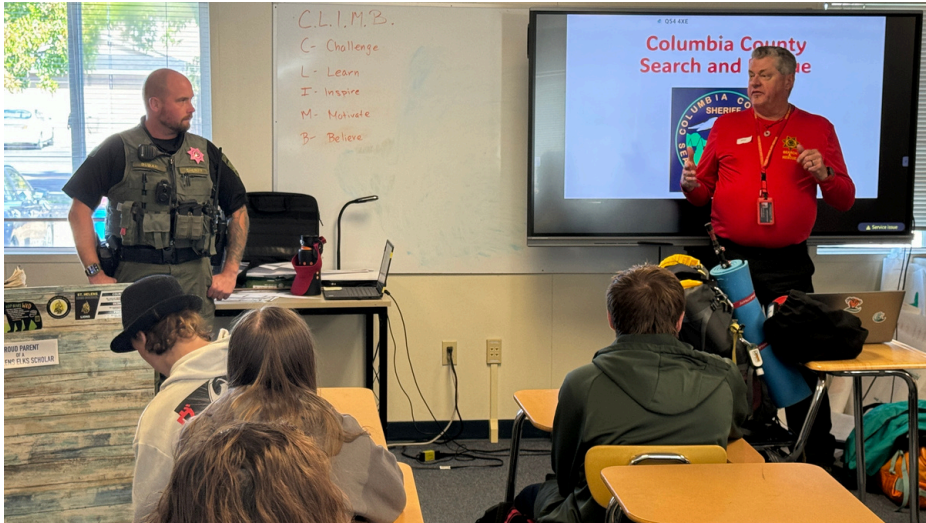


GOOD NEWS

EDITION NEWSLETTER



Search & Rescue

Members of the Columbia County Search & Rescue Team, Woody Davis and Deputy Alex Bubar, recently shared insights about the operations of the Search & Rescue (SAR) team with students at St. Helens High School.

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office manages a predominantly volunteer SAR team, which plays a crucial role in community safety. Team members undergo annual training and must maintain a minimum level of certification to be eligible for missions. Numerous citizens from across Columbia County are actively training to ensure they are prepared for any search and rescue operations that may arise.

In this edition:

- Search & Rescue
- Charlotte's Web
- SHMS - Science
- Elks Teen of the Month
- Community Impact Award Recipients
- Pumpkin Patch Field Trip
- Varsity Softball Field Update
- OSAA All-State
- National Principals Month
- SHSD Volunteer Application

District Mission:

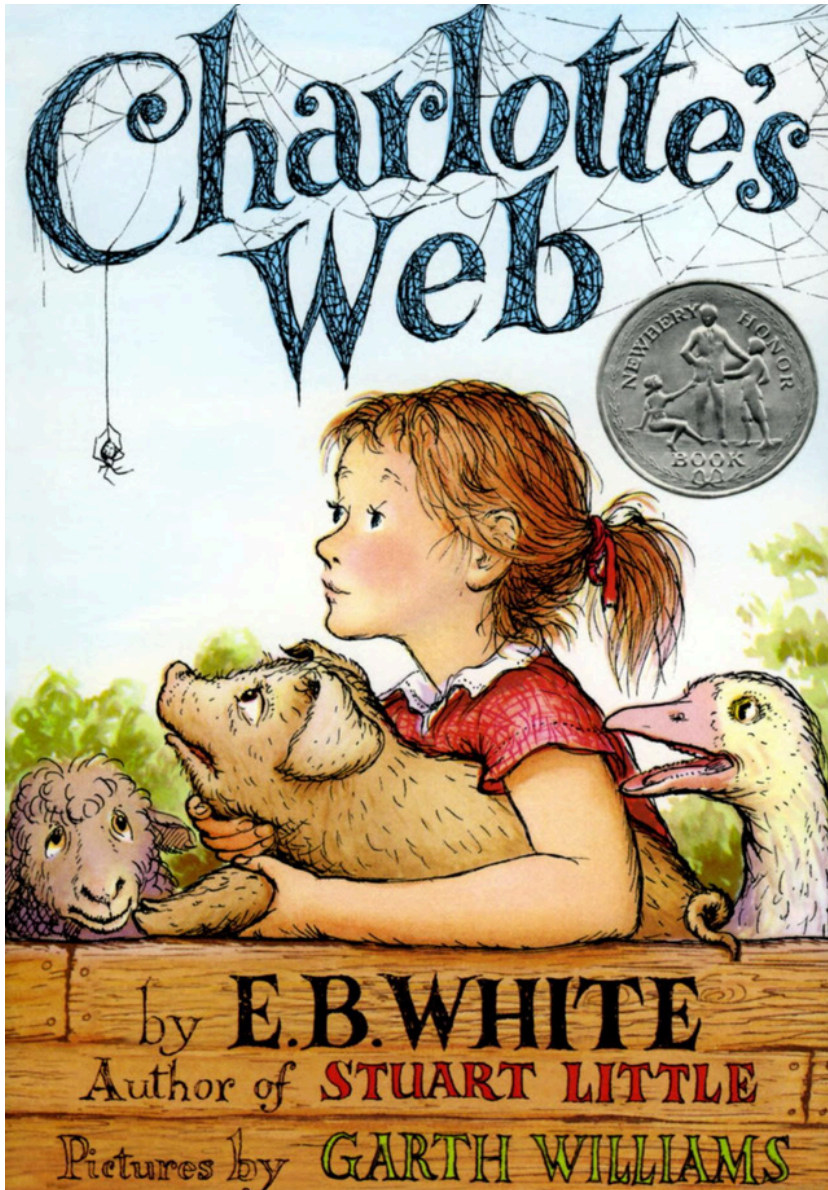
Strengthening Our Community
Through Exceptional Schools

District Vision:

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

**LEARN
CONNECT
COMMIT**

CHARLOTTE'S WEB



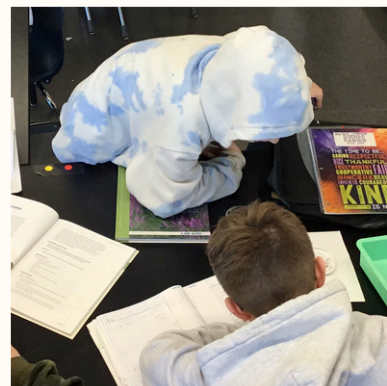
MCBRIDE FAMILY READING NIGHT



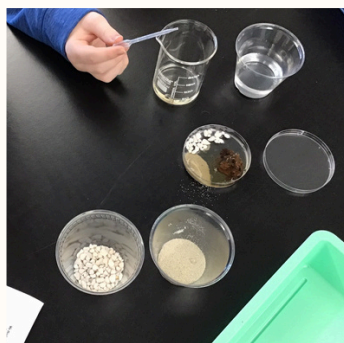
The Charlotte's Web McBride Family Reading Night was a huge success, drawing over 300 attendees! Families enjoyed an evening filled with pizza, games, artwork displays, crafts, and dedicated reading time. The highlight of the night was a special appearance by a live pig, bringing the beloved story to life for everyone.



St. Helens Middle School Science



St. Helens Middle School students are diving into hands-on science by designing and testing habitats for blackworms. This project allows them to explore environmental factors and observe how these tiny creatures adapt to their surroundings.



ELKS STUDENT OF THE MONTH



BRAYDEN HUSON

St. Helens High School is proud to recognize Brayden Huson as the Elks Student of the Month for October!

Brayden, a distinguished senior at St. Helens High School, has made a significant impact through his involvement in sports, music, and community service. Reflecting on the recognition, Brayden shared, "It was really a shock. I didn't expect to receive anything because I've been doing this for so long—it's just become second nature."

As the throwing captain of the track and field team for the third consecutive year, Brayden exemplifies leadership and athletic ability. He also participates in the winter track club and competes at state-wide meets, showcasing his dedication to the sport. Neil Ford, SHHS teacher, and Track and Field Coach notes, "Brayden is a hard worker, a determined competitor, and an outstanding teammate. His contributions go beyond competing—he helps run field events, volunteers at youth camps, and is always there to celebrate with his team."

In addition to his athletic achievements, Brayden is a talented musician. Serving as the alto saxophone section leader in the marching band for the past two years, he is also an integral part of the wind ensemble and jazz band. His passion for music is evident in his active participation in the pep band for football and basketball games, where he helps bring energy and school spirit to SHHS events.

Beyond his commitment to sports and music, Brayden is dedicated to serving his community. He regularly volunteers at STP fundraisers, assists with campus clean-ups, and plays a role in managing his high school's greenhouse. Brayden is also deeply involved in supporting the school's booster club, serving snacks at games. Additionally, he is a member of the National Honor Society and serves as the ASB Public Relations Officer, where he creates promotional materials and represents student interests at school board meetings.

Looking ahead, Brayden plans to attend Oregon State University to pursue a degree in kinesiology, with aspirations of becoming a physical therapist or chiropractor. Katie Waight, SHHS College and Careers Counselor, says, "Brayden is a hardworking student with a bright future. He's been diligent in his college applications and has a wonderful way of using humor to navigate any situation." While Brayden's ultimate goal is a career in health sciences, he is also open to teaching P.E. or health if physical therapy isn't in the cards. His fascination with science, particularly the human body and health sciences, drives his academic ambitions.

Brayden is a remarkable student, leader, and community advocate, embodying the spirit of SHHS. As he prepares for graduation, his contributions to both the school and the broader community will leave a lasting legacy.

Congratulations, Brayden!

STUDENT COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD RECIPIENT

At the board meeting held on October 23, 2024, Ryan Scholl, School Board Chair, along with the entire School Board and Superintendent Stockwell, presented Sophie Marseille-Godden with the Student Community Impact Award. Sophie received this honor for her dedication, focus, and determination to succeed as a dual enrollment student, excelling in both academic settings.

Sophie is a perfect example of a student who thrives in various learning environments. Her dual enrollment in both St. Helens Virtual Academy and St. Helens High School showcases her dedication, focus, and determination to succeed in both academic settings.

Known for her kindness, Sophie consistently supports her peers by sharing study habits, offering encouragement, and always being ready to help others succeed. Her creative, detailed notes and her perseverance in academics make her an exceptional student.

Her influence on her classmates goes beyond academics. She fosters harmony, listens attentively, and engages with enthusiasm in group activities. Her willingness to be vulnerable and share personal experiences in a humble way highlights her leadership skills and maturity. Sophie's team-oriented mindset and supportive nature make her a standout among her peers.

Outside of her academic achievements, Sophie is actively involved in various school activities. She's a committed member of the Choir and Key Club, where she showcases her talents and has emerged as a dedicated volunteer and future leader.

Her enthusiasm, kindness, and leadership make her an invaluable member of our school community.

Congratulations, Sophie!



**SOPHIE
MARSEILLE-
GODDEN**



COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD RECIPIENT

At the board meeting held on October 23, 2024, Ryan Scholl, School Board Chair, along with the entire School Board and Superintendent Stockwell, presented Paul Coca with the Community Impact Award. Paul received this honor for his unwavering dedication to the St. Helens community and for his significant contributions to its cultural landscape.

For many years, Paul Coca has been a vibrant force within the St. Helens community, leaving a lasting legacy through his artistic endeavors and contributions to the local culture. A proud alumnus of St. Helens High School, Paul has come full circle, using his artistic talents to give back to his alma mater in meaningful ways.

At the heart of Paul's artistic journey lies his creation of the Lions Sculpture at St. Helens High School. This symbolic sculpture, embodying courage and creativity, serves as an inspiration for both students and faculty, reminding them of their potential to overcome challenges and embrace their artistic pursuits.

Paul's impact on the community also includes a beloved lion mural, which he completed a few years ago. This mural has become a cherished piece of art, reflecting the pride and spirit of the St. Helens community.

With a Multimedia Arts degree from Portland Community College, Paul showcases his diverse artistic skills and dedication to his craft. His extensive career spans over 25 years as a key employee at Michael Curry Design, where he has contributed significantly to high-profile projects that resonate with audiences.

Paul's efforts have not only contributed to the local culture but have also inspired future artists in the community to pursue their creative endeavors. He hopes his work encourages young minds to explore their artistic potential and express themselves through various mediums.

Congratulations, Paul!



**PAUL
COCA**



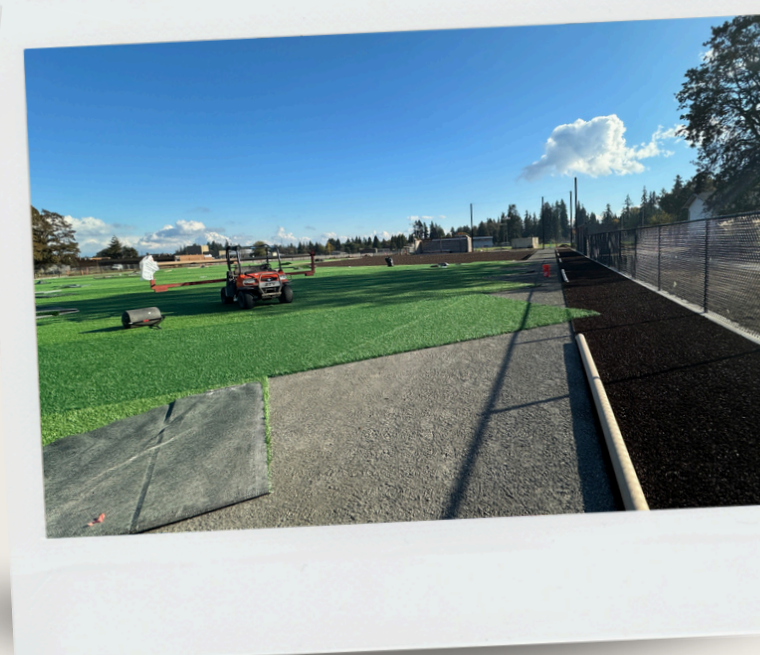


PUMPKIN PATCH FIELD TRIP

Our preschoolers had a blast exploring the pumpkin patch! From picking the perfect pumpkin to enjoying hayrides, it was a day full of smiles, laughter, and fall fun!







We are thrilled to share the latest progress on the varsity softball field! Check out this short video to see how the new turf field is being installed, and the dugouts are taking shape. It's incredible to watch the transformation unfold, and we can't wait for our athletes to enjoy the upgraded facilities.

▶ WATCH NOW

Stay tuned for more updates as we get closer to completion!

VARSITY SOFTBALL FIELD UPDATE



**CONGRATS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS
ON BEING SELECTED TO THE OSAA ALL-STATE
ENSEMBLES!**

ALL-STATE WIND ENSEMBLE:
JUNE M., 11TH GRADE, FRENCH HORN

ALL-STATE SYMPHONIC BAND:
MIDNITE D., 11TH GRADE, TROMBONE
DARCY E., 11TH GRADE, TENOR
BRAYDEN H., 11TH GRADE, ALTO

ALL-STATE TREBLE CHOIR:
CHARITY O., 11TH GRADE, SOPRANO 1

**ALL-STATE MIDDLE SCHOOL
TREBLE CHOIR:**
QUINN T., 8TH GRADE, MEZZO

National PRINCIPALS MONTH



KATY WAGNER

This is Mrs. Wagner's seventh year as principal at St. Helens High School.

Favorite Book: What's Next Is Now: How to Live Future Ready.

Fun Fact: I lived in Rome, Italy, for a summer singing opera.

Principal Quote: Every accomplishment starts with a dream. Imagine it. See it. Believe it. Go make it happen. Don't just dream it; do it. Then be grateful and never take the beauty of it for granted.



CRIS GWILLIAM

This is Mr. Gwilliam's seventh year as principal at St. Helens Middle School.

Favorite Book: Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell

Fun Fact: I was an administrator at both secondary schools in the SHSD (SHHS assistant principal for 5 years and have now been at SHMS for seven years.

Principal Quote: - "Everything negative – pressure, challenges, is all an opportunity for us to rise." -- Kobe Bryant



MATT LACY

This is Mr. Lacy's first year as principal at Plymouth High School.

Favorite Book: The Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula K. LaGuin

Fun Fact: I enjoy reading, hiking, kayaking, the Portland Timbers, and spending time with his family.

Principal Quote: Nelson Mandela once said, 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,' and I wholeheartedly believe that. Education is the great equalizer, providing opportunities for all and ensuring access for everyone. It fuels the path to a successful future as a positive member of our global society. At Plymouth High School, we are committed to changing worlds, one student at a time.

National PRINCIPALS MONTH



MARTINE BARNETT

This is Mrs. Barnett's second year as principal at Columbia City Elementary.

Favorite Book: Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver.

Fun Fact: I've been tap dancing since I was nine years old.

Principal Quote: As the principal of an elementary school in the St. Helens School District, I am passionate about fostering an environment where children can explore, discover, and grow. I am fortunate to work with many students who are the children of my former high school students from when I previously taught at the high school level. Each day brings new challenges and opportunities, and I value the dynamic nature of this role—no two days are ever the same, and I wouldn't have it any other way.



CHERI MARTIN

This is Mrs. Martin's second year as principal at Lewis & Clark Elementary. School.

Favorite Book: I love books! I enjoy picture books and the stories they tell through both words and illustrations.

Fun Fact: I like to do puzzles! I often have one out on my table, this means that I only have about a day or two to complete it before I need to put it away!

Principal Quote: One of my favorite quotes is: "Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try." -John F. Kennedy



ALLYSON DUBUQUE

This is Mrs. Dubuque's second year as principal at McBride Elementary.

Favorite Book: Any Biography.

Favorite Food: Tacos and Popcorn. Preferably while reading any biography.

Fun Fact: I love music and know how to play the violin.

Principal Quote: I love the John Wooden quote - "You can never make up for a lost day."

National **PRINCIPALS MONTH**



MARTIN HEHMAN

This is Mr. Hehman's second year as principal at the St. Helens Virtual Academy.

Favorite Book: Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak.

Fun Fact: I enjoy cooking, going on road trips, and spending time with my family and our two fur goblins (aka German Shepherds).

Principal Quote: Throughout my career at St. Helens, I've had the privilege of serving in many roles as an educator. In every role, my mission has remained the same:
to ignite the spark within students, uplift them through every challenge, and empower them to unlock potential they never knew they had.

Celebrating
our
principals
during
National
**PRINCIPALS
MONTH**
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

St. Helens School District

Volunteer Application



*Make a Difference in Your
School Community*

**APPLY
NOW!**



Volunteers can really make a big difference in the educational experience for our students. Whether you're interested in a one-time, one-hour project, or an ongoing opportunity, we can find something for you!