



SOUTH KITSAP SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Fall 2023



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Mission to Mars - Aviation Space Camp

A group of middle school students had the opportunity to attend Mission to Mars Aviation Space Camp. The students designed rockets and attempted lift off using Newton's Laws of Motion. They quickly discovered that rocket science is all about trial and error. If the launches failed, the students adjusted their designs and tried again.

Campers studied the Earth's crust and how it differs from conditions found on Mars. Through a variety of hands-on, STEM learning activities, they created creatures, rovers, maps, and more. The group ventured to the Museum of Flight for a day of aviation focused fun. They experimented with the flight simulator, toured exhibits, and let their imaginations soar.

Thank you to the South Kitsap Public Education Foundation and other sponsors for supporting the camp.



Attendance Matters

Attendance rates are an important indicator of student success. In fact, missing just two days per month can negatively impact academic performance. **Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track for graduation.** According to Attendanceworks.org:

- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular attendance is a predictor of graduation rates.
- Missing 10 percent (about 18 days) of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.



Good Attendance: 9 or fewer absences.

Students with good attendance generally have higher grades and enjoy school more. Students benefit from attending school regularly.



Warning: 10 to 17 missed days.

Students who miss an average of 15 days a year will miss a whole year's worth of school before their senior year.



Chronic Absenteeism: 18 or more missed days.

Lost classroom time is lost opportunities to learn. Missing just one day every two weeks adds up to 18 days in a year.

Dive into the Newly Renovated South Kitsap High School Pool

The South Kitsap High School pool is opening after an extensive renovation and modernization. The pool itself was demolished and the systems replaced to meet modern health and safety standards. The scope of the project included new roofing, lighting, pool decking, tilework and locker room spaces as well as building siding and roofing.

The pool is used extensively throughout the school year for swim instruction, water sports, and lifeguarding. After hours, the pool is home to water polo, swim and dive athletes. The community enjoys recreational swim and the pool is rented out by private swim clubs and for family parties.

The pool renovation was funded by the voter approved capital levy that ended collection in 2022.



The South Kitsap High School Pool is a widely used resource for instruction, athletics, and community lessons

Community Pool Party!

The South Kitsap community is invited to an open house to see and enjoy the newly renovated swimming pool at South Kitsap High School.

October 14, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

FREE admission

Tour the space and enjoy open swim time



The South Kitsap High School pool is opening soon!



Communities in Schools at SKHS and Marcus Whitman.

Support at SKHS and Marcus Whitman

Communities In Schools of the Peninsula is the community's leading drop-out prevention organization, serving South Kitsap High School and Marcus Whitman. They surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. South Kitsap High School CIS Coordinator Wendy Wojtanowicz builds relationships with students and provides support for basic needs like clothing, transit support, and connection to resources and services.



New tracks installed at John Sedgwick and Marcus Whitman Middle Schools

Going the Distance with New Tracks

Students have a new resource to enjoy at John Sedgwick and Marcus Whitman Middle Schools. Over the summer, tracks were installed that will be widely used for physical education instruction and student athletics.

Prior to the track completion, students used grass fields and track and field events were held at other locations. The tracks were funded thanks to the voter approved capital levy that expired in 2022.



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Voted Best Employer in South Kitsap!

Readers of the Port Orchard Independent / Kitsap Daily News voted South Kitsap School District as the "Best Employer in South Kitsap"! People are the #1 resource of the district and South Kitsap has an incredible team of talented, caring, and dedicated professionals working to support students each day.

The culture of South Kitsap School District is built around the SK way and five core values: Love People, Get Better Every Day, Think Big, Know Your Purpose, and Attitude of Gratitude.

Thank you to the South Kitsap community for this recognition!



2023 BOND SOUTH KITSAP SCHOOL DISTRICT



**FIVE SCHOOL
REPLACEMENTS**



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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**



**SOUTH KITSAP HIGH
SCHOOL MODERNIZATION**

REBUILDING SOUTH KITSAP

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[HTTPS://WWW.SKSSCHOOLS.ORG/BOND](https://www.skschools.org/bond)
VOTE BY NOVEMBER 7, 2023

SKSD Board of Directors: Jeffrey Wilson, Brian Pickard, Kate Espy, John Berg, Jeff Daily | Superintendent: Tim Winter

The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation – including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws. The Title IX Officer and Section 504 Coordinator with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing and ensuring compliance with this policy are:

Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator
Will Sarett, Executive Director of Human Resources
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366
phone: 360-874-7071 email: sarett@skschools.org

Section 504 Coordinator
Tiffany Buckley, Assistant Director of Health Services
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Gender Inclusivity Compliance Officer
Dr. Tom Edwards, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement
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This newsletter was paid for by South Kitsap School District