



NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER
2019

SKYKOMISH ROCKETS PRESS

SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTE

It's so good to be back into the swing of things and to hear children in our building...

FINISH READING ON PG. 2



"YOUR MOST
IMPORTANT
WORK IS
ALWAYS AHEAD
OF YOU, NEVER
BEHIND YOU."

- STEPHEN
COVEY



NOTES FROM ENGLISH CLASS

Welcome back to another year of class! We have begun our year with a favorite among our high school students...

FINISH READING ON PG. 6

HIGHLY CAPABLE SELECTION PROCESS

What is it? Who can be nominated? Who can nominate students?

FINISH READING ON PG. 7





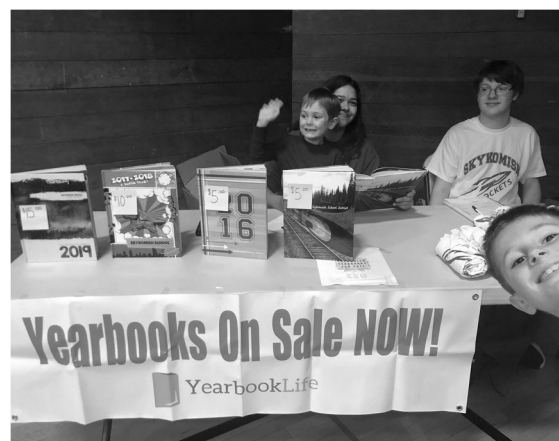
Dear Skykomish Community,

It's so good to be back into the swing of things and to hear children in our building. Lots of work happens during the summer months, but the real joy is witnessing the return of our students, our faculty, and our staff. I was so thrilled to welcome them back!

As I begin my fourth year in Skykomish School District I continue to feel incredibly blessed and grateful beyond words to serve in this capacity as your District's Superintendent and I look forward to our work together in ensuring that every child succeeds, no exceptions, no excuses.

I am also excited to share with you some great initiatives that we have for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Parent/guardian engagement and learning focused on the 7 *Habits of Highly Effective Families*. In August, I and several staff members, Allison Luker, Sonia Bartosek, and Rosemary Mitchell became certified trainers. We will develop a training schedule and share it with you as soon as possible.
- This year we enter our second year as a *Leader in Me* school. This year we will focus on Aligning Academics to help achieve



personal, classroom, and student goals. Students will maintain a Leadership Notebook to celebrate: 1) themselves; 2) their Wildly Important Goals (WIG); 3) their learning; 4) their leadership; and 5) celebrations. We will achieve this through *The 4 Disciplines Mountain*, which is comprised of the following disciplines: Discipline 1: FOCUS ON THE WILDLY IMPORTANT: Choose Your WIG; Discipline 2: ACT ON THE LEAD MEASURES: Take the Key Steps; Discipline 3: KEEP A COMPELLING SCOREBOARD: Keep Score; and Discipline 4: CREATE A CADENCE OF ACCOUNTABILITY: Huddle Up.

- During our accreditation process last year, the outside accrediting team recommended that we develop a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) and Response to intervention (RTI). RTI is a framework that many schools use to help students who are struggling with academics. There are three levels of intervention in RTI. A multi-tier system of supports (MTSS) is more comprehensive. It may include the three levels of RTI, but MTSS goes beyond just academics. It also covers social and emotional supports. That means it can include behavior intervention plans. MTSS covers the adults at school, too. It includes things like professional development for teachers. MTSS also focuses on creating ways for adults to team up to help struggling kids. This year we will be developing and implementing these support systems.

This fall you will also notice that we are running for the first time, a Technology Levy, to ask for the public's support in ensuring that we can continue to provide our students with a one-to-one laptop program—every student will continue to have access to their own personal computer device, providing teachers with updated instructional tools—teacher laptops and electronic whiteboards in each classroom, and professional development training for teachers on how to best implement technology into their instruction. This levy will also be used to replace our 15-year-old phone system, which we rely upon to make daily announcements, emergency communications, and communicating with parents, families, and the

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

public. The phone system is no longer supported and could fail at a moments notice.

The Board of Directors of Skykomish School District No. 404 adopted Resolution No. 07_31_2019 concerning a technology modernization levy. The proposition authorizes acquiring educational and operational technology, equipment, and training, including classroom computers to support instruction, and authorizes the following excess levies on all taxable property within the District.

Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000

<u>Collection Years</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2020	\$1.6249	\$75,000
2021	\$1.6249	\$75,000
2022	\$1.6249	\$75,000
2023	\$1.6249	\$75,000

Passage of Proposition No.1 would allow the levy of \$75,000 in property taxes within Skykomish School District No. 404 for collection in 2020, the levy of \$75,000 for collection in 2021, the levy of \$75,000 for collection in 2022 and the levy of \$75,000 for collection in 2023, to fund acquisition and installation, implementation and management of computer technology and technology systems, facilities and projects, including but not limited to enhancing infrastructure, acquiring hardware, licensing software, and implementing online applications and training. In accordance with Resolution No. 07_31_2019 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over the 2019-2020 through 2023-2024 school years, inclusive, and deposited in the District’s Capital Projects Fund for such improvements to meet the current and future educational programs for its students. If authorized by voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.62 (2020 collection), \$1.62 (2021 collection), \$1.62 (2023 collection). The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based on the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

Skykomish School District works together with students, parents, and the community to provide what they need to succeed, empower, and inspire as contributing members of society. We will provide them with the tools and education they need to realize their full potential as life-long learners.

**TITLE I
PROGRAM
2019 - 2020**

Thomas Jay
Superintendent
Sonia Bartosek
Title I Director
sbartosek@skykomish.wednet.edu
360 – 677 – 2623 ext. 201

FAMILIES ARE VITAL!

You are invited to become an active part of our Title I program. Your involvement in the District or school Title I Program will:

- Serve as a role model for your child
- Help your child understand how important their education is to you
- Assure you are aware of your student’s educational progress
- Increase your understanding of the school system and help to improve and enhance your student’s educational experience

If you would like to be involved in policy development and program coordination or have any concerns about our Title I program, please contact Sonia Bartosek at 360-67702623 ext. 201.

For Citizens’ Complaints regarding Federal Programs, please follow the Skykomish School District Board Policy.

Skykomish School District Title I Program offers the following benefits:

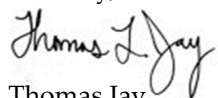
- Small group and/or individual instruction for specialized instructional opportunities.
- Para-educators dedicated to Title I and LAP students
- Opportunities for professional development of school staff
- Extra time for teaching Title I students for successful understanding of math, reading, and writing skills
- Intervention materials to supplement student understanding of core subjects
- Supplemental learning materials
- Individualized programs and one-on-one instruction for students

Please contact your child’s teacher for their individualized plan.

.We will create a safe, academic, and rigorous learning environment with high expectations that is tailored to our students, their skills and interests.

I look forward to serving you, our students, and our community throughout this school year!

Sincerely,



Thomas Jay
Superintendent

FROM THE DESK OF MS. DIAZ

Lanette Diaz, 2-5th grades



The Reptile Man, Scott Petersen, from the Reptile Zoo in Monroe, visited our school this month. Mr. Peterson brought with him about eight animals from around the world, including reptiles,

snakes, and a tortoise. Students heard factual information on each animal.

At the end of the show, many of our students held a large python, petted a gentle tortoise, and posed for pictures with Lucy the alligator. Thank you, Mr. Peterson, for sharing these wonderful creatures with us!

Self-Portraits:

Top from left to right: Mason (1st), Emily (2nd), Isabelle (3rd)

Bottom from left to right:

Benjamin (3rd), Karter (5th),

Raquel (5th).



The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th-grade students worked on self-portraits this week. The objective was for students to learn how to draw their own *realistic* facial features and hairstyles while experimenting with oil pastels to learn how to blend colors.

WHAT IS TITLE I?

Title I is a federal program that provides additional academic assistance to students needing academic support in math, reading, and English language arts to reach proficiency.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF TITLE I?

The goal of Title I is to provide additional instructional services and activities to students who would benefit from extra support beyond classroom instruction in mathematics, reading, and writing.

WHERE DO TITLE I FUNDS COME FROM?

As part of the ESEA, the Federal Government provides money for Title I to our State Education Agency. School districts then receive a grant and allocate money to schools based on several factors, including free & reduced lunch status.

Skykomish School District is a Title I School

School-wide: All students fall under the Title I designation and those students who demonstrate academic need are given additional support. Title I activities are available to all students.

To help students succeed, Title I teachers:

- Identify students who need additional educational support
- Create an individualized program
- Focus on improving reading and math skills
- Measure student progress to determine the success of the Title I program for each student.


Research Shows:

Family involvement has a direct impact on student learning. The following are ways to take an active role in your students' education:

- Join the Skykomish PTSO
- Support school activities
- Volunteer in the classroom/school
- Attend parent-teacher conferences
- Communicate with your student's teacher on a regular basis
- Keep your student's teacher informed about significant events that may impact school life

After School Program

The Title I Program supports the Skykomish After School Program, which meets most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 2:45 – 4:00 pm. Bus riders are provided transportation home following the program. Students receive a snack, homework assistance, reading and math supplemental activities. Contact the school office for more information.



“We are
such stuff
as dreams
are made
on...”

- William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

NOTES FROM ENGLISH CLASS

Tegan Shelton, High School English Teacher

Welcome back to another year of class!

We have begun the year with a favorite among our high school students in grades 10 through 12—a project-based learning unit where students have the opportunity to become teachers for one whole class period. This is a wonderful activity to begin the year with, because it reminds students how much work is put into the creation of lesson plans and assessments, and it teaches them how to become leaders.

This year we are joined by the eighth-grade class. These students are beginning the year with a unit on friendship. Students are working on a novel study of *Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan. *Amina's Voice* is a story about a middle school girl named Amina who is struggling with a transition in both her family and social life. When her local mosque is vandalized, Amina's life is further tipped upside down, and she feels like an outsider in her own city. During this unit, students are focusing on questions like: *How can I understand a character's identities, moti-*

ations, and world views? What might be common experiences and customs for young Muslim Americans? and What choices do people have when they encounter a person or a group who is different from them?

In other news, in March, Ms. Shelton's students will be taking a field trip to Seattle to see a matinee of Seattle Shakespeare Company's *The Tempest*. Taken from Seattle Shakespeare Company's website: "Stripped of power, position, and wealth, for 12 long years Prospero has plotted in exile on an enchanted island. When enemies sail too close, Prospero conjures a magical storm to shipwreck the passengers. The mysterious island holds secrets, along with curious creatures and fantastical spirits. While dispensing justice and watching over his daughter's emerging romance, Prospero's old wounds begin to heal, and reconciliation and forgiveness seem within reach for all." *The Tempest* is thought to be Shakespeare's final play.

HIGHLY CAPABLE SELECTION PROCESS

Sonia Bartosek, School Counselor

What is it?

Highly Capable Services are designed for students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments. Successful candidates are often independent learners who thrive on progressively challenging opportunities, utilize advanced problem-solving, and enjoy in-depth study and presentation of the curriculum. Students qualifying for Highly Capable Services shall receive appropriate curriculum and instruction to meet their academic needs.

Who can be nominated?

Any students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade, who live in the Skykomish School District boundaries.

Who can nominate students?

Nominations for the Highly Capable Program may come from parents, teachers, school staff, students, and other community members.

How can I nominate a student?

Call or email for a nomination form:

Sonia Bartosek, School Counselor

(260) 677-2623 ext. 201 / sbartosek@skykomish.wednet.edu

What's next?

Once a referral is received, you will receive a nomination form to complete. In addition, the counselor will review the current standardized testing and grades. A Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scale (GATES) will be provided to the student's teacher. This is a norm-referenced rating scale which identifies intellectual ability, academic skills, creativity, leadership, and artistic talent in comparison to average students their age. An additional screener, the Screening Assessment for Gifted Elementary and Middle School Students (SAGES-3) will be given to K-8 students by the counselor.

Following the screening process, if a committee determines it is possible the student may qualify for Highly Capable Services, the parent/guardian will be provided further information about the program. The parent/guardian then decides whether or not they want their child to be formally assessed and must provide written permission.

Operation School Bell & Teen Retail

Our high school students will be participating again this year in the Teen Retail night at Fred Meyer. This program is sponsored and paid by Assistance League of Everett. This event provides up to \$125 worth of free school clothing to our high school students who qualify, and is provided without cost or obligation to parents or guardians.

Students must check-in at the Monroe Fred Meyer store before shopping for school clothes (i.e. pants, jeans, shirts, jackets, shoes, socks, and underwear). Parents are welcome to attend with students. Students are responsible for transportation to and from Fred Meyer. Forms will be sent home October 1, 2019. Students will need to bring their student ID along with the signed form to be able to shop. Skykomish School is set up to shop on Tuesday, October 15th. You may check in from 4:45 to 6:30 and shop until 8:00 pm.

The Operation School Bell program for our elementary and middle school students who qualify will not be happening until January 2020. Please be on the lookout for information on dates and times regarding this opportunity. If you have any questions about either of these programs, please contact DeLana Slone at 360-677-2623 x 100.

STEM COMES TO SKY

Kimberly McCullough – High School Math & Science Teacher

I am very excited about the 2019/2020 school year. In addition to my high school math and science classes, I am also teaching 8th-grade math and science. We have a great group of students and I am excited to have the opportunity to work with them.

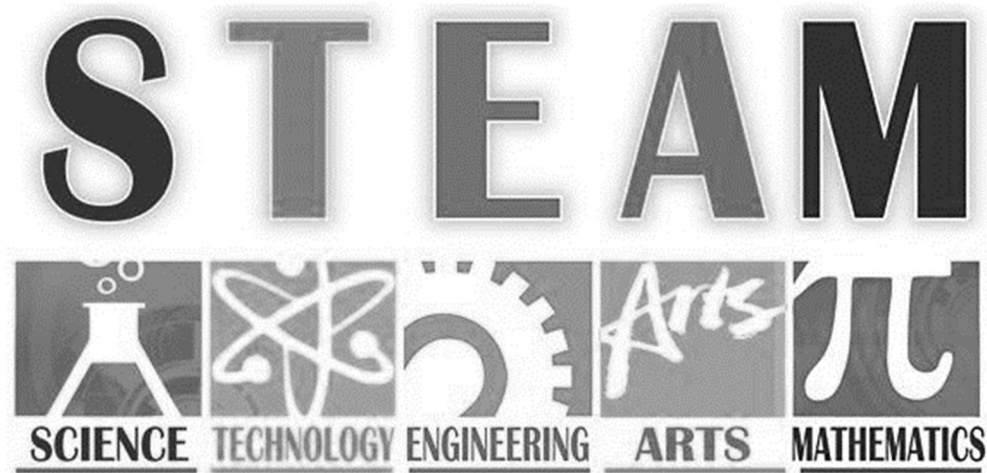
Our new Friday schedule is giving me an opportunity to teach a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) class as well. Students will have an opportunity to do more hands-on activities and explore careers in STEM. We are also hoping to participate in a science fair this year. Once again, Ms. Diaz and I are looking forward to collaborating on activities for our students. This gives students the opportunity to work with one another across grade levels. It is always fun for the elementary students to teach the high school students something, and for the high school students to teach the elementary students. When students can get excited about applying what they learn in class to an activity, they retain the information better. We will also work to integrate art into the class, with collaboration from Mr. Grider. I am looking forward to this exciting opportunity to get students more involved in the learning process and to incorporate the *7 Habits* into our work.

MIDDLE SCHOOL JOBS

Bella Martin, Middle School Journalist

This year in Mrs. Robinson's class, students will take on leadership jobs. The roles are: banker, journalist, substitute, custodian, tech coordinator, gardener, and three teaching assistants. The banker is the one who keeps track of the money and writes the paychecks and manages the students' bank accounts. The journalist writes an article of their own and submits their article to the Skykomish School newsletter. The substitute is the one who fills in peoples' jobs when they're gone. These jobs require a lot of responsibility and teach leadership skills.

Each student only has their job for one quarter. At the end of the quarter, students may apply for a new job. To apply for a job, students complete an application. If the application is detailed, descriptive, and shows that the job is the right one for the student, Mrs. Robinson will accept the application. Students also get paid in Rocket Dollars which they can use in our classroom store for the job every two weeks, if the job is done right. Most articles will include our Employee of the Month. The Employee of the Month will be the person who did their job correctly, didn't have to be reminded to do their job, and who was responsible and respectful. The class and Mrs. Robinson are looking forward to this idea.



WELCOME BACK TO P.E. CLASS

Dan Bubar, Physical Education Teacher

Welcome back to another school year! I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone of a few things in P.E. class. First, please have a pair of shoes available that can be designated as P.E. shoes. These shoes can be left at school, and students can change into them at the start of class. Second, if your child is ever sick, injured, or not feeling well, please send them with a note or notify me and the office. It is important for me to understand if there is anything limiting their participation, or if I need to modify an activity. We started the year with some striking skills and net games with badminton. This past week has focused solely on a variety of skills and games that include underhand and overhand throwing. In the upcoming weeks, our students in middle school and high school plan to take advantage of any good weather to start our bike unit.

IMPORTANT SKYKOMISH SCHOOL BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Vacancy

School Board Director Position #4

The Skykomish School Board announces an opening for a School Board Director.

The Skykomish School Board will appoint this interim position.

Letters of interest should be sent to Board President, John Robinson at jrobinson@skykomish.wednet.edu or dropped off at the School District Office.

Board action on this position will be made at the next Skykomish School Board Meeting.

School Board meetings are held on the second and last Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Skykomish Community Center.

Applicants must be United States Citizens, registered voters, and must reside within the Skykomish School District boundaries.

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/01/19 – First day of After School

Program for qualified
students

10/09/19 – PTSO Meeting in library –

Everyone welcome!

10/11/19 – No School

10/15/19 – Teen Retail Night at Fred

Meyer for high school

10/18/19 – Remlinger Farm field trip

Pre-K – 5th grade

- School Board Meeting at
6:30 pm at Community
Center
- PSAT make-up day for
10th & 11th grades

10/18/19 – PSAT 8th & 9th grade

students

10/23/19 – School photos

10/25/19 – Spirit Week – PJ Day

10/26/19 – Spirit Week – Meme Day

10/27/19 – Spirit Week – Cosplay Day

10/28/19 – Spirit Week – Costume Day

11/01/19 – Spirit Week – Spirit Day

10/23 – 10/31 – Red Ribbon Week

September 20, 2019

Dear Local Business Owners & Parents of Skykomish Students:

The Skykomish High School Yearbook Staff is seeking the support of the community. We are asking local business owners, organizations, and parents to purchase advertisement space in this year's book, which will be distributed next May/June. The cost of the advertisement space is as follows:

AD Size	Price (Full Color)
1/8 Business Card Size (2.75" x 4.25")	\$100.00
¼ Page (4.25" x 5.5")	\$140.00
½ Page (8.5" x 11")	\$250.00
Full Page (8.5" x 11")	\$350.00

We feel that advertising in the yearbook is not only effective, but also affirms your support for the Skykomish Community. Unlike most other types of advertising, an ad in a yearbook lasts a lifetime. Your support helps the school community by insuring that the yearbook is affordable to everyone.

If you are interested in purchasing advertisement space for this year's yearbook, please let the student presenting this letter know. Attached is an order form if that is more convenient for you.

If you have any questions, please contact the yearbook staff at tshelton@skykomish.wednet.edu. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Tegan Shelton

Skykomish School Yearbook Advisor

tshelton@skykomish.wednet.edu

The SHS Yearbook Student Staff

2020 yearbook ad order form for Skykomish School

Please complete and return this form with your photos, text, and payment by December 01, 2019.

Parent/Purchaser Name _____

Student Name (if applicable) _____

Street Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Daytime phone _____ Email address _____

Ad Sizes:

AD Size	Price (Full Color)
1/8 Business Card Size (2.75" x 4.25")	\$100.00
¼ Page (4.25" x 5.5")	\$140.00
½ Page (8.5" x 11")	\$250.00
Full Page (8.5" x 11")	\$350.00

Photos (Instructions, requests, comments):

Copy/text (for your ad):

Payment

Total Due:

Purchaser signature

Date

- ☐ Cash date _____
☐ Check Check # _____

Instructions for ad submission