The Power of One volunteer program is gearing up to help more Shoreline School students with their homework, math and reading skills. To do that more volunteer tutors are needed at several elementary schools in the District.

Teachers appreciate the help of community volunteers in busy classrooms and libraries. In addition, volunteers stay active and feel more connected to the students in their neighborhood and the school community. Benefits of joining Power of One include access to free training and resources, a school district badge, and support from the volunteer coordinator.

During the 2011-12 school year, a core group of about 55 Power of One volunteers put in nearly 4,000 hours at Shoreline schools and programs.

Carl and Kathy Leon have been volunteering for about five years. Not having children of their own, this has been a wonderful opportunity for them to work with children and experience the joy of helping students in their learning.

Carl helps with math and reading activities at Echo Lake Elementary while Kathy particularly enjoys working with ELL students (English Language Learners).

“Seeing the progress students make from the beginning of the year to the end is very rewarding,” Kathy elaborates.

The program began in 1996 as a partnership between the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center and the Shoreline School District. The Shoreline Public Schools Foundation also supports Power of One.

For more information or to apply for the program, contact volunteer coordinator Karen Kessinger at 206-365-1169 or by e-mail: karen.kessinger@shorelineschools.org. Power of One volunteers must undergo a Washington State Patrol background check and complete a short application.
Dear Shoreline Schools Community,

Since the Supreme Court issued its landmark McCleary v. Washington decision regarding education funding more than a year ago, there has been a great deal of discussion about what the ruling means and what it requires.

Those discussions are bound to continue during the legislative session now under way in Olympia. Recently, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction published the following narrative that summarizes the McCleary decision and I would like to share it with you. I know that our community will be watching with significant interest to see how our legislators respond to this court ruling.

Sincerely,

Superintendent's Message:
The Supreme Court, in its own words

**Summary of McCleary v. Washington**

On January 5, 2012, the State Supreme Court ruled in McCleary v. Washington that Washington state is not amply funding basic education under the state Constitution. The text below in italics are quotes from the ruling.

*The paramount duty of the state is to provide “ample” support for basic education:* 

“Article IX, section 1 confers on children in Washington a positive constitutional right to an amply funded education.”

**Ample means more than just adequate:**

“The word “ample” in article IX, section 1 provides a broad constitutional guideline meaning fully, sufficient, and considerably more than just adequate.”

At a minimum, the State must fully fund NERCs (overhead costs), transportation, and staff salaries and benefits without relying on local levies or federal funds:

“If the State’s funding formulas provide only a portion of what it actually costs a school to pay its teachers, get kids to school, and keep the lights on, then the legislature cannot maintain that it is fully funding basic education through its funding formulas.”

**Relying on local levies or federal funding is unconstitutional because it is unstable and unfair:**

“The fact that local levy funds have been at least in part supporting the basic education program is inescapable…..

Relying on levy funding to finance basic education was unconstitutional 30 years ago…..and it is unconstitutional now.

“Similarly, we find it difficult to characterize federal funding of certain education programs as a “regular and dependable tax source” for purposes of satisfying the State’s obligation.”

**Lack of revenue does not justify failing to meet the paramount duty:**

“To ensure that the legislature exercises its authority within constitutionally prescribed bounds, any reduction of programs or offerings from the basic education program must be accompanied by an educational policy rationale. That is, the legislature may not eliminate an offering from the basic education program for reasons unrelated to educational policy, such as fiscal crisis or mere expediency.”

The State is not meeting its paramount duty:

“We affirm the trial court’s declaratory ruling and hold that the State has not complied with its article IX, section 1 duty to make ample provision for the education of all children in Washington.”

**Full implementation of the (enacted legislation) is the solution:**

“The legislature recently enacted a promising reform package…which if fully funded, will remedy deficiencies in the K-12 funding system.”

The Court will monitor progress to ensure the recommendations are funded by 2018:

“The judiciary will retain jurisdiction over the case to help ensure progress in the State’s plan to fully implement education reforms by 2018.”
Meet our 2012 Heroes in the Classroom

Symetra and the Seattle Seahawks honored five Shoreline teachers as Symetra Heroes in the Classroom during the 2012 NFL season.

Lori Henry, physical education, Kellogg Middle School
“She inspires and motivates her students to do their best by teaching them how to face their fears, set goals and reach new heights. Kids know they will have fun and be treated with respect, and that she expects them to be model citizens.”

Frank Kleyn, teacher-librarian, Highland Terrace Elementary
“What sets him apart as a librarian is his undying dedication toward seeing that every kid in our school finds a book that they like to read. He uses a great sense of humor, many colorful displays, an amazing Book Fair, and many other ways to hook kids into reading.”

Damon Oliveto, marketing and business education, Shorewood High School
“From staying after school, coming in early, and taking all the time necessary to ensure his students can master course material, he goes above and beyond on a daily basis, because it is his calling to do so.”

Laurie Pearson, kindergarten, Lake Forest Park Elementary
“Every child in school, even if they were never assigned to her class, looks forward to walking by her classroom to receive a greeting or a hug. She helps all kids have a great day.”

Mary Thurber, science, Einstein Middle School
“She is a hero at Einstein because she devotes a lot of time and effort towards her students’ learning both during and outside of school. She has taught everyone who has been through her classroom how to dream big and achieve their goals in life, whatever they might be.”

Twenty-six Shoreline teachers have been honored for educational excellence in the Symetra Heroes in the Classroom program during the past three years. Teachers are recognized in front of their students and peers at surprise in-school presentations and this season they received a $1,000 donation for their school and $350 for classroom supplies.

In addition, they received tickets to a Seahawks home game and were acknowledged during an on-field presentation at CenturyLink Field. Teachers may be nominated by their principal, district staff, student or student’s parent. The winners are selected based on their ability to make a real difference in students’ lives, to go above and beyond in their day-to-day responsibilities and to help students build life skills.

District teachers earn National Board Certifications

Four Shoreline School District teachers have received their certifications from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. They are Briahna Attebery and Andie Holsten from Einstein Middle School, Tammy Ceesay from Shorewood High School and Chrisy Francescutti, District literacy specialist.

Shoreline now has a total of 65 board-certified teachers currently working in the District. Washington has the second-most new NBCTs in the nation (575), behind only North Carolina, and is fourth overall in the total number of NBCTs (6,817). This achievement brings the total number of teachers certified nationwide to more than 100,000.

The national certification process takes a minimum of 18 months. Teachers must demonstrate in their four-part portfolio a deep understanding and application of the national standards that are in place for their field of teaching. A national panel of peers then assesses the portfolio. Teachers also take a six-part examination in their content area.

Briahna Attebery, left, and Andie Holsten of Einstein Middle School are new National Board Certified Teachers.
Lake Forest Park receives national award

Lake Forest Park Elementary has been recognized as a national Title I, Part A Distinguished School.

The awards are given to schools that have exceptional student performance or have demonstrated that they are closing the achievement gap between student groups.

The Title I, Part A Distinguished Awards program, which began in 1996, honors Title I, Part A schools for achieving high educational standards. The program is a joint project of the National Title I Association (NASTID) and the U.S. Department of Education. Title I refers to the first chapter of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. It is a series of federal laws that provide financial assistance to states and school districts to meet the needs of educationally at-risk students.

Every year states select two National Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools. Lake Forest Park Elementary was selected for closing the achievement gap between student groups in mathematics.

LFP’s math and reading academic achievement has steadily increased over the past three years, even as the needs of its population have increased. The number of Lake Forest Park students receiving free or reduced meals has increased from 25 percent in 2009-2010 to 35 percent in 2012-2013.

District and state assessment data show that LFP students made strong achievement gains in 2011 and 2012.

In 2011 and 2012, LFP met Annual Measurable Objectives in all student groups for reading and math. LFP exceeded the targets by large margins in some categories, including ELL (English Language Learners) and Hispanic students.

Over the last four years, Title I has also funded an extended-day kindergarten at Lake Forest Park for 15 students that attend half-day kindergarten. This program provides 90 extra minutes of specially designed instruction in both reading and math. This program also offers students more exposure to school routines, social situations and behavior expectations, and supports greater endurance for learning for longer periods of time.

Lake Forest Park received funding to be used to send a team to the 2013 National Title I Conference in Nashville, Tenn., in January and $10,000 for future professional development of staff.

Safe Routes to School funds new sidewalks

Thanks to grant funding from WSDOT’s Safe Routes to School program, students walking to Briarcrest Elementary now have safer options.

As part of the 2011-2013 transportation budget, the state awarded the City of Shoreline $385,000 to construct sidewalks near Briarcrest. City staff have been working closely with Briarcrest and Shoreline Police on the design and implementation of those components.

Working cooperatively with the District and the police, the city has identified pedestrian routes near schools that need sidewalk improvements and has worked aggressively to identify grant funding to install them.

“Safety of our students is our top priority and we appreciate the opportunity to partner with the city to create sidewalks near Briarcrest,” said Shoreline Schools Superintendent Sue Walker.

“This is a great example of how local jurisdictions can work together to leverage Shoreline taxpayers’ dollars and benefit the community in ways we couldn’t when acting alone,” stated Shoreline Mayor Keith McGlashan.

The purpose of the Safe Routes to School program is to improve safety and mobility for children by enabling and encouraging them to walk and bicycle to school. Funding from this program is for projects within two miles of primary and middle schools (K-8). It is a highly competitive funding program - only 29 projects of the 124 submitted from throughout the state were selected for funding in the 2011-2013 biennium.

As part of the of the 2013-2015 Transportation Budget, the cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park have been selected by WSDOT to receive Safe Routes to School funding to build sidewalk improvements around Einstein Middle School and Brookside Elementary.
High School Construction Update

SHORECREST

The renovated 451-seat theater (upper right) has reopened for performances. A spacious, light-filled lobby greets audiences (lower left). Band, orchestra, choir and drama classrooms are now in use, to be followed by the visual arts classrooms later in February. The steel structure and walls for the new main academic building (lower right) are rising behind the existing one, with completion expected in early 2014.

SHOREWOOD

The new high school remains on schedule for its opening in September 2013. Wooden windows have been installed in the historic Ronald School, which has been structurally reinforced from the inside (upper left). Red brick veneer has been installed on the facade of the three-story classroom building (lower left), and the exterior metal panels have been placed on the new gymnasium (lower right). Work continues at a brisk pace inside the buildings.
Shorewood marches in Pearl Harbor parade

Shorewood’s marching band and flag team were invited to participate in the 2012 Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade on Dec. 7 in Honolulu. The parade commemorated the 50th anniversary of the USS Arizona Memorial. Shorewood gave a special tribute performance at the memorial in addition to marching in the twilight parade.

The Shoreline School District is on Facebook and Twitter. You can link to our Facebook page or Twitter feed (@ShorelineSD) directly from the District Web site www.shorelineschools.org. Look for the Facebook and Twitter logos at the top of our home page.

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

February 2013
11 • School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
11 • District Orchestra Festival, 7:30 p.m., Spartan Gym
18 to 22 • No School, Mid-Winter Break, child care available at Shoreline Children’s Center, call 206-393-4256 for information

March 2013
2 • Shorecrest Boosters Auction, 5:30 p.m., Shoreline Center
4 • Support Person of the Year reception, 6:30 p.m., Shoreline Center
4 and 18 • School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
5 • Westside Honor Choir performance, 7 p.m., Einstein Gym
9 • Math Olympiad at Shoreline Community College, all day
9 • Shorewood Boosters Auction, 5 p.m., Shoreline Center
13 • Shorecrest jazz concert at Third Place Commons, 7:30 p.m.
18 • No School, Staff Work Day
20 • Regional History Day Contest at Shoreline Center, all day
23 • Science and Technology Fair and STEM Career Exposition at Shoreline Community College, all day
28 • Shoreline Public Schools Foundation Spring Event Community Breakfast and Luncheon, visit www.shorelinefoundation.org for information

Kindergarten enrollment for 2013-14 is under way at all District elementary schools. For more information, call 206-393-4211.