

Lake Schools



SUMMER
2026

- ▶ *Celebrating the Class of 2026 (pgs. 1-2)*
- ▶ *Your School Construction Bond dollars at work (pg. 5)*
- ▶ *Free summer meal program for kids and teens (back page)*



LAKE STEVENS
School District



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2026



WE ARE PROUD TO RECOGNIZE OUR 641 GRADUATES!

Among them, this year's graduates distinguished themselves by earning more than \$3 million in scholarships and awards. Their ambitions span a wide spectrum, from aspiring engineers, economists, and mathematicians to future educators, dental hygienists, and scientists. Additionally, several students have committed to serve our country in the Armed Forces.



"By chance, we went to school together. But by choice, we created this community. A community of kind, smart, capable individuals who share so many wonderful commonalities and so many beautiful differences. Walls of a building aren't what keep that connection together; it's us that does."

**Ana Joehnk,
ASB President**



"For the last thirteen years, there has always been a right answer. A rubric, a syllabus, a bell telling us when to move. But tonight, that right answer disappears. Graduation isn't the moment we magically become successful. It's the moment we stop waiting for someone else to tell us what's next."

**Shogo Yamashita,
Senior Class President**





"If I hadn't struggled the way I did in the past, I don't think I would have learned to work as hard as I do now. I almost didn't make it to the finish line...it's been a struggle, but it's been worth it."

**Luis Gonzalez-Garcia,
Staff-Selected Speaker**



"As we leave here today, we will go down different paths, but we share the same memories and experiences we've made and that have brought us here today."

**Brianna Tilghman,
Student-Selected Speaker**



"Class of 2026, this milestone represents years of commitment, growth, and determination. We are proud of what you have accomplished, grateful for the impact you've had on our school, and excited for what lies ahead."

**Leslie Ivelia, Lake Stevens
High School Principal**



"Tonight is a celebration, but it is also a beginning. Whether you're headed to college, entering the workforce, serving in the military, or forging your own path, I encourage you to carry with you the values you've demonstrated here: kindness, inclusion, hard work, creativity, care, critical thinking, and heart."

**Dr. Mary Templeton,
Superintendent**



HERE ARE YOUR LAKE STEVENS HIGH SCHOOL TOP SCHOLARS

Every year we honor the top scholars from the Lake Stevens High School graduating class. The Class of 2026 had 18 students tie for top honors! Each of these students maintained perfect 4.0 GPAs. That means they have never received less than an “A” on a report card in grades 9-12.

Madison Bennett will attend Whitworth University where she will study rehabilitation sciences. She is the daughter of Lisa and Rob Bennett. She attended private school before Lake Stevens High School. She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant support and encouragement and for helping shape who she is today, as well as her teachers for challenging her and providing opportunities to grow and learn.

Caiden Bernstein will attend the University of Washington where he will study business. He is the son of Shelly and Scott Bernstein. He attended Highland Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank his parents for their constant support of his goals, along with his teachers and coaches for their positivity and dedication.

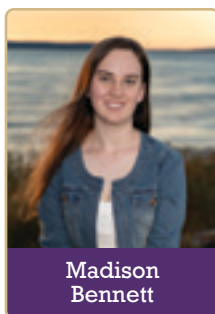
Seth Danielson will attend the Colorado School of Mines where he will study nuclear engineering. He is the son of Sarah and Keith Danielson. He attended Hillcrest and Highland Elementary Schools, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He will be playing baseball in college and would like to thank his friends and family who helped support him along the way.

Mia Ingram will attend the University of Washington where she will study social sciences and history. She is the daughter of Angela Pelton-Ingram. She attended Mt. Pilchuck Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. She would like to thank her mother for her unwavering support throughout her life, as well as her friends and teachers for helping shape the person she is today and inspiring her to pursue a career in education.

Makenna Lovinus will attend Everett Community College before transferring to a four-year university to study secondary education. She is the daughter of Megan and Stephan Lovinus. She attended Sunnycrest Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. She would like to thank her parents and her brother, Cameron, for their unwavering support, her friends for bringing joy and laughter into her life, and her teachers for inspiring her love of learning.

Lucas Mooring will attend Washington State University where he will study electrical engineering. He is the son of Bobbie and Jeremy Mooring. He attended school in Arlington School District before attending Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank his brothers, Carter and Cameron.

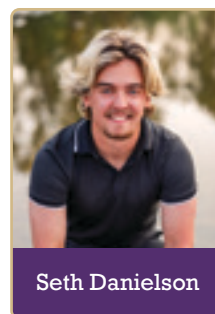
Yostina Mosa will attend the University of Washington, Bothell where she will study electrical engineering. She is the daughter of Heba Kamel and Sheref Mosa. She attended Hillcrest Elementary School, Lake Stevens Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. Yostina wishes to thank her parents for leaving behind the life they had built in Egypt to give her and her brother greater opportunities for a successful and stable future. She is especially grateful that they never used that sacrifice to pressure her into pursuing a career or field that didn't reflect her own interests.



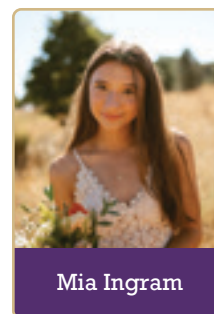
Madison
Bennett



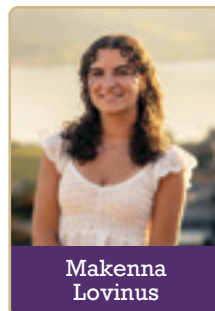
Caiden
Bernstein



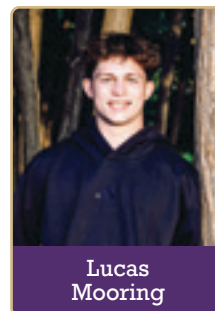
Seth Danielson



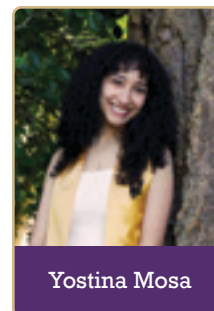
Mia Ingram



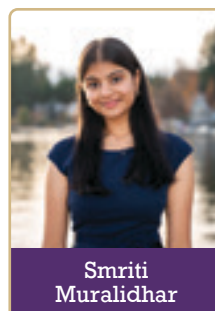
Makenna
Lovinus



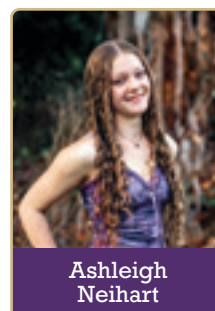
Lucas
Mooring



Yostina Mosa



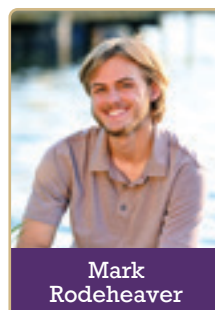
Smriti
Muralidhar



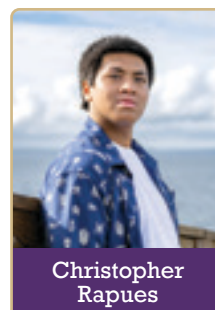
Ashleigh
Neihart



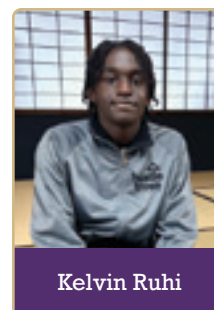
Oluwadarasimi
“Dara” Olotu



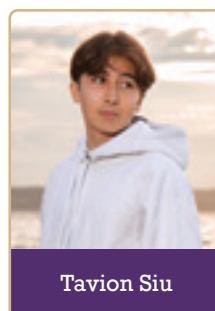
Mark
Rodeheaver



Christopher
Rapues



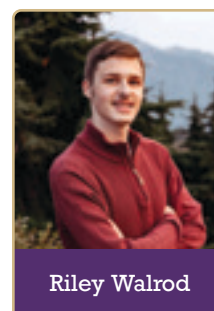
Kelvin Ruhi



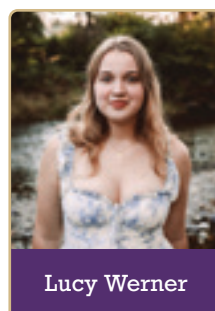
Tavion Siu



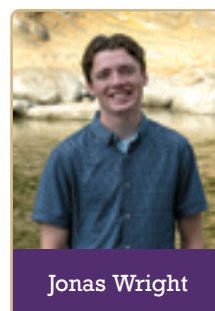
Maisy Wagner



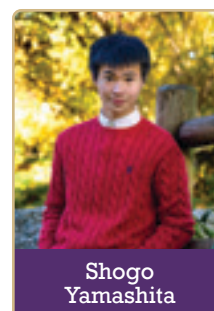
Riley Walrod



Lucy Werner



Jonas Wright



Shogo
Yamashita



2026 Senior Senate

Front, left to right: Regina Buckmiller, Trevin Walker, Isa Ha'ani San Luis, Shogo Yamashita, Phoebe Gibson and Aja Valm. Back, left to right: Malik Parker, Kennedy Kukkonen, Oluwadarasimi "Dara" Olotu and Emerson Walker.

Smriti Muralidhar will attend the University of Washington where she will study mechanical engineering. She is the daughter of Nandini Rao and Murali Vijayakumar. She attended schools in Bellevue School District before coming to Lake Stevens High School. She would like to thank her parents and brother, Arjun, for their unwavering support and love for her. She looks forward to the future and is excited to see what it brings.

Ashleigh Neihart will attend Everett Community College before transferring to a four-year university. She is the daughter of Jill and Randy Neihart. While she hasn't decided what she'll study, she's interested in learning more about a career in pharmaceuticals. She attended Mt. Pilchuck Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. She would like to thank her parents, friends, and teachers for their continuous support, as well as her horse—Sassy—for keeping her uplifted and driven.

Oluwadarasimi "Dara" Olotu will attend the University of British Columbia in Vancouver where she will study political science. She is the daughter of Tope and Bayo Olotu. She started school in Nigeria and Canada before coming to Lake Stevens as a freshman at Cavelero Mid High School. She'd like to thank her teachers, coaches, friends, and parents for their support. And her little brother for pushing her to be someone he can look up to.

Mark Rodeheaver will attend the University of Maryland where he will study mechanical engineering. He is the son of Anne and Bret Rodeheaver. He attended elementary school in Marysville before attending Hillcrest Elementary School, Lake Stevens Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He'd like to thank his teachers who made curiosity the focus of the classroom through interactive demos, open-ended questions, or extra time for students to explore a topic. He extends this appreciation to Mr. Dykgraaf, Mrs. Kotlarov, Mrs. Lambert and Mr. White who showed him what learning is truly about.

Christopher Rapues will attend the University of Washington where he will study mechanical engineering. He is the son of Vy Nguyen and Neil Rapues. He attended Mt. Pilchuck Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank robotics coaches Jeff Lynass, Will Fredin, Karen Coulombe, and Mike McGrath, along with Dan Tedor, for their support over the past five years; his teammates for making each robotics season memorable; his family and teachers for helping him achieve his goals; his friends for making school enjoyable; and Jack Reiman for being an exceptional mentor.

Kelvin Ruhi will attend the University of Washington where he will study biochemistry. He is the son of Linda Peter and Malima Ruhi. He attended school in Everett before Highland Elementary School, Stevens Creek Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank his brother, Phineas, for setting a great example of kindness.



2026 Senior Executives

Left to right: Eric Santiago, Ashlynn Young, Monika Tabor, Ana Joehnk, Filly Ceesay and Antoni Harris.

Tavion Siu will attend the University of Washington where he will study biochemistry. He is the son of Marian and Lawrence Siu. He attended elementary school in Japan and Lake Stevens before going to Lake Stevens Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. Tavion would like to thank his maja and faja for their support and pushing him to be his best. He wouldn't have come this far without them. He'd also like to thank the coaches who were positive pillars in his life, especially Coach T.

Maisy Wagner will attend Southern Virginia University where she will study kinesiology or biology. She is the daughter of Lena and Aric Wagner. She attended Glenwood Elementary School, Lake Stevens Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. She would like to thank her parents and everyone who supported her along the way, helping provide the opportunities and encouragement she needed to succeed in high school, earn her associate's degree, and build a strong foundation for her future.

Riley Walrod will attend the University of Washington where he will study computational chemistry. He is the son of Jalyn and Ryan Walrod. He attended elementary school outside of Lake Stevens and then Lake Stevens Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank his parents for pushing him to do his best. He'd also like to thank his Lake Stevens Robotics advisors for creating an environment where his team could thrive.

Lucy Werner will attend the University of Wyoming where she will study mathematics and secondary education. She is the daughter of Samantha and Eric Werner. She attended Highland Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. She would like to thank her teachers, parents and siblings for their love and support.

Jonas Wright will attend Brigham Young University where he will study exercise science after serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Managua, Nicaragua. He is the son of Aaron and Andrea Wright. He attended Highland Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank his supportive family, amazing teachers, and inspiring coaches who pushed him to grow, and to God for giving him the opportunity to learn.

Shogo Yamashita will attend the University of Washington where he will study biochemistry. He is the son of Hiroko and Yasuhiro Yamashita. He attended Sunnycrest Elementary School, North Lake Middle School and Cavelero Mid High School. He would like to thank his parents, his sister Saho, and his family in Japan for their lifelong support and encouragement, as well as his friends and teachers for the many ways they have helped shape his journey and supported him in discovering his passions.



Site preparation and infrastructure work are underway for our eighth elementary school. Once complete it will serve Glenwood Elementary School students and staff, followed by Lake Stevens Middle School students and staff.



The new school is located across from Stevens Creek Elementary School and the Early Learning Center on district-owned property in an area of significant current and future residential growth. This location allows us to efficiently use existing roads, utilities, and infrastructure while serving students closer to where they live.



A new two-story Skyline Elementary School will be built rather than modernizing the existing building. Building a new building is more cost efficient, providing a savings for our tax payers.



The new Skyline will be built on the “middle bench” of the campus while students continue attending school in their current building.

Your School Construction Bond Dollars at Work

Exciting progress continues across the Lake Stevens School District as our voter-approved School Construction Bond projects move from planning to reality. These investments are creating safe, welcoming and future-ready learning environments designed to serve students and our growing community.

Safety Upgrades: Secure Portables & Reception Areas

We've completed secure portable upgrades districtwide, strengthening access control and adding another layer of safety for students and staff.

Design work for secure main office reception areas and Special Education classroom improvements has been completed. Construction is now underway at schools across the district.

Elementary School #8: From Vision to Construction

Construction of the new Elementary School #8 is well underway. Site preparation and infrastructure work continue as crews prepare the site for the district's newest elementary school.

During the 2027-28 school year, the new school will temporarily serve as the home for Glenwood Elementary students and staff while Glenwood is modernized. During the 2028-29 school year, the new school will temporarily house Lake Stevens Middle School students while their school is remodeled and expanded. Following those transitions, a school board-appointed boundary committee will review and recommend updates to attendance boundaries before the school opens to serve students as a newly-boundaried elementary school.

Lighting Our Fields

Field lighting projects at Cavelero Mid High School and North Lake Middle School are now complete. These upgrades expand opportunities for student activities and community use throughout the year. The new lighting systems are designed to focus illumination on the fields while minimizing impacts on neighboring properties.

Lighting and turf installation are also planned as part of the Lake Stevens Middle School modernization and expansion project.

Planning for Glenwood, Skyline, LSMS & SILC

Skyline Elementary School

Following a community Open House this spring, construction activities are now underway for the new Skyline Elementary School. Rather than modernizing the existing building, the district will construct a new school designed to better meet current educational needs,

accommodate future enrollment growth and provide long-term value for taxpayers.

Students will continue to attend school in their existing building while the new school is built on the “middle bench” of the campus property—where the current Lake Stevens Middle School softball field is located.

Construction activities will temporarily affect portions of the Lake Stevens Middle School campus during the project, including the field and track. Updated athletic facilities, including a new turf field, will be completed as part of the Lake Stevens Middle School modernization project.

We anticipate students and staff moving into the new Skyline Elementary during the 2027-28 school year. Following the move, the existing building will be removed and final site improvements, including parking and outdoor play areas, will be completed.

Lake Stevens Middle School and the Secondary Innovative Learning Center remain in the planning and design phases.

Glenwood Elementary School has completed schematic design and educational specifications, marking another important milestone toward modernization.

More Gym Space for Growing Programs

Construction continues on Hillcrest Elementary School's new gym, with significant progress made on site preparation and foundation work. The project remains on schedule and will provide additional space for physical education, student activities and community use.

Additional gym projects include:

- A new gym at Mt. Pilchuck Elementary School (scheduled to begin in 2027)
- New gyms at Glenwood and Skyline as part of their school projects
- A new main gym and auxiliary gym at Lake Stevens Middle School as part of its modernization and expansion

We are grateful for our community's continued support as these projects move forward. Together, we are building learning environments that reflect our commitment to belonging, growth and excellence.

Message from Your Superintendent

As I complete my second year as your superintendent, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on the opportunity to serve this remarkable community and work alongside our dedicated staff, families, and community members in support of student success.

One of the greatest highlights of the year was celebrating the accomplishments of the Lake Stevens High School Class of 2026. On June 9, our graduates crossed the stage and received their diplomas, marking an important milestone and the beginning of exciting new journeys. Whether they are headed to college, technical training, military service, or directly into the workforce, our graduates left us well prepared for the opportunities ahead.

The Class of 2026 earned \$3 million in scholarships and awards, a testament to their hard work, talent, and perseverance. Their future plans reflected a wide range of interests and ambitions, from education, healthcare, and engineering to the arts, business, and public service. These

accomplishments were made possible by the extraordinary commitment of our teachers, support staff, administrators, and volunteers. Their dedication helped create the learning experiences and relationships that supported students throughout their educational journeys. I am deeply grateful for the care and expertise of every educator in our district who played a role in the lives of our graduates.

At the close of the year, we honored employees who retired and recognized those celebrating significant service milestones. Their contributions have left a lasting impact on our students, schools, and community. We thank them for their years of dedication to Lake Stevens School District.

I also want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who participated in our Thoughtexchange surveys this year. Your feedback provides meaningful insight that helps inform decisions at both the school and district levels. We value your partnership and your continued engagement in the work of our schools.

Throughout the summer, our free summer meals program will continue to provide nutritious lunches for children 18 and younger at the Early Learning Center, helping ensure that students had access to healthy meals while school was out of session.

As we look ahead to the 2026-27 school year, I remain inspired by the strength of this community and the shared commitment to providing every student with an exceptional education. I am encouraged by the collaborative spirit that underscores our current and future success.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. It is a privilege to serve as your superintendent.



Warm regards,

Mary Templeton

Dr. Mary Templeton
Superintendent



The new gymnasium at Hillcrest Elementary will provide a dedicated space for PE, improve capacity and flexibility for lunches and school events, and expand opportunities for community use.



Hillcrest Elementary School students watch the construction of their new gymnasium, which is scheduled for completion in the winter of 2027.

Stay informed and follow construction updates at
www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/bond.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RETIREES!

Our Board of Directors honored the 2025-26 retirees at its May 27 meeting. Overall, these employees have served more than 700 years to our students, schools, district and community. Thank you, and congratulations!

- Colleen Aldrich
- Debbie Ames
- Susan Asprey
- Brent Barnes
- Linda Bleam
- Chuck Darlington
- Corky Davis
- Robert Davis
- Deborah Demuelenaere
- Kelly Dubeau
- Marcy Fetherston
- Brenda Freemon
- Sandra Goranson
- Mike Hampton
- Deborah Harris
- Judith Henry
- Kimberly Majors
- Darlene Moe
- Jacquelyn Muir
- Kimberly Ostlund
- Marilyn Philpott
- Sandy Pollestad
- Michelle Reed
- Mary Beth Reichow
- Pamela Riedel
- Connie Tangen
- Karen Towey
- Linda Tri
- Laura Woolworth



Get your child ready for kindergarten!

Join us for our exciting Ready for Kindergarten program designed especially for incoming kindergarteners! From Monday, Aug. 17 to Wednesday, Aug. 19, we're offering a three-day adventure that ensures a smooth transition into elementary school life. It's the perfect way to ease those first-day jitters! Transportation is available if you RSVP before July 31. Secure your spot today at:

www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/kindergarten



To participate, students must be enrolled for kindergarten in the 2026-27 school year. Enrollment packets are ready for download on our district website or available at the school district office. Remember, children must turn five by Aug. 31, 2026, to enroll. Bring along an official birth certificate, proof of immunization, and proof of residence in Lake Stevens School District to complete enrollment. Enrollment is open to students residing within district boundaries.

Mark your calendars! The first day of kindergarten is Tuesday, Sept. 8. Let's make this a fantastic start to your child's educational journey!



SAVE THE DATE

Ready for KINDERGARTEN!

Who:

When:

Where:

All incoming registered kindergarten students

Monday, Aug. 17 through Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

At each Lake Stevens Elementary School

EDDM

ECRWSS
Current Resident

FREE SUMMER LUNCH 2026

July 6 to Aug. 6 | Monday to Thursday

Closed on Fridays

Service: 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Hot and cold entrees of the day. Daily fresh fruit and veggie garden bar with lowfat or nonfat milk.
- Students can enjoy their meals in the cafeteria until 12:45 p.m. For any child or teen 18-years-old and younger.
- Adults can purchase a meal for \$6.00. Cash only (exact cash requested).

Location:

Early Learning Center
9215 29th St NE

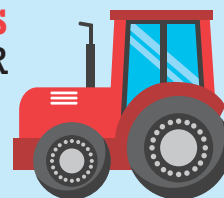


Open to the community
All walk-ins welcome!
No registration required

FIND US AT THE FARMERS MARKET THIS SUMMER

The Farmers Market in Lake Stevens takes place each Tuesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at North Cove Park, and we'd love to see you there. Stop by the Lake Stevens School District booth in August to chat with school and district leaders, pick up fun giveaways for kids, and learn more about kindergarten enrollment, our school construction bond projects, the upcoming school year, and more.

Whether you have questions or just want to say hello, we hope you'll swing by and visit with us!



SUPERINTENDENT
Mary Templeton, Ed.D.

EDITOR
Jayme Taylor

DESIGN
Jonathan Sulzbach

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
David Iseminger, President • Mari Taylor, Vice President • Ryan Dickson • Brian Kesler • Paul Lund

In accordance with RCW 49.60, the Lake Stevens School District does not discriminate in employment and schools. The Lake Stevens School District provides Equal Educational and Employment Opportunity without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, handicap/disability, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, creed, religion, age, veteran or military status, use of a trained dog to guide or service animal by a person with a disability, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and designated youth groups. The district complies with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations to include, but not limited to, Title IX, Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, RCW 49.60 "The Law Against Discrimination," and RCW 28A.640 "Sex Equity," and covers, but is not limited to, all district programs, courses, activities, including extracurricular activities, services, access to facilities, etc. Inquiries regarding compliance procedures should be directed to Lake Stevens School District, 12309 22nd St. NE, Lake Stevens, WA 98258, Attention: Gina Anderson—Title IX and Civil Rights Coordinator, or ADA Compliance Coordinator and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator—425-335-1500 or gina_anderson@lkstevens.wednet.edu.