



Selah School District's

Education Report

An education update for the Selah community

316 West Naches Avenue, 98942; 509-698-8000

April 2024

Selah Students Love Learning!



Their faces say it all — Selah students are loving learning!

Taking A Sneak Peek at the News Inside >>>>

A Message from the Superintendent

Page 2

It's hard to believe we are over a third of a way through another school year.

As the 2023-2024 school year nears its end, Superintendent, Kevin McKay, shares some student celebrations. See his message on page 2.

Selah School District News and Notes

Page 3

See the latest installment of *Inside Selah Schools* and learn more about the leadership opportunities at Selah Middle School.

See what's cooking in Selah's Nutrition Services Department. See page 3.



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@119ssd

Cultivating a Culture of Life-Long Learning for All!

A Message from the Superintendent...



by: Superintendent, Kevin McKay

As we enjoy the days of sunshine, we know Spring is now upon us! That means only two busy months remain in the 2023-2024 school year calendar.

As we embrace the activities that spring provides, our students have been working hard! In celebrating some of their accomplishments our learners at the early learning center, and primary and intermediate levels, continue to make gains in their literacy skills. With daily attention on learning activities targeting growth, and by participating in events such as *Read Across America Week* and other classroom reading challenges, many of our young learners are on their way to meeting year-end literacy goals. Also, I want to celebrate our students who have

been spreading kindness. With an intentional focus at our younger buildings on positive peer-to-peer interactions, our students are learning that *Kindness is Gold*, as it not only influences positivity, but also shapes school culture.

At Selah Middle and Selah High Schools, our older students have been showcasing their academic skills by participating in local, regional and state level competitions. From math and spelling matches against other schools, writing and oral presentation contests, to band and musical competitions, our students are attaining impressive results and enjoying the success of their hard work. Additionally, Selah learners continue to showcase the knowledge and skills they are acquiring as they have been successful in various CTE affiliated club competitions, as well as other contests requiring a high-level skill-set. From DECA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, TSA, Robotics, Skills USA, and Poetry Out Loud opportunities to name a few, Selah students have received top recognition at every level, and in some cases, are advancing to national competition. Also, we will soon begin our celebration of this year's graduating seniors. This group of learners has been impressive in the plans they are making for their future. From earning scholarship awards, or admittance to colleges, universities and technical programs, to planning to serve our military or entering the workforce, our soon-to-be graduates are demonstrating they are capable and college and career ready. As a District, we are proud!

As always, thank you for your support! Go Viks!

Preparing for Next Year...Student Registration News

Preschool & Kindergarten Online Enrollment Open!

It's never too early to begin thinking about next school year and that means preschool and kindergarten online enrollment is now open! Access our enrollment website at <https://www.selahschools.org/families/enrollment>, or scan the QR code to begin the process for next year's preschool, TK and kindergarten students. If you have questions, contact the Early Learning Center campus.



New Student Enrollment Information — Grades 1-12

Enrollment for students new to the Selah School District in grades 1-12 begins **Wednesday, May**

1. This includes new students to Selah, students who have previously withdrawn, or, who have no other household members attending Selah schools. On this date, access our enrollment website at <https://www.selahschools.org/families/enrollment>, or scan the QR code to begin the process.



Inside Selah Schools and Other News...

Inside Selah Schools...

Earlier this year the District launched a video series, *Inside Selah Schools*, focusing on our students and the learning opportunities available to them, the programs we provide and the milestones our learners meet. This next series installment spotlights eighth grader, Felicity Fernandez, and focuses on the learning and leadership opportunities in which students can participate at Selah Middle School. Read below to learn more about the experiences that provide our students with the skills to be successful.

Eighth grader, Felicity Fernandez, prepares for her future by embracing the learning and leadership opportunities at Selah Middle School.

As an eighth grader at Selah Middle School, Felicity Fernandez has emerged as a student leader. Entering the middle school as a shy seventh grader and new student to Selah, in the past year-and-a-half Felicity has stepped out of her shell, and grown in confidence by embracing leadership roles and the opportunities the school offers its learners.

In her short time at the school,

Felicity says that the opportunities available to students and the encouragement for them to participate have impacted her life. For Felicity, opportunities like participating in leadership, serving as a WEB mentor, being involved in FCCLA and creating positive relationships with her teachers have helped her grow in confidence, which has helped enhance her school experience. Felicity says these experiences and more



can positively impact all middle school students.

As the Selah School District continues to cultivate a culture of lifelong learning, it's easy to see with opportunities like this, why Selah students have the future in their hands.

Be watching for the next installment of *Inside Selah Schools*.

Scan the code at right to see more about this story.



Something's Cooking in Nutrition Services!

Two Grants Benefit Selah Schools and Students

Things have been cooking in Selah kitchens as the District's Nutrition Services Department has been the recipient of two recent grants.

First, Selah students are "wecycling" as they participate with the Nutrition Services Team in promoting meal time recycling efforts. In its aim to reduce waste, support recycling, and teach environmental awareness, the District's Nutrition Department has been awarded a Waste Not Washington Schools Grant sponsored by the Department of Ecology and part of the WeCycle Program. The program focuses on providing students with the knowledge and skills to understand and help educate their communities about environmental responsibility and the impacts of waste in a changing world. In utilizing the \$5,000 award, Selah's nutrition department requested reusable trays at all schools for students in PreK – 12th grades.



A grant from the Department of Ecology, helps students learn environmental responsibility. Grant funds were used to purchase reusable serving trays.

Second, students are enjoying fresh ingredients during school meal times as part of a \$45,000 Farm-to-School Grant from the Washington State Department of Agriculture. The award is aimed at expanding oppor-

See Grants/Cont. on Page 4

24-25 Calendar Set!

Prepare for next year as the 2024-2025 student calendar dates have been set. Important calendar dates include: **Monday, August 26**, is the First Day of School. Winter Break is scheduled for **December 23 - January 3**, while Spring Break is set for **April 7-11**. Access our district website or scan the QR code for the complete 24-25 calendar.



A Volunteer Reminder

Spring is busy for volunteers. As a reminder, if you want to volunteer in a class, on a field trip, or for an event, you must complete the online application, and it needs to remain current (every two years). See the district website to visit the volunteer system, or access the QR Code.



A Final Look at the Selah School District

Grants/Cont. From Page 3

Students Enjoy Fresh Farm-to-School Meals

tunities for farmers, while educating students about the connections between food, farming, health, and the environment. Farm-to-school enriches the connection communities have with fresh and healthy food, while students gain access to nutri-

tious local selections. Grant funds support districts in procuring high quality, fresh, and culturally relevant foods for their meal programs from local farms, and promoting items that are grown and raised in Washington. Also, students have been participating in farm to school efforts by partaking in activities related to agriculture, food, health and nutrition as well as taking part in made from scratch menu taste tests.



Selah students enjoy fresh farm-to-school meal selections like this homemade bison meatball sub.

A Viking Track Update

Even though our Viking tracksters are running away from their competition this spring, the District track, located on the Selah Middle School campus, has not prospered as well. This winter, the track did not fare well through the cold temperatures, and even though warmer temperatures have arrived, the track has damage to its surface, that limits usability. The track is repaired annually in order to provide a surface that is usable for the year. However, the winter weather caused the track surface to rise in certain locations and deteriorate in others, making it uneven and unsafe. The District is repairing the track, which includes the surface being taken down to the asphalt base and then later this spring or summer a new surface being installed. A new surface will alleviate having to treat it as often, and provide a safe and competitive surface for years to come. The District realizes this is challenging for athletes, PE classes and patrons who use the track, but fixing it now is better in the long run.



Our Points of Pride!

We want to brag about our District accomplishments! To read these achievements, visit our District website and look for the *News Updates* or *Points of Pride* sections, or scan the QR code.



Looking Ahead...The Last Day of School

As families look ahead to the summer, the last day of school in the Selah School District is scheduled for **Monday, June 10**.

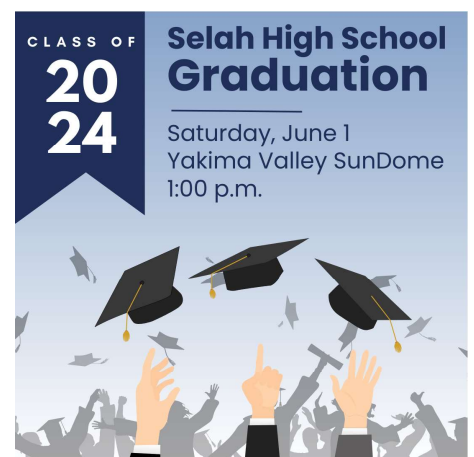
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The Selah Education Report is a publication for the patrons of the Selah School District.

Please contact, Heidi Diener at 509-698-8007, or, heididiener@selahschools.org, with inquiries.

Selah School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Chad Quigley, Executive Director of Human Resources; 316 W. Naches Ave.; Selah, WA 98942; 1-509-698-8004; chadquigley@selahschools.org

El Distrito Escolar de Selah no discrimina en ningún programa o actividades sobre la base de sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, estado de veterano o militar, orientación sexual, expresión de género, identidad de género, discapacidad o el uso de perros entrenados como guía o animales de servicio y proporciona el acceso igual a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos designado de jóvenes.

El empleado mencionado a continuación ha sido designado para atender consultas y quejas de supuesta discriminación:

Chad Quigley, Executive Director of Human Resources; 316 W. Naches Ave., Selah, WA 98942; 1-509-698-8004; chadquigley@selahschools.org