

# Chimacum Schools: *Cultivating Excellence*



SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

## A Pathway to Success: Chimacum's Construction Trades Program

In Chimacum's Construction Trades Program, students don't just learn; they create and give back to their community. Students gain experience building a variety of projects, "On top of the tiny studio, we are building numerous enclosures for the non-profit Center Valley Animal Rescue; everything from cougar enclosures to rabbit hutches, owl homes, and even a two-story squirrel house complete with a master suite porch and picket fence!" describes Career and Technical Education Teacher, Daniel Evans.

Partnerships are key to the success of the program, with organizations like Stryker Forge and Community Boat Project joining hands to enrich student experiences. The Building Industry Association of Washington (BIAW) recognizes the program's importance. They provide grants, tools, and technical expertise, nurturing the next generation of skilled workers. Collaboration is set to continue according to Evans, "We are looking at starting to build custom kitchen cabinets for another non-profit organization called Community Build to install in their Tiny Homes on Wheels (THOWs)."

Chimacum Superintendent Dr. Scott Mauk and Assistant Superintendent Art Clarke, are committed to supporting the program and ensuring it has access to essential resources. Their recent acquisition of a Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine represents a leap forward, incorporating cutting-edge technology into the program. This software-assisted machine allows students to draft complex projects and then use the carving tool for precise cuts. As Evans describes, "It's another way to explore the connection between creativity and skill in woodworking!"

One size does not fit all when it comes to education. Chimacum High School is committed to innovation in education and is paving the way for a brighter tomorrow, one hammer swing at a time. We build foundations, both literal and figurative, for the leaders of tomorrow.



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# Nourishing Futures with the Culinary Arts Program

At Chimacum Junior/Senior High School, students are discovering the art and science of cooking through the culinary arts program led by Food Services Director, Justin Oas. This program is not just about cooking; it's about empowering students with valuable skills that extend far beyond the kitchen.

One standout feature of the program is the incorporation of a student-run food truck, providing hands-on experience. Students participate in events, prepare and serve food to the public, and even assist in testing and refining recipes for the truck. This exposure not only enhances their culinary skills but also instills professionalism and customer service.

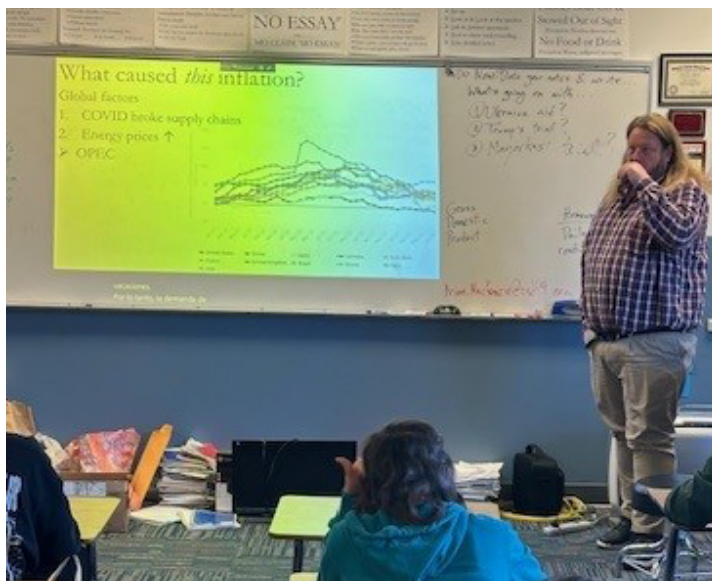
Another key feature of the program happens at the end of the year. "The culminating project in the culinary class is a food competition. Last semester was so much fun, I have had requests from students, staff, and community members to be a judge this semester," Oas said. This project consists of students working in teams to plan, prepare, and present their dishes to judges.

Exciting new program developments are underway, including a classroom remodel and equipment upgrade funded by a recent grant from OSPI. The food truck has already made its debut at school events, with plans to expand its presence at other events throughout the year.

Beyond culinary skills, this program nurtures independence, confidence, and an appreciation for teamwork. While some dream of becoming chefs or restaurant owners, others simply enjoy cooking and want to hone their skills. Oas ensures that every student finds something meaningful in the curriculum. By providing a pathway through Career and Technical Education (CTE), Chimacum's Culinary Arts program is shaping well-rounded individuals prepared for success in an ever-evolving world.







## Empowering Tomorrow's Scholars: Opportunities for College Credits in High School

An exciting opportunity for Chimacum students is available through programs like College in the High School (CHS) and Advanced Placement (AP). These initiatives are designed to provide students with college-level experiences while they are still in high school, preparing them for success in higher education. Chimacum Junior/Senior High School Principal, Ryan Stevens adds, "College in the High School and Advanced Placement provide students the opportunity to experience college with the support of high school staff. These courses level the playing field..."

Students gain academic knowledge and

develop essential skills like organization, problem-solving, and collaboration—competencies that are crucial for college success. By completing AP exams, students can earn college credits, giving them a head start in their college journey. Similarly, CHS allows students to earn dual credits, accelerating their progress toward graduation.

Both programs offer robust support systems, including online resources, tutorials, and dedicated study materials. High school teachers, trained by the College Board or collaborating with college professors, guide students through the

demanding coursework.

CHS and AP programs promote equitable access to high-quality education, benefiting students from diverse backgrounds. They prepare students for the challenges of higher education, reducing the need for remedial courses and fostering academic excellence. "They also help families who do not know how to navigate the system of getting into college," says Stevens.

With CHS and AP programs, we are nurturing a generation of resilient, empowered individuals poised for success in college and beyond.





## DEEP ROOTS BROAD HORIZONS

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## EARLY LEARNING

# Outdoor Opportunities Foster Learning and Exploration

**A**t Chimacum Creek Primary School our garden continues to be a vibrant hub of learning and discovery. Thanks to our partnership with the Community Wellness Project, students participate in engaging 30-minute garden lessons each week.

Students learn more than just academic subjects. They're learning regulation strategies, exploring connections, and fostering a sense of inquiry and reflection. The garden provides a unique classroom for exploring the natural world. Students observe the changing seasons, sample freshly grown food, and tap into their creativity by building whimsical fairy houses and toad homes.

Teachers are discovering innovative ways to utilize common outdoor spaces for learning and play. In our Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program, outdoor play is a foundation for collaborative and cooperative skills development. For some students, the garden serves as a sanctuary for calming their bodies and minds. Teachers report that having an outdoor learning space is having a positive impact on its student participants.



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at CSD schools!**



**Without the help of volunteers, many field trips and classroom projects would not be possible. If you're interested in learning more about making an impact through volunteering, please visit [www.csd49.org](http://www.csd49.org).**