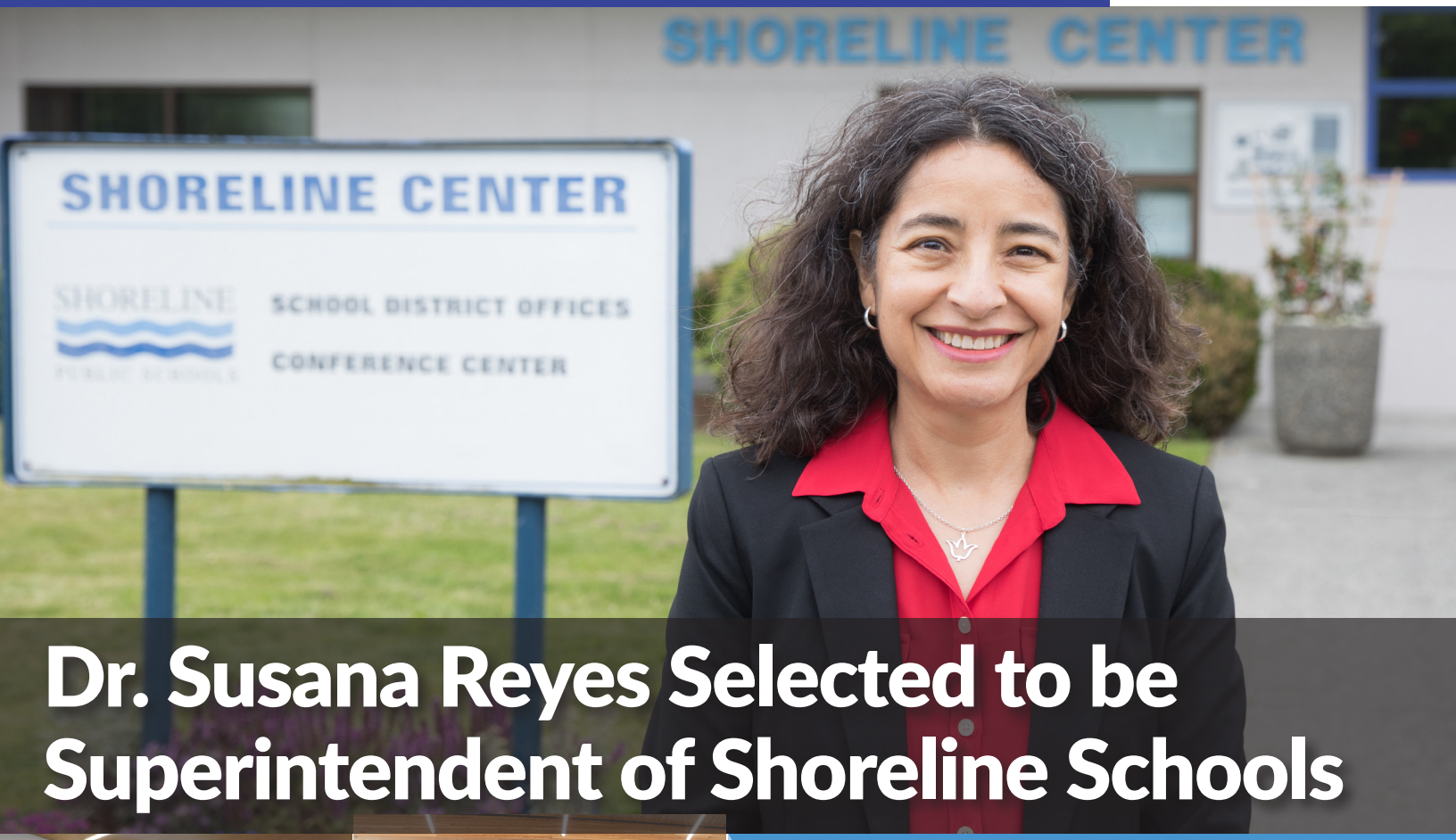
The Flagship

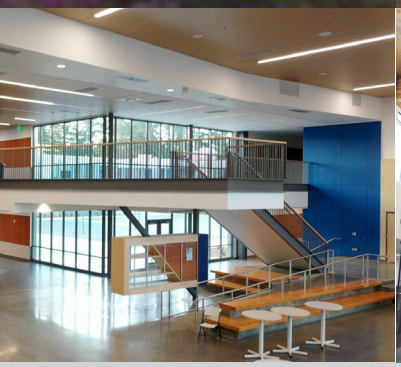
A Newsletter of Shoreline Public Schools

SHORELINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Spring/Summer 2021



Dr. Susana Reyes Selected to be Superintendent of Shoreline Schools





Get a Look Inside the New Einstein and Kellogg Middle Schools

Anti-Racism Resolution Adopted by Shoreline School Board



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www.shorelineschools.org

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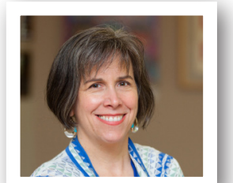
Superintendent's Message

Thank you for all of the memories and support over the past seven years



Rebecca Miner
Superintendent

This year, I've had the honor of teaching a leadership course for aspiring superintendents at Western Washington University. As we have a number of guest speakers in the course, I asked the students to think about what they would like to learn from them. One of the students said, "Superintendents always say that their work is the best job ever but I'm really curious: what's the evidence of that?" While the question did make me smile, it also made me reflect and think about the answer.

During my time in Shoreline, the evidence of having a wonderful job is the memories of the many events I had the privilege to attend in our schools and in our community.

My husband Timothy Buckley and I were able to see the talent, commitment and passion in our community as we experienced the arts, sports, academic and recreational opportunities in our schools and community on a regular basis. Whether attending a neighborhood meeting or ice cream social, a concert or play, a football or volleyball game, a robotics competition or any of the other amazing events our community offers, I always knew I was fortunate to be able to be a part of something special.

Seeing our students in action in their classrooms, their leadership roles, and their extracurricular activities has always made me grateful that I am serving in a district that supports their efforts and celebrates their talents. If you have not had a chance to attend a school event in the District recently, I encourage you to do so when it is possible again. You will be impressed by our students and their commitment to their craft!

I also encourage you to take a virtual tour, available on our website, of our new middle schools. Our community built these amazing 21st century learning environments with input from our students, and seeing the vision for these learning environments come to life through support from our community, has been incredible for me.

Additionally, I have been able to work with incredibly talented staff members during my time in Shoreline and they made my work a pleasure. I've been able to see their work in person and I'm tremendously grateful to them and proud of their efforts. The Shoreline staff family's commitment to the learning, equity, safety and well-being of our community's children transcends role or title in our district and I hope our community will join me in recognizing their contributions to our district.

The support that the community gave our schools, and me personally, was truly extraordinary.

Whether I was in a local grocery store, in our booth at the farmer's market, or at a more formal event, community members shared their thoughts on the schools including their appreciation and willingness to support us in our journey for continuous improvement. Our community partners provide so much support for our schools that it would be impossible to recognize all of them.

From the back-to-school and holiday baskets events to the Shoreline Public Schools Foundation's grants, to individuals' service on committees and volunteerism, a day doesn't go by in our district that our community doesn't demonstrate its care for all of our students and families.

Our community's pride in our schools was always evident from those individual interactions to the communal efforts and the tremendous support of our community for our bonds and levies.

As I complete my time in Shoreline and move on to new ways to support public education in Washington state, I leave with the confidence that our schools and community will continue to be a supportive and amazing place for our community's youth. I'm grateful to have been able to play a small part in the history of this amazing district.

I know with Dr. Reyes at the helm, the future is bright for our students, staff, families and community and that, working together, there is nothing that can't be accomplished here.

With gratitude and best wishes for the future,





Thank you!

Dr. Rebecca Miner

Join us in thanking Superintendent Rebecca Miner for her seven years of service and support to Shoreline Public Schools' students, staff, families and community!

Share a kind word or fond memory by signing an online farewell card at **padlet.com/ShorelineSchools**











Dr. Susana Reyes Selected as Shoreline's Next Superintendent

Assistant Superintendent of Operations for Pasco School District assumes the role of Shoreline Superintendent on July 1

After a five-month nationwide search for the next Superintendent of Shoreline Public Schools, the Shoreline School Board has selected Dr. Susana Reyes to be the District's next leader. Dr. Reyes was unanimously approved by the school board on April 29. She will begin in the position on July 1, 2021, succeeding Dr. Rebecca Miner who will be leaving the District after seven years of service.

"We are incredibly excited to name Dr. Reyes as the next Superintendent of Shoreline Public Schools," said School Board President Meghan Jernigan. "Dr. Reyes is a deeply collaborative leader who engages in her work with clarity and purpose. As a bilingual immigrant and first- generation college graduate, she brings a wealth of experience and perspective to our district. I'm so honored to welcome her to the Shoreline Schools community."

"I am honored, humbled, and thrilled to have been selected for this incredible opportunity to serve the students, families and staff of Shoreline Public Schools," said Dr. Reyes. "I want to thank the school board and everyone who participated in the search and selection process. I cannot wait to get started and delve into the critical work of supporting the highest levels of success for each and every student we serve."

Dr. Reyes' path to Shoreline began in Mexico City, where she was born. After her father's job at a medical laboratory was cut due to automation, she and her family moved to San Pedro Lagunillas, Nayarit, where her father attempted to make a living as a farmer. The earnings were not enough to provide for the family or for the children to attend school, so her parents ultimately decided to immigrate to the United States in search of a new chapter in their life. They made a home in Wapato, WA, where her parents worked in the fields all over Wapato and the Yakima Valley. Dr. Reyes and her siblings joined them working during spring thinning season and the summer and fall harvest seasons.

Wanting a better life for their children, her parents stressed the value of education and its importance to their future success. Dr. Reyes took that to heart at an early age, committing herself to doing the very best she could in school and found support and advocacy from the teachers and school staff she had growing up.

She explained that, while they aspired for more, her parents weren't quite sure just how big they could dream for their children. "At first, they thought a better future was just not working in the fields or warehouse," said Dr. Reyes. "But we had teachers and staff at the schools who loved us and really supported me in ways that helped my mom and dad dream bigger for us."

Dr. Reyes chased that dream by committing herself to becoming a lifelong learner. After graduating from Wapato High School, she earned an associate's degree from Yakima Valley Community College before enrolling at Washington State University (WSU). A first-generation college graduate, Dr. Reyes earned several degrees and certifications through WSU. This included bachelor's degree in elementary education, master's degree in education administration, doctorate of educational leadership, as well as principal and superintendent certifications.

After college, Dr. Reyes became a teacher and returned to Wapato to inspire and support students, just as those teachers she had in those same schools growing up had done for her. During her time in Wapato, she served as a bilingual elementary teacher, assistant principal and principal. She then went on to become the assistant superintendent for Pullman Public Schools and then served in the same role for the Mead School District near Spokane. She currently serves as the assistant superintendent of operations for the Pasco School District.

When she came across the Shoreline superintendent job posting, Dr. Reyes didn't hesitate to apply. "I knew I wanted to be a part of the great work happening in this district," said Dr. Reyes. She first became aware of Shoreline Schools four years ago when attending a school administrator conference. She saw a presentation by Dr. Miner and Equity and Family Engagement Director Dr. Tanisha Brandon-Felder on the work the District had been doing around issues of equity in supporting the success of all students.

"As I learned more about Shoreline in that presentation and in my research while applying for the position, I was impressed with the incredible work that has been done in so many areas and our capacity to continuously improve outcomes for students," said Dr. Reyes. "I can't wait to get started in this work alongside our district's amazing staff, students, families and community members."

Dr. Reyes and her husband, Lupe Gonzalez, have a cat named Luna Girl. They all look forward to soon joining the Shoreline and Lake Forest Park communities.

Important Dates for the 2021-2022 School Year

To find a complete calendar of days, events and activities, including a list of Early Release Wednesdays, please visit our website at **shorelineschools.org/calendar**.

August
16: School Offices Open

September
1: First Day of School for Grades 1-12
6: No School - Labor Day
7: First Day of School for Kindergarten
15: First Early Release Wednesday

November
1-5: Elementary Conferences (half day release for elementary schools and Cascade K-8)
11: No School - Veterans Day
24: Half Day Release
25-26: No School - Thanksgiving Break

December
20-31: No School - Winter Break

January
17: No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
28: No School - Staff Work Day

February
21: No School - Presidents Day
22-25: No School - Mid-Winter Break

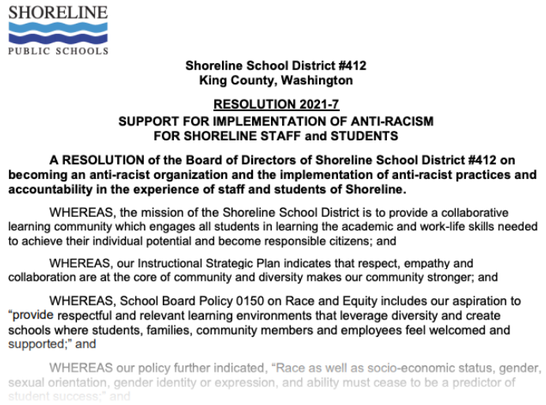
March
7-11: Elementary Conferences (half day release for elementary schools and Cascade K-8)

April
25-29: No School - Spring Break

May
30: No School - Memorial Day

June
6: No School - Staff Work Day
12: Anticipated Graduation Day
17: Anticipated Last Day of School

Board Adopts Anti-Racism Resolution



SHORELINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Shoreline School District #412
King County, Washington

RESOLUTION 2021-7
SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-RACISM FOR SHORELINE STAFF and STUDENTS

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Shoreline School District #412 on becoming an anti-racist organization and the implementation of anti-racist practices and accountability in the experience of staff and students of Shoreline.

WHEREAS, the mission of the Shoreline School District is to provide a collaborative learning community which engages all students in learning the academic and work-life skills needed to achieve their individual potential and become responsible citizens; and

WHEREAS, our Instructional Strategic Plan indicates that respect, empathy and collaboration are at the core of community and diversity makes our community stronger; and

WHEREAS, School Board Policy 0150 on Race and Equity includes our aspiration to "provide respectful and relevant learning environments that leverage diversity and create schools where students, families, community members and employees feel welcomed and supported;" and

WHEREAS our policy further indicated, "Race as well as socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and ability must cease to be a predictor of student success;" and

School board resolution to proactively and systematically address racism and racist incidents guides staff in developing anti-racist policies and practices

At their May 3 meeting, the Shoreline School Board unanimously adopted a historic Anti-Racism Resolution to support implementation of anti-racism processes and practices for students and staff across the district.

The resolution was drafted by a group of Shoreline Schools staff of color and included input and ideas from students, staff, community and the school board.

"This resolution was created with care and urgency," said Dr. Tanisha Brandon-Felder, director of equity and family engagement. "The most impacted groups crafted the language, did the research, gathered examples and created the vision."

Superintendent Rebecca Miner agreed. "This is an important step for our district to put policies and processes in place to address incidents of racism that impact our students, staff and families," she said.

Some of the resolution's highlights include:

- Ensuring that implicit bias, racism, oppression and their impacts are understood
- Proactively teaching students and staff about racism's causes and effects
- Developing and revising student handbooks and discipline policies to reflect the impact racially derogatory language and actions have on BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) students and staff
- Reviewing and adjusting grading, discipline and special education/ program identification practices to remove the disproportionality that exists for BIPOC students
- Establishing Anti-Racism, Hate and Bias Plans in each school that includes staff training and accountability measures
- Developing plans and allocating resources for ongoing anti-racism training for all students, staff and members of the school board
- Holding students and staff accountable for interpersonal racist acts
- Establishing processes for students and staff to report and receive support when racist incidents occur

You can read the entire Anti-Racism Resolution at **http://bit.ly/anti-racism-resolution**.

Students in Amy McClellan's eighth grade social studies class at Einstein Middle School recently reviewed and discussed the resolution as part of a class assignment. "It's important because we need change," said Kaya Mortimer, also noting that public accountability and recognition of incidents involving racism aren't often practiced enough in schools.

Fellow classmate Malaina Mirabueno was encouraged to see the steps taken in the resolution. "I think that the proactive practices in the resolution will help support BIPOC students and staff by creating a safer environment for them to feel included and give them a safe space where they know they can safely report racist situations they may be involved in or know of," she said.

"On behalf of the School Board, I want to say how very grateful we are for the incredible work, insight and advocacy that went into developing our Anti-Racism Resolution," said School Board President Meghan Jernigan. "This document represents our values and vision for becoming an anti-racist organization and puts important processes and practices in place to proactively combat racism in all its forms. We look forward to the work that will follow as part of the resolution's implementation."

Bond Refinancing Saves District Taxpayers $20 Million



School construction bond refinancing during prime market conditions earns large tax savings for Shoreline and Lake Forest Park taxpayers

In February, Shoreline School District refinanced existing voter-approved bonds, saving Shoreline and Lake Forest Park taxpayers $20 million over the life of the bonds.

In typical bond refinancing situations, a tax savings of five percent is generally the expected target. However, due to excellent market conditions, the school district was able to achieve a 20.19 percent savings for its taxpayers in the refinance process.

Bonds are used by school districts to fund school construction and other capital projects. The bonds refinanced by Shoreline Schools include the voter-approved 2010 and 2011 bonds that financed the construction of Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools. In addition, the District sold the remaining authorized bonds approved by voters in 2006 that had not yet been issued.

"We are excited to have been able to capture such a significant cost savings for our taxpayers," said Superintendent Rebecca Miner. "Our district is fortunate to have a community that has historically supported our students, staff and schools through our bonds and levies, and we pride ourselves on acting as good stewards of that generous support. I want to extend my gratitude to our finance staff for their foresight and hard work in successfully completing this process with exceptional results."

The bond refinancing and sales plan was approved by the Shoreline School Board on January 11, 2021 and took place on February 10, 2021.



ONLINE FEEDBACK FORM

Have a question, compliment or concern?

Visit our "Let Us Know" online feedback form at: **www.shorelineschools.org/feedback**

Find School Board Information Online at WWW.SHORELINESCHOOLS.ORG/SCHOOLBOARD

- Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- Meeting Schedule
- Board Contact Information
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Take Video Tours of the New Einstein and Kellogg Middle Schools

Community Connections Meeting held in April featuring video tours of both middle schools is available online at **www.shorelineschools.org**

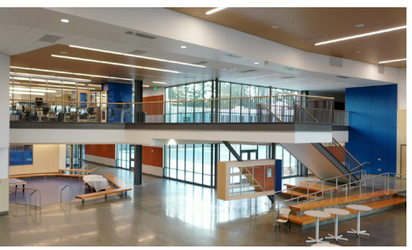
While the pandemic has prevented public tours of the newly opened Einstein and Kellogg Middle Schools, district and school staff held a Community Connections Meeting in April focused on the design and construction of the schools and their construction process. It also featured video tours of both schools. The webinar recording along with standalone video tours of Einstein and Kellogg are available at **www.shorelineschools.org** or **http://bit.ly/middleschooltours**.

Both schools were designed through a collaborative process with design teams that included school staff, students, families and architects. While each school had its own design team, they were both guided by an overarching set of guiding principles for what was important to have in their new schools. They included: active and dynamic learning environments, safety and security, equity, creating community, indoor and outdoor connections, a variety of spaces and being environmentally responsible campuses.

Both schools are just under 151,000 square feet with a capacity of 1,071 students each. Integrus Architects was the architect for the Einstein project and Mahlum Architects was the architect for the Kellogg project. Both schools were constructed by Hoffman Construction.

Construction of both middle schools was funded by a 2017 school bond approved by over 73 percent of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park voters. The bond also funded construction of the Edwin Pratt Early Learning Center and Parkwood Elementary.

You can learn more about all of the 2017 school bond-funded projects at **www.shorelineschools.org/construction**.



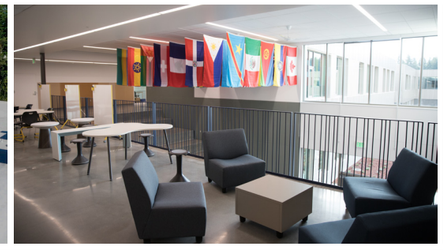















For Shoreline School District Students Needing Support

BACK TO SCHOOL

School Supplies, Hair Cuts, Clothing



Register for the Back to School Supplies Event by July 30





This year's event will be held on August 21 at the Shoreline Center

The Shoreline and Lake Forest Park Back to School Consortium is excited to hold its 20th Annual Back To School (BTS) Event to support a successful start to the school year for our Pre-K - 12th grade students.

Each year our community comes together by donating backpacks, school supplies, clothes, and hygiene products for this event. This year, the Back to School Consortium plans to provide support to over 1,000 Shoreline students!

If your family is in need of back to school supplies support, please register by July 30 at www.btsconsortium.org or call The WORKS information line at 206-393-4916 and leave a message.

Event Information

Where: (NEW LOCATION) Shoreline Center's North Parking Lot (near the tennis courts), 18560 1st Ave. NE

When: Saturday, August 21 from 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Who: Students who attend Shoreline School District schools and students that live in the Shoreline School District boundaries.

IMPORTANT: This is a drive-through event. Families are requested to remain in their cars. There will be a designated check-in point for families walking or taking public transportation. Please observe all health and safety guidelines for this event.

What will be provided: Backpacks, school supplies, hygiene items, socks, and underwear for each student in Pre-K - 12th grade. This year, we are sorry that we will not be able to hold the resource fair (including lunch) or provide haircuts.



Meridian Park Elementary (17077 Meridian Ave. N) and **Shorewood High School** (17300 Fremont Ave. N) will each host FREE Summer Meal sites for all youth 18 and younger.

Shoreline Public Schools will host free meal pick ups from **July 6-30** and the Hunger Intervention Program will host the meal pick ups from the same sites from **August 2-27.**

Meals will consist of a breakfast and lunch. They can be picked up Monday-Friday from **12:00-12:30 pm at Shorewood** or **12:15-12:45 at Meridian Park**.

Additional FREE Summer Meal sites operated by organizations in our area can be found at **www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids** or by calling 1-866-348-6479 or texting "food" or "comida" to 877-877.



Shorecrest Drama's Original Musical Comedy Series More Than a Feeling Now Streaming

Don't miss this seven-episode series written by Shorecrest Drama's creative team and produced by students

While many people had a "pandemic project" or two over the past year, Shorecrest Theater Director Andy Kidd went far beyond the raised gardens and crafts we're used to hearing about. He teamed up with his musical collaborator, Chris DiStefano, to write and produce an original musical comedy series. They got some help along the way, with students taking on much of the filming and editing duties.

More Than a Feeling is a seven-episode musical comedy series that debuted on May 21 on the Shorecrest Drama YouTube channel at **http://bit.ly/SCDrama**. You can also find links to stream it in the news section of our homepage at **www.shorelineschools.org**.

You can view the series for free, but there is a suggested $10 donation to the Shorecrest Theater Program to help offset the production costs should you feel inspired to contribute.

The premise of the series is that Shorecrest lands a one-night-only reunion concert of one of the hottest boy bands of the 2010s—One Direction—and a chance for one lucky student to be featured as the opening act! But before the big night, forces beyond anyone's control threaten to thwart everyone's dreams.

With book, music, and lyrics by Kidd and DiStefano, and featuring Shorecrest Drama students as performers, episode directors, and additional songwriters, *More Than a Feeling* is a quirky musical comedy about a group of high school kids facing an extraordinary challenge and discovering the power of community.

Now that production is done and students have been able to see the final product, they're grateful for the skills and opportunities to contribute they had along the way. "I've really enjoyed the opportunity to improve my film-making skills alongside such a supportive group of directors and talented actors," said Jude Ziliak, Shorecrest junior. "Getting to see someone act out a powerful scene or perfectly edit a complicated sequence of clips has brought me a lot of joy throughout this process. It's really amazing to work with such talent."

Senior Abi Brittle agrees. "I feel really lucky to have had the opportunity to create, even with all the limitations and anxieties of our time," she said. "Nothing can replace live theatre, which is why I'm glad we didn't try to, and instead created something new and wonderful."

If you've seen a Shorecrest Drama play or musical before, you know how high quality their productions are, and *More Than a Feeling* is no different says Kidd. "I really want people to see this because I really want them to see how great these kids are, what they can do and what they are capable of," he added.

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Join Us as We Return to Full Time In-Person School This Fall!



Children in grades K-12 who are not current Shoreline students or are not registered for school this fall can register online at **www.shorelineschools.org/enrollment**

We have announced plans to reopen for full time in-person learning this fall. The first day of school for grades 1-12 is September 1 and the first day for Kindergarten will be September 7.

Children must be five years old by August 31, 2021 to register for kindergarten.

Children enrolling in grades K-5 must reside within the school district boundaries to register. Out-of-district transfers for grades K-5 are not accepted at this time. Children in grades 6-12 who reside outside the district can apply to attend Shoreline Schools by completing a "Choice Transfer Request" with their home school district.

COVID-19 vaccinations are not currently required by the Department of Health to attend school.

Shoreline Schools will adhere to all local, state and federal health and safety requirements. COVID-19 health and safety plans for fall reopening will be posted to our website later this summer.

Online registrations submitted after the end of the current school year will be processed when school offices reopen on August 16.

Learn More About Shoreline Schools

VISIT OUR DISTRICT REPORT CARD WEBPAGE FOR INFORMATION ON STUDENT ASSESSMENTS, DEMOGRAPHICS, STAFFING, BUDGETS AND MORE

www.shorelineschools.org/reportcard