

SCOOP

Community & School Insider

320

INSIDE

Strong Minds, Kind Hearts
districtwide initiative

District leaders volunteer
at veterans village

Construction projects set
to break ground

SPOTLIGHT
KINDNESS

**PUTTING KINDNESS INTO
ACTION:** MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN
CLASSROOMS AND COMMUNITY



School board visits schools to promote kindness

Strong Minds. Kind Hearts.

All year, across our schools, we've been focused on two things: how we think and how we act. We call it Strong Minds, Kind Hearts — more than a motto, it's a shared mindset that guides how we show up for students and one another.

Strong minds begin with academic strength and mental resilience, built in our classrooms every day and strengthened through perseverance when learning gets hard. Academics open doors and prepare students to graduate future-ready, with both a diploma and a plan. But true strength goes beyond academics. It includes emotional well-being, which is why social-emotional learning and the work of our counselors, therapists, and social-emotional learning specialists matters so deeply. We see strong minds in students who keep trying, return after disappointment, and practice until they succeed.

That strength shows up in how we treat one another. Kind hearts are how we act. Kindness isn't soft, it's courageous. In a world wired for outrage, choosing respect, empathy, and understanding builds a culture of belonging where students feel seen, valued, and included.

We want every school to be a place where students succeed and belong. That's who we strive to be as a district: strong in mind, kind in heart, and committed to every student.

Dr. Laurie Dent | Superintendent

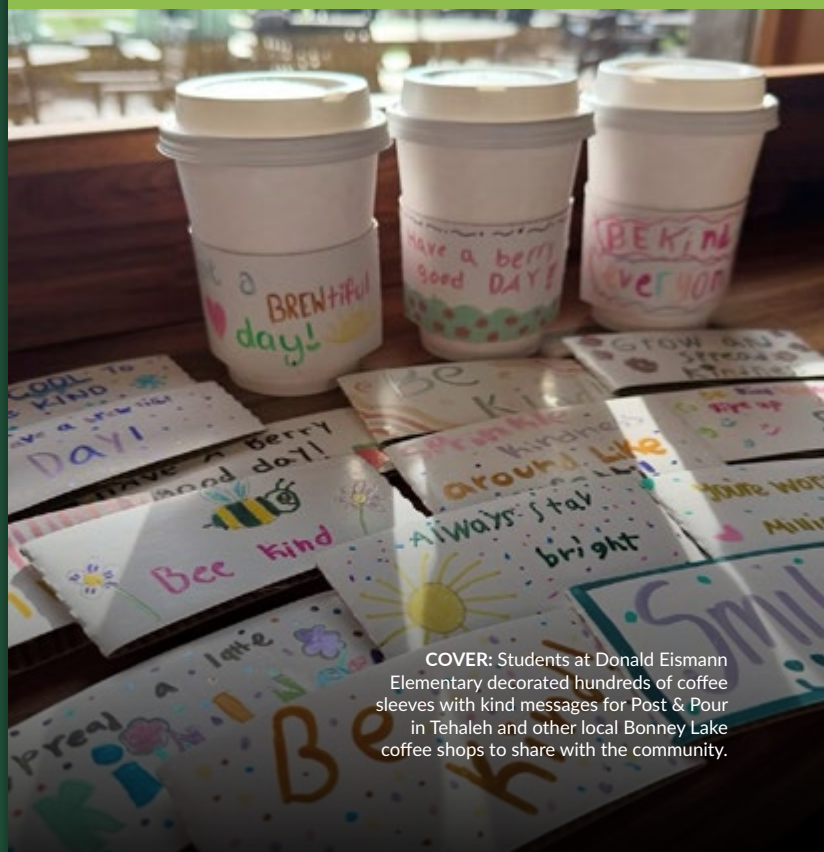
PHOTO: Superintendent Laurie Dent with 8th grader Avah A., who started the Random Acts of Kindness Club at Sumner Middle School.

Sumner-Bonney Lake School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities based on sex, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, homelessness, immigration or citizenship status, presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, neurodivergence, use of trained dog guide or service animal, and provides equal access to Scouting of America and other designated youth groups. Contact the following with questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator, TitleIXcoordinator@sumnersd.org; ADA Coordinator, ADAcoordinator@sumnersd.org; Section 504 Coordinator, Section504coordinator@sumnersd.org; (253) 891-6000, 1202 Wood Ave, Sumner, WA 98390.



As part of the districtwide kindness initiative, school board members embarked on a Kindness Tour, visiting each school and presenting a "Kindness Happens Here" banner. To add in some fun, board members dressed as elephants — animals known for their empathy.

At each stop, students shared with board members how they have been working to spread kindness this school year, from kindness crews and community service projects to written notes of gratitude.



COVER: Students at Donald Eismann Elementary decorated hundreds of coffee sleeves with kind messages for Post & Pour in Tehaleh and other local Bonney Lake coffee shops to share with the community.

SCOOP 320

You're reading Sumner-Bonney Lake School District's Scoop 320, a bi-annual publication providing our community the latest about district happenings.

We're excited to highlight our amazing students, staff and schools. From snackable tidbits to more in-depth stories, Scoop 320 provides student-focused and community-connected content to all households in our school district boundary.

What's in the name? We're giving you the inside **scoop** on Sumner-Bonney Lake School District **#320**.

MORE SCOOP

Get district scoop year-round on social media.

-  [@SumnerSchoolDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/SumnerSchoolDistrict)
-  [@SumnerBonneyLakeSD](https://www.instagram.com/SumnerBonneyLakeSD)
-  [sumnersd.org/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/sumnersd.org)
-  [sumnersd.org/linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/sumnersd.org)



Welcome to the kindness issue!

Kindness in action

We are excited to share about the school district's Strong Minds, Kind Hearts initiative, an effort rooted in our promise to know, value and support every student.



Through Strong Minds, we continue to make incredible academic progress. By adding Kind Hearts, we're building a culture of care, connection and belonging. Together, they help develop students who lead with their head, heart and hands, now and in the future.

In this issue, you'll see how students and staff are putting kindness into meaningful action and making a difference in classrooms and throughout the community.

Spanning the cities of Sumner and Bonney Lake, let's create communities connected by kindness.

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#320



Strong Minds, Kind Hearts in action

From classrooms to the community, see how students across the district are spreading kindness – one meaningful act at a time.



Crestwood Elementary

Each month, one student from every grade receives the Heart of Gold award for consistently demonstrating kindness through their words and actions.



Donald Eismann Elementary

Fourth grade students made 133 holiday cards and delivered them to residents of the Cedar Ridge retirement community.



Emerald Hills Elementary

Students caught performing a kind act earn a Kindness Coupon for a free book from the school's book vending machine.



Daffodil Valley Elementary

Inspired by one student's thoughtful drawing, others created cards and artwork to share across the school, spreading small but meaningful acts of kindness.

“Kindness means helping others and showing them how to be kind. When I am kind it makes me feel good to do something for someone else.”

Clinton P., Maple Lawn Elementary 5th grader



Sumner Early Learning Center

One class each month receives the Golden Bee for Kindness trophy for actions like offering encouragement to a friend or helping classmates at recess and in class.



Liberty Ridge Elementary

To help notice kindness in others and make kindness visible, students write how they've been kind on a colorful handprint to place on the Tree of Kindness.



Victor Falls Elementary

Students grew their hearts with the Grinch in December. Each act of kindness earned a name on the wall, spreading kindness throughout the school community.



Tehaleh Heights Elementary

On their Share a Cup of Kindness wall, fifth grade students wrote ways to be kind, such as giving someone a compliment and helping others during recess.



Bonney Lake Elementary

The student-led Kindness Crew collected 724 pairs of socks to donate to St. Francis House to help those in need.



Maple Lawn Elementary

Fifth grade students from the Acts of Kindness Club worked with Knutson Farms to plant pots of tulip bulbs to be gifted to local businesses this spring.



Lakeridge Middle School

As part of a breast cancer support fundraiser, students sold pink headbands and spirit packs with proceeds benefitting the Carol Milgard Breast Center.



Mountain View Middle School

Students participated in a 20-day Kindness Challenge that encouraged acts of kindness at school and at home, from leaving positive notes to holding the door open.



Elhi Hill High School Program

Students volunteered to deliver donated snacks to other students, spreading kindness, boosting morale and creating a supportive school environment.



Sumner Middle School

Students collected over 100 toys for the holiday season to support the community through a toy drive organized by the school's Random Acts of Kindness Club.



Bonney Lake High School

National Honor Society students volunteered at the Bonney Lake Senior Center and partnered with the Blessing Movement to provide yard work assistance for seniors.



Sumner High School

Leadership students created a Kindness Wheel for other students to take and complete challenges such as opening the door, giving a compliment and helping those in need.

"Kindness makes students feel wanted. The everyday things that you might not think make that much of an impact can brighten someone's day."

Levi G., Mountain View Middle School 8th grader



District leaders spruce up veterans village

Kicking off the school district's Strong Minds, Kind Hearts initiative last August, SBLSD's administrative team painted **35 tiny homes** in the Veterans Village of Washington Soldiers Home in Orting.

Their head, heart and hands were at work late summer, preparing to lead students, staff and the community in taking part in meaningful acts of kindness all year long.

The project also provided food and household items for the village residents and was a partnership with the **Blessing Movement** and **GoodRoots Northwest**.



Kindergarten registration is now open for the 2026-27 school year.

Register at sumnersd.org/register.

Visit **VoteWA.gov** to register to vote, update your name, and update your address.

VOTE
VOTE
VOTE



SUMNER-BONNEY LAKE
SCHOOL DISTRICT #320
1202 WOOD AVE
SUMNER, WA 98390

Making great progress

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL IN TEHALEH

Anticipated opening fall 2029



- Three story, 130,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art building
- Modern learning technology and safety/security systems
- Multi-use, lighted turf fields

DAFFODIL VALLEY ELEMENTARY

Anticipated completion late fall 2026



- Multi-use, lighted turf fields
- Outdoor learning space
- Mini-Pitch™ field



Progress on the district's bond projects are well underway and making great progress. Here are just a couple of highlighted projects spanning the valley in Sumner to the hill in Bonney Lake. View details about all projects at SumnerBonneyLakeBuilds.org.

Other Bonney Lake projects:

- Crestwood Elementary Improvements
- Donald Eismann Elementary Parking/Queuing, Turf Field
- Liberty Ridge Elementary Improvements

- Tehaleh Heights Elementary Expansion, Parking
- Bonney Lake High School Expansion, Intersection, Turf Fields

Other Sumner projects:

- Sumner High School Phase 2

Annual report

The 12-member Bond Oversight Committee meets quarterly to provide transparency and accountability during bond construction. Stay tuned for the committee's first annual report to the community available late April at SumnerBonneyLakeBuilds.org.

Breaking ground

We're excited for the following ground-breaking milestones this summer and fall:

- Bonney Lake High School
- Sumner High School
- Donald Eismann Elementary

