



Skykomish Rockets News

April 2016 website: www.skykomish.wednet.edu

Superintendent Message

Dear Skykomish Student, Parents, and Community Members,

It was with a heart full of emotions that I recently informed the School Board and staff of my intention to retire at the end of June. After 36 wonderful years of working in schools as a teacher and administrator it is time to donate my suits and ties to the Goodwill. My wife and I are planning an extended road trip throughout Montana, Wyoming and Colorado this summer and into the fall. We hope to see the aspens turn golden in September. I also hear that there is a really big trout in Yellowstone that is calling my name.

I have had a wonderful two years working with our students and staff at Skykomish School. Every day has been filled with challenges and opportunities that have caused Skykomish to flourish. Skykomish School is like a beautiful big fruit tree. The fruit (our students) continues to ripen and develop and enrich the community while the staff enables the growth process to happen by watering, pruning and pulling the weeds. Next year there will be a new gardener with a new watering can and together with the all of the other gardeners (our dedicated staff) the fruit will continue to grow beautifully.

The month of April will see Skykomish students experiencing a variety of new learning opportunities including: We Day activities in Seattle for Me-to-We Club, a

music and poetry presentation, learning about marine life with the Seattle Aquarium Staff and the Senior Trip to Disneyland. I am happy that our school can provide so many fun learning opportunities for our students.

This year we are honoring and showing our appreciation to all of our staff during the week of April 18th. Instead of having two separate weeks to honor classified staff and teachers we are combining the two events into one week of celebrating and honoring our hardworking and dedicated staff. If you are interested in helping with cooking or serving one of the lunches for staff during Staff Appreciation Week, please contact myself or Cindy Pugh. I don't believe that I have ever worked with a staff that does so much and works so hard in support of its students. Staff, we thank you for your continual giving of yourselves and your commitment to our students.

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather.

Sincerely,

Martin Schmidt

Early Release

On March 31st and April 1st school will be released at 11:30 for conferences. We will not have an after school program on Thursday, March 31st.

Upcoming Events

- 1st – March Awards Assembly 11:15
- 1st – Early Release 11:30 Student Led Conferences
- 4th – 8th No School – Spring Break
- 13th – Preschool, K-1st grade field trip
- 13th – Prevention Team Bowling Trip 2:45
- 18th – 22nd – Staff Appreciation Week
- 20th – Me to We Field Trip
- 21st – Music and Poetry Presentation 2:00
- 27th – K-5 Field Trip to the Zoo
- 27th – School Board Meeting 6:30

Annual District Report Card

The District Annual Report Card is a report of district data that may be of interest to you. The Report Card is released each year by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. There is a link to the Annual Report Card on the home page of the District Website. Skykomish website can be accessed at www.skykomish.wednet.edu

Rhyme on!

A Teen Poetry Contest

The King County Library System is promoting a poetry contest for the month of April. Students in middle school and high school are eligible to participate. Entries may be submitted online at rhymeon@kcls.org, turned in to any KCLS library or given to DeLana Slone. Entry forms with the rules will be given to students on March 31st. These forms must be signed by a parent or guardian. There will be three \$50 Barnes and Nobles gift cards awarded for the top three poems chosen.

April Showers Bring May Flowers

The Me to We students were awarded a “We Volunteer Now” grant from We.org that will be used to plant flowers in the planters on the Skykomish bridge. This project was originally implemented by the Skykomish Lions Club in the nineties. For years, the Lions volunteers have made the entrance to our community beautiful by planting gorgeous flowers to brighten the way. Since our local Lions group has recently dissolved, the students wanted to pitch in this year to continue with the Lions project. When the weather permits, the Me to We group will be using the grant money to purchase flowers and will be planting and weeding with direction from former Lion, Nancy Cleveland. The Town of Skykomish will assist in the watering. Contact DeLana Slone for more information.



WE DAY 2016

On Wednesday, April 20th, the Me to We kids will be heading to the Key Arena in Seattle for WE DAY. WE DAY is a huge event hosting 15,000+ students and mentors from all over Washington that involves live music and inspirational stories of change and leadership from actors, musicians, students and activists trying to make a difference in our world.

They just released the line-up of speakers and performers for this amazing event. Here is a short list of folks speaking/performing: Ciara, Coach Pete Carroll, The Band Perry, Paula Abdul, Richard Lockette, George Takei, Marlee Matlin and many more.

You cannot buy a ticket; you must earn it through service. These students have been working really hard this school year to make a difference both locally and globally. Locally, they have run a food drive to support our local food bank and in February, the students shared positive messages with their WE ARE LOVE activity making cards for all of the students and staff. Globally, they just began a WE ARE CHANGE campaign collecting coins to raise money to support the clean water and sanitation project in India.

These students are making good choices and making a difference in the lives of others. WE DAY will be such a wonderful, enlightening experience that they will remember for a long time. It will be powerful celebrating with so many kids that are working hard to create change. For more information about Me to We, WE DAY or the activities the kids are involved in please go to weday.com or contact DeLana Slone.

READY SET READ

In February, there were three students that were able to meet their goal of reading 20 minutes 20 times. Those students that completed their reading and turned in their forms were: Kyle, Austin and Emily. Keep up the good work! I know more of you are doing your reading. Don't forget forms are due the last day of the month.

The middle school students are continuing to add to their AR points score. Students' AR points are awarded by reading an A/R book, then taking and passing online quizzes testing their comprehension of their book. The points scoreboard as of 3/24/16 are as follows: Kira 26.1, Jaylee 42.6, Ben 13.1, Michael .8, Sebastiaan 3.0, Ethan 6.2, Asia 45.5 and last, but not least, Georgia at 158.7 points. The amount of after school reading all of these students are doing is quite impressive. Great job!

Discrimination

The Skykomish School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination may be directed to: Martin Schmidt-mschmidt@skykomish.wednet.edu - Superintendent, Title IX Officer and Civil Rights Coordinator 360 677-2623 x 101; Dan Bubar-dbubar@skykomish.wednet.edu - Athletic Director 360 677-2623 x223; Karen McEachern-kmceachern@skykomish.wednet.edu - 504 Coordinator 360 677-2623 x 232. District Office 105 6th St North Skykomish, WA 98288