout the summer and look forward to resuming our work with our students and staff in the fall with renewed energy and continued shared purpose.

2022 Shoreline Schools Staff of the Year

Administrator of the Year
David Tadlock
Meridian Park Elementary



Elementary Teacher of the Year
Kathryn Pihl
Echo Lake Elementary



Secondary Teacher of the Year
Gabe Martinez
Shorecrest High School



Educational Specialist of the Year
Jaime Atencio
Echo Lake Elementary



Paraeducator of the Year
Marie Macon
Shorecrest High School



Early Learning Educator of the Year
Jo Robinson
Edwin Pratt Early Learning Center



Support Staff of the Year
Hirut Mamo
Shorewood High School



Office Staff of the Year
Craig Stehling
Human Resources



Community Partner of the Year
Shoreline Fire Department



Back Together, And



Briarcrest Elementary
On their 100th day of school, kindergarteners count, create, and explore with groups of 100 stickers, crayons, blocks, cups, or anything else you can find in a kindergarten classroom to strengthen number sense, place value, and celebrate the beginning of their journey as a student!
Derek Dalasta, Principal



Brookside Elementary
We were proud to re-enter the Salmon In Schools program this year, observing our salmon eggs develop into fry and parr, and then release in early spring. Sometimes with a name or a wish, students released their salmon to make their own way in the wider watery world.
John Simard, Principal



Cascade K-8 School
Returning to camp was a big deal for us! Our 8th graders went to Explorations/Centrum at Fort Worden in Port Townsend. During this week-long capstone experience, students participated in spoken word, breakdancing, steel drums, printmaking, and music classes and workshops.
Chrisy Francescutti, Principal

Home Education Exchange (HEE)
Strong partnerships with families is the cornerstone of the HEE, a hybrid program of on-site classes and at-home learning with homeschooling materials. We were thrilled to have families come in for a picnic and playground time this spring. It was great to reconnect and make new friends!
Jonathan Nessan, Director/Teacher



Lake Forest Park Elementary
Our 5th-grade students were excited to spend three days team building and problem solving outdoors on beautiful Orcas Island while learning about marine biology, pond organisms, life in the forest, and the most exciting challenge of rock-wall climbing and zip-lining 1,000 feet across a field.
Aimee Miner, Principal



Meridian Park Elementary
Our newspaper, The Park Post, gives voice to our student journalists and our entire school by highlighting issues, topics, and information of interest to students! Park Post members interview, write, collaborate, and create content in this student-led project that engages all students.
David Tadlock, Principal



Better Than Ever



Echo Lake Elementary
We were excited to bring back student council, a representative group of 3rd-5th-grade students selected by their peers. The council plans spirit day celebrations that promote community and serve as ambassadors who welcome and guide new Echo Lake students.
Andrew Lohman, Principal



Edwin Pratt Early Learning Center
Edwin Pratt students are happy to be back learning with their friends this year! Our center's staff have worked hard to foster friendship and self-regulation skills within a safe, joyful school environment for all preschoolers in our inclusive classrooms.
Hillery Clark and Amy Vujovich, Co-Directors



Highland Terrace Elementary
To celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Black Lives Matter at School, we read and did projects related to the book *Born on the Water*. All classes read the book, did an extended learning project, and viewed all the projects. Our community is proud of our work and the students' engagement.
Lara Drew, Principal

Parkwood Elementary
Parkwood students and staff had a great time resuming Girls on The Run! For eight weeks, the team worked together to build physical and social strength while empowering each other to reach their goals. The culminating 5K run invigorated the proud runners, coaches, and running buddies.
Ann Torres, Principal

Ridgecrest Elementary
We have been excited to restart Running Club. This activity has been a longstanding Ridgecrest tradition, and 80 enthusiastic students and four dedicated staff coaches met and ran weekly, rain or shine, in preparation for the district's all-elementary fun run in the spring.
Linda Butler, Principal

Syre Elementary
Every student has spent time writing kindness quotes, words of encouragement, and pictures on circles of colored paper, assembled into the shape of a beautiful rainbow butterfly. Students have had their pictures taken and walk by our butterfly daily to remind them to always choose kindness.
Michelle Carroll, Principal













Middle School Students Flourish

At Einstein and Kellogg middle schools, this school year has felt transformative and rejuvenating. The 2021-22 school year is the first to see full-time students and the addition of sixth grade in the new buildings.

“We've got gorgeous buildings with beautiful open spaces,” says Kellogg Principal Heather Hiatt. “There’s natural light everywhere. And both schools are really fluid, with more areas to move around and variety for where they can be for classes, socializing, and collaborating.”

This year’s use of the buildings has highlighted the thoughtful design, such as learning pods, where small groups of students can gather to work together outside of a classroom. At Einstein, the basketball courts, track, and field beckon students outside directly from lunch, where spirited pickup basketball, football, soccer, and volleyball are played daily. “Nothing can keep them inside,” comments Einstein Security monitor Charles Brown. “They need this fresh air and movement every day, so we’re out here rain or shine.”

Incorporating fifty-percent more students into the two schools was no small feat, but the first in-person year has been a success. All sixth-grade students take computer science and art, and those who choose the four-class “elective wheel” cycle often find a new interest from the STEM-based classes Build It, Show It, and 3-D Art.

“Sixth graders are loving school!” exclaims Einstein Principal Nyla Fritz. “Being in a middle school addresses their need to be social and make more friend connections at this stage in their development. And the richness and depth of their learning in classes like Science, Math, and Music astounds me every day.”

A return to school in these new buildings has also brought a return to athletics, activities, and music performances—middle school rites of passage that this year’s eighth graders are participating in before moving on to the high schools. Participation in Track & Field was up significantly at both schools, and intramural sports offered for sixth graders saw big numbers turn out. We look forward to continuing this year's successes in both of these modern, student-centric school buildings.







A Focused Effort on Early Literacy

"This is just what our schools needed, at exactly the right time," said Briarcrest Principal Derek Dalasta when asked about this year's focus on literacy in Shoreline elementary schools.

For the 2021-22 school year, K-5 students have been developing their skills by learning the components of structured literacy, which focuses on sounds, letters, and the building blocks of language. Elementary teachers have built shared knowledge around frameworks of reading and incorporating evidence-based practices, such as systematically teaching foundational skills in a direct way. Buoyed by the enthusiasm for this learning, schools have also found opportunities to incorporate literacy across school events and into other subjects.

The need for this districtwide focus on literacy became clear as schools examined best practices in literacy instruction, looked at student data, and prepared to return to in-person instruction.





"Our understanding of how students learn to read has evolved in the field of education," said Maria Stevens, Director of Teaching and Learning. "We're working toward a system where race and ethnicity aren't predictors of success, and this is a huge piece of that work. Reading is the gateway to anything they want to do, inside and outside of school."

Early assessment data shows positive growth in literacy skills across the district, but the work will continue to be a priority in Shoreline schools. Administrators and teachers are excited to deepen their knowledge and practice to continue developing skilled and confident readers for years to come.

"I am grateful to teach in a district committed to literacy!" says Highland Terrace Learning Assistance Program (LAP) Teacher Donna Hoffman. "This year we have been inspired by experts in the field and taught by knowledgeable district leaders. Although our learning is just beginning, we are seeing real results in our students. Almost daily I hear our young students say, 'I can do this! I can read hard words!'"

School Board Information

- Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- Meeting Schedule
- Board Contact Information
- Policies and Procedures
- And More...

shorelineschools.org/schoolboard

Board Approves Special Education Vision and Guiding Principles

The Shoreline School District's vision of special education is to provide high-quality, individualized, equitable, inclusive education to all students. All students will learn the academic and work-life skills to achieve student-centered post-secondary success.

At their March 8 meeting, the Shoreline School Board unanimously approved the Special Education Vision and Guiding Principles. These will serve as a guide for all Shoreline Schools staff when making decisions regarding instruction, supports, training, and staffing.

Nearly three years ago a committee of parents, teachers, administrators, support staff, and district staff assembled to engage in the development of this vision. The group developed an understanding of special education in national, state, and district contexts; developed an understanding of the state's work on inclusionary practices; and brought their own voices and experiences as they learned and processed this information together.

After a pause due to COVID-19, a majority of the committee regrouped and resumed the work, culminating in a vision statement and the guiding principles of equity, inclusive education, multi-tiered systems of support, partnerships, and student outcomes.

"I'm very proud of this committee for their dedication and feedback. They collaborated and advocated with passion to address all students' needs," said Becca Anderson, Executive Director of Student Services.

Looking ahead to putting the vision and principles into action, next school year will see development of a five-year plan that incorporates student voice. The Student Services department will continue to consult with the Haring Center, who have partnered to support the district.

"I'm so proud to live in this community. And I'm very proud of the vision statement," says parent and Special Needs PTSA President Ananda Scott. "While this is a Special Education vision statement, if you look at the language, it is clearly and intentionally about all students. That's the real promise of the vision—not just that disabled kids will be valued and supported, but that diversity of all kinds will be, and that all children will benefit from the learning that results. We are stronger together."

Read the full Special Education Vision and Guiding Principles at: www.bit.ly/SpEdVision



Online Feedback Form

Have a compliment, question, or concern?
Submit our "let us know" online feedback form:

shorelineschools.org/feedback







High Schoolers Rejoice in Their Return to In-Person Activities

At Shorecrest High School, students have waited two years to see their student-led art project come to life. In 2019, the Art Club planned an art installation to be stenciled by every student, featuring the words Thrive, Unite, Inspire, and Dream. This spring, the vision came to be as club members tested the paints, materials, and technique, and then showed all students how to make their own mark. Art Club President Nina Vo says, "It's been really gratifying to bring students together like this, and we've enjoyed sharing our club's vision and hard work with the school."



Across the district at Shorewood High School, school spirit echoed through the hallways, gymnasium, and theatre as students and staff reveled in a return to Homecoming traditions, pep assemblies, and their first schoolwide talent show since 2019. "The festivities we've held this year have been fantastic group efforts," says Shorewood Activity Coordinator and English Teacher Britt Harris. "Our community has supported us, and all students have participated to bring our Stormray spirit to life!"



Both high school drama departments have joyously returned to their phenomenal stage productions this spring, bringing to life *The SpongeBob Musical* at Shorecrest and *Peter and the Starcatcher* at Shorewood. The Shoreline Schools lip dub tradition also resumed this spring, with Shorecrest's high-energy romp through school buildings that left viewers smiling, singing along, and wondering if Shorewood students are planning their response.



"It is incredibly gratifying to return to some of our treasured school rituals and traditions," says Shorecrest High School Principal Lisa González. Shorewood Principal Bill Dunbar agrees, "We're all breathing deeper, smiling more, and appreciating that we're learning and having this much fun together again."

Ethnic Studies Fellows Program Launched

In the summer of 2020, the Shoreline School Board passed the Ethnic Studies Resolution. The resolution states, "We affirm our belief that the integration and addition of ethnic studies into the education of Shoreline School District's students can have a positive impact on eliminating opportunity gaps."

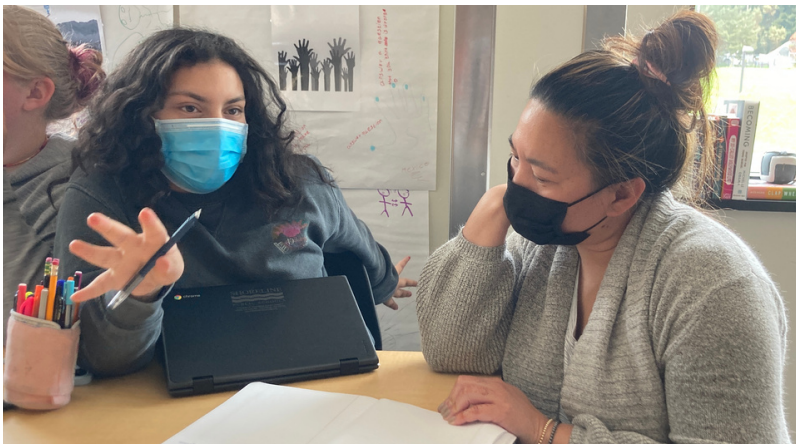
To support the implementation of the resolution, the Ethnic Studies Fellows Program launched that same year, energized by educators excited to grow their knowledge and practice and to support the student voice advocating for Ethnic Studies in Shoreline Schools. To date, 68 teachers and staff members have participated in the program.

The Ethnic Studies Fellows Program helps educators to understand the pedagogy of Ethnic Studies and to examine the materials they already have in their classrooms and how they reflect the histories and stories of their students. The cohort model allows for creation of informal teams to embed the work into schools, with a few Fellows from a building collaborating to plan lessons and work in the learning at all grade levels.

Teaching Ethnic Studies in a meaningful way goes beyond curriculum and lesson plans, to a fundamental internalizing of culturally responsive teaching. Teachers and staff from a variety of backgrounds are developing their capacity to make space for their students to show up in their own, authentic ways, knowing their stories are valued.

"It means a lot when people recognize that all of our stories have a place," says Dr. Tanisha Brandon-Felder, Director of Equity and Family Engagement. "The other side of that is that if you never see yourself, that can be really damaging. It's exciting to see our students' stories be normalized, not viewed as exceptional."

Both Shorecrest and Shorewood high schools now offer an Ethnic Studies elective, allowing students to explore their own and other cultures, discuss issues that are important to them, and learn about communities whose histories are not always accurately reflected in curriculum.



Shorecrest High School Senior Xavier Reyes-Jech notes, "We don't just learn about different cultures in Ethnic Studies. This is a class that's based around human connection and helping people understand and grow compassion for each other."

Looking to next year, the Ethnic Studies Fellows Program will continue with its third cohort of participants and previous cohorts will continue their collaboration and professional learning. And more students will come to school knowing that their own stories are recognized, appreciated, and valued.



Photo: Steven H. Robinson and the Shoreline Area News

Thank you, Shoreline Fire Department!

We appreciate all the ways Shoreline firefighters keep our community safe and healthy, including the COVID vaccine clinics this school year.

Thank you for being a wonderful community partner.

Important Dates for the 2022-23 School Year

For a complete calendar of days, events, and activities, please visit shorelineschools.org/calendar

August 15: School offices open

September 7: First day of school grades 1-12

September 12: First day of school kindergarten and preschool

October 31 - November 4: Elementary conferences (half-day release for elementary schools and Cascade K-8)

November 11: No school - Veterans Day

November 23: Half-day release

November 24-25: No school - Thanksgiving Day and Native American Heritage Day

December 19-30: No school - Winter Break

January 16: No school - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 30: No school - staff work day (will not be used as a make-up day)

February 20-24: No school - Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break

March 6-10: Elementary conferences (half-day release for elementary schools and Cascade K-8)

April 24-28: No school - Spring Break

May 29: No school - Memorial Day

June 12: No school - staff work day (make-up day #1, if needed)

June 19: No school - Juneteenth

June 23: Likely last day of school and half-day release

June 26: Make-up day #2, if needed

SHORELINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September

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12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

October

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17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

November

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28	29	30		

December

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January

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February

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March

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April

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May

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22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

June

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

☐ = First Day and Likely Last Day of School

● = No School

● = Early Release Wednesday

● = Half Day for All Schools

● = Half Day for Elementary & CK8

* = Early Release for Middle and High Schools

School Start and End Times

	Start	Dismiss	Early Release
Briarcrest, Brookside, Parkwood, Ridgecrest Elementary Schools	8:50 am	3:10 pm	1:30 pm
Echo Lake, Highland Terrace, Lake Forest Park, Meridian Park, Syre Elementary Schools and Cascade K-8	9:15 am	3:35 pm	1:55 pm
Einstein, Kellogg Middle Schools	8:40 am	3:10 pm	1:30 pm
Shorecrest, Shorewood High Schools	7:50 am	2:35 pm	12:55 pm

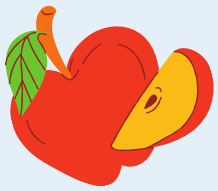
Half-Day Release Times:
11:30 am for BC, BKS, PW, RC | 11:55 am for EL, HT, LFP, MP, SY, CK8
11:25 am for EIN, KEL | 10:50 am for SC, SW

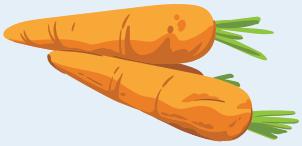
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Free Summer Meals for Youth





July 5 - July 28
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Children ages 18 or under can join us for free lunch at these locations:

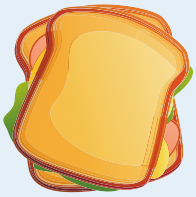
Meridian Park Elementary
17077 Meridian Ave. N
Shoreline, WA 98133
Lunch time: 11:20-11:35 am

Shorewood High School
17300 Fremont Ave. N
Shoreline, WA 98133
Lunch time: 11:00-11:15 am



No registration required. Meals must be eaten on site.
This institution is an equal-opportunity provider.

More information: shorelineschools.org or 206.393.4209



Hunger Intervention Program Free Lunches for Kids

June 21 - August 26, Monday-Friday

KCLS Shoreline Library
345 NE 175th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155
Lunch time: 1:00-2:00 pm

Learn More About Shoreline Schools

Visit our district report card webpage for information on student assessments, demographics, staffing, budgets, and more.

shorelineschools.org/reportcard