Please join our community in celebrating the completion of the new Shorecrest High School campus from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, September 27 at the school, 15343 25th N.E. The event will feature a barbecue lunch hosted by the Shorecrest Boosters, a dedication program at 1:15 p.m. in the gymnasium, self-guided tours and student performances in the theater.

Shorecrest’s main academic building and gymnasium were replaced and the theater upgraded in phases over the past three years. Students began using the main building in February 2014.

The new buildings were designed by Integrus Architecture and constructed by Spee West Construction. A bond issue approved by Shoreline School District voters in 2010 combined with matching funds from the state paid for the construction. The old Shorecrest was demolished this summer and is being replaced by parking areas, plazas and landscaping.

Across the District, Shorewood High School was replaced at the same time, with the academic building, gymnasium and theater opening in September 2013. This summer the school’s athletic fields are being constructed on the southern portion of the campus and include a football/soccer field and track, six tennis courts, and practice baseball and softball fields.
Superintendent’s Message:

Hitting the ground listening and learning about Shoreline Schools

Dear Shoreline Schools Community,

Welcome to the 2014-15 school year! I am very grateful to have been selected to serve as Shoreline’s superintendent and to work in a place where schools and community partner to bring educational opportunities to students.

The commitment that the Shoreline and Lake Forest Park communities demonstrate toward our students and their education is remarkable and I am honored to be a part of that partnership.

As I begin my work with the staff, students, families and community in the District, I have crafted an entry plan titled “Hitting the Ground Listening and Learning.” The plan is available on the District’s website at shorelineschools.org.

Between now and Dec. 31, I will be actively seeking multiple perspectives on the District. I will be attending and hosting events throughout Shoreline and Lake Forest Park to gather input on the following questions:

• What should I know about Shoreline Public Schools and the Shoreline and Lake Forest Park communities?
• What should be preserved in the Shoreline Public Schools?
• What are the key issues facing our school system which need attention?
• How can I be most helpful in my role as superintendent?

I hope that you will attend one of the events to share your perspectives. I welcome your input and value all information that I receive. Additionally, if you have thoughts on events that I can attend, please call my office at 206-393-4203 to share that information. I am enjoying being an active part of our community and plan to continue to do so in the future.

During January and February, I will study the information received during my opportunities to listen and learn and will synthesize it into themes which I will present to the School Board during the early spring of 2015.

Thank you to all who have welcomed my husband Timothy Buckley and me during our first two months here. As we move into the home we have purchased in Shoreline, we are thankful to be a part of such a vibrant community that cares so much about its schools. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the coming months!

In her final Flagship letter last spring, retiring superintendent Sue Walker referenced the “culture that is Shoreline.” That culture, of high expectations fostered with high support, has been evident to me in my initial work in the District. I hope all of you will join us on Saturday, Sept. 27 from noon to 4 p.m. for a dedication and community open house for the new Shorecrest and celebrate the accomplishment of having two 21st century high schools for our students.

Sincerely,

Rebecca L. Miner
Five Shoreline schools win state's highest honor

Five Shoreline schools are 2013 Washington Achievement Award winners. Winners are selected using the state’s Accountability Index and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver.

Shoreline Schools were recognized as top performers in these categories:
Overall Excellence: Lake Forest Park
High Progress: Syre
Reading Growth: Highland Terrace, Lake Forest Park, Meridian Park, Syre
Math Growth: Highland Terrace, Lake Forest Park
English Language Acquisition: Shorecrest

The Washington Achievement Award is sponsored by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education.

Shorecrest, Shorewood ranked among Best in U.S.

Shorecrest and Shorewood High School have been awarded a silver medal for for U.S. News and World Report’s 2014 ranking of the Best High Schools.

Shorecrest is ranked 19th and Shorewood 24th in Washington by U.S. News out of 480 high schools in the state for their academic achievement. U.S. News awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals to the top-performing schools in the country.

To produce the 2014 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools rankings, U.S. News teamed up with the Washington, D.C.-based American Institutes for Research (AIR), one of the largest behavioral and social science research organizations in the world.

AIR implemented the U.S. News comprehensive rankings methodology, which is based on the key principles that a great high school must serve all of its students well, not just those who are college bound, and that it must be able to produce measurable academic outcomes to show the school is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators.

A three-step process determined the Best High Schools. The first two steps to which schools prepare students for college-level work.

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 and Shorewood will offer 19 AP courses to students for 2014-15.

Nominate a Shoreline teacher as a Symetra/Seahawks Hero in the Classroom

K–12 teachers across the Puget Sound area will be honored for educational excellence in the Symetra Heroes in the Classroom program during the 2014 NFL season.

Teachers are recognized in front of their students and peers at surprise in-school presentations and they receive a $1,000 donation for classroom supplies.

In addition, they receive tickets to a Seahawks home game and are acknowledged during an on-field presentation at CenturyLink Field.

Over the last four years, 30 Shoreline teachers have been honored as Heroes in the Classroom.

To nominate a Shoreline teacher as a Symetra Heroes in the Classroom, visit SymetraHeroes.com/Seahawks.
District funds all-day kindergarten for all students

The Shoreline School Board unanimously approved a proposal to fund all-day kindergarten for all students beginning in the 2014-15 school year.

Research on the benefits of all-day kindergarten is compelling.

“We believe that district-funded all-day kindergarten for all students will increase student achievement and be an effective step toward closing the opportunity gap in our schools,” said Shoreline School Board President Mike Jacobs.

Shoreline has adequate budget capacity and classroom space to begin the program in the fall of 2014, while waiting for the State to fulfill its commitment to do so by the 2017-18 school year.

Families began kindergarten registration in February and continue to register students for the fall at the District’s nine K-6 elementary schools and Cascade K-8. All students who have registered for 2014-15 will now automatically be enrolled in free full-day kindergarten.

New faces, new courses for 2014-15

Shoreline Schools will begin the school year on Wednesday, Sept. 3 and there are a number of changes for 2014-15.

New principals/administrators

John Simard will be principal of Brookside Elementary in Lake Forest Park.

John has been the principal of Sunnyside Elementary School in San Francisco for the past four years. He previously served as a teaching coach in San Francisco and as an elementary school teacher in San Jose. He succeeds Kathryn Noble, who retired after nine years at Brookside and 20 years overall as a principal in the District.

Heidi Thaut will serve as interim principal of Highland Terrace Elementary in Shoreline.

Heidi is returning to Washington state after spending the last four years as director of extended learning opportunities for the Marana Unified School District in Arizona.

She previously worked for 10 years in the Marysville School District in Snohomish County, first as principal of two elementary schools and later as director of categorical programs. She also taught for seven years in two elementary schools in Edmonds.

Michael Power is the new director of assessment and student learning.

Michael was previously manager of educational programs for the Tacoma Housing Authority, where he directed programs that support low-income families, working closely with Tacoma Public Schools.

He also served as assistant superintendent for program and learning support in Tacoma, supervising its instructional programs, including research and evaluation, curriculum and instructional technology. Prior to that he was director of instruction and assessment for Mercer Island and executive director of curriculum and assessment for Everett.

Mary Sherman is the new director of transportation. Most recently, she served as the transportation supervisor for Central Kitsap School District.

Prior to working in Central Kitsap, Mary was a bus driver, driver/trainer, and assistant director with the Oak Harbor School District. Her work has included the routing, mapping, student assignment, field trip and vehicle maintenance/inventory components of the VersaTrans system used in Shoreline.

New Courses and Schedules

This year will see the introduction of new high school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) courses in civil engineering and architectural design, technology, invention and innovation, robotics and computer science.

Exploring Computer Science will be taught in partnership with Code.org, a...
Shoreline Schools was honored with two prestigious awards recently from the King County region of the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA).

Maren Norton received the 2014 WASA regional Community Leadership Award “in recognition of outstanding community leadership and contributions to public education.”

Maren is a Shoreline native and a graduate of Shorewood High School, where she was senior class president. She is a graduate of Stanford University, where she served as student body president, and University of Michigan Law School, where she was Law School Student Senate president.

Maren returned to Shoreline after law school and has become a true leader in our community. She was elected to the Shoreline School Board in 2007, serving during a critical time in the District’s history as it recovered from a financial setback and sought to regain public confidence.

By the time Maren left the Board in 2011, the District was back on its feet and voters had approved the replacement of both Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools.

Maren again stepped forward this year to chair Citizens for Shoreline Schools, the committee campaigning for the District’s two levy propositions in February. Both the maintenance and operations and the technology levy were approved by more than 72 percent of Shoreline voters. And in March, it was Maren again, this time in her role as a trustee of the Shoreline Public Schools Foundation, at the microphone at the Foundation’s Spring Event, asking for the community’s support of our schools. And respond they did, raising 30 percent more than the previous year.

Retiring Superintendent Sue Walker received the WASA Award of Merit in recognition of her 40 years “of effective leadership in public education and for significant contributions to educational administration.”

Seattle-based non-profit dedicated to expanding participation by students in that field.

Shorecrest and Shorewood will have aligned schedules, meaning that classes will be held at the same time each day at each school. This way students will be able to take a class at Shorecrest that isn’t offered at Shorewood, and vice versa. Both high schools’ day will run from 7:50 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.

The District’s two middle schools, Einstein and Kellogg, will be moving to a semester system from trimesters this year.

The District’s Highly Capable program for gifted students will add first grade students.

New technology

Shoreline is one of the most advanced districts in the state in terms of technology. High school students will receive updated iPads this year and some middle and elementary school students will be using new Chromebooks to access curriculum in their classrooms.

Food Service

Breakfast will be served at all schools this year. The Food and Nutrition Services team work together to develop healthy and appetizing meals for the students, often incorporating ideas gathered from students and parents.

Many of the foods are made from scratch using the best ingredients including low-fat proteins, whole grain pastas, fresh fruits and vegetables, locally sourced bread, and hormone-free milk. The menus are analyzed and recipes adjusted to ensure they meet USDA nutrition guidelines for each age group for calories, sodium, and saturated fat. Visit Food Services’ new Web site at schools.shorelineschools.org/foodservices.
Congratulations to the Class of 2014!

Shorecrest and Shorewood held commencement exercises for the class of 2014 on Sunday, June 15 at Comcast Arena in Everett. Shorecrest awarded diplomas to 285 seniors and Shorewood awarded diplomas to 351 seniors. Congratulations to the Class of 2014 and their families!

Shoreline Schools Calendar

For complete listings of District events, subscribe to the online Tandem calendar at shoreline.tandemcal.com

September 2014
3 • First Day of School for 2014-15
8 and 22 • School Board meetings 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
26 • Shorecrest vs. Shorewood football, 7 p.m., Shoreline Stadium
27 • Community Celebration and Dedication of the new Shorecrest High School, 12 noon to 4 p.m.
29 • No School, Staff Work Day

October 2014
6 and 20 • School Board meetings 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
10 • Shorecrest homecoming football, 7 p.m., Shoreline Stadium
17 • Shorewood homecoming football, 7 p.m., Shoreline Stadium
19 • Shoreline Public Schools Foundation Phonathon
27 • No School, Staff Work Day

November 2014
3 and 17 • School Board meetings 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
4 • General Election Day, please remember to vote
11 • No School, Veterans Day