

SUMMER IS NEAR!



**South Whidbey
School District**

Education to Navigate a Wider World

Important Dates to Remember:

- June 1:** SWHS Final Band Concert (7pm), SWHS Sports Physicals
- June 2:** SWHS & LMS Jazz Night (7pm), LMS Farewell Open House
- June 7:** Early Release
- June 8:** SWES Orca Showcase, Art Fair and BBQ
- June 9:** SWA Graduation (3-5pm)
- June 10:** SWHS Graduation (noon-2:30pm)
- June 12:** SWES Kindergarten Celebration for 2016-17 Kindergarten Students
- June 14:** School Board Workshop
- June 15 & 16:** Early Release
- June 16:** LMS 8th Grade Graduation (8:30-10am)
- June 19 & 20:** SWHS Football Camp
- June 20-22:** Falcon Basketball Camp for grades 3-8
- June 28:** School Board Meeting
- July 12:** School Board Workshop
- July 26:** School Board Meeting
- August 14:** SWHS Football Registration Packets Due
- August 16:** SWHS Football Starts Practice
- August 17:** SWHS Fall Sports Registration Packets Due
- August 21:** SWHS Fall Sports Practice Begins
- August 22:** Family Resource Center/ Readiness to Learn - Back to School Program
- August 23:** School Board Retreat/Meeting
- August 31:** Staff Back to School Meeting
- September 5:** First day of school 2017-2018



Message from the Superintendent

Last week, with a team of teachers, I had the pleasure of chaperoning some of the 8th graders on their Adventure Education field trip to the Olympic Peninsula. Over the span of five days, we backpacked approximately twenty-five miles from Rialto Beach to Ozette campground on the Washington Coast. This area, known as *Shipwreck Coast* offered some challenging terrain, primitive campsites, breathtaking views, and ancient Makah petroglyphs. Each day, we carried our thirty pound backpacks, hiked three to six miles over difficult terrain and set up camp for the night. This was a real world experience that engaged our hearts, hands and minds. A second team of 8th graders will depart next week for the same trip. This trip provides these students with an experience that they can reflect on in their writings and in the years ahead. They have a new appreciation of the beauty and environmental significance of the region from which future care and wise custodianship can evolve.



Welcome New Staff Members:

James Swanson, South Whidbey Grades 5-8 Principal
Dr. Jeffery Fankhauser, Special Education Director
Margaret Holloway, Elementary Art Teacher
Kerry Sjoblom, Elementary Music Teacher
Melissa Pritchett, Secondary LSC Teacher
Tammi Sloan, Accounts Payable Specialist
Junus DaRugna, Bus Driver
Rocco Passafaro, Paraeducator
Emily Schmidt, Paraeducator
Jeremie Canty, Bus Driver
Sarah Smith, Elementary Teacher
Carla McDowell, SWHS School Counselor
Brittany Bridgman, SWHS CTE Teacher

Transition Update:

Following the School Board's decision to close the Langley Middle School Facility for students, the District has been moving forward with the plans and challenges of consolidation.



As mentioned in the February postcard mailed to all of our South Whidbey Community, beginning Fall 2017, there will be two campuses: Grades K-6 in the **South Whidbey Elementary Campus** and Grades 7-12 in the **South Whidbey Secondary Campus**.

Specifically, grades K-4 will be in the SWE-North campus (known currently as the SWES). Grades 5 & 6 and SWA K-6 will be in the SWE-South campus (previously known as the South Whidbey Primary School). SWA 7-12 will continue to be in the north wing of the SW Secondary

Campus (known as SWHS). Grades 7 & 8 will primarily be in the second floor west wing of the SW Secondary Campus. Grades 9-12 will continue with classes in SWHS also known as the SW Secondary Campus. There will be some crossover in gyms, auditoriums, library and science labs.

James Swanson was hired as the new Grades 5-8 principal. He will have an office in the South Whidbey Elementary South Campus. Although his contract does not begin till July, he has been attending every administrative meeting since he was hired.

Dr. Jeff Fankhauser was hired as the new Special Education Director. His contract does not begin until July as well. However, he is also attending the administrative meetings, working closely with Linda Sax and meeting with our special education staff to become more familiar with our students and procedures here at South Whidbey.

Our facilities and maintenance crew are busy working to update classrooms including painting, installing new carpet, expanding the elementary school kitchen and much much more. This summer will be very busy.

Our administration is busy coordinating the new schedules for students. They are preparing for graduations and celebrations for the end of this year and this era.

We look forward to all of the possibilities and opportunities this transition offers to our students, our staff, our parents and our community. While we all understand that change is not easy, let's embrace this transition and make it a positive change for all of us. Our students are our first priority and we look forward to all that will be available to them. There is much potential as we work to make the Langley Middle School facility a center for all of our community to use and enjoy.



South Whidbey Academy

Congratulations to the Class of 2017!!!
Graduation is on **Friday, June 9th at 3pm.**

This year, Susie Richards, with the No Child Left Inside grant, led the students of South Whidbey Academy 9-12 on four field trips to Fort Casey, South Whidbey State Park and Deception Pass. During these visits, the students completed a service project to aid the parks and engaged with the park rangers for a guided tour and to learn more about the history and features of the parks.





South Whidbey High School



Congratulations to the Class of 2017!!!

Graduation is on **Saturday, June 10th** at noon.

Falcon Girls Golf are State Champions!!!!

Falcon Girls Golf won Cascade Conference Championship.

Boys Golf received second in the State finals.

Girls Fastpitch went to State finals in Richland and played in three games.

Baseball competed in the District Playoffs.

Track won the Cascade Conference Championship and sent 16 competitors, with several placing in State competitions.

Tennis won District Championships

WIAA Cheer Academic State Champions

WIAA Distinguished Academic Awards to Baseball, Track, Boys Soccer, Boys Golf and Girls Tennis

All Spring/Summer Sports practices have begun. See the Falcon Athletic Site [linked here](#) for more information.

South Whidbey High School Bands

Wind Ensemble received Superior Ratings at the Edmonds and Vancouver Kiwanis Festival.

This top rating makes them eligible to compete in Toronto. Only the top five bands out of 60 received this rating. Our school competes in the highest level with the best bands around the area.

Our trio which included Liam Twomey on the trombone, Alec Chinnery on the french

horn and Kari Hustad on the piano are the State Champions for their performance.



Langley Middle School

Langley Middle School is nearing the end of an era and the students are looking forward to a new beginning.

Please join us for a Community Farewell Event on **Friday, June 2, 2017** from 4-6pm. We are inviting the community, past and present staff members and students to visit the LMS campus, walk the halls and celebrate the memories this building holds. Tour the campus, visit with community members and past classmates. There will be past yearbooks to go through and current items (Cougar t-shirts and sweatshirts) for sale. Gather in the old school auditorium for a short presentation that will include sharing of stories and a video that traces the history of the school and some special recognitions. Please consider joining us for this one time event. We hope to see you there!!

Adventure Education is in full swing. Our first group of eighth graders hiked from Rialto Beach to Cape Alava over four nights and five days.





South Whidbey Elementary School

South Whidbey Elementary students have been busy taking state tests, attending field trips and preparing for the **Orca Showcase**. Please join us on **Thursday, June 8th at 5pm** for a BBQ and to view some of the wonderful art the students have done.



We have a new method for reporting transportation changes - Pick Up Patrol. This is a web application that makes it easier for you to make changes to your children's regular after school dismissal plans. Elementary School families should have received an email explaining how to sign up for Pick up Patrol. All plan changes should now be submitted only through Pick Up Patrol. We think you will find it to be more convenient and it will help our school better track who is going where.

Effective 2017-2018 school year, we will discontinue Take Home Tuesday distribution folders. Instead, flyers will be uploaded to Peachjar, emailed to all South Whidbey Elementary parents and available on our website.



PIZZA CAMP

at the **School Garden**



IT'S A LOT MORE THAN JUST PIZZA!

- Cooking demos with Local chefs
- Garden science
- Visits to Local Farms
- Crafts
- Fresh snacks from The Garden

Plus a whole lot more summer fun!

Session 1 July 17 - 21 3rd & 4th Grade

Session 2 July 24 - 28 5th & 6th Grade

9 am - 3 pm \$295/child - scholarships available

Email wlnourishes@whidbey.com or call 360-221-7787 for more info



South Whidbey School Gardens

The gardens are in full swing. [Check out our website here.](#)

Come volunteer to work in the new South Whidbey high School Campus garden on **Thursday** mornings 10am - noon.

There will be Tuesday morning work parties for the kids to participate in at the South Whidbey Elementary campus on **Tuesday** mornings 10am -noon.

King5 News did a recent report on our gardens. [Linked here.](#)

Orcas Picnic Garden Open House and Plant Sale - Tomatoes, Kale, Lettuce and Sorrel available to purchase. Email schoolgardenswhidbey@gmail.com for presale and early pickup.

For parents who want to start a garden, Cary Peterson will be teaching a class on Tuesday, June 6th, from 6:30-8pm at the Langley Library on How to Grow Veggies Your Kids Love to Eat. [See more linked here.](#)

Volunteer Today

Volunteers Wanted!! Would you like to help us make a difference? We need people like you to donate time, energy, and experience in a variety of areas, including helping in the classroom, being a tutor or mentor, helping senior students with their culminating projects, clerical, and much more. Together we will be able to help many students and teachers. Our volunteers say they feel rewarded many times over for the help they provide in making a difference in the lives of others. The Family Resource Center is always in search of volunteers. Please contact Director Gail Lavassar at (36) 221-6808 ext 2602 for more information.



[Please sign up today!](#)

[2017 Transition Volunteer Survey linked here.](#)

School Board News



Thank you to **Katyrose Jordan**, 2016-17 Student Representative. You did a great job representing the youth of South Whidbey.

Congratulations to **Erin Grace Brewer**, our new 2017-18 Student Representative! Join us at her first meeting in September when she will take her oath to represent the South Whidbey School District youth.

The South Whidbey School Board meets in the Community Room at the South Whidbey Elementary School 5380 Maxwellton Rd. Langley, WA. Meetings start at 6:30 pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Please find our calendar, agenda and minutes on the website [linked here](#).

Transportation

The Transportation Department has been busy all year. There is a new bus (#18) driving on the Falcon route. This new bus is transit style and features a rear view camera and also a camera mounted by the red stop sign to capture vehicles not stopping when the red lights are flashing.



We added two new black suburbans to replace our older vans.

We will be adding a new smaller 16 passenger bus before the 2017-2018 school year to add flexibility.

For the 2017-2018 school year, all times on all routes will be slightly different due to the transition changes. Some routes will be changed. The new routes and pick up times will be posted in late August before the new school year starts.

[Please bookmark the transportation webpage linked here for updates.](#)



Family Resource Center

Back To School Project

Is your budget too tight to deal with lists of 2017-2018 required school supplies?

You're not alone. The annual Back to School Program helps with the cost of preparing a child for the beginning of the school year. The Family Resource Center will open on August 22, 2017 to assist with the 2017-2018 school year. This program is based on financial need and requires an appointment. [See more information linked here.](#)



Farewell and Many Thanks!
We would like to wish the following staff members our very best in their new



adventures.

South Whidbey High School:

Dee Brown (12 yrs)
Jennifer Hagerman (21 yrs)
Sharyl Harless (19 yrs)
Heidi Marshall (2 yrs)

South Whidbey Academy:

David Pfeiffer (9yrs)
Leah Tormey

Langley Middle School:

Sharon Edwards (42 yrs)
Meredith Wetherell (4 yrs)

South Whidbey Elementary School:

Laura Anthony (23 yrs)
Jillian Cain (2yrs)
Emmy Atwood (1 yr)
Kimmer Morris (31yrs)
Allie Fee (4 yrs)
Katie Lawson (2 yrs)
Val Twomey (20 yrs)

District Office:

Sherry Smith (6yrs)
Tom Akins (5 yrs)
Linda Sax (5 years)

Transportation:

Pete Lopez (17 yrs)

Custodial/Maintenance:

Jesse Edwards (16 yrs)
Debra Edward (24 yrs)

Thank you for all that you have done for our students and staff at the South Whidbey School District!

YOU WILL BE MISSED!



STAY CONNECTED:

Please check our website often: www.sw.wednet.edu
If you have any questions, please contact Kristy Macarro
at (360) 221-6808 ext. 2245 or email at kmacarro@sw.wednet.edu

