



Skykomish Rockets News

January 2015

Vision statement:

- The Skykomish School continues to focus its energy and effort to become a student-centric learning center which offers students a welcoming, comfortable, stable, safe, clean, organized environment, and a challenging, meaningful, rewarding, curriculum.
- The Skykomish School continues to strive towards healthy interpersonal relationships among all staff, students, and communities, and encourages active participation and individual responsibility among all.

Superintendent's Message

I hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday season. Our school and town looked so festive all lit up and decorated for the holidays. Thanks to Mrs. Pugh, Mr. Musser and Mr. Sarno who did such a nice job decorating our school for the holiday season.

Skykomish students had a number of high interest activities during the month of December. Early in the month 2nd – 8th graders went on a field trip to Island Wood Science Center where they studied fresh water ecosystems. In one of the activities students took pond samples and studied them under the microscope.

On the evening of the 18th the community was treated to a wonderful holiday play put on by all of our students and our talented English teacher Mrs. Knight. Our students are very fortunate to have Mrs. Knight as one of their teachers.

On the 19th eight students participated as contestants in the first annual National Geographic Bee. Congratulations to our school Geographic Bee Champion: Hezykyah

Woodford and to each of the students who competed. Hezykyah will be taking a geography test in an attempt to qualify for the National Bee in Washington D.C.

Skykomish students closed out the 2014 year with a wonderful drama and musical presentation sponsored by the King Co. Library called *Tales of the Giving Season*. We are very fortunate to have King Co. Library bringing our students so many wonderful learning opportunities.

Everyone at the school was thrilled to see our boys and girls basketball teams get off to a great start. We have 11 boys and 7 girls playing this season and being coached by Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Daly. It is great to see so many community members coming out to root for our teams at the home games.

I want to congratulate our two Students of the Month of December: Julie Coffroth and Dylan Kidd. Great job!

We have many students looking forward to their first evening of skiing at Stevens Pass on January 16th. Mrs. Slone has worked so hard to organize this program for our students. Thank

you Mrs. Slone for all of the things that you do for our students and thank you Stevens Pass for providing ski passes for our students.

Our students have just three weeks until the semester ends so please encourage your child(ren) to get all of their assignments completed and turned in.

I want to wish all of our students, staff, and parents a safe and happy new year. Please do not hesitate to call and talk to me if you have any issues or concerns.

Sincerely,

Martin Schmidt

Don't Drink and Drive Poem

Kira Aman

Drink and drive you feel alive
until you crash and die.
You made a choice to drink not think
and your choice made people cry.
You said I'm fine,
but you crossed the line.
Too late to go back now.
Was it worth the drink?

WINTER BREAK STORIES FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL

WINTER BREAK

By the Skykomish Middle School
Keyboarding Class

There are many things to like about winter break! "Winter break is fun because you have Christmas and Christmas Eve," said

Michael. Kathy said, "I like it because we get special family time." "My brother's birthday is during winter break," said Kira. Hezykyah said, "My baby sister's birthday is during winter break and also Christmas." "I like not having school and spending time with my family," said Anthony. "Spending time with my family is fun," said Jaylee. Ben said, "I like winter break because mom makes homemade bread and ham." Georgia said, "I like to decorate the Christmas tree."

What I Like About Winter Break

By Jaylee Fiegenbaum

1. Spending time with my family.
2. Playing in the snow.
3. Opening presents.
4. Riding our quad.
5. I'm also going skiing this year at Stevens Pass.

WINTER BREAK

By, Ben Grider

I like the snow in Anthony's face that I throw.
I hate getting cold and falling on ice.
Listening to music is boring. I like to build a fort during winter break.

WINTER BREAK

By Michael Jackson

There's probably two or three things I like about winter break. I like winter break because there is no school. I also like Christmas, which happens during winter break. And, I like to go snowboarding when we go to the pass.

Why I Like Winter

By Kira Aman

Oh, I love winter because I will go ski and some of my friends want to snowboard but not me, I'm different in a way. The way I love to call it is having fun all day. Another reason why I love winter is because the winter lasts very long. And why do I love winter so much? I love it because Christmas day is during winter. I love to get gifts for others and see the happy grin on their faces. The end.

Winter Break

By Hezykyah Woodford

There are three reasons I like winter break:

1. Christmas
2. No school
3. NO HOMEWORK

And those are the reasons that I like winter break.

Christmas

By Georgia Stearns

*Families together
Kids are smiling
Joyful songs
Christmas*

CHRISTMAS

By Anthony

What I love about Christmas is the ham from the oven, family all around, the excitement, and the fun. My family crawling into their beds to wake in the morning to see all the presents and to see who gave what and to whom. And that's why I like Christmas!

What I Want for Christmas

I want a baby kitten.

-Will Coffroth.

I want an Elsa and Anna Skating Doll Set.

-Savanah Grider

I want Viking Legos.

-Royal Ebert

I want an unpopable ball and a bucket of snow.

-Marcus Javier.

I want a Bubble Wubble Ball.

-Delanna Feigenbaum.

Skykomish Basketball 2014-2015

Jan 6	Boys 4:30/Girls 6:00	
	Home	LaConner/Grace
Jan 8	Boys 5:30	
	Home	Eastside Prep
Jan 12	Boys 6:00	
	Away	Darrington
Jan 15	Girls 5:00	
	Away	Tulalip
Jan 20	Girls 6:00/Boys 7:30	
	Home	Highland Christian
Jan 22	Boys 4:00	
	Home	Sultan
Jan 26	Girls 3:00	
	Away	Lopez
Jan 27	Boys 4:00 / Girls 5:30	
	Away	Lummi

Jan 29	Girls 3:00		
	Away	Orcas Island	
Feb 2	Boys 4:30/Girls 6:00		
	Home	Overlake/Tulalip	
Feb 3	Boys 3:30		
	Away	Sultan	
Feb 5	Boys 4:00/Girls 5:30		
	Away	Highland Christian	

If there are enough students interested the school will provide transportation for students to attend the Sno-Isle open house on Thursday, Jan. 29th from 4:30-6:30. Sno-Isle is also planning on offering a three week summer session in a select number of courses. If there are enough students interested the school will provide transportation to interested students. If a student is interested in finding out more about Sno-Isle opportunities they need to contact Mr. Dempsey and let their interest be known so adjustments can be made for their schedule.

Sno-Isle Skill Center Open House

Recently students from grades 8 through 11 received a presentation from the Sno-Isle Skill Center in Everett. Sno-Isle offers a variety of skill based courses to public school students. Students' can take these courses during their junior and/or senior year in high school. Courses include:

Information Technology

Computers, servers & networking, DigiPen video game design, and Robotic & electronics tech

Science & Health

Dental assisting, medical assisting, nursing assistant, veterinary assisting

Business, Marketing & Management

Cosmetology, culinary arts, fashion & merchandising

Human services

Criminal justice, fire service technology

Trade & Industry

Aerospace manufacturing tech, auto body & collision repair, auto technology, construction trades, diesel power technology, precision machining, welding & metal fabrication

Many of the programs offer the opportunity to earn college credit and professional certifications. For more information go to their website at <http://snoisletech.com>.

SKI SWAP SUCCESS!!!

Tuesday, December 16th was our SKI SWAP where we outfitted almost 20 students head to toe with ski and snowboard gear for the upcoming ski season. Thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers that helped pull this event together.

And a very big thank you goes to STEVENS PASS for making this possible for the students to get to play on the slopes this year.

We had some wonderful community members pull together and add to our donations from years past. Thank you so much to the following folks: Frank Martin, Ginnie and Glen Eburn, Cheryl Wahl and family, Suzanne Bridges, John Robinson and Ken Irish. Thank you to Skykomish Fire Department for all of the brand new helmets they purchased for the students.

November Reading Challenge

Eleven students met November's Ready Set Reading Challenge. The following students read at least 20 minutes/20 times last month: Austin, Madeline, Bella, Raquel, Scarlett,

Journey, Emily, Kayla, Asia, Gavin and Ethan. Good job you guys! December is a short month at school, so be sure and keep up with your reading over the winter break. Forms are due when we return back to school on January 5th.

Social Networking, Digital Safety & Cyberbullying – A Tip Sheet for Parents

“Back when I was a kid...., things were different.” Yes, they were.

And because they are, we are often asked for tips and resources for keeping young people safe in our rapidly changing digital world. As you read through these tips, note that many of them are NOT technology oriented. That’s because many of the issues young people face are very much the typical social-emotional, growing up issues which we faced in the past. However, today, they are now infused with and magnified by technologies.

1. **Talk** to your kids. The first, best piece of advice: keep the lines of communication open. Ask questions about things you don’t understand. For some great conversation starters, check **Questions Parents Should Ask Their Children about Technology** (<http://cyberbullying.us/questions-parents-should-ask-their-children-about-technology>).

2. **Listen** to your kids. Learn their lingo. Also listen for the names of websites and apps which they may be accessing. Different ages, different schools, different social groups often use social networking sites – many of which you have never heard of! Build that into your **talks**.

3. **Sign a contract**. Be clear. Be straight forward. Establish the expectations and rules by which you and they will use their technologies. **This Technology Use Contract** is

a sample you can adapt.

(http://www.cyberbullying.us/technology_use_contract_2014.pdf).

4. **Check**. As part of your contract, let them know that you will check on their activities from time to time. Know, too, that you may not have knowledge of nor access to all their personal sites. (See #2.)

5. **Filter. Block. Monitor**. Use whatever filtering, blocking or monitoring software you have and are comfortable with. However, do not rely of these technological tools. Remember, digital safety issues are social, developmental, human issues. Also remember, kids are savvy enough to work around the software tools!

6. **Teach** appropriate online behavior. Respect, honesty, personal values in “real” life should be reflected online. Savvy as young people are, they often do not consider the speed at which things occur, the very public nature of life online, the permanency of their posts and pictures, and the fact that, once posted, nothing can be taken back. They also need to understand that they are not anonymous! Whatever is spilled on the internet cannot be swept away.

Check **A Student’s Guide to Personal Publishing**

(http://people.uwec.edu/patchinj/cyberbullying/students_guide_to_personal_publishing.pdf)

7. **Watch** for warning signs. Be aware of signs of distress related to tech use: anger, fear, talk of violence. Be aware of names of new “friends”, or the absence of known friends, becoming withdrawn or obsessively online. Watch for signs of secrecy – beyond the norm. Watch for disrupted sleep patterns.

8. **Model** appropriate behavior, yourself. Do you send inappropriate messages or pictures? Do you text while driving? Do you tease, harass or otherwise torment others? Young people watch us, and learn from what they see us doing.

9. **Talk among yourselves.** Talk with your kids' friends' parents. Talk within your community. Talk to your school. Create a parent support group. Sometimes, a young person will share with someone else what they wouldn't share with their own parents.

10. **Remember,** and this is very important, most young people are perfectly safe online most of the time. They are doing amazing things. Creating rich communities. Living with great, self-generated rules and protocols. But sometimes, they do need **us**.

Resources for Parents

These are links to documents and sites designed to help adults better understand what social networking is and how to use it safely. They can also help adults to more easily talk with youth about appropriate behaviors and safety issues, and to be better prepared to be help when necessary.

A Parents' Guide to Cyberbullying (PDF) <http://www.k12.wa.us/safetycenter/InternetSafety/pubdocs/AParentsGuidetoCyberbullyingConnectSafely.pdf>

A Parents' Guide to Cybersecurity (PDF) <http://www.connectsafely.org/wp-content/uploads/securityguide.pdf>

A Parents' Guide to Facebook (PDF) <http://www.k12.wa.us/safetycenter/InternetSafety/pubdocs/AParentsGuidetoFacebook.pdf>

A Parents' Guide to Instagram (PDF) http://www.connectsafely.org/wp-content/uploads/instagram_guide.pdf

A Parents' guide to Snapchat (PDF) http://www.connectsafely.org/wp-content/uploads/snapchat_guide.pdf

Family Online Safety Guide (PDF) http://now.symassets.com/now/en/pu/images/Promotions/onlineSafetyGuide/FamilyOnlineSafetyGuide_4thEd_Final.pdf

Links to document in multiple languages

Other Family-Focused Links:

ConnectSafely <http://www.connectsafely.org/>

Cyberbullying Resource Center <http://cyberbullying.us/>

Facebook Family Safety Center <https://www.facebook.com/safety>

Family Online Safety Institute <http://www.fosi.org/>

NetFamilyNews <http://www.netfamilynews.org/>

OSPI School Safety Center- Cyberbullying & Digital/Internet Safety

