

Inside SCHOOLS

**Clover
Park**
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Learning today. Leading tomorrow.



December
2013

Carter Lake and Hillside celebrate grand opening



Nearly 300 attendees celebrated the grand opening of Carter Lake and Hillside Elementary Schools on Oct. 16.

Hillside Elementary Schools represents a federal, state and local partnership designed to ensure our military students have access to the safe and updated facilities they deserve.”

Both schools were built at their current locations – Carter Lake has a capacity of 500 students and Hillside accommodates 650 students. BCRA was the architect for the new schools and Seattle-based Skanska is the general contractor construction manager.

The two schools total more than 132,000 square feet with additional parking and new sports fields. Both Carter Lake and Hillside now provide a more collaborative environment to enhance student learning. Each facility was built with sustainability and energy efficiency as priorities. Each school is currently seeking Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol Certifications, which may be awarded in 2014. Construction of these projects provided work for 22 subcontractors from the Puget Sound region.

Nearly 300 students, parents, staff and dignitaries celebrated the grand opening of Carter Lake and Hillside Elementary Schools on Oct. 16. The grand opening celebrated the construction and completion of both schools, the first schools in the country to be built under the Military Child Initiative.

In 2006, CPSD began a partnership with Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) to evaluate and quantify the conditions and capacity of the six elementary schools on the installation. The outcome of that study kicked off the Military Child Education Initiative, which raised awareness of failing school infrastructures on military bases across the United States. After dozens of tours and outreach to officials with the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Congress and the White House, \$250 million was included in the Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11) defense appropriations bill to fix educational facilities on military installations nationwide.

Carter Lake and Hillside Elementary Schools ranked second and fifth, respectively, in the top 25 schools needing immediate attention based on an independent scoring of enrollment capacity and building conditions. Funding for the two new schools comes from the Department of Defense’s Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) and Washington state’s school construction assistance program.

Special guests at the grand opening included former U.S. Representative,

the honorable Norm D. Dicks; LTG Robert Brown, Commanding General I Corps; JBLM Joint Base Commander COL H. Charles Hodges, Jr. and COL David Kumashiro, Commander 62nd Airlift Wing.

“Undersecretary of the Army Dr. Joseph Westphal, the honorable Norm Dicks and U.S. Representative Adam Smith, along with our U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, were instrumental supporters of these projects on behalf of military families,” said Debbie LeBeau, superintendent of Clover Park School District. “The grand opening of the new Carter Lake and

Beachwood, Tillicum and Oakwood Elementaries named 2013 Schools of Distinction

Beachwood, Tillicum and Oakwood Elementary Schools were named 2013 Schools of Distinction from The Center for Educational Effectiveness, Association of Educational Service Districts, Association of Washington School Principals, Phi Delta Kappa-Washington Chapter, Washington Association of School Administrators, Washington State Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development and Washington State School Directors’ Association.

The annual award recognizes schools that have made significant improvements in student achievement. The award is given to the top 5 percent of schools in the state that have made sustained improvement in reading and math over five years. To earn School of Distinction status, elementary school students in grades 3-5 must meet the minimum threshold “Reading/Math Level Index” of being at or above the state median on state assessments. In the Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD) region, 46 schools in 21 school districts achieved this

high standard. In total, 99 elementary, middle and high schools across the state were recognized. This is the 7th annual School of Distinction award recognition in Washington state.

“I am very proud of the staff and students at Beachwood, Tillicum and Oakwood,” said Clover Park School District superintendent Debbie LeBeau. “The district has purchased intervention materials to help students struggling in reading and math. By using data to identify students who need extra support, teachers are providing the assistance needed and test scores are improving.”

This is Beachwood’s third consecutive School of Distinction award and Oakwood’s second consecutive award.

A special reception and awards ceremony to recognize the 2013 Schools of Distinction was held in November at PSESD in Renton.

For more information, including award methodology, visit www.effectiveness.org.

Receive school closure information through FlashAlert

Clover Park School District, through the Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD), is using FlashAlert Newswire to communicate school closure information due to bad weather, hazardous road conditions or other emergencies. The PSESD previously used SchoolReport.org, which has joined FlashAlert Newswire. Parents, students, staff and community members can register up to three email and/or cell phone text addresses in a single account and receive information at the same time as the news media. A free iPhone/Android app, FlashAlert Messenger, is also available and allows parents and the public to receive emergency messages, which is much faster and more reliable than text messages. As a subscriber you can also view all local emergency items and news releases on FlashAlertNewsire.net. Sign up today at <https://www.flashalert.net/signup.html>.

Three additional schools on JBLM, Clarkmoor, Greenwood and Beachwood, received funding as part of a FY12 Department of Defense appropriation of \$250 million. The construction of Clarkmoor and Greenwood is underway. Site work for Beachwood is also underway.

Construction UPDATE

Your tax dollars at work

2010 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Harrison Preparatory School and New Elementary School (Formerly Oakwood and Southgate Elementary Schools)

Substantial construction progress has occurred inside and outside of the building. The primary steel framework is complete around the majority of the building with just the gymnasium and cafeteria areas yet to have the roof structure erected. Waterproofing is ongoing at the west, north and east sides of the building, with decking underway over the multi-purpose room. The exterior façade of the building is being finished with brick, concrete block and metal siding around the perimeter.

Window frames and glazing are being installed. Mechanical units are installed on the roof at the main classroom and administrative areas.

Inside the building, the classroom wing of the elementary school is being painted and the administrative wing has been sheet rocked. The rough-in work for mechanical, plumbing, electrical and fire sprinklers is just being completed in the elementary classroom wing. Harrison Prep's administrative and library areas are having light gauge steel framing and mechanical rough-in work installed.

2013 JBLM SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Clarkmoor & Greenwood Elementary Schools

Construction at Clarkmoor and Greenwood Elementary Schools has moved above ground. Both schools are wrapping up foundation and underground plumbing and electrical rough-ins.

The construction teams have poured slabs on grade at the gym, multi-purpose, kitchen and stage areas. Cinder block walls are also going up in the gym and multi-purpose room areas. Pouring of remaining slabs and laying of cinder block in the gym and multipurpose areas will continue for the next few weeks. ■

CPSD receives \$150,000 Washington Student Achievement Council grant

Clover Park School District (CPSD) has been awarded a \$150,000 Educators for the 21st Century Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) grant. The Educators for the 21st Century competitive grant program — formerly known as the Washington Higher Education Improving Teacher Quality grant program — provides partnership grants for professional development projects serving K-12 educators.

"This one-year grant focuses on the Common Core State Standards for math," said Brian Laubach, executive director of teaching and learning. "The grant will provide professional learning to grade 3-7 teachers in 10 of our schools to help increase student academic achievement in mathematics."

CPSD is partnering with Pacific Lutheran University to facilitate the professional development. Teachers will learn how to improve students' sense of fractions, ratios and proportions through workshops, coaching sessions and the use of effective instructional materials.

WSAC administers the grant which is federally funded under Title II of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. ■

New intervention materials to help students with math

New intervention materials purchased by Clover Park School District (CPSD) are helping students struggling in math. CPSD has a Response to Intervention model which integrates assessment – testing of students – and intervention within a schoolwide, multi-level prevention system to maximize student achievement and reduce behavior problems. The new math materials help students who need extra support to master the concepts.

"These math materials give students

specific instruction in areas where they may be deficient," said Brian Laubach, executive director of teaching and learning. "The materials help teachers give students the skills they need to succeed."

The new materials include "MATH 180" for middle and high school students,

"TouchMath" for special education students and "Do The Math" for elementary students. Online programs include "Achieve3000" for students in grades 3-12 and "Dreambox" for K-2 students. Teachers took training classes on the programs in mid-September. The intervention programs

include online learning materials, books and workbooks.

A committee to identify intervention materials for reading and math was formed two years ago to analyze and then recommend materials for interventions. Each school now uses the same intervention materials. ■

"This will help teachers give students the skills they need to succeed."
-Brian Laubach, executive director of teaching & learning

National author encourages students to work hard to achieve goals

Marissa Meyer, a New York Times best-selling author who lives in Spanaway, visited Clover Park High School and Harrison Preparatory School on Oct. 24 to encourage students to work hard and follow their dreams. Meyer's first book in "The Lunar Chronicles" series "Cinder" was nominated by last year's Battle of the Books' teams to be on this year's list for the 2013-14 competition.

Meyer attended both Wilson and Curtis High Schools and participated in Running Start, a program where students receive both high school and college credit for courses, at Tacoma Community College. She received a bachelor's degree in creative writing from Pacific Lutheran University.

Meyer started writing stories as a teenager and eventually wrote books. Meyer told students it took her years to get her first book published.

"Whatever your goals are, you have to work really hard to achieve them," said Meyer. "For instance, if you want to be a published author, you have to practice writing all the time and keep at it."

Clover Park High School library media specialist, Mary Moser, coordinated Meyer's visit and partnered with Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) to provide a cultural experience to help students become college ready.

"It's important for students to hear first-hand from an author in their own school how hard work really pays off," said Moser. "Her message was that it's okay to fail, but that you have to keep trying to achieve your dreams." ■



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Clover Park High School's John Seaton named SPSL High School Principal of the Year

Clover Park High School (CPHS) principal John Seaton was named the South Puget Sound League's (SPSL) High School Principal of the Year during the Washington Educators' Conference in October. Principals from SPSL schools vote and select the award winner. This is first time Seaton has been nominated for the honor. Seaton has been principal at CPHS since 2005.

"I'm very honored to receive this award," said Seaton. "The Clover Park High School staff works very hard to motivate and encourage our students to do their best."

All nominated principals from leagues across the state were candidates for the state high school Principal of the Year. Mariner High School's Brent Kline received the state high school Principal of the Year honors. ■

Outstanding daffodil princesses to represent district

This year's Daffodil Princesses, Clover Park High School's (CPHS) Petrice Bokako and Lakes' Johnl Milhans, are not your typical high school students.

Bokako was born in Zaire in Africa and had a challenging upbringing. She has only lived in the U.S. for a little over a year and couldn't speak, read or understand English. She has received help from teachers, family and friends and her English is improving. She loves serving her community and was honored to be selected as a Daffodil Princess.

"It's not about wearing your crown or walking on a stage," said Bokako. "It's about giving the best of yourself to others and willing to learn and be challenged."

Lakes' Milhans is a true product of Lakewood and loves how the community is a mixing pot of lots of cultures. She was born and raised in the same house her whole life. She's passionate about helping others in the community. Milhans remembers watching the Daffodil Parade when she was a little girl and always wanted to be a princess. She's looking forward to the challenge of balancing school, activities and princess responsibilities.



Lakes High School's Johnl Milhans (left) and Clover Park High School's Petrice Bokako are the 2013-14 Daffodil Princesses.

"Being a Daffodil Princess is like a teakettle," said Milhans. "You may be up to your neck in boiling water with all the events but you still must pour your liquid wisdom into each cup and influence everyone you meet."

Bokako was selected as the CPHS Daffodil Princess on Oct. 9 and Milhans

was selected as Lakes' Daffodil Princess on Oct. 21. The judges said it was very challenging selecting the princesses due to the quality of all the candidates.

Stephanie Schuler, a library media specialist at Lakeview Hope Academy, was one of the judges who selected the Lakes' Daffodil Princess.

"It was a very tough decision," said Schuler. "All the candidates had such poise and were very involved in their communities, school and family life. Johnl's speech was very personable and it really tied in to this year's theme of 'Ready, Set, Grow.'"

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce President and CEO, Linda Smith, was one of the judge's who selected Bokako.

"Every single one of the candidates were stellar and it was a really tough call. Petrice convinced me that she wanted to serve others for the rest of her life. It was the most amazing and graceful thing a teenager could say to me." ■

CPHS grad zooms toward career in electric car design

University of Washington senior Nicolas Villanueva is well on his way to fulfilling a dream of working on electric cars for a living. Villanueva is part of the "UW Formula Motorsports" team that builds and races gasoline and electric formula-style race cars around the world. The team competed in Lincoln, NE and Germany and is ranked sixth in the world. Villanueva started his university career as a mechanical engineering student but changed his major to electrical engineering because of his interest in electric cars.

Villanueva attended Clover Park High School (CPHS). His father is a Clover Park School District bus driver and his mother works for Tacoma Power. Villanueva said the high school has an excellent electrical engineering program. He said his classes provided a great introduction to electrical engineering that included drafting and 3D modeling. Villanueva wasn't excelling in school until his math teacher told him he was a smart kid and should be trying harder.

"It made me realize there's more I could be doing with my time," said Villanueva. "Because of him and other teachers, like Gordon Winter, I graduated as valedictorian of my CPHS senior class."

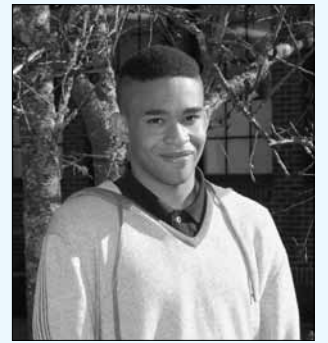
Villanueva said it's important to study hard in school but it's just as important to be a well-rounded, self-motivating person. Villanueva was involved with track, tae kwon do, cross country, swimming, marching band, jazz band and robotics while at CPHS. He was also a University of Washington Minority Scholars Engineering Program ALVA intern. After graduation, he would love to work for Tesla Motors, the premium electric car company.

In October, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction adopted new science standards that will provide consistent science education through all grades, with an emphasis on engineering and technology. The standards should help students get more excited about science and technology.

"Engineering is one of my passions in life. I would love to see more students pursuing a degree in engineering. Being able to work on formula race cars is a lot of fun!" ■

Students win awards for community service, academics

Twenty-one students from Clover Park and Lakes High Schools and Harrison Preparatory School earned \$350 each from the Elizabeth Wesley Youth Merit Incentive Award Program. The program, established in 1996, recognizes and honors African-American youth in Tacoma-Pierce County for their academic achievement and community service. ■



Harrison Preparatory School
Desman E. Brown



Lakes High School

Front row, left to right: Binka Parrish, Dasha Clark, Miyah Overton, Jessica Kim, Ivory Turner, Tiara Sutton, Joseph Bigham. Back Row, left to right: Jamon Parker, Jamila Crump-Starks, Jev Vaughn Harvey, Tyler Young, Aaron Harrell, Luijy Pierre-Louis. Not pictured: Marqus Wyke.



Clover Park High School

Left to right: Torea Langley, Daizha Brown, TaTaiona Burgin, Tylisha Graham, Rosalie Monkono, Enriqua Berry. Not pictured: Daejah Rivera and Margaret Muthee. Photo credit: Jennifer Dixon.



Clover Park High School graduate Nicolas Villanueva stands with an electric formula-style race car he helped build at the University of Washington. Photo credit: Sara Villanueva



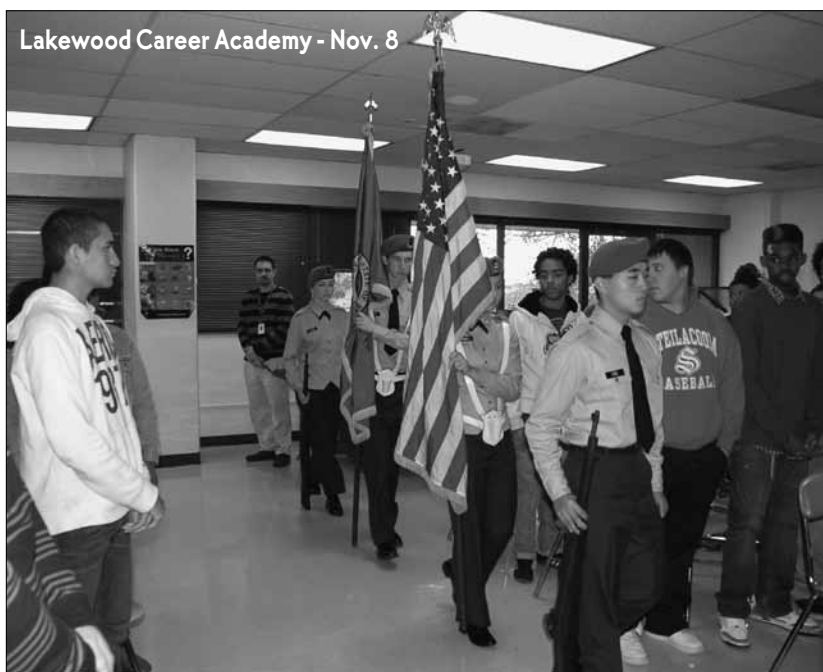
Lochburn Middle School - Nov. 8

Schools celebrate veterans

Clover Park School District schools held special assemblies to honor Veterans Day. The district has a special connection to the military with six schools on Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) and 40 percent of students connected to the military.



Hillside Elementary School - Nov. 8



Lakewood Career Academy - Nov. 8



Clarkmoor Elementary School - Nov. 8



Evergreen Elementary School - Nov. 1

Superintendent's CORNER

Common Core in CPSD

Common Core State Standards (CCSS) have been implemented in every school in Washington state since the start of the school year. These high learning standards in math and English language arts (ELA) are designed to better prepare K-12 students for success in college, work and life.

In Clover Park School District, work on transitioning to the CCSS began last school year. This summer all teachers participated in a full day of professional development in August to continue this work on CCSS. Since then, professional development half days have been used to provide further information on the standards. At the elementary level, consulting teachers serve as a resource to teachers and answer questions about CCSS. Additional professional development has been provided to math and ELA grade-level specialists to further support this transitional year. In middle and high schools, math and ELA consulting teachers, department coordinators and administrators are providing this information to teachers.

Parents were provided with information about CCSS in the district's annual calendar and during parent-teacher conferences held in November. In addition to these two resources, a web page has been set up on the district's website to answer questions about CCSS. A quick, three-minute video on the webpage and additional resources can help clear up confusion about the new standards.

These standards are challenging for both teachers and students. However, we feel these new standards push for academic excellence and will further improve the quality of education students receive in the district.

Deborah L. Le Beau

Debbie LeBeau, Superintendent



Superintendent Debbie LeBeau



Tillicum Elementary School Principal Taj Jensen talked with community members about the school's successes during the district's "Focus on Education" tour on Nov. 6. Nearly a dozen Lakewood-area community members toured Tillicum and Woodbrook Middle School.

Attention district alumni!

Did you know there's a page on the district website, www.cloverpark.k12.wa.us dedicated to alumni and reunions? The page features class reunion information, alumni profiles and suggestions for reconnecting with classmates. Take a minute to complete an alumni questionnaire and let others know what you're up to. Check it out today—the page is located under the "Schools" menu on the district website. ■

Events Calendar

District, school and athletic events are listed on the district website, www.cloverpark.k12.wa.us under "Calendar" and "Events Calendar."



2012-13 Washington School Public Relations Association award-winning publication

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The district shall provide equal employment opportunity and treatment for all applicants and employees in recruitment, hiring, retention, assignment, transfer, promotion, and training. Such equal employment opportunity shall be provided without discrimination with respect to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, marital status, veteran status or physical, sensory or mental disabilities, except insofar as such factors are bona fide occupational qualifications, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability.