

# GOOD NEWS

## EDITION NEWSLETTER



### MCBRIDE ELEMENTARY STUDENTS & TEACHER FEATURED IN NWPPA MAGAZINE!

In 2023, one of the fourth-grade classes at McBride Elementary celebrated National Lineworker Appreciation Day in a special way. We are proud to announce that their efforts have been recognized by the NWPPA (Northwest Public Power Association), and an article highlighting the celebration has been featured in their esteemed monthly magazine!

Our amazing students, under the guidance of our dedicated teacher, Sarah Landels, showcased their appreciation for the hardworking lineworkers who keep our community powered up. We invite you to take a moment to read about the class's celebration on pages 24-25 of the NWPPA magazine.

We are incredibly proud of our students' initiative and grateful for the recognition from NWPPA.

Here's the link to the article: [NWPPA Bulletin - March 2024|Volume 78|Number 3](#)

### In this edition:

McBride Elementary Students & Teacher Featured in NWPPA Magazine!

Rotary Student of the Month

SHHS Current Construction

Capture the Legacy: Photo Contest

Kindergarten Welcome Open House

Calendar Changes (2023/2024)

School Schedule Changes (2024/2025)

#### District Mission:

Strengthening Our Community  
Through Exceptional Schools

#### District Vision:

St. Helens School District inspires  
all students to learn, connect,  
and commit to a thriving future.

LEARN  
CONNECT  
COMMIT

# ROTARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH



**OLIVIA  
BECK**



*Olivia Beck exemplifies the qualities of a well-rounded individual who strives for excellence in all areas of life. Academically, she maintains an impressive 4.19 weighted GPA while taking advanced courses, zero-period weight lifting, and participating in activities like AVID and golf. Her teachers and peers admire her hard work, integrity, and positive influence, making her a role model both in and out of the classroom.*

*During the Swim Team senior night recognition, Olivia advised her teammates to "support and be there for one another. Also, set small goals for yourself as you gradually work towards bigger goals you want to accomplish." This dedication and leadership have left a lasting impact on our school community.*

*Beyond her All-League qualifying relays and personal records in swimming, Olivia's involvement in Chor Leonis showcases her determination and responsibility. She is self-reflective, an integral part of the alto section, and inspires others to work hard through kindness and leading by example.*

*Olivia's dedication to personal growth, coupled with her kindness and integrity, makes her a valuable asset to our school. She plans to attend PCC to complete prerequisites while considering a career in community services, biotech, zoology, or forensics.*

*Congratulations*

# CURRENT CONSTRUCTION

St. Helens High School



Gym/Auditorium Corridor



Hydroseeding



Main Entrance



# CAPTURE THE LEGACY: ST. HELENS HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY PHOTO CONTEST!

As we eagerly await the grand opening of our new high school, we are thrilled to announce the launch of the **"Capture the Legacy: St. Helens High School History"** Photo Contest, grasping the rich history of St. Helens High School. We are inviting our community to contribute to the creation of a captivating photo display that will adorn the entryway of our new school, showcasing the moments and memories that have made St. Helens High School special throughout the years.

Capture the essence of St. Helens High School's history. Whether it's a snapshot from a memorable event, a candid classroom moment, or a cherished image from years past, we want to see it all! We are seeking photo submissions to add to our photo display and expand on the history of St. Helens High School. **Specifically, we are seeking older photos from the 1885 - 1983 date range**, but all photos will be accepted.

## **Submission Guidelines:**

- Submit your photo(s) online via email to Director of Communications Stacey Mendoza at [staceym@sthelens.k12.or.us](mailto:staceym@sthelens.k12.or.us) or submit a physical copy at St. Helens School District 474 North 16th Street - St. Helens, OR 97051 by Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at 4:00 pm. **No late submissions will be accepted.**
- Please include a brief description or caption for each photo, highlighting its significance (including the year the photo was taken).

## **Categories:**

- 1900-1910
- 1910-1920
- 1920-1930
- 1930-1940
- 1940-1950
- 1950-1960
- 1960-1970
- 1970-1980
- 1980-1990
- 1990-2000
- 2000-2010
- 2010-2020

We believe that each photo holds a piece of the incredible story of St. Helens High School. By participating in this contest, you are not only contributing to the visual tapestry of our school but also becoming a part of its living history.

**For the selection process, prizes, and terms and conditions, please see our 'News' section on our webpage [HERE](#).**

# KINDERGARTEN

## Welcome

MAY 1ST 5:30 PM -7:00 PM



Columbia City  
Elementary

Lewis & Clark  
Elementary

McBride  
Elementary

Students must be 5 years old by **September 1, 2024**, to enroll.

We are thrilled to announce our upcoming Kindergarten Welcome Open House, set to take place on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. This event is designed to warmly welcome our newest additions to the St. Helens School District family - our incoming kindergarten students and their families!

We're here to make your journey into kindergarten enrollment as smooth as possible. If you're unsure about which school your child should attend based on your address, don't hesitate to reach out to our Central Office at 503-397-3085. Our dedicated staff will be more than happy to assist you.

At this special event, families will have the opportunity to embark on an exciting journey through our elementary schools, where they'll discover the vibrant learning environments awaiting their little ones. Here's a sneak peek of what's in store:

- **Guided School Tours:** Explore the classrooms, playgrounds, and facilities where your child will laugh, learn, and grow.
- **School Bus Adventure:** Hop aboard and experience a fun-filled ride on one of our school buses - an exciting glimpse into our students' daily commute!
- **Student Activities:** Dive into engaging hands-on activities specially crafted to ignite your child's curiosity and creativity.
- **Registration Information:** Learn everything you need about the enrollment process, including online registration details.

Remember to bring along the following documents for registration:

- Birth certificate
- Proof of address
- Immunization records

Please note that to enroll, students must be five years old by September 1, 2024.

Wednesday | May 1, 2024 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

# CALENDAR CHANGES

Current  
2023/2024  
School Year



Like many other schools nearby, the St. Helens School District had to close for four days in January due to inclement weather. Unfortunately, this resulted in a loss of valuable instructional time within our district.

To ensure that our students receive the necessary educational opportunities, we have made adjustments to our 2023/2024 school calendar.

Rather than extending the school year, we have opted to cancel the last two early release days. This decision allows us to utilize that time effectively to make up for the missed instruction.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we navigate these adjustments to ensure the best possible learning experience for our students.

## Revised dates:

Wednesday,  
May 29, 2024  
NO EARLY RELEASE

Wednesday,  
June 5, 2024  
NO EARLY RELEASE

Additionally, please note that this school year's last Wednesday early release day will now be May 22, 2024.

[Community  
Calendar Link](#)

# 2024/2025

## SCHOOL SCHEDULE CHANGES



Throughout the past year, the St. Helens School District has been dedicated to fostering open communication and collaboration with our community. We embarked on a journey to gather insights and feedback on our bell and bus schedules, recognizing the importance of ensuring that our schedules align with the needs and preferences of our students, staff, and families.

Your invaluable input, provided through surveys and engaging discussions during our District Listening sessions, has been instrumental in shaping the decisions we make. We are pleased to announce that based on this feedback and careful consideration, the St. Helens School District will be implementing a new schedule for school start and end times for the upcoming academic year.

***Here are the revised start and end times for our schools:***

- ***Columbia City Elementary: 7:45 am – 2:15 pm***
- ***Lewis & Clark Elementary: 7:45 am – 2:15 pm***
- ***McBride Elementary: 7:45 am – 2:15 pm***
- ***St. Helens High School: 8:20 am – 3:20 pm***
- ***St. Helens Middle School: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm***

This updated schedule not only reflects our commitment to optimizing learning opportunities for our students but also aligns with recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Research indicates that older students benefit from later start times, promoting academic success and overall mental well-being. Conversely, for our younger students, earlier start times have been shown to have no measurable negative impact on academic outcomes.

We are confident that these adjustments will contribute to a more conducive learning environment for all our students, enabling them to thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

As we embark on this journey together, we remain deeply grateful for your ongoing support and collaboration. Together, we will continue to uphold our district vision of inspiring all students to learn, connect, and commit to a thriving future and our mission of strengthening our community through exceptional schools.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to the success of our students and our community. We look forward to an exciting and fulfilling 2024/2025 school year!