

# Friends & Neighbors Newsletter

## Students learn social and emotional skills

### Curriculum teaches skills necessary for life

It's not just students who are victims of cyberbullying. At Lakewood Middle School, students are learning skills that will be applicable anytime they encounter bullying online. They learn social emotional learning (SEL) skills once a week during "Cougar Time."

During a recent lesson, students in Kennedy Doty's sixth grade class discussed with small groups the instances of cyberbullying

they had witnessed.

They also identified strategies to respond: Don't retaliate since people who are bullying are usually looking for a reaction; document the bullying; offer support to the person being bullied; report to a trusted adult; and block the person doing the bullying.

Doty made it a point to check that each student had a trusted adult to talk to. The class also went through a cyberbullying scenario to



**Lakewood Middle School teacher Kennedy Doty teaches a lesson about cyberbullying during "Cougar Time."**

brainstorm strategies for a fictional victim and her classmates. "It has been great to watch as they develop

empathy for one another," Doty said.

The curriculum from Second Step is designed to help students feel safe, supported and ready to learn. In other units, students learn about goal-setting, as well as how to manage emotions and conflicts. Doty said the SEL lessons have helped create a community among her sixth graders. "I am excited to see how the lessons continue to positively impact our students," she said.

### NEW SCULPTURE AT LHS



*Rain couldn't dampen enthusiasm for a new 18-foot sculpture, titled "Passage," recently installed at Lakewood High School. The public art was commissioned by the Washington Arts Commission.*

*Watch a video produced by students with artist Chris Weed. Visit <https://bit.ly/lhspassage>*

## Holiday Helpers offer a helping hand

Lakewood staff and school communities teamed up to provide holiday gifts, clothes, books, meals and other items for families who needed a little extra help this holiday season. The Holiday Helpers program filled requests from more than 200 people in the district.

In addition to staff and families who donated items, the program received donations and logistical support from Church360, Puget Sound Energy and ServPro of Lynnwood/Edmonds, as well as a grant from Snohomish County.

In December, Lakewood High School students collected 884 items for the



**LHS students collected 884 items for the food bank in December.**

Marysville Community Food Bank during first-period classes.

Thank you, Lakewood, for your support!



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# VFW recognizes LMS teacher as Teacher of the Year

Alec Clark, an eighth grader at Lakewood Middle School, appreciates the primary sources that history teacher Cullen Cantwell brings to class. He says they make historical events more relatable.

During a recent lesson about the Boston Massacre, students read from Thomas Paine, an American revolutionary, and Thomas Preston, a captain in the British army. Clark said he looks forward to coming to Cantwell's U.S. History class. "I really enjoy history now," he said.

The VFW Post 921 recognized Cantwell with its Teacher of the Year award during a ceremony at the American Legion in Snohomish on Dec. 4. In addition to history, Cantwell teaches seventh grade leadership, a class that he helped start. LMS Principal Amanda Cote nominated Cullen for the award. "He has worked with students to realize that everyone has leadership potential," she wrote in her nomination.

In his history classes, Cote wrote, Cantwell includes diverse American voices and stories. "He strives to teach



*Cullen Cantwell teaches U.S. history to eighth graders at Lakewood Middle School.*

students to be critical readers and thinkers, a goal that he accomplishes each year."

Cantwell also coaches cross country and track at LHS. While the pandemic has brought challenges for teachers and students this year, Cote said, Cantwell "approaches his students with heart and a dedication to develop thoughtful citizens."



*Cantwell, second from left, was awarded Teacher of the Year by VFW Post 921 on Dec. 4.*



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## Renewal Levy for Technology & Facilities Improvements

On Dec. 15, the Lakewood School District Board of Directors voted to put a Renewal Levy for Technology and Facilities Improvements on the April 2022 ballot.



**SCAN ME**

Thanks to voter support in 2020, all of Lakewood's 2,500 students had a Chromebook computer to use during online learning. When the 2020 levy expires at the end of 2022, this levy will replace it to keep devices updated, supported and properly maintained. It will also fund critical facilities improvements not funded by the state.

To learn more, scan the QR code with your phone or visit: <https://www.lwsd.wednet.edu/levy2022>

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