District senior citizens invited to join Golden Kla Ha Ya Club

In appreciation of their many years of generously supporting our students and schools, Snohomish senior citizens are invited to attend district home athletic events and drama productions free of charge. Late this summer, the district launched its Golden Kla Ha Ya Club. Snohomish School District residents who are 65-years-old or older are invited to apply.

For athletic events: Present your Golden Kla Ha Ya Club membership card at the gate. Athletic event schedules are available at www.wescoathletics.com.

For drama productions: Call the number below to reserve your seat. Bring your membership card to pick up your ticket at will-call. Your complimentary ticket will not be available at the box office without this prior arrangement.

- Snohomish High School: 360-563-4008
- Glacier Peak High School: 360-563-7504

To learn more about Golden Kla Ha Ya Club and download a registration form, visit www.sno.wednet.edu/klahaya.

Forms can also be picked up and should be returned to the district’s Resource and Service Center (1601 Avenue D in Snohomish). Seniors will be contacted when their membership cards are available for pick up.

Message from the Superintendent

Superintendent

Dear families and friends -

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 swim programs in this newsletter.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Snohomish School District.

It’s going to be a terrific year!

Superintendent
Dear families and friends –

Welcome to the 2016–2017 school year! I want to thank you for the honor and privilege that I do not take lightly. I look forward to working with you as we continue our dedication to student learning and teaching every child.

As you may know, my wife, Lisa, and I relocated here from Montana this summer. And although we have been here a relatively short amount of time, we feel very fortunate to live and work in Snohomish. It’s evident that every day our students, staff, schools and community are partnering to accomplish great things together.

I am using first-hand so many wonderful things happening for our students and their families. Read about our district’s Golden Kla Ha Ya Club. Snohomish community showed how much it values and supports education by raising about $204,000 at the district’s annual auction. Monies raised through the auction are used to help fund our students and their families. Read about our district’s Golden Kla Ha Ya Club and 2nd grade swim programs in this newsletter.

Thank you Snohomish! The following were made possible due to the 2014 Levy for Instructional Technology Improvements:

- More than 3900 new laptops (nearly 100 mobile computing carts) have been deployed across all of our elementary, middle and high schools since September 2015. This has dramatically increased student access to computers in classrooms.
- The cloud-based tools Canvas and Office 365 were implemented across the district. These tools help students and staff collaborate online and more easily access their school files and instructional materials from home or on the go.

In order to help our students during the school year and beyond, we’re providing Microsoft Office free of charge to all district students and all staff members. With Office 365, you and your child will now have access to the latest version of Word, for writing, Excel, for spreadsheets, PowerPoint, for presentations, OneNote, for organization and note taking, and much more from your home-based devices.

To learn more about the district’s technology initiatives, visit www.sno.wednet.edu/technology

Dr. Kent Kultgen
Superintendent
Technology initiatives advance student learning

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As you may know, my wife, Lila, and I relocated here from Montana this summer. And although we have been here a relatively short amount of time, we feel very fortunate to live and work in Snohomish. It’s evident that every day our students, staff, school and community are partnering to accomplish great things together.

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 swim programs 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’ Cafe to young people from our community. More than 200 volunteers joined us in our effort. Our district’s dream of owning and operating the Kids’ Cafe mobile food truck also became a reality. This truck enabled us to expand our reach and serve those who may have otherwise gone without.

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As Election day is almost here, I’d like to recognize the hard work of our students, staff, community members, volunteers and our community representatives gathered at the annual Snohomish High School Campaign Breakfast. The breakfast, which was attended by a number of our students to the late Snohomish High School teacher Ted Green, provides an incentive for students to register to vote and learn more about the candidates, candidates and democratic process.

As you may know, the Snohomish School District family is always looking for ways to help fund classroom grants, scholarships, district-wide grants and the Hanson Shoe Fund.

Our schools are full of a fantastic group of students and staff who are bringing tremendous dedication and energy to your child. This year, we have about 9,950 K-12 students enrolled in our schools. We are also fortunate to have about 1,200 employees in our Snohomish School District family.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Snohomish School District. It’s going to be a terrific year!

Dr. Kent Kultgen
Superintendent
Conservation, sustainability programs reap benefits

Snohomish School District is working hard to grow a better future.

The school district, in part due to its partnerships with our community and organizations such as Snohomish County PUD, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and Washington Green Schools, continues to be recognized for its resource conservation management (RCM) and sustainability efforts.

“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:

- PSE: Could heat all 10 of the Snohomish School District elementary schools and the Parkway Campus for an entire year.
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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. For example, 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 Program which has helped fund district energy conservation projects such as lighting, heating, control system and water upgrades/retrofits.

“Our students, staff and community are working hard to create greener, healthier school environments,” said Rohwer. “It’s these types of partnerships that will sustain our schools well into the next generation.”

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Elementary schools recognized

A big round of applause goes to Cathcart Elementary and Seattle Hill Elementary as they will be recognized as 2016 Schools of Distinction! This recognition is provided to only 94 schools - the top 5% - in Washington state for outstanding improvement in student achievement.

Outstanding improvement in reading and math sustained over a five-year period is the reason that these schools received the 2016 School of Distinction award. The Center for Educational Effectiveness and their partner organizations have recognized schools in the top 5% of improvement for their levels. Cathcart Elementary and Seattle Elementary will be recognized at the Wednesday, December 7, Snohomish School District School Board meeting.

Seattle Hill Elementary is one of 94 schools being recognized across the state of Washington.
**Conservation, sustainability programs reap benefits**

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