

THIS EDITION OF SKYKOMISH ROCKETS PRESS IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY TEGAN SHELTON'S 2nd PERIOD PUBLICATIONS CLASS.

SKYKOMISH ROCKETS PRESS

EVERYONE SUCCEEDS. NO EXCEPTIONS. NO EXCUSES.



SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTE

April 30, 2018

Dear Skykomish Community,

April has been an incredibly busy and beautiful month. I am more than thrilled to share with you that on April 18, 2018 we were notified by King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) that our school was awarded the Best Starts for Kids Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) School-Based Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) implementation grants. This initiative is designed to prevent substance use and promote mental health for middle school students within King County. The approved award amount is \$150,000 for the period of September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019. Continuation of the award will be contingent upon implementation performance. This award period may be extended through the 2020-2021 school year.

This grant will continue to fund our Intervention Specialist and will fund the implementation of *The Leader in Me* program in our school.

The Leader in Me is a whole-school transformation model and process—

developed in partnership with educators—that empowers students with the leadership and life skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. It is based on the principles and practices of personal, interpersonal, and organizational effectiveness. Distinct in several ways, *The Leader in Me* starts from a powerful premise—every child possesses unique strengths and has the ability to be a leader—which shapes the views of staff to value and develop the whole child. The process integrates leadership development into existing programs, curricula and traditions and serves as a foundational operating system for the school, improving relationships, transforming culture, and highly motivating staff and students. All stakeholders are impacted by *The Leader in Me*, starting with the staff of a school, then expanding to students, their families, and the community at large. This Inside-Out Approach is a key ingredient to successfully creating positive change in a school.

The Leader in Me utilizes and integrates several leadership, social-emotional learning, quality, and educational models and processes from past and current thought leaders including *The 4 Imperatives of Great Leaders* and *The 4 Disciplines of Execution*. The process includes student participation in goal setting, data tracking, leadership roles, Student-Led Conferences, leadership environments, and Leadership Events. *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* is also a key component of the overall *Leader in Me* process and is a synthesis of universal, timeless principles of personal, interpersonal, and organizational effectiveness such as responsibility, vision, integrity,

teamwork, collaboration, and renewal, which are common to all people and cultures.

The Leader in Me includes training on establishing a vision for the school, goal setting, data tracking, and personal-accountability systems and is aligned with best-in-class content and concepts practiced by global education thought leaders. *The Leader in Me* provides a logical, sequential, and balanced process to help schools proactively design a culture that reflects their vision of their ideal school. This shared leadership increases engagement and enables students, staff, and families to be self-confident and self-reliant, work effectively with others, and make meaningful contributions.

The Leader in Me differs from other whole-school transformation processes in that it offers a holistic, schoolwide experience for staff, students, and parents, and creates a common language and culture within the school. The leadership principles and lessons are not taught as a curriculum, but instead are incorporated into coursework, traditions, systems, and culture.

We are very excited to bring this program to our District!

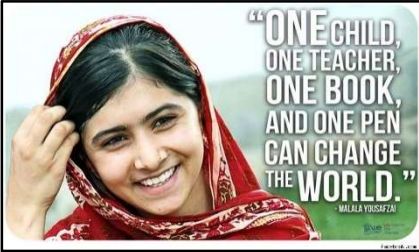
Thomas Jay
Superintendent



www.facebook.com/skykomishschooldistrict

NOTES FROM ENGLISH CLASS

- Tegan Shelton, High School English



The work never stops in English class!

Our senior class has been continuing on with their study of *I Am Malala*. They will be discussing how Malala's narrative illuminates common cultural practices around the place of girls in the family in modern South Asia and also examining the connections between cultural practices shaping girls' experiences and the history of secularism in Pakistan. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a Skype conversation with a citizen of Tajikistan, a country that borders Pakistan and has a similar culture and values, to discuss current practices and ideas.

Our junior class is hard at work on their final independent projects. Two of our students have decided to write and publish the novels that they began back in November. Another of our students has chosen a published blog as their final project. Students are in the process of finishing their writing

and editing. They are answering the essential question: *How do I create and publish my own novel, screenplay, game script, blog, etc.?*

Our sophomores have moved on to our poetry unit that will specifically focus on Walt Whitman. They will be examining the questions: *How do the circumstances of an artist's life influence their work? How does an author's style and word choices affect the purpose, meaning, and tone of writing? How can I write my life into my work?* Students will be completing their own version of Whitman's "Song of Myself" through a creative medium of their choice.

Our freshmen have delved into J.R.R. Tolkien's world of *The Hobbit*. Students are participating in reader's theater and learning about Joseph Campbell's theory on "The Hero's Journey" by mapping out Bilbo's adventure. Students are focusing on the questions: *What defines a hero? Why are quest narratives told? How can our own lives be viewed in terms of a quest narrative?*



PENNY WARS FOR ECUADOR

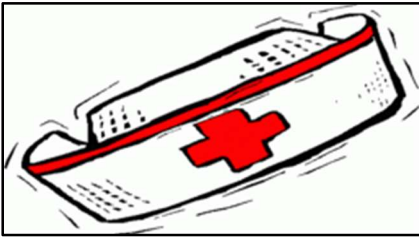
- Amanda Alexander, *Me to We* Advisor



The *Me to We* club held another Penny War this year to raise money for children in Ecuador so that they can receive basic education. For two weeks each morning before school began and during ten minute break, students competed against other grades to bring in the most amount of pennies. Students brought in pennies for their class jars to create a positive amount of money raised. Students from other classes came and "bombed" the jars with silver which created a negative amount. Students tried to keep their jars filled with pennies to counteract the silver bombs, but in the end Mrs. Walker's class rose to the top and won the competition! Mrs. Walker's class will receive a movie and popcorn party. Our students showed their big hearts and they crushed our fundraising goal. *Me to We* had a goal to raise \$450 this year. At final count \$557.45 was raised. Thank you to all who participated!

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

- Lynne Kelly, School Nurse



It is that very special time of year when I finally stop writing articles about viruses and covering your nose and mouth to avoid spreading germs. There is no denying it – Spring has arrived!! I love spending an entire day with all my doors and windows open – but it also brings a nagging sense of dread. Every year hundreds of children die falling out of windows. You will not be surprised to learn that falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury among children in this country. Almost 3 million children ages 10 years and younger require emergency room care for injuries from falls. A large percentage of window falls are in ages under 3 years. Falling from windows are of particular concern because they often result in severe injuries, even when “only” from a second story. Community education and installation of window guards in several communities have successfully decreased the incidence of window falls among children. Here are some steps you can take today, starting with adopting the mind frame that it really can happen to you.

- Limit window openings to 4”.
- Install window stops. Visit your local hardware store or shop online.
- Keep furniture away from windows.
- Teach kids not to play next to windows or press on windows.
- Plant shrubbery beneath windows to soften falls.
- Ask other parents about their window safety – consider checking the rooms where your child will play at other houses.

Coinciding with warmer days we have long waited for, the first days of spring and summer make it very tempting to jump in to cool off. Most of us live on or very near a dangerous river. Many drownings happen because a person goes into shock and cannot respond appropriately and swim to shore the way they normally would. Every year there are quotes in the newspaper: "She was just right there and I turned my head and she was gone," or "But he is such a good swimmer, how could it have happened?!"

Regardless of air temperature, the rivers in our area are not yet safe for full immersion unless cold/wet suits are on, head to toe.

Safety First and Happy Spring!!

SMARTER BALANCED TESTING



Next month, we will begin our state testing for science, math and English/language arts (ELA). Science testing will begin the week of May 13th. The ELA test will be given during the week of May 20th and the Math test will begin on May 29th. During these testing weeks, please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep, eats a healthy breakfast either at home or school, and arrives at school on time. If possible, please do not schedule trips or appointments during test weeks.



SKYKOMISH LADY ROCKETS TAKE A TRIP TO THE MOVIES

- Lena Jay, PTSO



On Tuesday, April 17, 2018, the Lady Rockets attended a showing of *The Miracle Season* at the Galaxy Theater in Monroe. The movie was about a volleyball team that went through a lot. "After the tragic death of a star volleyball player, Caroline, a team of dispirited high school girls must band together under the guidance of their tough-love coach in hopes of winning the state championship."

Thank you Becky Daly for driving the girls!

Thank you Subway on North Kelsey Street, Suite 111 and Kody Riddle, store owner, for giving us a discount and free drinks!



FIELD TRIP TO EDMONDS BEACH

- Allison Luker, PreK Teacher



Mark your calendars, we are headed to the beach! On May 16th, Pre-K through 5th grade will be headed to Edmonds to explore the low tide and enjoy a short ferry ride from Edmonds-Kingston. Many of you might remember this trip which was planned by our ECEAP program in the years past. I am thrilled to bring this trip back for the students and teachers to enjoy.

The tide on May 16th is expected to be a -2.5 tide and should be a great opportunity for students to explore the tide pools. This hands-on activity exposes our students to a wide variety of marine life, as well as beach etiquette. If you are interested in joining your child on this field trip, please contact your child's teacher or myself, this is a great family experience!

For more information, please contact Allison Luker by email at aluker@skykomish.wednet.edu or by phone at 360-677-2623 x233.

SAVE THE DATE

PARENTS DAY TEA – May 10th at



1:00 pm in the Skykomish School gym.



OPEN HOUSE – On Wednesday, May 24th at 5:00 pm, we will be hosting an Open House and BBQ for parents, the



community, and prospective students and families. Our Open House is an opportunity for you to learn more about our school and to say thank you for your support. For more information, to request an enrollment packet, or to RSVP, please call DeLana Slone at 360-677-2623 x0 or email at dslone@skykomish.wednet.edu



TACOS AND TALENT – May 4th at



5 pm, Skykomish PTSO is partnering with

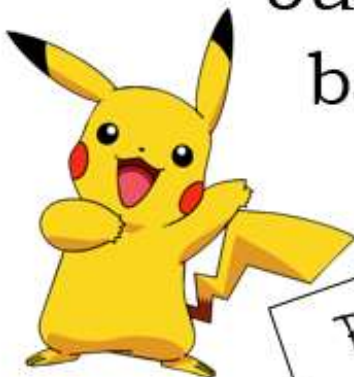
Skykomish ASB to host a Tacos and Talent Show Fundraiser! Come watch our schools' talent for an awesome show and then come down to the taco fundraiser in the cafeteria for a Cinco (quarto) 4th de Mayo celebration! For more details, contact Kim McCullough at 360-677-2623 or kmccullough@skykomish.wednet.edu.



Skykomish School
Box Tops Competition is Back!

May 1-31st, 2018

Win your class an hour of free
outside play with water
balloons and snacks!



Box Tops: Gotta
Catch Them All!



UPCOMING EVENTS

5/1/18 Principal Appreciation Day
Prevention team to Sultan
5/3/18 Me to We Club to We Day in Seattle
5/4/18 Tacos and Talent Show at 5:00 pm
5/7/18 Teacher and Nurse Appreciation Week
5/9/18 PTSO Meeting at 3:15 pm
School Board Meeting at 6:30 pm
5/10/18 Parents Day Tea at 1:00 pm
5/12/18 Volunteers needed for new playground at Skykomish Ball Park
5/13/18 State testing week for science
5/16/18 Tide Pool Field Trip PreK – 5th
5/17/18 Health Fair 2:30 – 4:30 pm
5/20/18 State testing week for ELA
5/23/18 Open House/BBQ at 5:00 pm
5/28/18 No School Memorial Day
5/29/18 State testing week for math
5/30/18 School Board Meeting at 6:30 pm
5/31/18 River Safety Presentation K-3

Non-discrimination Statement:

Skykomish School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee(s) have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Thomas Jay
Civil Rights Coordinator

Dan Bubar
Title IX Coordinator

Karen McEachern
Section 504 ADA Coordinator

105 6th Street North
Skykomish, WA 98288
360-677-2623

