

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

A CHOICE SCHOOL IN THE LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMUNITY SCHOOL STAFF

Teaching Staff

Veronique Hageman - 1st & 2nd grade

Marissa Nall- 2nd & 3rd Grade

Maddie Kerr - 4th & 5th grade

Erin Haley – Special Education Teacher

Jean Guth - Instructional Assistant

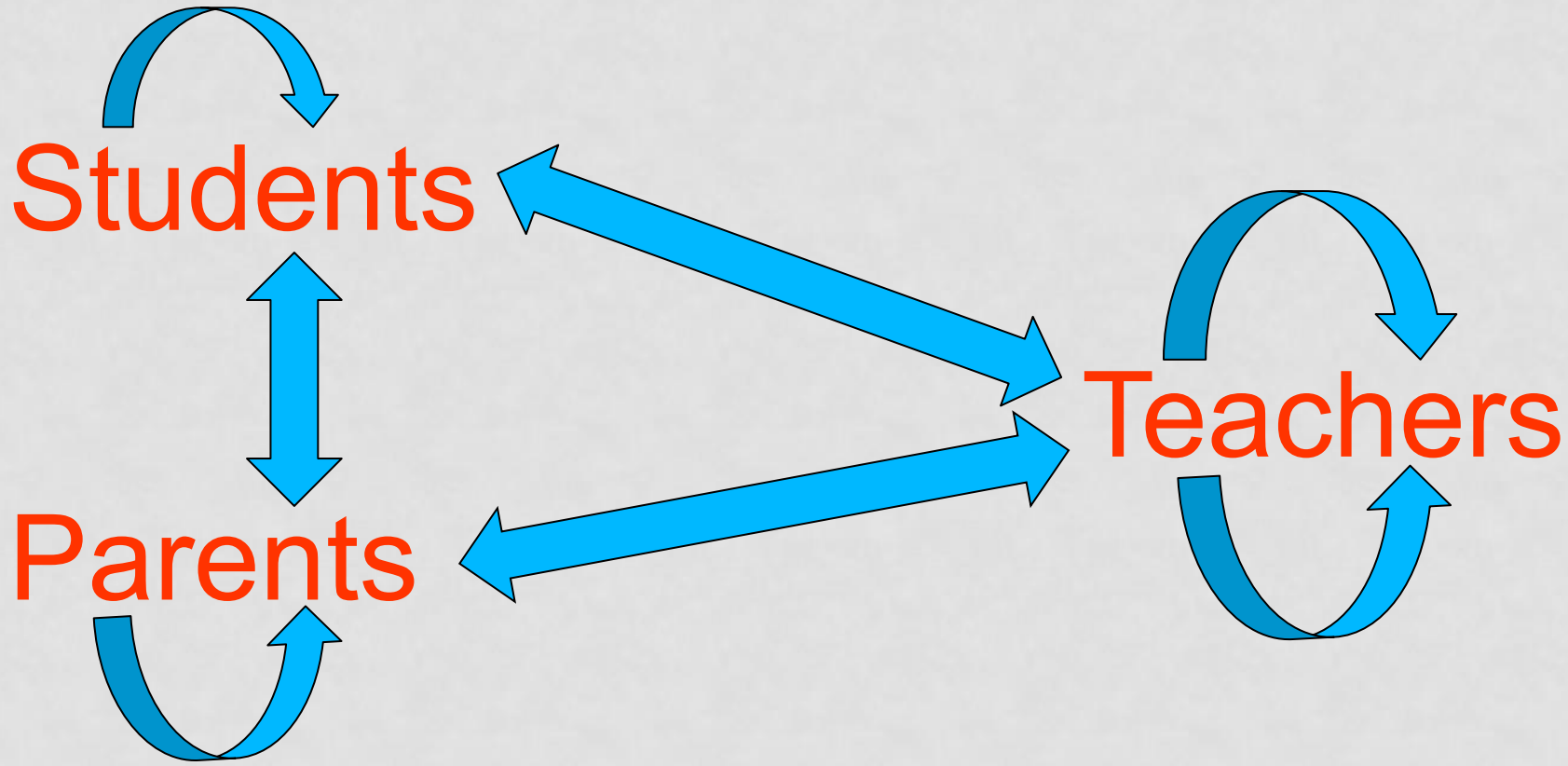
Counselor - Ann Nguyen

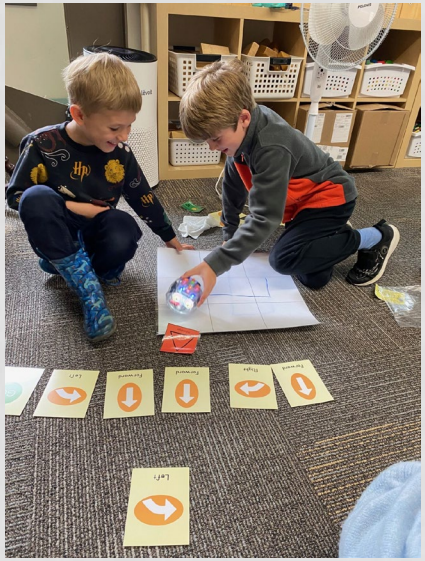
Office Manager Deb Subotnik

Principal Jacob Hendrickson

Associate Principal Michael O'Donnell

Challenge children academically, physically, creatively, socially & emotionally in an **atmosphere of *cooperation* and *trust* .**





Community School Construct 1:

Children Learn by Doing

This applies to:

Making decisions

We do this by consensus (no voting).

- **Taking responsibility**

  We provide opportunities to gain responsibility through student self-reflections, group work, all-school events, and multi-aged interactions.

- **Engaging in critical thinking**

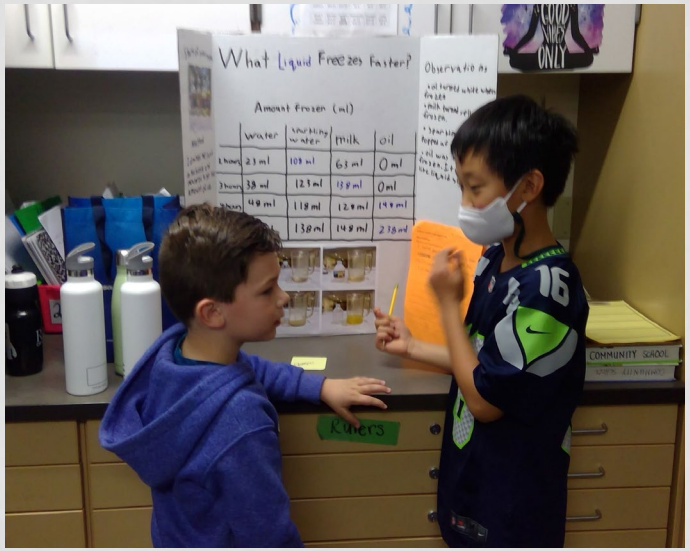
  We encourage this with inquiry-based academics.

- **Solving problems (intellectual and interpersonal)**

  We teach appreciation for different points of view.

Community School Construct 2:

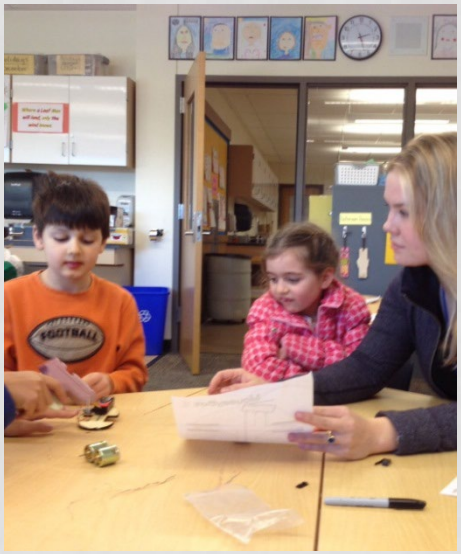
Children learn best when their abilities are challenged, internal motivation is increased, and their interest and learning style is taken into account.



Students are expected to put forth their best efforts to achieve their potential (socially, emotionally, and academically).

Community School Construct 3:

The community supports the teachers in their professional judgment as to the best strategies to meet the **needs of each individual child** as well as **the whole class.**



Curriculum planning and implementation is the teachers' domain.

This includes, but is not limited to: class configurations, designing mixed-age partnerships and peer working groups, camp cabin assignments, field trip chaperone assignments, student discipline, and classroom management.







Community School Construct 4:

Children learn best

in a **supportive**, **cooperative environment**.

Community School's supportive and cooperative learning environment is paramount to our students' success.

This vital standard is upheld by diligently choosing non-competitive means of assessment, play, and academic learning.

No report cards... No comparisons... No winners or losers...

Mutual trust and strong relationships with teachers and peers **fosters confidence and a sense of responsibility** in our students.





Community School Construct 5:

Children learn best in an atmosphere where their **process**, and not merely the end result, is **acknowledged**, and **mistakes are recognized** as a natural part of the learning process.

Community School Construct 6:

Opportunities for interaction between students of all ages

lead to integration of learning, increased ability in social skills, problem-solving skills and decision-making skills.



Community School Construct 7:

Children learn best in an atmosphere that acknowledges and integrates their social, emotional, cognitive and physical development.



*We **take time** for: playing together, sharing stories, imparting knowledge, discussing issues and resolving conflicts .*

Community School Construct 8:

Children learn best when they **feel good about themselves**, and **feel empowered** socially, emotionally and academically.



Community School students are not judged, graded, or compared to each other.

Community School Construct 9:

Children learn more readily when their **home environment is philosophically compatible** with the educational framework of their learning.

Parents/guardians choose, value and support the student-centered learning that children embark upon daily, even though it may be different from the way that parents/guardians were taught.

Community School Construct 10:

Children learn best when parents work cooperatively with teachers and are actively and visibly involved in their child's social and academic development.



PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE AT COMMUNITY SCHOOL:

- working cooperatively with teachers
- providing enriching experiences
- promoting the love of learning

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES <u>DURING</u> THE SCHOOL DAY

- Help supervise students on the **playground** during morning break time and at the lunch hour.
  - (Average 11 hours per family/year)
- Chaperoning a **field trip** (at least one per family)
- Additional opportunities:
  - Attend camp(s)
  - Help in the classroom upon teacher request
  - Lead and plan parties
  - Lead and assist with Choice Activities
  - Be a guest reader for our Read-A-Thons
  - Lead and assist with Art Lessons
  - Lead and assist with STEAM Lessons

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL DAY

- Committee Work:

  Steering, Finance, Volunteer Coordinator, Enrichment, Community Building, STEAM, Art, Garden etc.

- Work Parties
- Tech Support
- Building and Site Improvements
- Classroom Material Prep

Community School Construct 11:

Children learn best when their **horizons are broadened by exposure to the interests and styles of many people**, including other children, teachers, parents and the community-at-large.





Field trips, parents and community volunteers, camps, and Parent Choice.

Children who prosper at Community School:

- Enjoy interacting with children of all ages
- Set goals for their growth
- Work toward personal responsibility
- Thrive without competition or external rewards
- Show pride in their work due to their efforts and internal motivation, not due to external validation or rewards
- Follow our "golden rule": No hurting on the inside or outside.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERATIONS



Parents need to provide transportation to and from Community School.

No busing is provided by the Lake Washington School District.

We encourage carpools.

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

SCHOOL HOURS

M, T, TH, F: 8:40 AM– 3:15 PM
WEDNESDAY: 8:40AM – 1:45PM

Drop off no earlier than 8:30 AM.

Pick up at 3:15 PM (Wednesdays @1:45PM)

There is **no supervision prior to 8:30 am** or **after we dismiss at 3:15 pm or 1:45 pm.**

Community School does not provide before or after school care.

CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO OUR MULTI-AGE CLASSROOMS

Our program is 1st through 5th grade.
A full five-year commitment is expected.

Lake Washington School District curricula are taught in our multi-age classrooms.

- **Science and Social Studies:** LWSD curricula are taught on a rotational basis, so all students are exposed to all the subject matter over the course of their five-year-long attendance at C.S.

- **Mathematics, Reading, Writing:** Common Core State Standards are incorporated into our multi-year academic planning.

TEACHER ASSESSMENT TOOLS

ASSESSMENT IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLANNING APPROPRIATE LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Student growth will be measured using:
  - Fastbridge Screener in Reading & Math(3x/ year)
  - LWSD End of Unit Assessments
  - Teacher Observation
  - Student Reflections
  - Goal Setting

SUPPORT SYSTEM

WHEN A CHILD NEEDS HELP

- If a child's teacher is concerned about any area of a child's development (academic, social, emotional, physical), the teacher will arrange a meeting with parents to discuss the concern.

- Special education services are available for students at Community School. Placement for all students with IEPs is determined by the individual student's IEP team.

- Questions? Contact Erin Haley: ehaley@lwsd.org

MONTHLY PARENT MEETING

This is your opportunity to become informed and involved in decision making.

Hear teacher announcements and updates.

Volunteer to help with ongoing events.

*Attendance is an integral part of the Community School culture.

Parents at Community School:

- Participate actively and visibly
- Promote cooperation & non-competitiveness
- Attend monthly parent meetings
- Support staff, students, and each other

Important Lottery Information

- Online applications open at 8:00 am November 1, 2026
    - Current LWSD families can access application through Parent Square
    - Families not currently enrolled in LWSD can access application through LWSD website.

-Application DUE by 11:59pm December 1, 2026

-Lottery takes places week of January 4th, 2027

-Notification sent to families on January 15, 2027

-Acceptance deadline is January 29, 2027 at 3:00pm.