Dual Language Program Begins

Two Briarcrest classrooms being taught in English and Spanish, with more to follow

School Safety and Security Update

Partial Day Releases Approved to Support Teaching and Learning
Superintendent’s Message

Community investment fuels our success

As we begin the approach to graduation and the end of the school year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the incredible community in which we live, work and learn.

In this issue of The Flagship, you’ll learn more about a number of construction projects happening across our school district. These projects are being funded by a $250 million bond approved by an overwhelming majority of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park voters in February 2017. Additionally, this past February, voters again approved two levy renewals for technology, educational programs and operations that account for 20 percent of our annual operating budget.

Shoreline Schools has a long history of community financial support, and we do not take that for granted. Each year, I have the profound honor and pleasure of witnessing our graduating seniors walk across the graduation stage with diplomas in their hands and a bright future awaiting them. I often think of the incredible amount of work undertaken by our staff, families and volunteers over our students’ journey from preschoolers and kindergartners to high school graduates. I also reflect on the commitment of our community to fund our schools with the staff and resources needed to support the success of every student.

While many concrete foundations will be poured over the next couple of years, the true foundation of our schools continues to be the community we call home.

Your investment provides our students and staff with the tools, support and facilities they need to succeed at very high levels. For that, and so much more, I want to thank you on behalf of our entire Shoreline Schools family!

Regards,

Superintendent

Dr. Rebecca Miner

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Construction Projects Underway

2017 bond-funded construction projects starting to take shape

Wall frames and trusses are being put up at the new Early Learning Center.

Early Learning Center
The new Early Learning Center is in the construction phase and is scheduled for completion this December. The 55,000 square foot facility will house 450 tuition-based preschool, Head Start and Early Childhood Education students.

Those programs are currently located at the North City Campus. They will move to the Shoreline Center for a short layover this fall before moving into their new home over winter break.

The architect for this project is Mahlum Architects and contractor is BNBuilders. The total estimated project cost is $35,800,000.

Parkwood Elementary
Parkwood Elementary is currently in the bid phase. The new school will be just under 65,000 square feet with a capacity for 500 students.

The project’s architect is DLR Architects and a contractor will be determined after the project bid is awarded in May 2018.

Construction on the school will begin this summer with an estimated completion date of August 2019. The total estimated project cost is $40,000,000.

Parkwood’s students and staff will call the North City Campus home next year while their school is torn down and rebuilt at its current site.

Einstein Middle School
Construction on the new Einstein and Kellogg Middle Schools will begin in Summer 2018 with an anticipated completion date of August 2020. Their new 150,000 square foot schools will have the capacity for 1,070 students.

The architect for Einstein is Integrus Architects, the architect for Kellogg is Mahlum Architects, and the contractor is Hoffman Construction for both projects. Each middle school is estimated to cost $102,000,000.

More information and photos at www.shorelineschools.org/construction
Fifteen Shoreline teachers recently earned the prestigious National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification, commonly referred to as “National Board Certification.” They are:

Jenny Breed – Shorecrest
Hannah Crowder – Shorewood
Kristianna Johnsen – Shorewood
Barbara Keeley – Meridian Park
Rhonda Okazaki – Lake Forest Park
Kimberly Olsen – Shorecrest
Michael Rhyne – Syre
Wayne Smolinsky – Einstein
Jeb Thomas – Brookside
Rachel Trudelle – Briarcrest
Linda Vassallo – Syre
Linnea Wheaton – Einstein
Trent Wieburg – Shorewood
Stacey Zachau – Shorecrest
Jennifer Zadow – Shoreline Center – Student Services

This brings the total number of National Board Certified teachers in Shoreline Public Schools to 92.

National Board Certification is a methodical, thought-provoking process for teachers to increase their understanding of the art of teaching while demonstrating the skills and characteristics of excellence in education.

The lengthy application process involves performance-based assessments that includes teaching portfolios, student work samples, videos and thorough analyses of the candidates’ classroom teaching and student learning. Teachers also complete a series of written exercises that probe the depth of their subject-matter knowledge, as well as their understanding of how to teach those subjects to their students. The entire process can take between 200-400 hours.

“We are incredibly proud of all of our teachers and certificated staff who have earned their National Board Certification,” said Superintendent Rebecca Miner. “I hope our entire school community will join me in congratulating and recognizing these individuals for their efforts, perseverance and success in obtaining this prestigious certificate.”
The Shorecrest Hip Hop Team won their fourth consecutive state hip hop title at the WIAA State Dance/Drill Championships. Their winning routine featured music from 1993 in honor of their 25th anniversary of the program.

SC Hip Hop Wins State... Again

A play by Shorewood High School junior Mia Van Inwegen was featured at the ACT Theatre’s Young Playwright Festival. Her play was one of eight selected from 250 submissions to have a professionally staged reading at the festival.

Van Inwegen’s Play Recognized

Shoreline Schools received a Gold Star Award from Gov. Inslee as one of the top-performing districts in the state for signing students up for the College Bound Scholarship Program, which provides financial assistance to eligible students.

District Honored by College Bound

Shorecrest sophomore Makenna Littell received the Silver Medal Scholastic Art Award from the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers. She is one of only 23 students from Washington to be recognized with a national award medal.

Littell Wins National Art Award

Shorewood teacher Wes Proudlove was selected to be honored by the University of Washington’s computer science and engineering program as an Inspirational Teacher for his commitment to student success.

Proudlove Honored by UW

Read the full articles at shorelineschools.org
Partial Release Days to Begin Next School Year

New professional development model will offer teachers regular opportunities to collaborate and use student data to support achievement.

At their March 26, 2018 meeting, the Shoreline School Board unanimously voted to approve a recommendation to adopt a partial release calendar model to support student success through a research-based instructional professional development model.

This will change next year’s school calendar (2018-2019) from a 175-day school year with full non-student days throughout the year to a 180-day school year with a 90-120 minute early release for students on Wednesdays within weeks when there are five days of school. There will not be partial release during weeks when there are less than five days of school, such as those with holidays or other non-student days. The final length of the early release (90-120 minutes) will be determined and announced this spring.

Having heard from families during community feedback meetings and anticipating that this change will have an impact on families and create childcare/after-school supervision needs, Shoreline Schools has partnered with the Dale Turner Family YMCA and The City of Shoreline, as well as expanded the Children’s Center’s ability to serve more students to meet those needs.

Recognizing the financial impact to families who may want to access those childcare options on the partial release days, the School Board approved offering scholarships for the first year of $50 per month, per student for those who qualify for free or reduced priced meals to help ease the transition.

You can learn more about the after-school supervision options at shorelineschools.org/partialreleasedays.

The following are some frequently asked questions about the partial release days and its development. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact your school’s office or the District Public Information Office at 206.393.4412.

Q1. Why did the District adopt a weekly partial (early) release day?

Our expectations of students and teachers have continued to grow and change. Instructional staff will use this time to:

- Learn new strategies to teach students with increasingly diverse learning needs
- Review student learning data to evaluate the effectiveness of instruction and adjust teaching to improve outcomes for students
- Implement updated curriculum that is designed to prepare students for a more complex world
- Master and incorporate new technology into the learning environment
- Plan and prepare for their daily instruction of students

New professional development model will offer teachers regular opportunities to collaborate and use student data to support achievement.
Q2. Won’t this result in less instructional time for students?

With implementation of a partial release model, the amount of instructional time for students will be restructured with little to no reduction in overall instructional time. Shoreline will return to a 180-day student year, adding back five full days of school, and lengthen the existing early release days.

Although we have not finalized the exact length of the early release days, we expect the release to be between 1 ½ and 2 hours per release day. Shoreline will continue to meet or exceed the minimum hours of instruction required by the State of Washington.

Q3. Why have the early release day on Wednesday? Why not Monday or Friday?

Being able to adequately staff after-school programs is one of the top considerations in recommending early release on Wednesdays. We have heard from our Children’s Center Extended Care supervisors and partners at the Dale Turner Family YMCA and City of Shoreline that finding staffing for that short period of time on Mondays or Fridays would be difficult and lead to limits on the numbers of students we could serve in those programs.

Q4. How was this recommendation developed?

A joint committee convened in the 2015-2016 school year to examine a best practice professional development model that research has shown supports higher levels of academic achievement for students. Understanding that this model of instructional professional development would have a direct benefit to our students, the committee began presenting recommendations and collecting feedback from families, staff and community in the spring of 2016.

While there was high support for providing teachers with the most effective professional development and collaboration model, there were concerns expressed about the limited options for childcare on those partial release days.

Recognizing more after school-supervision options needed to be developed before considering adopting the partial release model, the Board of Directors authorized additional study through the Partial Release Stakeholder Advisory Committee (PRSAC) to study the impacts of a partial day release model and seek partnerships to develop programs to meet families’ needs on those days. The committee has met throughout this school year and developed a number of partnerships to provide options for all families who want to access them.

The PRSAC held a series of community meetings in late-February and early-March to present their recommendation and share information on the additional after-school options that would be available on the partial release days. The committee also collected feedback and answered questions from attendees. They presented their recommendation to the School Board on March 12, 2018 and the Board unanimously approved the recommendation at their March 26, 2018 meeting.
After two years of study and planning, two Dual Language classrooms were opened at Briarcrest Elementary this school year. The Dual Language program is an instructional model that provides content-based instruction to students in two languages allowing students, over a number of years of participation in the program, to become proficient and literate in both languages, while also meeting high academic standards in all subject areas.

Briarcrest was selected to offer the program because it has the highest number of the number of Spanish-speaking students who enroll at the school each year.

This year, one kindergarten class and one first grade class are participating in the program. In the years that follow, the program will be expanded to the grade levels these students move into while a new kindergarten class is added for families who apply to be part of the program. Each class is comprised of 50 percent native English speakers and 50 percent native Spanish speakers.

There are three goals for the program, according to Dr. Ellen Kaje, director of categorical programs and academic support. “We want students to obtain bilingualism and biliteracy in English and Spanish, have high academic achievement for all students, and for students to have a cross-cultural awareness,” said Kaje. “There's a lot of research about the many cognitive benefits bilingual students will enjoy throughout their lives, such as flexible thinking, increased ability to problem-solve and an appreciation for other cultures.”

Dual Language teachers Maria Trevino and Selena Killin work as a team to ensure their students meet their learning goals while learning to read and speak a new language. The kindergarten class spends their morning in Trevino’s classroom receiving instruction in Spanish, while the first grade class is learning in English in Killin’s classroom. Halfway through the day, the classes switch.

“Our teachers have created a curriculum that teaches one unit in one language and then effectively bridges to the other at the end of the unit,” said Killin. “For example, a math unit is taught in Spanish and covers addition and then at the end of that unit, the academic vocabulary necessary to be successful in both languages is taught in English.”
Students in the classes are a mix of native English and Spanish speakers.

Maria Trevino teaches her students a math unit in Spanish.

Students in Maria Trevino’s Dual Language classroom practice their Spanish vocabulary.

Selena Killin works with one of the first grade students in her Dual Language classroom.

The teachers also structure their learning chants and layouts of their classrooms to be very similar. “We planned it, so we’re able to incorporate chants and strategies in each other’s classrooms, so it doesn’t feel like a disconnect between classrooms when they’re switching back and forth,” said Trevino. “We purposely made the setup similar so that the students would feel at home in both classrooms.”

Briarcrest Principal Jonathan Nessan shared how excited he is to see the program get off to such a great start. “We’ve seen a lot of growth and success with both groups of students in this first year of the program and we’re very excited to see them continue to grow next year as another group of kindergartners begin the program,” said Nessan.

Watch a video version of this story at: vimeo.com/shorelineschools
The School Board received a report on school security and emergency preparedness at their March 12, 2018 meeting. District staff updated the Board on a number of projects and protocols underway across the District to support safe teaching and learning environments. In June 2015, the Board authorized $1,000,000 to fund safety and security projects across the District.

Safety and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Chuck Goodwin reported that planning for emergency preparedness is based on a manual that is reviewed and updated annually to align with best practices and state requirements. “A safety plan goes out to all schools each year detailing program actions, competencies and training opportunities,” said Goodwin. “There is also a safety and emergency preparedness scorecard to keep everyone engaged in training and drills from kindergarten through high school.”

Each classroom in the District has its own emergency flip-chart that covers protocols for numerous emergency situations, such as lockdowns, lockouts and evacuations.

Goodwin noted that the District spearheads a regional emergency preparedness partnership that meets regularly and reviews policies and practices with the Shoreline and Lake Forest Park Police Departments, Washington State Patrol, Shoreline and Northshore Fire Departments, among others.

Dan Stevens, manager of capital projects, provided an update on an electronic access control system that is in the process of being installed in all schools. He explained the system will allow external doors to be scheduled to be unlocked when needed, such as for passing periods, but to remain locked the rest of the school day, limiting the number of access points to the schools. “This allows for an easy lockdown of all the external doors with the push of a button in the office,” added Jason Maher, communication technology specialist. “It can automatically play pre-recorded emergency announcements and instructions once the lockdown button is engaged.”

New classroom door locks are in the process of being installed on all classroom doors, according to Interim Maintenance Director Paul Plumis. He demonstrated new classroom door locks that can be locked from the inside of the classroom. Plumis explained that the current standard classroom door locks need to be locked from the outside,
Tip system in place to anonymously report safety and security concerns

Shoreline Public Schools strives to provide students and staff with a safe and healthy learning environment. To help safeguard our school community, we have a safety information reporting system in place to receive safety and security related tips.

SafeSchools Alert is a tip reporting service that allows students, staff and parents to submit safety concerns to our administration in four different ways: phone, text, email or website. Reporting instructions are listed below.

Students, parents, staff and community members can easily report tips on bullying, harassment, drugs, vandalism or any safety issue you’re concerned about through SafeSchools Alert.

Every tip SafeSchools Alert receives is immediately recorded in the system and our administration is notified so that they can investigate and take appropriate action. Tips may also be submitted anonymously.

Text - 206.317.5768
Email - 1261@alert1.us
Phone - 206.317.5768
Website - shoreline-wa.safeschoolsalert.com (quicklink also on www.shorelineschools.org)

which could put teachers in danger in a lockdown situation. The new locks can be engaged by pushing a button on the handle from the inside.

Goodwin noted that Shoreline Schools has updated its emergency preparedness plan to include the Run, Hide, Fight protocols recommended by U.S. Department of Homeland Security, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Department of Education, Department of Justice, and the State of Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

He explained that the protocols are accompanied with training for each building’s staff conducted by district staff and Shoreline and Lake Forest Park Police Departments. The training is designed to provide comprehensive preparedness in the event of an intruder. Staff has been provided an age-appropriate training resource that will be presented to their students.

The U.S. Department of Education recommends in their report, Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plan, that schools need to plan beyond the traditional lockdown, and provide guidance for all options, such as evacuating, barricading, running, hiding and fighting.

While the word “fight” is in the name of this nationally recognized and recommended emergency preparedness model, staff are provided this response as a last resort when faced with imminent life-threatening danger. Students will not be trained or asked to attempt to subdue an intruder.

“Because the safety of our students and staff is our top priority, we continually adapt our plans and trainings to incorporate recommended protocols and best practices to support safety throughout each of our schools,” said Goodwin.

If you have any questions about safety and emergency preparedness, please contact your school’s principal or Safety and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Chuck Goodwin at chuck.goodwin@shorelineschools.org or 206.393.4237.
Upcoming Dates

Find a complete schedule of school district events with locations and times at shorelineschools.org.

May
3-6: Shorecrest Spring Musical
5: Shoreline STEM Festival & Science Fair
7: School Board Meeting
10-13: Shorecrest Spring Musical
14: Staff of the Year Awards
21: No School - Staff Work Day
28: No School - Memorial Day

June
4: School Board Meeting
8: No School - Staff Work Day
11: District Retirement Celebration
17: High School Graduations
18: School Board Meeting
22: Early Release - Last Day of School
23-24: Shoreline Arts Festival

Next School Year at a Glance
First Day of School: August 29
Thanksgiving Break: November 22-23
Winter Break: December 24-January 4
Mid-Winter Break: February 18-22
Spring Break: April 22-26
Graduations: June 9
Last Day of School: June 14

Want to make a difference? Join us!

Numerous full and part-time positions with benefits available now

Apply at www.shorelineschools.org/jobs
Click on “FastTrack” to apply

Looking for a job? Know someone who is?

Shoreline Public Schools is always hiring for both full and part-time positions with benefits! We’re currently looking for entry-level employees interested in supporting students in the classroom as paraeducators.

Visit www.shorelineschools.org/jobs and click on “FastTrack” to apply as a paraeducator or for any number of our other openings such as certificated teachers, substitute custodians, bus drivers, food service employees, etc. Join our team as we support and prepare students for a lifetime of success!