The modernization/replacement of Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools is making great progress. At Shorecrest, the new gymnasium is expected to be completed in time for the opening of school in September, and the performing arts center in December. This summer the existing gym will be demolished to make way for the new main academic building. At Shorewood, steel has been erected for the three-story classroom building. Construction of the theater and gymnasium is also under way, as is the renovation of the historic Ronald School.

Steel framing is complete for the classroom building at Shorewood.

Floors have been poured and masonry walls are rising for the Shorecrest performing arts center building.

Flooring is ready for installation inside the new Shorecrest gymnasium.
Superintendent’s Message:
A memorable year for our schools

Dear Shoreline Schools Community,

It is difficult to believe that yet another school year has ended and we are already beginning to plan for the 2012-13 school year. Who among us can forget the excitement associated with the first day of school, or the sense of freedom we felt on the last day of school? The incredible moments provided by our students and community in the 2011-12 school year will not be forgotten.

• Symbolically, it began with the Shoreline Back to School Consortium event, which helped more than 1,000 of our students receive needed backpacks, school supplies, haircuts and clothing assistance. What an amazingly generous community we have! Information on this year’s event is to the right on this page.

• The groundbreaking for Shorecrest and Shorewood was led by the future students who will attend the new high schools. We have marveled at the progress of construction as you can see on the front page of this Flagship newsletter.

• Spirit Night at Shoreline Stadium was attended by 3,000 people of all ages cheering on the Shorewood and Shorecrest High School football teams, with the Shoreline Rotary Cup in the balance. Mark your calendar for Friday, Oct. 5 for next fall’s game.

• Passage of the Supplemental Levy to Support Class Size on the November general election ballot was a highlight. We deeply appreciate your continued support of our schools.

• The Elementary Honor Choir performed to a sold-out Benaroya Hall, with over 250 fifth and sixth grade vocalists, musicians and staff. A magic moment for all of those in attendance!

• The Shorecrest High School Highlander Marching Band, consisting of 170 musicians, pipers, Highland Dancers and flags, made its fifth trip to Dublin, Ireland to appear in the St. Patrick’s Day parade. The group was honored as Best Youth Band in the parade—look for the picture on page 5.

• The Schools for Kenya club at Shorewood High School and their elephant umbrella mosaic event (photo on page 5), brought together more than 700 people with umbrellas to raise money to build a school in Kenya as a way of showing their appreciation for the new Shorewood and Shorecrest High School buildings.

Thank you again for your support of our schools this year. We look forward to the opening of the 2012-13 school year on Sept. 10.

Sincerely,

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Marcia Harris retires after 37 years in public education

Deputy Superintendent Marcia Harris is retiring Aug. 31 after a 37-year career in K-12 education in Washington state, the past six years in Shoreline.

“Marcia has made incredible contributions to the operations and systems of the Shoreline Schools,” said Superintendent Sue Walker. “Perhaps no greater contribution has been made, however, than that of the integrity, openness and confidence that she has instilled in our staff and community with respect to our fiscal programs.”

Marcia began her career as an analyst for the Superintendent of Public Instruction in Olympia. She subsequently became an assistant superintendent in Mabton, Yakima County, then Moses Lake, before becoming the first female superintendent of the Chimacum School District near Port Townsend.

In 2006 Harris was deputy superintendent in the Peninsula School District when Shoreline, in need of an expert in Washington state school finance, recruited her to apply for the same position here.

Six years later, the District is now financially stable, with systems in place that have re-established its fiscal reputation. The new Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools are under construction, have received the maximum state funding and the bond sale for the projects is complete.

“We know that Marcia was a perfect match for Shoreline. She is able to retire now because she knows that what she came here to do has been accomplished,” Walker said.
A student experiment from Highland Terrace Elementary has been selected to participate in Mission Two to the International Space Station this fall through the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program.

Highland Terrace Elementary students Aden Helland, Matthew McMillan, Tuguldur Myagmarsuren, Jack Parkinson and Dylan Probizanski designed an experiment with the help of their teacher, Peggy Nordwall, and scientist-mentor Jacqui Rublee.

“Our question is if crystals grown in microgravity will pick up impurities. This would be important because of the need to fabricate pure, defect-free single crystals for their use as semi-and superconductors,” the students’ proposal read.

The Student Spaceflight Experiment is a national educational program undertaken by the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education in partnership with NanoRacks, LLC. Shoreline is one of only 11 districts nationwide to be chosen for this program.

The Spaceflight Program uses a commercial spaceflight payload, which will contain the student experiments, and will be placed aboard ferry vehicles for transfer to the International Space Station.

Highland Terrace sixth graders and Einstein eighth graders participated in a competition in which they worked in teams to design experiments that answer the question, “What phenomenon associated with a physical, chemical, or biological system would I like to explore with gravity turned off for a period of time?”

A committee of science professionals from the community evaluated all proposals and selected three to be sent to the National Center for Earth and Space Science where one proposal was selected. The students will prepare the winning proposal in the specially designed NanoRack Mini-lab kit and send to Houston for launch.

This experience for these young students and staff and was made possible by the support of the Shoreline community, including the Shoreline Public Schools Foundation, the Knossos Foundation, the Wong family, Tiia-Mai Redditt, Einstein PTSA and Highland Terrace PTSA.

Shorecrest chosen among Best High Schools in U.S.

Shorecrest High School has been awarded a silver medal for U.S. News and World Report’s 2012 ranking of the Best High Schools.

Shorecrest is ranked 24th in Washington by U.S. News out of more than 600 high schools in the state and in the top five percent of high schools nationwide. Shorecrest will receive silver medal status for its academic achievement. U.S. News awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals to the top-performing schools.

U.S. News partnered with the Washington, D.C.-based American Institutes for Research (AIR), which implemented U.S. News’s rankings methodology. To determine the Best High Schools national rankings, schools were first analyzed at the state level in terms of how well students in each school performed on state assessments, taking into account all population groups. High schools that made it through this analysis were then eligible to be ranked nationally, in terms of college readiness. U.S. News determines the degree to which schools prepare students for college-level work by analyzing student success in Advanced Placement (AP) which include college-level courses. Shorecrest offers 14 AP and five honors courses to students, and participation in these classes has grown steadily each year.

Save the Date: Lake Forest Park School centennial celebration Sept. 8

Lake Forest Park Elementary will celebrate its centennial with a celebration from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8 at the school, 18500 37th Ave. N.E. The community is invited.

Lake Forest Park first began classes in 1912, and the building below was constructed in 1914. It was used for more than 50 years. Look for the Lake Forest Park Elementary Centennial Celebration event page on Facebook and join past and present students and their families on Sept. 8.
Healthy options featured on school menus

The Shoreline Schools Food Services department has made significant upgrades to school lunch and breakfast menus throughout the District this year. With the opening of the new Central Kitchen at the warehouse facility in Hamlin Park, Food Services is able to offer a greater menu variety featuring enhanced meal options as it serves about 4,000 meals a day to students.

Working with the Healthy Lifestyles Committee of the Shoreline PTA Council on taste tests at various schools, several new items were introduced this year. Elementary school lunches now feature bean and cheese or fiesta chicken burritos, Spanish rice and pinto beans, black bean chili, romaine salad and focaccia breadsticks, vegetable lasagna made with the Central Kitchen’s homemade marinara sauce, and lower-sodium chicken teriyaki with Calrose rice.

Food Service also changed pizza vendors. The switch was based on taste testing, showing that most children preferred the healthier version. Elementary school students will also be able to start their day with a freshly-baked cranberry pumpkin scone, harvest breakfast muffin or fruit and yogurt parfait for breakfast. More healthy options are planned for fall, including the introduction of salad bars at elementary schools.

All school meals are analyzed for nutritional content (calories, cholesterol, sodium, fiber, iron, calcium, Vitamin A, Vitamin C, fat and saturated fat) to ensure that the recommended federal government standards are being met.

Those standards will become more stringent later this year and the District is preparing, having already eliminated trans fats in its meals. The District lists nutritional facts with its menus posted online at www.shorelineschools.org.

District, city weighing future of Sunset School building

The Shoreline School District and the City of Shoreline are working on a possible agreement related to the future of the closed Sunset Elementary School building and site located in the Richmond Highlands Neighborhood. If an agreement is reached, the School District will pay for the demolition of the school building while the City will take over the maintenance, utilities, supervision and scheduling of the property. The details of the agreement might be similar to the joint-use agreement entered into between the School District and the City for use of Paramount School Park, incorporating some of the terms in the Sunset Site Planning Agreement.

The School District hopes to reach an agreement as soon as possible, and plans to cover the costs of removing the building through the annual savings of maintenance, utilities, supervision and scheduling over future years. The City believes it will be able to cover the costs of continued maintenance and supervision of the site through the parks maintenance budget.

“Razing the vacant building will be a win-win for our community. While the Friends of Sunset Park and others continue to identify funding for the proposed park on the property, the demolition of the building will go a long way to making this public facility safer and neighborhood friendly,” said Superintendent Sue Walker.

Music4Life will provide instruments to students

A new community initiative will expand instrumental music education for children in the Shoreline School District. Sponsored by the four Rotary clubs located in the District and the non-profit Music4Life, the Shoreline Schools Music4Life program will acquire musical instruments and supplies for eligible students.

Used musical instruments are gratefully accepted and can be dropped off at any Kennelly Keys Music store, Shoreline Center, Key Bank in Shoreline, Ballinger Realty and A Better Day Salon in Lake Forest Park. The instruments will be repaired as needed and donated free of charge to the Shoreline Schools.

Monetary donations will be used to fund repairs and purchase new instruments and musical supplies and can be made via PayPal accounts or by visiting www.ShorelineSchoolsMusic4Life.org. Musical instruments will first be offered to students who qualify for the free and reduced-lunch program.

Clubs in the area who are participating in the Music4Life program are the Lake Forest Park Rotary, Shoreline Breakfast Rotary, Shoreline Lunch Rotary and Rain City Rotary.
A Shorewood student club attempted a world record umbrella mosaic in the form of an elephant to raise funds to build a school for Kenyan children. More than 700 people came to Shoreline Stadium and raised $3,500 for the cause.

The Shorecrest Marching Band, Pipers, Flags and Highland Dancers toured Ireland in March, performing in the Dublin St. Patrick’s Day parade.

Lake Forest Park Elementary third graders received new dictionaries compliments of the Lake Forest Park Rotary. LFP, Shoreline Lunch and Shoreline Breakfast Rotary Clubs combined efforts to donate dictionaries to all third graders in the Shoreline School District.

The Shorecrest softball team held a “Pink Night” game against Glacier Peak to promote awareness of breast cancer and other cancers and raise funds for the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. Both teams dressed in Pink Night uniforms for the event and more than $800 was donated to cancer research and treatment.
Vince Santo Pietro, science teacher at Shorecrest High School, has been selected as the 2012 Shoreline Teacher of the Year. Santo Pietro has taught science at Shorecrest since 1994.

“In his classroom Vince is the master of questioning strategies, probing students and encouraging higher level thinking skills as he provides feedback to push students toward their learning goals. He incorporates real world applications to make subject matter relevant, and stays current with developments in his teaching assignment,” his nomination read in part.

Each year Vince organizes a popular Astronomy Night that is open to the public. He received a grant to do astronomy research at the UW and teaches a college level astronomy class. For the recent trip to Ireland by the Shorecrest marching band, pipers, Highland Dancers and flags, Santo Pietro handled many of the organizational logistics. In the community, Vince was one of the founding members of the Around the Sound Community Band.

Shoreline Schools Calendar
For a complete list of events, visit www.shorelineschools.org

July 2012
25 • School Board Meeting, 5 p.m., Shoreline Center

August 2012
5 • Meridian Park Elementary School Classic Car Show
7 • Primary Election, please remember to vote
18 • Celebrate Shoreline parade, 12 noon and festival following at Ridgecrest Elementary School
18 • Shoreline 4-on-the-Floor Basketball Tournament to benefit the Shoreline Public Schools Foundation, 9 a.m., Shoreline Center
20 • School Board meeting and public hearing on 2012-13 budget, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
25 • Back to School Consortium Event, 12:30 to 4 p.m., North City building

September 2012
8 • Lake Forest Park Elementary Centennial Celebration, 12 to 4 p.m.
10 • First day of 2012-13 school year
17 • School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center

Don Warrick of Syre, 2012 Shoreline Support Person of the Year

Don Warrick, paraeducator and student supervisor at Syre Elementary School, has been selected as the 2012 Shoreline School District Support Person of the Year.

Don has worked at Syre since 2004 and has held many roles there, including student supervisor on the playground and at recess, resource room paraeducator, high impact paraeducator, and all-day kindergarten paraeducator.

“Don is dedicated to the students of Syre Elementary, providing academic, social and emotional support. His words and actions make a positive difference in the lives of children and our community. Don’s passion is to serve our community and prepare young adults to make our world into a better place,” his nomination read in part.

In the community, Don has volunteered for 30 years with the Dale Turner Family YMCA, previously serving as Board chair and currently as co-chair of the program committee. The Shoreline Schools Support Person of the Year award has been made annually since 1997 to honor outstanding classified staff members.