

# Titan Times

SEPTEMBER 2017

[WWW.STWEB.GRESHAM.K12.OR.US](http://WWW.STWEB.GRESHAM.K12.OR.US)

ISSUE TWENTY FIVE



## Principal's Message

Dear Springwater community,

We are off to another great school year! We have three new staff members joining the Springwater team: teachers Jeff Martinich, Amy Wolf, and Michael Duffy. I encourage you to read more about them on page 2.

Thank you to those who chimed in with feedback regarding August registration. We are compiling your ideas and intend to create a much more streamlined process next year.

Over the next 3 weeks we have 2 field trips and a financial aid night for juniors and seniors. **We must receive your completed permission slip(s) prior to our field trips.** Our office will be reaching out to you in the next few days if we still need your forms. Please see page 2 for more information about the field trips and look for additional information coming via voice message and email.

This year we have achieved the lowest class size in almost 10 years for our Integrated 1 (formerly Algebra 1) math classes. Our average class size in Integrated 1 is 16 students. Given the challenges many students face in math, and the district adoption of a new math curriculum this school year, it is wonderful we have been able to adjust our schedule and teaching priorities to decrease our class sizes in this critical area. As we look ahead, I am exploring creative solutions to decrease our other core class sizes.

Please check StudentVue weekly and reach out to your student's teacher if you have questions or concerns. And as always, please don't hesitate to email, call, or swing by the office if you need assistance, clarification, or have suggestions!

-Ryan Blaszk

### Mark your Calendar

- Sept 18 Picture re-take day @ lunch
- Sept 19 Financial Aid Night 6pm
- Sept 21 Site Council 7am
- Sept 21 All School Field Trip
- Sept 28 Community Care Day
- Sept 29 Staff Inservice - No School
- Oct 11 PSAT - Regular School Day. No Late Start
- Oct 12 S&A Day, No School
- Oct 13 State Wide Inservice - No School
- Oct 27 Fall Dance

**Check our school website to stay informed of all the important dates during the school year. Just view the calendar on the home page. You can also view the weekly announcements under News & Information.**

**Like our Facebook page to also stay informed of all the important dates during the school year.**

<https://www.facebook.com/SpringwaterTrail/>

### **Springwater Attendance**

If your son/daughter is going to be out for the day please call the office (503-261-4600) and let us know the reason why. Whenever the office is not notified of an absence, a call is made home via the automated calling system. If the student is going to be out more than three days, you can call the office or email your student's teachers with a request for homework. If your student is going to be out of school for extended period of time due to a vacation or some other event, please have him/her complete a Pre-arranged Absence Form. If your student needs to leave school early or arrive late due to appointments, please call the office or send a note to excuse their absence.

### **Field Trip Sept 21**

Get ready for our first all school field trip on Thursday, September 21st. We'll be attending a SPECIAL dress rehearsal of the play *Every Brilliant Thing*, put on just for us. We'll be leaving by bus from Springwater at 10am, heading to the food carts downtown and then walking to the play. We'll be back at Springwater between 2 and 2:30. Your student will need to either bring money for the food carts, their own lunch from home, or tell the office that they would like a sack lunch from the kitchen. Click below for more information about the play:

<https://www.pcs.org/brilliant>

### **Introducing Some of Our New Staff**

#### *Jeff Martinich - Special Education Teacher*

Im excited to be teaching at Springwater Trail High School. Last year I was at Floyd Light Middle School in the David Douglas School District. Through discipline comes freedom. I believe and teach that good self-esteem follows from accomplishments. This is what we strive for every day in room 114 here at Springwater Trail High School. I coach and guide practice so students can achieve and advocate for themselves in a way that will serve them all their days.

#### *Amy Wolf - ELL Teacher*

It feels great to be back with GBSD! When I moved to Portland from the Chicagoland area in 2014, I worked at GHS as an AmeriCorps member with the SUN after school program. The past few years I've worked with an education-based nonprofit at Reynolds Middle School and at PPS at Cesar Chavez. I received my teaching license in Spanish and ESL from Illinois State University (the top education school in the state!). I enjoy traveling, being creative, and spending time in the beautiful PNW outdoors. I'm excited to be teaching ELL at both GHS and STHS this year!

#### *Michael Duffy - Integrated 3 Math Teacher*

I have a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from the University of Portland and a Master's' degree in Sport Administration from the United States Sports Academy. In addition I have completed graduate level coursework in Education at Portland State University and Western Governor's University. I am endorsed to teach Language Arts, Social Studies and Math. Prior to this job I taught at Cascade Junior High in Turner, Oregon. I have also taught at Douglas High School, Powers High School, Eddyville Charter School and Illinois Valley High School, as well as Rogue Community College, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Mt. Hood Community College and Western Oregon University. It's truly an honor to join the staff at Sam Barlow and Springwater Trail High Schools.

### **Community Care Day**

On September 28th we will be having our annual all school Fall Community Care Day. This year we will be heading over to help out the City of Gresham maintain some of their natural spaces next to the Springwater Corridor. Watch your e-mail later this month for more information about this event.

## Financial Aid Night

Junior and senior parents:  
Please join us at  
Springwater Trail on  
September 19th at  
6:00PM. We have a  
FABULOUS presentation  
packed full with must know  
information.

We want a record number  
of Springwater students to  
fill out the FAFSA this year.  
We will have a Spanish  
translator.

If you have any questions  
please contact Linda  
Centurion -503-261-4611

## Volleyball

Are you interested in  
playing coed volleyball?  
If you are, we will have a  
Quick 10 minute  
Volleyball meeting Friday,  
September 15th, at 11:35  
(lunch) under the covered  
area outside.

Even if you aren't sure  
whether you want to play,  
come see what it is  
all about. If you have any  
questions please contact  
Christina Giard at  
503-261-4610

## Teddy Bear Parade

The 2017 Teddy Bear  
Parade is on Saturday,  
September 30th. We are  
looking for a few students  
to represent Springwater  
and march through the  
parade with the Gresham  
Barlow School District.  
We will provide a FREE  
Springwater t-shirt for  
students to wear. Please  
sign up in the office if you  
are interested.

## Student Spotlight

### September 2017



**Student:** Ian  
Shaddix

**Spotlight:**  
Spending his  
Saturday  
volunteering at  
our annual  
community care  
day

**Grade:** 9

**Interests:** Video Games

**Favorite subject in school:** Computer  
App

**Favorite thing about STHS:** Small and  
the teachers get to know you better

**Hobby outside of school:** Have none



**Student:** Drew  
Haney

**Spotlight:**  
Spending his  
Saturday  
volunteering at our  
annual community  
care day

**Grade:** 10

**Interests:** Memes

**Favorite subject in school:** English

**Favorite thing about STHS:** A lot of  
friendly people

**Hobby outside of school:** Helping my  
Dad



**Student:** Andres  
Mendoza Valentin

**Spotlight:**  
Spending his  
Saturday  
volunteering at  
out annual  
community care  
day

**Grade:** 9

**Interests:** Be funny

**Favorite subject in school:** Science

**Favorite thing about STHS:** Small

**Hobby outside of school:** Writing and  
gaming



**Student:**  
Kimberly  
Hernandez-  
Gonzalez

**Spotlight:** Being  
a punctual and  
productive office  
aid.

**Grade:** 12

**Interests:** Reading

**Favorite subject in school:** English

**Favorite thing about STHS:** The  
community

**Hobby outside of school:** Reading



**Student:**  
Xanthus Rose

**Spotlight:**  
Helping at our  
Freshmen  
orientation day as  
well as our  
Freshmen first day

**Grade:** 11

**Interests:**

Swimming

**Favorite subject in school:** Math

**Favorite thing about STHS:** The  
programers that are offered

**Hobby outside of school:** Yoga



**Student:** Boneta  
Kunze

**Spotlight:**  
Helping at our  
Freshmen  
orientation day as  
well as out  
Freshmen first day

**Grade:** 11

**Interests:** Running

**Favorite subject in school:** Medical  
Vocabulary

**Favorite thing about STHS:** Smaller  
class sizes

**Hobby outside of school:** Gaming



## PSAT

Wednesday, Oct. 11th will **NOT** be a late start - all buses will run on the regular schedule. All sophomores will be taking the PSAT in the morning. This test is a 3 1/2 hour test on reading, writing and math. Your child was given a practice test booklet. Please take some time to look through the booklet and encourage them to look at the test questions.

Juniors are encouraged to take this test, especially if they are thinking about applying for university admission their senior year or have a 2.5 cumulative GPA or above.

Juniors need to sign up in the office. The cost is \$16 to take the test. Students on free and reduced lunch will not be charged. They can register before school, after school and during lunch. They will not be allowed to do so during class. The deadline to register is Monday, Oct. 9th.

All Freshmen, Seniors and Juniors not taking the PSAT will have a regularly scheduled day.

### *Four reasons to take the PSAT*

1. It sets students up to be better prepared to take either the SAT or ACT - which is required for university admissions
2. Students get feedback from College board regarding their scores, how they compare to others and where they can improve
3. Most students find they score better than they thought they would, which is a great motivator for college and career planning.
4. It is the only opportunity to determine if a student is a National Merit Scholar and Hispanic National Merit.

## Senior Information from Ms. Centurion

As you begin your senior year I look forward to working with you on your journey beyond high school (college applications process, scholarships, apprenticeships, trade schools).

-As your counselor, I hope to meet with each student/parent in the month of October to help finalize your list of colleges and/or advise you on your next steps.

-I encourage all students and parents to attend the Financial Aid Night on Tuesday, September 19th from 6-8, here at Springwater Trail.

-Be aware of SAT and ACT test and registration dates. Test dates through December will work in relation to most college deadlines (this is not true for some early action or early decision deadlines- check with colleges as necessary)

-Students will need to order their transcripts through the main office. Transcripts are free but please allow a 2-business day turnaround. You are responsible for supplying the stamp and the mailing address.

-Adult volunteers will be connecting with individual seniors to support them weekly. If you are interested, please let me know.

-Western Oregon State University field trip- Instant WOLF Friday, September 29th. All students applying to WOU will have a chance to apply and be accepted in the same day. Parents are encouraged to join us.

-PSU - Instant Viking - November 2nd at Springwater - be ready with your application, transcript and application fee.

-More to come about Oregon Promise, scholarships, Springwater College Application Week.

I will be forwarding all scholarships I receive to our seniors email addresses, please be sure to check them out!!

Please know that I am here for you and want to be a part of a fabulous senior year for each one of you.

Linda Centurion - 503-261-4611-  
[centurion@gresham.k2.or.us](mailto:centurion@gresham.k2.or.us)