



## Superintendent Message

October 28, 2016

Dear Skykomish Community,

Nine weeks into the school year and one of the most common questions I receive is, "How do you like Skykomish and our school?" I love it! I can honestly say that there is not a single day that I don't wake and I am thrilled and excited to serve you, your children, and our community and begin my day! This question is always followed by, "Well, what do you love about it?" That's simple I say...what's not to love about a dedicated and committed faculty and staff that make daily sacrifices to serve our children and our community? Secondly, what's not to love about a beautiful school nestled in the middle of a breathtaking valley surrounded by a river and gorgeous mountains? More importantly, I tell them that I love our school because our school ensures that every child succeeds as defined by their own measure of success, whether success means serving our country in the Armed Forces, serving our community, attending a technical college, attending a four-year university, or serving their own families—just take a close look at all the pictures of the graduates who grace our walls and who have passed through our doors since 1921.

What else do I love about Skykomish School District? I love the simple fact that there are no exceptions and no excuses! We hold children accountable for their learning. We don't let children fall through the cracks. Our team of

faculty and staff work tirelessly in cooperation with our students, our parents and our community to provide them with the necessary skills and tools to help them realize their full potential as life-long learners.

If you haven't had a chance to stop by our school and visit with me, please don't hesitate to come see our great school! I want to hear from you! I specifically want to know what's working well and what should be sustained. I also want to know what needs attention and what could be improved.

Thank you for entrusting me with the opportunity to serve you, your community, and your children!

Yours very truly and devoted,

Thomas Jay  
Superintendent

## School Email

To email any staff at the Skykomish School, use their first initial and last name [@skykomish.wednet.edu](mailto:@skykomish.wednet.edu)  
This is the preferred way to contact teachers.



## **The Prevention Team Is Getting Ready for Red Ribbon Week!!!**

Each year the Prevention Team participates in the National Red Ribbon Campaign promoting a Drug-Free Lifestyle. This year's theme is "YOLO, Be Drug Free!" The team will be hosting a short school-wide presentation on the history of Red Ribbon Week and will be entering a "decorate your school" photo contest, with a chance to earn \$1,000 towards prevention efforts and a new iPad for our school! WE NEED YOUR HELP TO WIN! The team with the most votes wins! Support us by logging onto [redribbon.org](http://redribbon.org) between November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and vote for Skykomish Prevention Team!

## **Book Club**

On Wednesday, October 12, Book Club met for the first time in Ms. Shelton's room. In attendance were our middle school and high school students. We have spent time sharing our favorite and current reads and are now in the process of deciding what our first read as a group will be. Book Club has decided that we would like to focus on providing a positive and enthusiastic environment to discuss our current and favorite reads.

## **Yearbook**

Yearbook Club has officially begun! We have decided on a new publisher this year and will now be working with YearbookLife to come up with an exciting yearbook theme. Club members have the opportunity to meet after school on Wednesdays, as well as during Flex on Mondays. This month we are working on selecting our theme and deciding upon our roles and assignments within the club.

## **National Novel Writing Month**

November is National Novel Writing Month. During this month, participants are encouraged to set writing goals, traditionally 50,000 words, for the month. In honor of NaNoWriMo, Ms. Shelton will be hosting write-ins during the after-school program on Thursdays for each week in November. These write-ins are available to any student who would like to participate in NaNoWriMo's Young Writers Program and participants will receive goodies and snacks on write-in days.

## **Me to We**

The "Me to We" club at Skykomish School is putting together a food drive to support our local food bank. We will be collecting food in each classroom, as well as having donation boxes around town. There will be a competition between the elementary classes and the middle/high school classes. We want to see who will bring in the most canned goods! The group who has the most items at the end of the drive will win a prize.

The food drive will run from October 24 to November 18. Donations of canned or unexpired non-perishable food items may be sent to school

with your child, or dropped off a various locations in town. All donations will be given to the Skykomish Food Bank. Last year, our food drive happened at the perfect time because of the storm and our community was in need of a little extra assistance. Skykomish School was able to help with tons of food and we would like to do it again!

For those who do not know, the Skykomish Food Bank is available to anyone in our community. It is located at the Masonic Hall and is open every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. If you have any questions or need to arrange a pick up, please contact: Amanda Alexander at 360-677-2623 ext. 212.



Halloween is Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. It is a tradition here at Skykomish School for students to wear their costumes to school on Halloween. Students are welcome to wear their costume as long as they are not bloody, too scary, their faces are not covered, or the costume is not too revealing. If costumes are deemed inappropriate, students will be asked to change or remove the costume.

## Halloween Party

The Skykomish PTSO would like to invite you to our annual Halloween Party on Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Skykomish School. We will gather in the art room where we plan to begin the night by decorating pumpkins, then we will have pizza across the hall in the cafeteria, and finally we will enjoy popcorn and the movie, *Hotel Transylvania 2*.

Please join PTSO in this FREE event. Bring your families; costumes are welcome! Feel free to bring any other snacks, treats and refreshments you would care to share.

Families can also visit the mini-train on their last weekend of operations for the year. They will be running the train at the Skykomish Depot Park on Saturday from 10am-4pm.

PTSO Halloween Party Schedule:  
Decorating Pumpkins: 4pm-5pm  
Pizza Party: 5pm-5:30pm  
Movie: 5:30-7pm  
See you there!



## FALL COMMUNITY DINNER FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Skykomish School Gym

Bring your favorite dessert!

Food donated by Fred Meyer & Walmart  
Please call DeLana Slone at 360-677-2623 x 100 to arrange a delivery plate if you or someone you know is homebound and unable to attend.

## A Note from the School Nurse's Office:

Happy autumn, one and all! 'Tis the season for all kinds of things that happen when we come back indoors for more hours of the day and spend more time in closer proximity to one another. This is a good time to review what does NOT cause colds: getting wet and cold, spending time outdoors in cold weather, and going to sleep with wet hair are some of the more common myths. The simple truth is: viruses cause colds. The scientific community agrees that the two most important things you can do to prevent colds and flu are hand washing and being up-to-date with your vaccinations. (**Have you had your flu shot this year?!**) Also, getting enough sleep boosts your immune system and helps you stay healthy in a variety of ways, yet it is the one most easily set aside by busy families. **Viruses do circulate during fall and winter, but you're far more likely to come in contact with a virus indoors than you are outside.** Enjoying the outdoors and remaining physically active is always a good thing, too!

Here are some fast and proven ways to reduce your exposure to colds this flu season:

- If you want to be "cool" and admired by your peers, stay home when you are ill!
- Most adults today were raised being taught to cover the mouth with the hand while coughing or sneezing. The proper way is to cover your mouth AND nose when you cough or sneeze and bury your mouth and both nostrils into your elbow.
- ***Sneezing and coughing into your hands actually helps spread germs*** because the germs move to your hand, then spread to whatever you touch next (e.g.- the Kleenex box, doorknob, telephone, steering wheel, faucet, refrigerator handle, keyboard, etc.) and another person comes along and touches the same object and

picks up the virus on their hands. When that person touches their face, viruses enter through their nose and mouth and even the eyes. That is how easy it is to help start a new cold in another person!

- Studies have revealed that the places we think of as the dirtiest (like toilets and sinks and floors) have nowhere near the number of germs that doorknobs do, or telephones or refrigerator handles. Refrigerator handles and kitchen faucets always win the "Most Disgusting" Award in these studies.
- Make it a habit to wash your hands every single time you eat, even just a snack.

If we make reducing infections part of our daily routine, our cozy indoor Pacific Northwest winters will be significantly happier and healthier.

Stay healthy!  
~Lynne Kelly, R.N.

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We are off to a great start with the After School Program! With **33 students** (grades K-12) enrolled, we are meeting in the Cafeteria! Students bring their school laptops and homework with them, and as soon as snack is finished, they get busy completing their school work, followed by iReady, an online reading and math program. Students are then given choices of activities to do to finish up our time together.

The **After School Program** meets on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 2:45 – 4:15 pm. The program is free and available for all students in grades K – 12 and

provides a hearty snack, help with homework, and extra activities to help students with reading and math. Bus riders receive transportation home following the program. The after school program is funded by the Title I, Part A program. Please contact the Skykomish School Office for a permission slip to participate in the After School Program.

**Skykomish School District** participates in both the Title I, Part A and Learning Assistance Program (LAP), offering services for our students during the school day, in the after school program, and in our summer school. Our Title I and LAP programs focus primarily on grades K-4, and also provides assistance to those students in higher grades needing reading and math support. Paraeducators are partially funded by both Title I and LAP programs. Skykomish also uses the iReady online reading and math program and the DIBELS reading and math program.

**Title I, Part A** is a federal program that serves the unique needs of children, Kindergarten to grade 12, who struggle to learn. Title I programs and services provide customized instruction and curricula that helps these students meet academic standards and take an active, engaged interest in what they learn and can do. As the oldest and largest federal education program, Title I programs build equity of opportunity for children whose struggles often keep them on the academic sidelines.

**Learning Assistance Program (LAP)** serves eligible students who need academic support for reading, writing and math, or who need readiness skills to learn these core subjects. With special emphasis on reading literacy in the early grades, schools use their state LAP funds to deliver supplemental services that give these students the strong start they need for academic success.

For further information regarding our Title I, Part A and LAP programs, or to provide your input on how we can improve our Title I/LAP programs at Skykomish, please contact Marcia Dempsey, Title I/LAP Director, any time at [mdempsey@skykomish.wednet.edu](mailto:mdempsey@skykomish.wednet.edu). During school hours, Mrs. Dempsey can be reached at 360-677-2623, ext. 221.

Revised 10/16



### **Skykomish School District Satisfaction Survey:**

As part of his Plan of Entry, the Superintendent, in cooperation with the School Board, is asking for parent and guardian feedback on how the district is doing. Parents and guardians are being asked to complete an anonymous survey and answer the questions based on their experiences with Skykomish School District. The feedback provided will be used to monitor parent satisfaction rates over time and used to develop a long-term plan to improve our school. Thank you for your participation and cooperation!

Link to survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PFL59W6>

To request a paper copy of this survey please contact the school office.

## ROCKET GEAR!!!

Be on the lookout for our Rocket spirit wear order forms. You may choose from fleece jackets, vests, polos, sweatshirts, hoodies, duffle bags and a baseball cap in both youth and adult sizes. Please return order forms with payment to your child's teacher or the office.

### Upcoming Events

10/29 – Halloween Party 4:00-7:00 pm  
11/3 – Vision/hearing screening  
11/4 – Fall Community Dinner 5:00-7:00 pm  
    First quarter ends  
11/7-11/8 – Prevention Team Summit Yakima  
11/8 - Veteran's Day Assembly 9:00 am  
11/9 – 11:30 Early Release Day Conferences  
11/10 – 11:30 Early Release Day Conferences  
11/11 – No School Veteran's Day  
11/14 – Lowes, Building Race Cars  
11/19 – Homecoming Alumni/Community  
11/23 – 11/25 – No School Thanksgiving Break  
11/30 - School Board Meeting 6:30 pm

### Homecoming Fall 2016

On Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, the ASB will be holding the annual homecoming dance. This year, we are inviting all local community members and Skykomish High School alum to join us for a night of music, dancing, and reminiscing!

**Theme:** Out of this World!

**When:** Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 7-10PM

**Where:** Skykomish School Gym

**Dress:** Semi-formal

**Ticket Prices:** \$8.00 a single, \$12.00 a couple

**Food:** Light snacks and punch will be provided.

Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre.

#### Non-discrimination Statement:

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:

Thomas Jay - Superintendent  
Title IX Officer and Civil Rights Coordinator  
360 677-2623 x 101

Dan Bubar – Athletic Director  
Title IX Coordinator  
360 677-2623 x223

Karen McEachern – Special Ed Director  
504 ADA Coordinator  
360 677-2623 x 232

District Office  
105 6th St North  
Skykomish, WA 98288

