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- More than 3900 new Surface, iPad, iPod Touch and Android tablets were distributed at high schools since September 2015. This has transformed the way students learn. In just a few short months, students have completed more than 100,000 assignments using these new devices.
- Classrooms across the district are now fully Wi-Fi enabled, and all students can access the Internet. This has allowed them to extend learning outside of the classroom and work on assignments in their home or school when it is convenient for them. The devices now include the latest version of Microsoft Office 365, which allows students and staff to collaborate on assignments and projects in real-time. This has helped to improve the way students work and learn.
- Students now have access to Canvas, an online platform that allows them to track their assignments and grades. They can also access resources and materials from home, which has helped to improve their learning experience.
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In appreciation of their many years of dedication to student learning and reaching every child, our students, school, and work in Snohomish. It's evident that every day our students, staff, and community are partnering to accomplish great things together.

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Thank you for your support! It is our number one priority to provide our students the very best possible education. We take pride in the fact that we are making a difference in the lives of our students and we believe that technology is an essential component in our continued efforts to prepare them for the world of tomorrow.

Message from the Superintendent

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Technology initiatives advance student learning

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I am seeing first-hand so many wonderful things happening for our students and their families. Read about our district’s Golden Kla Ha Ya Club and 2nd grade students in this newsletter. Some other recent examples of the amazing things happening in our district include:

• This summer 26,564 meals were served through the Kids’ Café to young people from our community. More than 200 volunteers joined us in our effort. Our district’s ideas of owning and operating the Kids’ Café mobile food truck also became a reality. This truck enabled us to expand our reach and serve those who may have otherwise gone without.

• Forum, renewable energy, astronomy, robotics, aerodynamic engineering and painting were just some of the many exciting topics students investigated through the district’s Science and Arts Academy. About 420 1st through 8th grade participants in this summer enrichment program and related topics they were passionate about.

• The Snohomish Education Foundation (SEF) held its annual auction in early October. The breakfast, which was started a number of years ago by late Snohomish High School Principal Tuck Gionet, provides an excellent way for attendees to register to vote and learn more about the campaigns, candidates, and democratic process.

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In terms of the three-year savings, the total utility costs have been an additional $250,000. Since the inception of the district’s RCM program more than three years ago, checks and incentives to the school district for PUD and PSE projects have totaled more than $275,000 and avoided control system and water upgrades/retrofits. Program which has helped fund district energy conservation projects such as lighting, heating, control system and water upgrades/retrofits.

“Energy efficiency opportunities help our district make wise investments in our future that will save the district operation costs and keep general fund dollars in our classrooms,” said Ralph Rohwer, Snohomish School District Executive Director of Operations. “Decisions we make are thoughtful, purposeful and consider the impact to student learning and the environment.”

Since the inception of the district’s RCM program more than three years ago, checks and incentives to the school district for PUD and PSE projects have totaled more than $275,000 and avoided utility costs have been an additional $250,000. In terms of the three-year savings, the total amounts to

- **PUD:** Could power 224 average Snohomish County homes for an entire year
- **PUD:** 22% total reduction from the original baseline (electricity)
- **PSE:** Could heat all 10 of the Snohomish School District elementary schools and the Parkway Campus for an entire year
- **PSE:** 29% total reduction from the original baseline (heat)

Several district schools have active student-led green teams which have implemented cafeteria recycling and composting programs and other sustainability initiatives. Other schools have gardens where fresh produce and flowers are grown and enjoyed. At Machias Elementary, about 80 pounds of food scraps are collected every day from the school lunchroom — that’s 400 pounds per week! In the 2015–2016 school year, Machias Elementary and Snohomish High School were awarded the Washington Green Schools — Bronze Level Awards for their work with waste and recycling.

Snohomish School District has also been a recipient of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction’s (OSPI) Energy Grants. Several district schools have active student-led green teams which have implemented cafeteria recycling and composting programs and other sustainability initiatives. Other schools have gardens where fresh produce and flowers are grown and enjoyed. At Machias Elementary, about 80 pounds of food scraps are collected every day from the school lunchroom — that’s 400 pounds per week! In the 2015–2016 school year, Machias Elementary and Snohomish High School were awarded the Washington Green Schools — Bronze Level Awards for their work with waste and recycling.

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Swim for Life is offering every 2nd grader enrolled in the Snohomish School District a free session of group swim lessons at the Snohomish Aquatic Center for the 2016–2017 school year. This community program is funded through generous donations raised through Swim for Life.

Swim for Life is a nonprofit organization that was recently formed by local community members who have a passion for enriching the lives of young people in our community. Its mission is to make young people safer in the water. During the 2015–2016 school year, 207 district 2nd graders took advantage of Swim for Life’s 2nd grade swim program.

- Learn more about the district’s 2nd grade swim program at www.sno.wednet.edu/2ndgradeswim
- Learn more about Swim for Life, its outreach efforts, scholarships, giving opportunities and more, please visit www.swimforlifesnohomish.org

**Did you know?**

- Drowning ranks fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the United States, and second among children in the state of Washington.
- Participation in formal swimming lessons may reduce the risk of drowning by as much as 88 percent among young children aged 1 to 4 years, who are at highest risk of drowning.
- Regular physical activity in childhood and adolescence improves strength and endurance, helps build healthy bones and muscles, helps control weight, reduces anxiety and stress, increases self-esteem, and may improve blood pressure and cholesterol levels.
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