



The Flagship

A Newsletter of Shoreline Public Schools



Summer 2020



Shorecrest and Shorewood Make National Top High Schools List



Shorecrest's Phillips Honored as Activities Advisor of the Year

Shoreline Schools Awarded \$614,000 Electric Bus Grant



shorelineschools.org



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Superintendent's Message

Giving the best that all of us have to give



Rebecca Miner

Superintendent

With the close of this school year, I want to take a moment to recognize the challenges we have faced and express my deepest appreciation for the work of so many to support our school community's families, students and staff.

Famed educator, philanthropist and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune once said, "The progress of the world will call for the best that all of us have to give." I am so proud to have witnessed and experienced the best that so many in our community have given during these difficult times.

When the school year began, none of us could have imagined the remarkable events that would unfold in our community and around the world. These circumstances have presented tremendous challenges, but our schools and community rose to the occasion with courage, creativity and resilience.

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of school buildings, our students, families and educators adjusted to the unfamiliar experience of distance learning. Teachers found new ways to teach and connect with students and families, while our students found new ways to learn and engage with their teachers and classmates. Our parent and guardian community took on new roles and worked tirelessly to support their children and schools. While it has not been perfect, it has been incredibly inspiring to witness and be a part of.

We also remain deeply committed to the anti-racist work that is making progress across our country. Shoreline Public Schools stands in solidarity with the Black students, families and staff, as well as those who are raising their voice to call for social justice. We reaffirm our determination as a school district to eradicate racism, bias and oppression in our schools and community. We have made important progress in the last few years to prioritize this work, understand the root causes of inequity and make important commitments to help us become a more anti-racist school district. The road forward will require us to center the voices and experiences of students, families, and staff of color to improve our school system.

Thank you all for your extraordinary support this spring in particular, but also throughout the school year. We will continue to face challenges in the months ahead, but I'm confident that our students, families, staff and community will continue to give the very best that they have as we work tirelessly to support each other.





Register for the Back to School Supplies Event by July 31



This year's event will be held on August 22 at Meridian Park Elementary

The Shoreline Back to School Consortium is excited to hold its 19th 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 31 at www.btsconsortium.org or call The WORKS information line at 206-393-4916 and leave a message.

Please Note: This year's event will be different due to COVID-19. To ensure the health and safety of BTS event attendees and volunteers, changes are being made to follow state and district level guidelines. Please make note of the changes included in the next column.

Event Information

Where: (NEW LOCATION) Meridian Park Elementary, 17077 Meridian Avenue N.

When: Saturday, August 22 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 year, parents and guardians are requested to send only one representative per family; please leave children at home.

What will be provided: One family representative will be able to pick up a backpack, 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.



Shoreline Public Schools is offering FREE Summer Meals to all youth 18 and younger through August 14. Meal packs (one lunch and one breakfast for the next day) will be distributed each weekday from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm at the following four sites:

- Aldercrest Campus, 2800 NE 200th St.
- Meridian Park Elementary, 17077 Meridian Ave. N
- Shorecrest High School, 15343 25th Ave. NE
- Shorewood High School, 17300 Fremont Ave. N

Additional FREE Summer Meal programs offered by Hunger Intervention Program and YMCA of Greater Seattle are available through August 28 at the following sites:

- Echo Lake Elementary (2:00-3:00), 19345 Wallingford Ave. N
- North City Elementary (11:30-12:30), 816 NE 190th St.
- Paramount Park (11:30-12:30), 15300 8th Ave. NE
- Shoreline Library (1:00-2:00), 345 NE 175th St.



While this was definitely not the senior year that the Class of 2020 at Shorewood and Shorecrest High Schools had in mind when they started the school year, they worked hard, persevered and were celebrated for their accomplishments.

Shorecrest and Shorewood graduates were able to participate in individual graduation ceremonies at their schools on June 15-16. The ceremonies were videotaped, along with student and staff speeches and performances, to create graduation videos that premiered online on June 27.

Both graduation videos can now be accessed anytime at www.shorelineschools.org/2020graduation.

Class of 2020 Finishes Strong!





Important Dates for the 2020-2021 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

17: School Offices Open

September

2: First Day of School for Grades 1-12

7: No School - Labor Day

8: First Day of School for Kindergarten

November

2-6: Elementary Conferences (half day release for elementaries and Cascade K-8)

11: No School - Veterans Day

25: Half Day Release

26-27: No School - Thanksgiving Break

December

21-31: No School - Winter Break

January

1: No School - Winter Break

18: No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

29: No School - Staff Work Day

February

15: No School - Presidents Day

16-19: No School - Mid-Winter Break

March

1-5: Elementary Conferences (half day release for elementaries and Cascade K-8)

April

19-23: No School - Spring Break

May

31: No School - Memorial Day

June

7: No School - Staff Work Day

13: Graduation Day

18: Anticipated Last Day of School



Shorecrest Teacher Honored as Activities Advisor of the Year



Leadership Teacher and Activities Coordinator Johanna Phillips recognized by peers with statewide honor

Shorecrest High School Leadership Teacher and Activity Coordinator Johanna Phillips was honored as the High School Activities Advisor of the Year by the Association of Washington School Principals and Association of Washington Student Leaders. She was presented with the prestigious award at the groups' annual conference in Kennewick in March.

Whether it be student government, clubs, assemblies or fundraising, Phillips coordinates and leads a plethora of events, activities and initiatives that help shape and define Shorecrest's culture and identity.

In their letter nominating Phillips for the prestigious recognition, Superintendent Rebecca Miner, Shorecrest Principal Lisa Gonzalez and former Shorecrest Associated Student Body (ASB) President Luke Busby wrote, "With Johanna's leadership and unwavering commitment to issues of equity, access and culturally responsive practices, Shorecrest has seen an increase in the number of students wishing to participate in leadership and ASB. We have expanded leadership opportunities within

the ASB core itself, and seen the program grow in its student diversity and inclusiveness."

This is reflective of Phillips' leadership philosophy. "Anyone can lead, because anyone can serve," she said. Leadership is not exclusive, it should involve students from all demographics and we need to constantly reflect on if what we are spending time and effort on is truly tied to our goal of making everyone feel welcomed and valued at Shorecrest."

Part of that work of building an open and inclusive atmosphere has been the creation of the school's monthly Race and Equity Forums. Her work with student leaders in developing a space for students to talk, listen and learn from each other has allowed students to discuss and ask questions about complicated and difficult topics safely and openly.

"I absolutely believe that creating a positive and inclusive school climate means talking about equity—race in particular—to make sure everyone really does feel emotionally safe and supported here at Shorecrest and that the clubs, activities, assemblies

and events meet the needs of all students, not just an exclusive subset," said Phillips.

The impact that Phillips focus has had is also reflected in data. In their most recent Healthy Youth Survey, 98 percent of Shorecrest students indicated there are many opportunities for students at their school to become involved with clubs and activities outside of class.

"It feels so amazing to be part of something greater than myself," said Phillips. "I feel like this is my corner of the world in which I can effect positive change in the school community and in the lives of students."



Johanna Phillips welcomes students to an assembly this past school year.

Shorewood and Shorecrest Ranked Among the Best High Schools in the U.S.

U.S. News and World Report has again recognized Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools for student achievement in their annual ranking of the nation's best high schools. Both schools were highly ranked in the news magazine's 2020 Best High Schools list.

Shorewood is ranked 30th out of over 650 high schools in Washington that were considered, garnering a 90.6 out of 100 on the magazine's scorecard. Shorecrest was next in line, ranking 31st in the state and a 92.5 on the scorecard.

Nationally, Shorewood ranked 1,666th out of over 24,000 high schools from across the country that were considered and Shorecrest came in at 1,685th.

"Having both of our school district's high schools ranked so highly is a testament to the incredible work of our students, staff and families," said Superintendent Rebecca Miner. "Their focus and commitment to create incredible learning communities dedicated to the needs and success of all students is evident in this prestigious recognition," said Superintendent Rebecca Miner.

U.S. News and World Report evaluated high schools in three stages:

- Evaluation of student performance on state-required reading and math tests
- Comparison of scores of underserved students to state averages
- The school must have a graduation rate of 80 percent or more

Schools that fulfilled these steps were then ranked on performance in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams.

"I'm pleased that both our high schools continue to be ranked highly on this list of high achieving schools," said Shorewood Principal Bill Dunbar. "It's evidence of our continued work to develop and grow a culture that focuses on student achievement and successfully preparing students for college and career choices after high school."



"This recognition really affirms the hard work of our staff, volunteers and families in providing all students with the opportunities and skills they need for their continued success after high school," said Shorecrest Principal Lisa Gonzalez. "I am so proud of our students for all they do to push and encourage each other to succeed at the highest levels."



Shorecrest Engineering Teacher Emily Slack provides instruction to a student working on a project.



Shorewood students participate in a lab as part of a biology class.

Echo Lake and Syre Students Inducted to AAA School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame

In recognition of their dedication to traffic safety, community stewardship and leadership, Elana Bronshter, a sixth-grade student at Echo Lake Elementary and Cameron Cook, a sixth-grade student at Syre Elementary were recently chosen for induction into the 2020 AAA Washington School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame.

As a long-standing tradition, a panel of judges from AAA Washington, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission chooses ten top patrollers for induction into the AAA Washington School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame.

Nominations require input from both the patroller and their advisor, including responses to a series of essay questions. This year, the panel received nearly 45 nominations from across the state to review and evaluate.

Elana Bronshter - Echo Lake Elementary

Bronshter took action when she spotted safety issues at her school, creating a new patroller post in a hallway where unsafe and loud first graders waited for classes to begin. Patrol advisor, Joe Wack says she found a way to reassign four patrollers to that area without affecting the other posts. He calls it a wonderful improvement for the school.

As instructed, Bronshter notified Wack when she saw a parent driving while talking or texting on a cell phone. The advisor says one parent, initially angry about her

report, later thanked Bronshter for doing her job.

"This parent finally realized the bigger picture of student safety," Wack

said. "She was very apologetic and complimented Bronshter for having the courage to speak up about her dangerous driving habit."



Elana Bronshter



Cameron Cook

Cameron Cook - Syre Elementary

Cook's nomination centered on his drive towards making things better. The patrol captain consistently led by example, jumping in where needed, demonstrating the proper management of each post. It is an intimidating task for any sixth-grader, telling fellow students how to behave.

Cook's ability for speaking up and enforcing the rules impressed patrol advisor Jenny Hodgen. She is a big fan of his new program, rewarding students who obey the rules with positive behavior slips.

"Cook's idea of using positive reinforcements for students in order to encourage the desired behavior is exactly what we were looking for," Hodgen said. "He is always seeking ways to improve the system and make the job safer for students."

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Parkwood Elementary Awarded Grant to Increase Diverse Representations in Books and Artwork

Symetra Life Insurance Company recently awarded Parkwood Elementary a \$20,000 MVP Award grant as part of its Heroes in the Classroom program. Parkwood was eligible to apply for the grant program because it had one or more teachers who were selected by Symetra and the Seattle Seahawks as Heroes in the Classroom during the 2019-2020 school year. Earlier this school year, Parkwood teachers Carla Salmon and Renee Iverson were honored as part of that program.

The ability to apply for the MVP Award grant came at the right time for Parkwood, according to Principal Ann Torres. "As part of our ongoing work around race and equity, we engaged in an audit

of who we saw reflected in our school and classroom libraries, as well as in the artwork and posters in our school," said Torres.

While 55 percent of Parkwood students are students of color, and 27 percent speak a language other than English as their primary language, they found that the percentage of books and artwork that represented or featured a main character who was a person of color was low. "After we looked at the results of the audit, a strong desire emerged to improve our libraries and art to better represent the diversity of our student body," said Torres.

From this sprung the "I See Me!" project that they developed to apply for the MVP Award grant. "I See Me!" leverages Parkwood's existing race and equity work by taking it directly to students and affirming their identities in a positive, impactful way. The MVP Award grant will equip all 22 classrooms and the school library with books, play materials and artwork that reflect racial diversity to help ensure that Parkwood students see themselves reflected in the stories they read and materials they study.

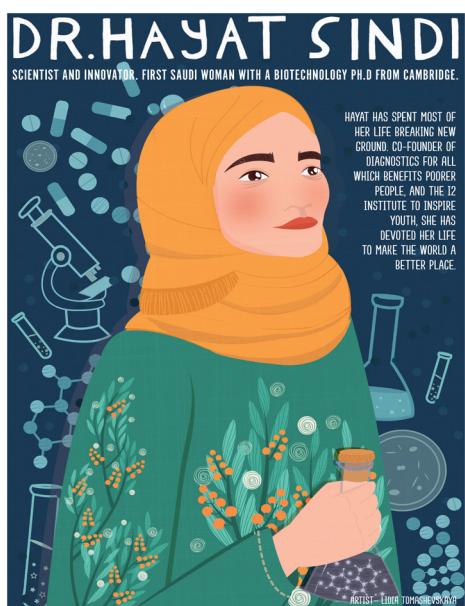
"Positive self-concept is an important thing for everyone to have in order to reach their



dreams," said Torres. "And all too often, students of color do not see themselves positively represented in books, toys or artwork in our communities, including schools. The goal with this project is for students to be affirmed and validated in materials and resources that positively reflect the diversity of our community."

The grant funds for Parkwood's "I See Me!" project will be used to purchase books for their classroom and school libraries that reflect the diversity of their school. They will also purchase copies of "What Does It Mean To Be White? Developing Racial Literacy" by Robin DiAngelo for a staff book study. Additionally, posters and artwork will be purchased to display their school community's culture throughout the hallways and classrooms of their school.

"Together with our program partners, we applaud educators like the teams at Parkwood Elementary School who recognize the varied, diverse voices that make up a school community and respond with unique programs that actively promote inclusion and empower young learners," said Sharmila Swenson, AVP, Public Affairs at Symetra.



An example of artwork that will be purchased as part of Parkwood's "I See Me!" Project.

Shoreline Schools Awarded Electric School Bus Grant



\$614,000 grant will support purchase of two electric school buses and charging stations

Shoreline Public Schools has been awarded more than \$600,000 in grants from the Washington State Department of Ecology to help purchase two zero-emission electric school buses. The grants are intended to cover the difference between an electric bus and a conventional diesel bus.

The grants will be used to purchase two electric school buses along with electrical charging stations. The district will receive a \$300,000 reimbursement for each bus and \$14,000 for charging stations. The district will purchase one electric bus in the summer of 2021 and another in the summer of 2022.

Each bus will have an estimated range of 100 miles.

"We are really excited to have been selected to receive these grants," said Shoreline Schools Transportation Director Mary Sherman. "Adding these electric school buses to our fleet will allow us to reduce our carbon emissions and improve air quality for our students and community members."

Shoreline Public Schools is one of 22 school districts across the state selected for the grants, which total almost \$12 million statewide. Funding from Washington's Volkswagen diesel emission

settlement will pay for the buses.

The Volkswagen settlements stem from the discovery that the carmaker illegally installed software on its diesel cars that activated emission controls only when it detected the emissions were being tested, violating the state and federal Clean Air Acts.

According to the Department of Ecology, the grants are intended to accelerate replacing older diesel school buses and help cover the additional costs of purchasing an electric bus. School districts can also use some of the funding to pay for charging stations for the buses.

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

Meet Our New School Administrators

The new school year will bring new faces to leadership roles at Briarcrest Elementary School, Einstein Middle School, Kellogg Middle School and Shorecrest High School

Derek Dalasta

Principal

Briarcrest Elementary



Derek is a familiar face to many in Shoreline Public Schools. He has most recently served as the principal of the Meridian Park Kindergarten Program. He has also previously served as an assistant principal for construction support at Parkwood Elementary and a 6th grade teacher at Echo Lake Elementary.

Prior to joining the Shoreline School District family, he also taught at elementary schools in Mexico, South Korea and Czech Republic.

Derek completed his master's degree in education and bachelor's degrees in education and Spanish studies at the University of Minnesota. He obtained his principal's certification at The College of New Jersey.

"I look forward to working with our incredible students, families, staff and community members as we all learn, grow and contribute to the excellence of our Briarcrest community together," said Dalasta.

Jacqueline Estephan

Assistant Principal

Einstein Middle School



Jacqueline is well-known to the Einstein community. She has spent the past three years as the school's assistant principal for construction support, a role she will continue with next year. With the addition of 6th grade to the middle school, an additional .5 assistant principal position was created and she will increase her time at Einstein to full-time to serve in both roles.

Jacqueline brings 11 years of school administration experience with her to this new role. She received her master's degree in elementary education from Loyola Marymount University and a bachelor's degree in sociology and communication from Seattle Pacific University. She received her principal's certification from the University of Washington.

"I'm looking forward to continuing to be part of the Einstein community as we add 6th grade to our school and brand new building next year. It's an exciting time for Einstein and I'm eager to support the transition," said Estephan.

Melyssa Stone

Assistant Principal

Kellogg Middle School



Melyssa is another familiar face to the Shoreline community. She has spent the past five years as the dean of students at Shorewood High School. She also has an additional seven years of experience as a middle and elementary school teacher in Mukilteo and Seattle.

Melyssa received her master's degree in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Washington and a bachelor's degree in music education and vocal performance from Seattle Pacific University. She received her administrative certificate from the Danforth Educational Leadership Program at the University of Washington.

"Shoreline students inspire me every day with their knowledge, talents and eagerness to grow as learners. I look forward to getting to know Kellogg's students and families, as well as partnering alongside a team of dedicated educators committed to helping our students achieve success," said Stone.

Alison Shawver

Assistant Principal

Shorecrest High School



Alison will be new to the Shoreline Schools family. She has spent the past four years as the dean of students at Bellevue High School and has an additional 10 years of experience as a high school math teacher in Concord, MA.

Alison received her master's degree in mathematics education from Boston University and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Boston College. She also holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Oxford in Oxford, England.

"I am very excited to join the wonderful staff at Shorecrest High School as assistant principal. Throughout the interview process, I have been inspired by the passion and commitment of the Shorecrest community. I am looking forward to connecting with students, families, and staff and to working together to provide every Shorecrest student with an exceptional education," said Shawver.



Do you need to register your child for elementary school?

You can now register online
for grades K-5 at:

www.shorelineschools.org/enrollment

Registration for grades 6-12 will resume when school offices reopen on August 17. Details will be posted to our website in early August.



We're Hiring!

Apply at www.shorelineschools.org/jobs

Shoreline Public Schools is actively reviewing applications and conducting fully remote interviews for open Teaching, Food Service, Custodial and Bus Driver positions. Some positions have immediate availability.

Our district values the diversity in our student body, school community, and staff. We welcome your application to join our team!





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