

ST. HELENS SCHOOL DISTRICT

GOOD NEWS

EDITION
NEWSLETTER

www.sthelens.k12.or.us



May 15, 2026

Good News

Edition Newsletter



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District Mission Statement:

Strengthening Our Community Through Exceptional Schools

District Vision Statement:

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

Thank You, St. Helens School District Community

Summer Lunch Programming

SHMS & SHHS Athletic Registration

May Dates to Remember

Sign up to Volunteer

Stay Connected

STEAM BENDING



ST. HELENS HIGH SCHOOL WOODWORKING 2

St. Helens High School student, Ivy Musch, recently showcased both creativity and craftsmanship through a personal steam bending project in her Woodworking 2 class! Steam Bending is a woodworking technique that uses heat and moisture to make wood flexible enough to shape into curved designs. Once the wood dries, it retains its new form, resulting in a unique finished piece.

This project highlights the patience, precision, and problem-solving skills students develop through hands-on learning experiences in CTE programs.



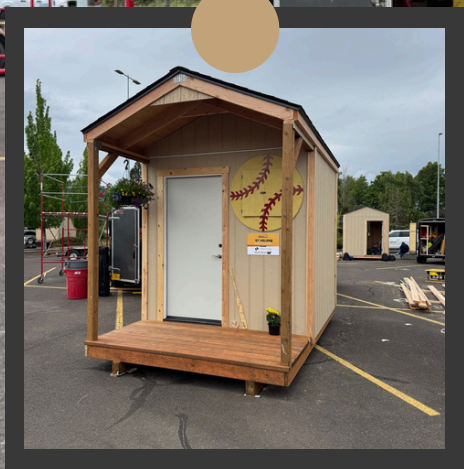
COLUMBIA CITY ELEMENTARY



Our Columbia City Elementary students took learning on an adventure with their National Parks Project!

Students spent time researching a National Park of their choice and stepped into the role of Park Rangers, creating informative brochures and colorful posters to showcase what they learned. Families and fellow students were invited to a special Learning Share where students proudly presented their projects and shared fascinating facts about America's beautiful national parks.

It was an incredible day filled with creativity, curiosity, and student pride. Great job to our young Park Rangers for all of their hard work and enthusiasm!



Construction Industry Education Foundation Competition

Congratulations to our St. Helens High School construction students on an incredible accomplishment at the 2nd Annual Construction Industry Education Foundation (CIEF) Competition at Chemeketa Community College!

Over two days of hard work, teamwork, and craftsmanship, our students designed and built a shed alongside 19 teams from across the region. Only 3 teams completed their sheds, and SHHS students were one of those teams!

This project will now serve a meaningful purpose back home by supporting our SHHS softball team.

The CIEF competition gives students valuable hands-on experience while connecting them with industry professionals, mentors, and future career opportunities in the construction field. We are so proud of the dedication, skill, and perseverance our students demonstrated throughout this competition!



2026
 OSAA/DNPOINT COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION
4A BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS
The LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University

	NORTH BEND	317
	ST. HELENS	304
S	SCAPPOOSE	299
	LA GRANDE	289
	GLADSTONE	282



2ND PLACE FINISH

ST. HELENS HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE

What a way to close out an incredible era in the 4A division!

The St. Helens High School Wind Ensemble delivered an outstanding performance at the state competition held at Oregon State University, earning a 2nd place finish behind the exceptional four-time champions from North Bend. The ensemble also achieved the highest sight-reading score of the entire day, a true testament to their musicianship, preparation, and dedication.

This year's 4A division was more competitive than ever, making this accomplishment even more meaningful. We are so proud of our students, for their leadership, commitment, and lasting impact on the SHHS band program.

Congratulations to our students and directors on an unforgettable season!

Little Lions Preschool



Our Little Lions Preschool students are getting a hands-on lesson in patience, teamwork, and growing something from the ground up!

Back in March, students planted a garden filled with peas, radishes, and marigolds. Last week, they celebrated their very first radish harvest, and now their pea plants are blooming with flowers as they eagerly wait for the next harvest.

From watering and caring for the plants to watching them grow day by day, this garden project has been a wonderful way for our youngest learners to explore nature, responsibility, and the excitement of discovery. Great job, Little Lions!



DROPBOX DERBY

SHHS



Innovation, teamwork, and craftsmanship were on full display at the first-ever Dropbox Derby hosted in the St. Helens High School Woodshop!

Carpentry students from Gaston, Rainier, and St. Helens High School put their skills to the test in a fast-paced build competition. Students received a materials list and had just 4 hours to design and construct their projects using donated materials.

The day was filled with creativity, collaboration, and impressive problem-solving skills. Students also enjoyed a donated lunch, and winning teams received donated gift cards at the conclusion of the contest.

Congratulations to:

Gaston High School — 1st Place

St. Helens High School — 2nd Place

Rainier High School — a close 3rd Place

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this exciting hands-on learning opportunity possible for our students!

SHHS LEADERSHIP EARNS GOLD COUNCIL RECOGNITION



St. Helens High School's Gold Council recognition is gaining statewide attention!

The Oregon Association of Student Councils (OASC) officially recognized SHHS as one of Oregon's top student leadership programs during the 2026 Spring Leadership Conference. Only 25 high schools across the state earned this distinction.

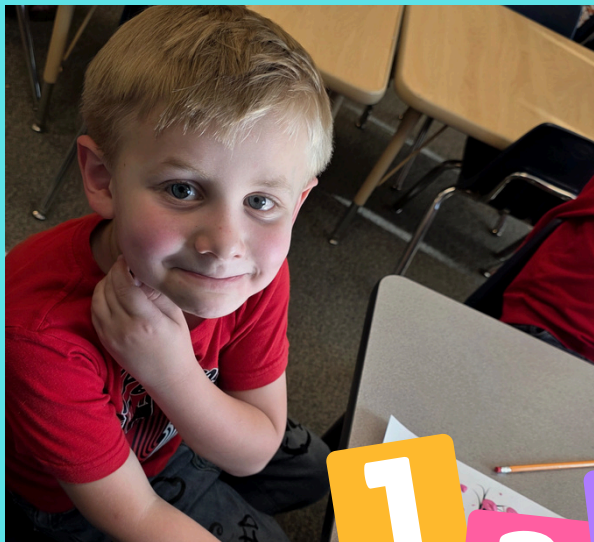
The Gold Council Award recognizes schools that demonstrate excellence in student leadership, school culture, service, inclusion, and student engagement.

We are incredibly proud of our SHHS Leadership students for the positive impact they continue to make on our school and community!

Read more about SHHS Leadership's statewide Gold Council recognition [HERE!](#)

Kindergarten Transition Event

ABC



1 2 3 4 5

We were so excited to welcome our future kindergarteners to Lewis and Clark Elementary for our Kinder Transition Event!

Students enjoyed a fun-filled visit featuring a reading of “Chicka Chicka Peep Peep,” followed by a creative cherry blossom tree craft and a special snack. They also had the opportunity to tour the building, meet staff, and take home a copy of the book to continue the excitement at home.

We loved seeing their smiles as they explored, learned, and got a sneak peek into their future school community. We can’t wait to welcome them back as kindergarteners soon!

Rotary Student of the Month

May



Parker Humbird

The Columbia County Rotary Club and St. Helens High School are proud to recognize Parker Humbird as the May Rotary Student of the Month.

Parker is a hard-working senior who demonstrates dedication both in the classroom and through his involvement in athletics and service to the community. Throughout high school, Parker has been committed to athletics, participating in basketball during his freshman and sophomore years, football through his junior year, and swimming during his senior year.

While he has enjoyed every sport he has played, baseball has been his greatest passion. Parker has been a member of the baseball program all four years of high school and earned honorable mention all-league recognition during his junior season.

In addition to athletics, Parker has been actively involved in supporting fellow students and the community. He has served as a member of the Lion Crew, helping incoming freshmen transition into high school life, and is also involved in the National Honor Society. Through these organizations, Parker has dedicated countless hours to helping others through service projects and community outreach.

Parker has volunteered with the St. Helens Backpack Program, helping organize and pack food bags for local students in need. He has also volunteered at youth baseball camps, assisting younger athletes in developing their skills and passion for the sport. In addition, Parker has participated in community drives, including clothing and peanut butter drives, to support children and families in need.

Academically, Parker's teachers praise him for his strong work ethic, dedication to his classes and activities, and his respectful and caring nature. He takes pride in giving his full effort in everything he does and especially enjoys math, with calculus being his favorite class this year.

After graduation, Parker plans to attend Oregon State University to major in cybersecurity, with future goals of pursuing a career in cybersecurity or computer science.

For these reasons, and more, St. Helens High School is proud to recognize Parker Humbird as the May Rotary Student of the Month.

Congratulations, Parker!

Congratulations!

ELKS TEEN OF THE MONTH

DARCY
ERICKSON



St. Helens High School is proud to recognize Darcy Erickson as the April Elks Student of the Month.

Darcy is an incredibly driven and involved senior who consistently demonstrates leadership, dedication, and a passion for excellence in everything she pursues. Throughout high school, she has challenged herself academically, athletically, and through extracurricular involvement, making a lasting impact on both her school and community.

Darcy has been deeply involved in the St. Helens High School music program all four years, performing in the competitive Wind Ensemble as a saxophone player. Her dedication and

commitment to music have helped the ensemble qualify for the state competition for the past three years, with hopes of making it a fourth consecutive appearance this year. She is also a member of the school's Jazz Band, where she serves as the lead soloist. Through countless early mornings and hours of practice, Darcy has helped lead the Jazz Band to four consecutive state championships.

In addition to her musical accomplishments, Darcy serves as the Senior Class President on Student Council, where she works to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment for all students. She is passionate about improving school events and helping make high school experiences enjoyable and memorable for everyone. Darcy is also an active member of the National Honor Society and has spent the past two years giving back through service projects that support both the school and the greater community.

Outside of the classroom, Darcy has excelled in Track & Field for the past six years. Specializing in the 400-meter sprint, she has qualified for the state track meet for three consecutive years and has had the opportunity to compete at the historic Hayward Field at the University of Oregon. Her dedication, perseverance, and competitive spirit have made her a standout athlete and role model for younger students. During the summer, Darcy also serves as a Track & Field camp counselor, where she enjoys encouraging elementary students and helping them discover a love for the sport.

Academically, Darcy enjoys mathematics and appreciates the challenge of solving problems and identifying patterns. She values not only finding the correct solution, but also the learning process that comes with working through difficult concepts. After graduating from St. Helens High School, Darcy plans to attend Oregon State University and major in industrial engineering. She also hopes to earn a Master of Business Administration degree in the future, combining her analytical mindset and leadership skills to build a successful career.

Darcy takes great pride in her work ethic, leadership, and determination to continually improve herself in all areas of life. Whether through academics, athletics, music, or service, she consistently demonstrates a positive attitude and commitment to excellence.

Congratulations, Darcy!

Congratulations

ELKS TEEN OF THE MONTH

HALLI
HEYS



St. Helens High School is proud to recognize Halli Heys as the May Elks Student of the Month.

Halli is a dedicated and hardworking senior who consistently demonstrates leadership, positivity, and determination both in and out of the classroom. Throughout her high school career, she has been heavily involved in athletics and school activities, always striving to make a positive impact on those around her.

Halli has been an active member of the St. Helens High School cheerleading program since her freshman year and was selected as a team captain during her junior year. Serving as captain allowed her to grow as a leader while encouraging her teammates, maintaining team

morale, and setting a positive example for others. Through cheerleading, Halli developed strong communication and leadership skills that have helped shape her into the person she is today.

In addition to cheerleading, Halli has been a standout member of the varsity softball team all four years of high school, playing second base. During her time with the program, the team earned first place in the Cowapa League during both her freshman and junior seasons. One of Halli's favorite high school memories came during her junior year when the team advanced to the state championship game and competed against the Astoria Fishermen at Jane Sanders Stadium in Eugene. Although the team fell short in the championship game, Halli cherished the experience of competing at such a high level alongside her teammates. Following the game, she was recognized with the Player of the Game coin for her performance and also earned First Team All-League honors, reflecting her dedication and commitment to the sport.

Outside of athletics, Halli has devoted her time to volunteering and supporting younger students in the community. She has helped with youth cheer and softball camps, sharing her passion for sports and encouraging younger athletes to get involved. Halli was also a member of Lion Crew, where she assisted incoming freshmen during their first days of high school by helping them navigate the building and feel welcomed in a new environment. Being able to support younger students and help ease their nerves brought Halli a great sense of pride and fulfillment.

After graduating from St. Helens High School, Halli plans to attend Montana State University to pursue a career as a pediatric dental hygienist. She hopes to help children develop healthy smiles while creating a comfortable and positive dental experience that helps eliminate fear and anxiety often associated with dentistry. Halli is passionate about helping children feel confident, cared for, and supported in their overall health and well-being.

Outside of school, Halli enjoys spending time with her friends and family, attending events to support others, listening to music, and being outdoors. Whether it is spending time at the beach during the summer or relaxing around a bonfire in the winter, Halli values opportunities to recharge and share her positive attitude with those around her.

Halli takes great pride in her leadership, compassion, and strong work ethic. Whether in athletics, volunteering, or everyday life, she consistently demonstrates kindness, determination, and a willingness to support others.

Congratulations, Halli!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Ronin
Rivas

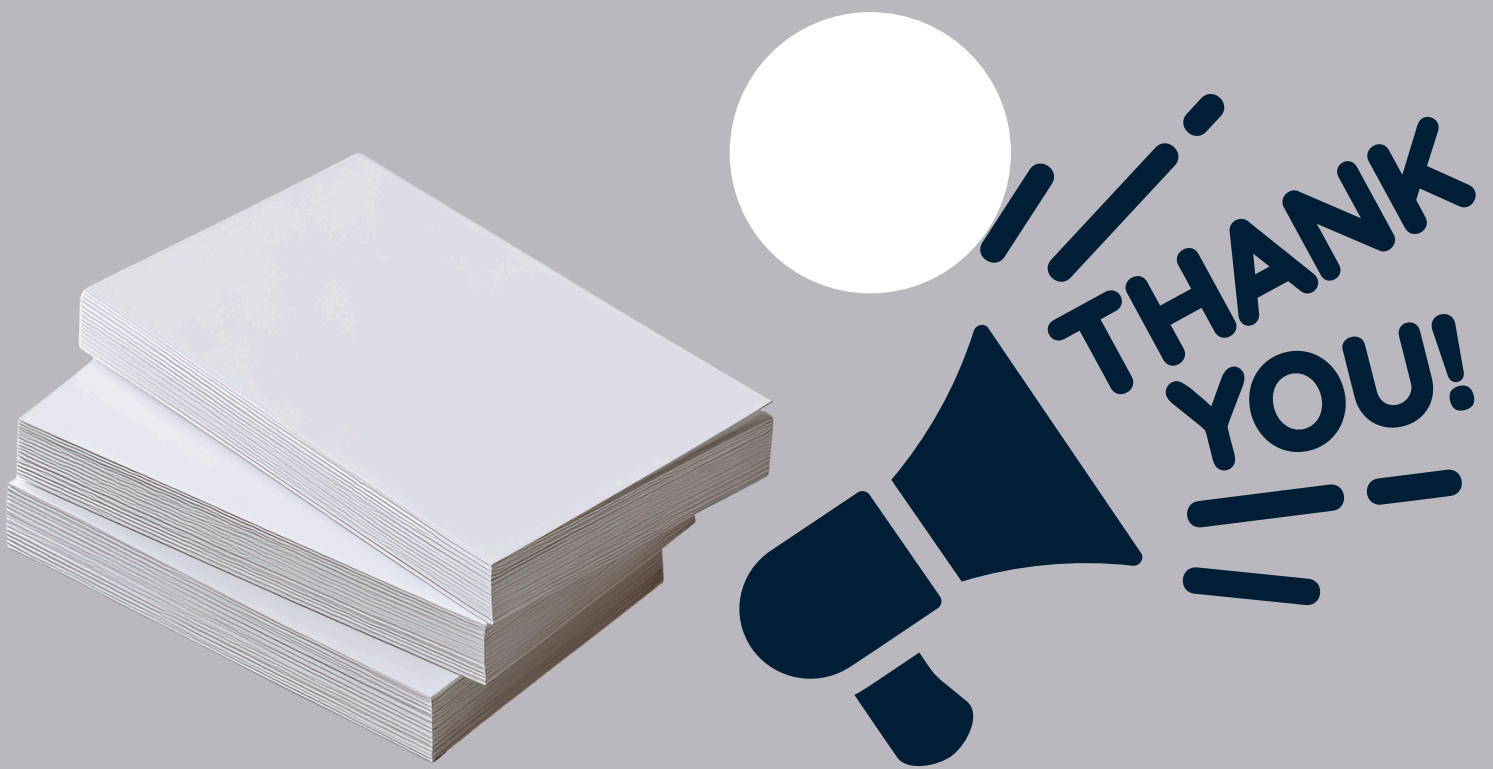
St. Helens Virtual Academy (SHVA) is proud to recognize **Ronin Rivas** as the SHVA Elementary Student of the Week!

Ronin is an energetic and inquisitive learner who has truly flourished in the virtual learning environment. The flexibility of online learning has provided him with the opportunity to work at his own pace while continuing to strengthen his academic skills and share his impressive knowledge with others. His teachers consistently recognize his enthusiasm for learning, positive participation, and dedication to doing his best each day.

Ronin has a deep curiosity about the world around him and a remarkable ability to absorb and recall interesting facts. He especially enjoys exploring the wide variety of books available through Epic! School, where his love for reading continues to grow. With strong support from his family, Ronin also enjoys engaging in hands-on science experiments and activities at home that help bring learning to life and encourage his natural curiosity.

In addition to his academic strengths, Ronin is a model of consistency and engagement. He actively participates in Homeroom each day and maintains excellent attendance, making him a positive and reliable member of the SHVA community. Looking ahead, Ronin already has exciting goals for the future and hopes to combine his creativity and technical skills to become a robot builder one day.

Congratulations, Ronin, on this well-deserved recognition!



THANK YOU, ST. HELENS SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY!

We are incredibly grateful for the overwhelming support shown during our district-wide Copy Paper Drive.

Because of the generosity of our students, families, staff members, community members, and local businesses, our schools received an outpouring of copy paper donations to help support classrooms through the remainder of the school year.

It was truly heartwarming to see our community come together in support of our students and staff. From students proudly carrying in reams of paper to businesses and community partners stepping up to help, every donation made a difference.

Your kindness and willingness to support our schools remind us just how fortunate we are to be part of such a caring and connected community. These donations will directly support classroom learning and help ensure our staff and students have the materials they need to finish the year strong.

Thank you for investing in our schools, our staff, and most importantly, our students. We appreciate you more than words can express!



AGES 18 &
UNDER EAT
FREE

St. Helens School District

SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM

JUNE 22, 2026 - AUGUST 21, 2026

No meal service: June 26, July 2 and July 3



**LEWIS & CLARK ELEMENTARY
LOCATION/TIMES:**

111 South 9th Street | St. Helens, OR
Breakfast: 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Lunch: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Served: Monday - Friday



**MCBRIDE ELEMENTARY
LOCATION/TIMES:**

2774 Columbia Blvd. | St. Helens, OR
Breakfast: 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Served: Monday - Friday



ADULT COST:

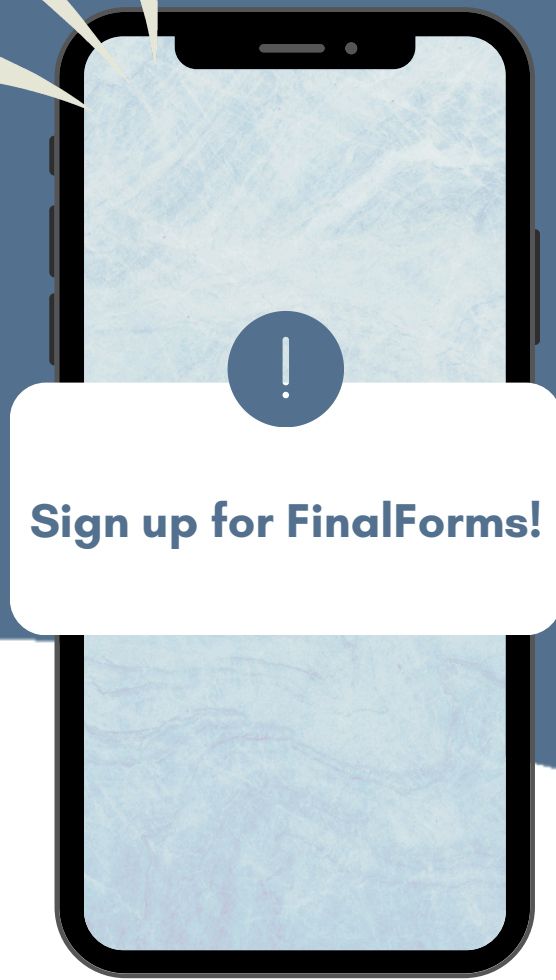
Breakfast \$4.00
Lunch \$6.00



CONTACT:

L & C: Angela Hileman | 503-366-7609
McBride: Kim Reid | 503-366-7773

Final Forms



*Now!
Open!*

Middle & High School Athletics Registration



Welcome to FinalForms, our registration platform for all middle and high school athletic programs!

FinalForms streamlines the registration process, keeps your information safe and secure, and helps ensure you receive timely updates about your student-athlete's sport.

All student-athletes must be registered through FinalForms prior to participating in any practices or tryouts.

Register today: [FinalForms Registration](#)

Need help getting started? [Watch our Creating Your Parent Account video](#)

Thank you for supporting our student-athletes.

May

dates to remember

| **May 20**

Early Release Wednesday

| **May 25**

Holiday - No school

| **May 27**

Early Release Wednesday

| **May 29**

Furlough Day - No School





Sign up to Volunteer!



***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!



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