



# TRAILBLAZER NEWS

December 2024

## MARCUS WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

The MW Unified Club participated in the Unified Schools Wacky Robotics Competition on Sunday, November 17th at Liberty High school in Renton.

Students built robots and raced them against teams from 13 other schools. MW students received awards for "Rising Star" and "Innovation and Construction."

We also want to say thank you to ASB for having Blaze, our school mascot join us!

If you would like to join the Unified Club, we meet on Wednesdays, after school in Ms. Schroeder's class, room 213 A. All are welcome!

Orchestra concert will be held at South Kitsap High School on Tuesday, Dec. 12 in the auditorium. The concert begins at 6:15PM, followed by performances of the SKHS Orchestras.

Orchestra students have a detailed letter with specific time lines to follow.



Volunteer applications are available in the Main office and are required to be in place before volunteering. When you stop by, please bring current Drivers License for ID.

District level, Amy Miller at [Millera@skschools.org](mailto:Millera@skschools.org) (360) 874-7005.

## Math Department

Holiday fun - Try this task at home together with your student.

Do you love baking? Here are the ingredients for [Peanut Butter Kiss Cookies](#):

- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1/2 cup vegetable shortening
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar, divided
- 1 large egg
- 2 Tbsp. whole milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 3/4 cups (about 7 1/2 oz.) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt

36 milk chocolate kisses

Makes 3 dozen cookies.

**Task: What would the measurements be for 6 dozen cookies? What about for 1 dozen cookies? 4 dozen cookies?**

Interested in the [recipe](#)? <https://www.southernliving.com/recipes/peanut-butter-kiss-cookies>

What mathematical habits did you use to help you process the task? Check out the Mathematical Habits of Mind and Interaction [here](#)! Check out the [MW Math Website](#) for resources to support your student located in the quick links section of the Marcus Whitman website.

## Counseling Department

Marcus Whitman Families,

Hopefully this message finds you well. This is a reminder from the counseling department that counseling services are available to students at our school. In addition to the support that our school counselors regularly provide, we also have therapeutic services offered through Multi-Care. If you have been searching for therapy for your student Multi-Care has space available to support your child's emotional and social well-being. These services are provided during the school day and at Marcus Whitman, thereby eliminating the need to pull your student out of school, drive long distances, or join long wait lists.

If you believe your child would benefit from these therapeutic supports, or if you have additional questions about Multi-Care services, please reach out to your students school counselor directly.

We look forward to working together to support your child's success and well-being.

---

### *When the weather outside is frightful...*

Each year we remind families of how we communicate during inclement weather. Forecasting the weather for school closures is not an easy task. Our community is large enough that snow may accumulate in one area and not in other areas. South Kitsap School District officials put a great deal of effort and thought into determining whether to keep schools open, start late, or close schools due to inclement weather conditions. Of course, parents make the final decision when sending students to school during inclement weather.

### *When are decisions made?*

School district officials do their best to make the decision by no later than 5:30 a.m. Sometimes, conditions are stable enough that the district is able to make the announcement the night before.

### *When will my bus come?*

Bus routes follow the same schedule as our schools. For example, if schools are delayed two hours, bus riders can expect the bus to come approximately two hours late. On the occasion when roads are not passable, the Transportation Department may use alternate stops.

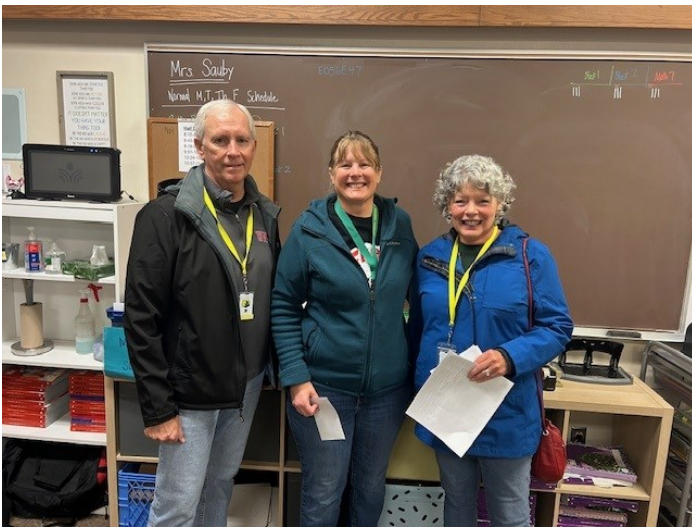




## Kurt Wagner Education Fund

The fund honors the memory of Dr. Kurt Wagner, a former South Kitsap educator, principal and deputy superintendent. In addition to funding teacher grants, KWEF also provides South Kitsap High and Discovery Alternative High student scholarships, elementary arts and music program support, and high school athletic support .

7 Teachers at Marcus Whitman were the recipients of grants from the Kurt Wagner Education Fund.



Char Sauby



Rebekah Moore



Jessica Barnum



Kashi Tomicich





Jana Ogden

Heather Paden



Melinda Peckham

# December Spirit Days



**6th- Hero Day**  
**Dress up as your hero**

**13th- Color Wars**  
**6th grade - Yellow**  
**7th grade - Green**  
**8th grade- White**

**20th- Holiday Ugly  
Sweater Day**





**The Allies GSA Club:** The Allies GSA Club is a group where students can connect, share their experiences, support one another, and be great allies for members of the Marcus LGBTQ+ community. Whether you are an LGBTQ+ student, a friend, or member of a queer family, you will find a welcoming home here. GSA meets every Tuesday after school until. A permission slip signed by student and parent must be submitted before participation. You can get a permission slip from the Main Office.

**Weight Lifting Club** will be meeting Tuesday and Thursday in the Weight Room. Time is from 2:50 pm to 3:50. This club is for students interested in learning how to lift weights for personal fitness or maybe getting ready for a sport. Permission slips are at the main office. Advisors Mr. Zappey and Mr. Dan

**Unified Club!** Where Students Belong! This club is a space for students of all backgrounds to come together and feel like they have a voice and belong. Along with meeting new friends, games, snacks, and activities, that help students grow and build a sense of community with sports and activities. We meet every Wednesday from 2:50—3:50 pm.

**STEM Club—TSA** is the perfect club for middle school students who love to explore, build, and compete! In TSA, you learn hands-on skills in areas like robotics, engineering, and design, while also developing teamwork and leadership abilities. TSA meets Thursday in Room 112 (Woodshop) from 2:45—3:45. Permission slips are at the main office.

**D & D Club** - In this club, students will run and play weekly games of D&D. Experienced players and newbies are all welcome! Club will meet Mondays, 2:45—3:55.

**POKEMON Club** - If you love Pokemon, this is the club for you. We talk Pokemon, trade Pokemon and catch them all. Meet Wednesdays from 2:50—3:50. Be sure you have submitted your permission slip before you attend.

**DRAMA TEAM** - Be a part of the spring musical and other acting performances. We meet the 4th Tuesday of each month from 2:50—3:30 and more often during performance season.

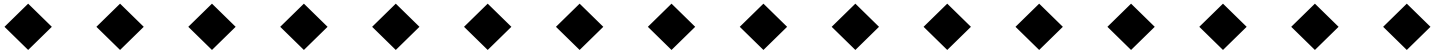
**Running Club:** Running club will begin on November 4, 2:50 to 4:00 in room 108. This club will be meeting once a week to explore good running habits, learn to stretch and warm up correctly and to do onsite and off site running. All are welcome, even those who may not be able to run YET! Great way to stay in shape and learn good stretching and warm up practices.



## Girls Soccer Game Schedule

Varsity plays first, then Junior Varsity

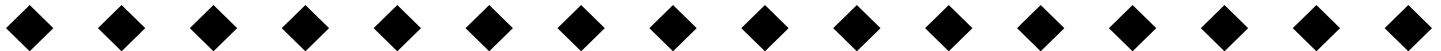
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	START
Dec 3	Hawkins	Hawkins	3:30
Dec 5	Curtis	SKHS	4:45
Dec 9	Cedar	SKHS	4:45
Dec 11	Sedgwick	SKHS	4:45
Dec 17	Mt. View	SKHS	4:45



## Boys Basketball Game Schedule

All games start at 3:30 pm

Date	Opponent	Place
Dec 5	Mt. View	Marcus
Dec 10	Hawkins	Marcus
Dec 11	Curtis	Curtis
Dec 12	Cedar	Cedar
Dec 16	Sedgwick	Sedgwick
Dec 18	Mt. View	Mt. View



## Intramural Soccer start time 3:15

Dec 3	Cedar	Marcus
Dec 5	Sedgwick	Sedgwick

## Intramural Basketball start time 3:30 Modified Round Robin Format

Dec 6	CH & JS	Cedar
-------	---------	-------



The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation – including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws.

The Title IX Officer and Section 504 Coordinator with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing and ensuring compliance with this policy are:

Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator:

Will Sarett,  
Executive Director of Human Resources  
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360-874-7071  
[sarett@skschools.org](mailto:sarett@skschools.org)

Section 504 Coordinator:

Paul Hulbert,  
Principal  
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360-443-3610,  
[hulbert@skschools.org](mailto:hulbert@skschools.org)

Gender Inclusivity Compliance Officer:

Dr. Tom Edwards  
Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement  
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360-874-7003  
[edwards@skschools.org](mailto:edwards@skschools.org)