



Skykomish Rockets News

November 2016

Website: www.skykomish.wednet.edu

Superintendent Message

November 30, 2016

Dear Skykomish Community,

Being an educator or being a professional who supports students is not a profession known for instant gratification. Sometimes, educators and professionals in those fields can feel completely unappreciated.

Often dubbed a “thankless job,” being an educator and mentoring and coaching children comes with many daily challenges. Grading, meetings, more grading, planning and the seemingly hundreds of tasks educators are charged with can make them feel frustrated and burned out. More often than not, these specialists take on much more than their job description. Everything from improving student’s academic abilities to making up for each child’s inadequacies, counseling, cleaning a wound, a warm meal, or even a warm smile.

I am happy to report that despite these challenges the faculty and staff of Skykomish School District are some of the most grateful, appreciative, and thankful professionals whom I have ever worked with throughout my educational tenure. I am impressed by their abilities to look at each situation they are faced with from the “half full” point of view instead of the “half empty” one and for their attitude of gratitude each day. The Skykomish Community is so very blessed to have the

caliber of these individuals serving our children.

I am honored to lead such an engaged school community. To the students whom we serve, thank you for inspiring us to do more. To the many individuals who contribute their time, knowledge and talents to Skykomish so that our students and community may prosper, thank you for reminding us that generosity and gratitude comes in so many forms.

On a personal note, my wife and I are grateful to be at Skykomish. This has become our home, and there is no place we’d rather be. The warm welcome that has greeted us in Skykomish reminds me in the most compelling way why we love this community.

My family and I wish each of you a Thanksgiving filled with joy and peace. May you reflect on the many blessings for which you can be thankful as we enter the holidays!

Blessings,

Thomas Jay
Superintendent



Holiday Program

Please join us for our annual holiday program on December 15, 2016 at 6:00 pm. Our school will be presenting "The Grinch: A Whosical" featuring the likes of the Grinch, Cindy Lou Who, Max the Dog and more. You will also see musical performances from the elementary grades and the band. There will also be a raffle from the PTSO and Drug Prevention Team. You never know who might show up!

Kimberly McCullough's News

The first quarter has ended and conferences have been completed. Students are learning how to study, manage their time, and plan for their futures. Meanwhile, I recently attended conferences for science and math and I am excited about bringing some new ideas to my classroom. We were also fortunate enough to have Kelley Govan from Sound Salmon Solutions come up to Skykomish to teach the middle and high school students about watersheds. We will have two more events with Sound Salmon Solutions - one in January and one in April.

Me to We Food Drive

The Me to We group at Skykomish School led a very successful food drive during the month of November. Between all of the classrooms and the various community boxes, we were able to donate 352 pounds of food, as well as, a \$50 cash donation to the local food bank. The donations came at just the right time for families getting ready for Thanksgiving. The school had a competition between the elementary students and the middle/high students to see who could bring in the most food. Our elementary students won!! They will be rewarded with a root beer float party. Thank you to all who donated!

Tree Lighting

The annual community tree lighting will be held on Saturday, December 6th at 6:00pm. Any high school students needing community service hours can see Ms. DeLana Slone regarding ways that they may help. We will be decorating the Maloney Store and stuffing goodie bags on Wednesday, November 30th at 3:00 pm, at the Maloney Store. High school students may catch the After School Program bus home, if needed. The day of the lighting, we will need people to help with serving and clean up.

Please join us for caroling, cookies, and cider for this wonderful annual event.

For additional community service opportunities, please check the bulletin board in front of the office or ask your child's advisors.



Alert System

At the beginning of the year, parents/guardians filled out a form to receive notices about events, school closures, or late starts. Some people chose to receive text, email and a phone call. We are going to try to utilize this service more often to keep folks informed on school happenings. If you decide that you would like to just receive a text, or just receive phone calls, please call DeLana Slone at 360-677-2623 x 100 to opt out of one, or more of the notifications.

PTSO Message

Dear Families,

The Skykomish Parent Teacher Student Organization is holding our annual holiday raffle. This raffle is a great opportunity for our organization to raise funds. Our main priority in raising funds is to provide college scholarships for Skykomish students. In addition to scholarships, our organization supports concessions for home volleyball and basketball games, the ski program, movie nights, and a variety of other extracurricular activities for our students and community.

The tickets are priced at \$1. The raffle prizes will be drawn on the night of the Holiday Program at the Skykomish School on December 15th. You do not have to be present to win, however all tickets must include contact information.

You can purchase tickets through your child, at the school office, the Skykomish Deli, Cascadia Inn and Café, as well as the School Office.

In the years past, our holiday raffle has included some wonderful donations for our prizes. Some of the raffle prizes include, but are not limited to: Stevens Pass day ski tickets, gift certificates to Lowe's and various restaurants in our area, kayak lessons through the River House in Index and passes through the United States Forest Service.

Thank you to Bill Atkinson, our district community liaison, and Stacy McGrath, the district Drug & Alcohol Counselor, for gathering the donations. Furthermore, we would also like to thank all of the businesses and individuals who donated raffle items to our fundraiser.

Thank you for supporting the PTSO in this fundraiser, we hope to make this a successful event.

Sincerely,
Skykomish PTSO



2017 Ski Program

The Skykomish Ski Program will be returning this year. Students who had a 2.5 GPA or above during first quarter can now register for a free season's pass at <https://www.stevenspass.com/giftshop/academicexcellence>.

For those who need skiing gear, the school will be holding a Ski Swap on Tuesday, December 13th at 5:00 at the bus barn. You will need to return any of your old ski gear if you want to check out new gear.

While you can use your season's pass at your leisure, the school will begin taking students up to the Pass on Fridays from January 13 until March 3rd. We will be leaving the school at 3:00 pm and be returning at 9:00 pm. Seating is VERY limited and is only reserved for students. Parents will need to provide their own transportation and it would be preferable that, if they are going with their children, they transport them as well. 2nd and 3rd graders will need a parent or guardian as a chaperone.

For any questions or ski gear donations you can contact Dallas Robinson at drobinson@skykomish.wednet.edu.

Upcoming Events

- 12/1 – Pop Culture Club Movie Field Trip
- 12/3 – Skykomish Tree Lighting 6:00 pm
- 12/5 – Awards Assembly
- 12/6 - Chocolate Factory Field Trip K-5
Lady Rockets Home Basketball game
5:00 pm
- 12/8 – PTSO Meeting 3:15 pm
- 12/13 – Ski Swap 5:00 – 7:00 pm
- 12/14 – School Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 12/15 – Holiday Program 6:00 pm
- 12/16 – Early Release Day 11:30 am
- 12/17 to 1/2 – Winter Break
- 12/17 – Santa’s Boutique 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Happy Holidays!

Non-discrimination Statement

Skykomish School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Dan Bubar – Athletic Director	Karen McEachern – Special Ed Director	Thomas Jay - Superintendent
105 6 th Street North	105 6 th Street North	105 6 TH Street North
Skykomish, WA 98288	Skykomish, WA 98288	Skykomish, WA 98288
360 677-2623 x 223	360 677-2623 x 232	360 677-2623 x 101
Title IX Coordinator	Section 504 ADA Coordinator	Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator