



Centennial Staff Newsletter

June 14, 2018

Penny Close and Doreen Schwindt chosen as 2018 Triple C winners

Congratulations to Penny Close and Doreen Schwindt on being selected as this year's Triple C recipients.



Close (pictured left with Superintendent Dr. Paul Coakley,) the lead secretary at Pleasant Valley Elementary School has worked in the district for 15 years. She was nominated by the Pleasant Valley staff and retired principal Laurie Ernstrom. In her nomination, Close was lauded for knowing both students and parents names. "She loves the PV community and makes everyone feel special all the time. One of the ways she does this is by calling people by their

names and remembering details of their lives to show her genuine love and caring," wrote one of the nominators.

Others talked about her work with students who ring the school bell. "In early Fall when classes are signed up to ring the old bell, they come up to the office in small groups and Penny gives them a brief history of PV and waits patiently as they all have a turn becoming part of our continued school community as they pull the rope and begin the day. Students always remember this tradition."

Close was described as the epitome of humility and love. " Penny is the type of person you can count on. She has a heart of gold and a level of kindness and patience that is rare and special."

Swindt (pictured right,) a first grade teacher at Wood Elementary School has taught in the district for 35 years. She was nominated by Kari Womack and Kelsie Briggs, with help from the Wood staff and colleagues that have moved to other schools in the district. During her



years of teaching, she has impacted the lives of close to 1,000 students and has spent her entire career at Wood. “We all talk about ‘what’s best for kids,’” wrote one colleague, “Doreen lives it. She never shies away from what is difficult, what might mean extra work, if it is to the benefit of her students.”

Several of her colleagues noted that Schwindt arrives to work before most people every morning, so she can prep and plan so her students receive the best education possible. Others remarked on her laugh. “Doreen is one of the most hilarious and entertaining people that I know. Her laugh and smile are infectious.” Schwindt is also described as a nurturer. “She has a gentle heart that is always supportive and willing to go the extra mile for a co-worker. She has always been a listening ear, someone with wonderful advice.”

Top 11 seniors from Centennial High School’s Class of 2018

Congratulations to the top 11 seniors from Centennial High School’s Class of 2018. They are: Lena A. Karam; Liana N. Kobylinsky; Kailea J. Messenger; Gabriella E. Nowodworski; Sheila Trnjanin; Emma J. Dobesh; Isabel R. McKean; Kathleen L. Pham; Emily Cope; Doo K. Yoon; and Yana Bodnaryuk.

New Principals selected for Butler Creek and Patrick Lynch Elementary Schools



Heather Bailey will be joining the Butler Creek Elementary School staff as Principal. Bailey currently serves as Principal of Russell Elementary in the Parkrose School District, a position she has had for the past six years. Prior to that, she spent 14 years as an elementary teacher in multiple grade levels, particularly Kindergarten.

Bailey has a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education and Master’s Degree in School Administration from Concordia University. She is currently in the Doctoral Educational Leadership program at the University of Oregon.



Jeffrey Cerveny has been selected as the Patrick Lynch Elementary School Principal. He currently serves as a Program Specialist for Desert Sands Unified School District in La Quinta, California. Prior to this, Cerveny worked for three years in the Centennial School District as a Learning Specialist at Rosemary Anderson High School East, and for five years as an Education Specialist in Pasadena, California, where he also served as a Special Education Department Chair.

Cerveny has a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and German, a Master’s in Educational Policy & Leadership, and his Administrative Licensure, all through the University of Oregon, as well as a Certificate in Education Equity from the University of Portland.

Bailey and Cerveny will begin their new jobs on July 1.

District receives grant from Mount Hood Cable Regulatory Commission



At last week's school board meeting, the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission presented the district with a \$1.2 million technology grant as part of the commission's TechSmart Initiative for Student Success.

The grant will pay for math and science teachers in grades seven through nine at Centennial Middle School and Centennial

High School to get extra training. Over the next four years, the educators will hone their skills in integrated project-based learning, culturally relevant practices and effective use of technology. The training will focus on supporting English learners and students with disabilities.

Board votes on names for Wood and Meadows Elementary Schools

The Centennial School Board voted last Wednesday to rename Wood Elementary School Powell Butte Elementary, while allowing Meadows Elementary to continue being called Meadows Elementary School.

Last month, students from both schools presented the School Board their top three choices for a school name. Meadows three choices were:

- Centennial Elementary School – since the school is in the Centennial School District and sits between Centennial Middle School and the Centennial District Office.
- Meadows Elementary School – this is what the school has been called all this school year, and even when it was Lynch Meadows, most referred to it as Meadows.
- Evergreen Meadows Elementary School – there are so many evergreen trees around.

The name choices for Woods were:

- Powell Butte Elementary School – Powell Butte is only a mile from the school and is a local landmark. Elliott Prairie School – This was the name of a school that was build in 1878 near what is now Division and SE 157th Ave.
- Douglas Fir Elementary School – Named after the tree, which is native to western North America. The tree is dominant in western Oregon and Washington.

"We probably will be able to have the brand new names up on the schools this fall," said Shar Giard, chairwoman of the School Board.

School Board chooses two new members

The Centennial School Board appointed Ronald "Jess" Hardin and Claudia Andrews to the board, to serve out the terms of Chairwoman Shar Giard and board member Gloria Ngezaho, who resigned.

The two were appointed after public interviews of five candidates at last weeks board meeting. They will take the oath of office at the July 11 meeting.

Hardin is a produce buyer who has lived in the district for about two years and has a child that will start kindergarten at Meadows Elementary School in September.

Andrews, retired from the Bonneville Power Administration, has lived in the district for 28 years and has served on the district budget committee.

Students serve on East Metro STEAM Partnership Youth Advisory Council

Last fall, and again this spring, 15 students ranging in age from 13-to-21 from East County, were selected to join the second and third cohort of the East Metro STEAM Partnership (EMSP) Youth Advisory Council. The primary goal for this cohort is to develop a communication plan for youth and families around STEAM. Jaxen Price, Jesse Fonseca, and Jesse Murphy from Centennial Middle School and Danika Montaya, Evan Soria, and Matthew Mailet from Centennial High School were all interviewed and selected for this important job. Some of the Centennial students have served one term, while others are involved in their second and final term of service. So far, members have participated in maker projects, as well as taken on leadership roles in helping to make decisions and implement programs around East County.

Youth Advisory Council members work on building networks, engaging and educating the public, and connecting partners to best serve youth-oriented STEAM programs in East County. EMSP's core focuses include building partnerships to support formal and informal STEAM education; working with community and business partners to encourage STEAM and Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities; and engaging with stakeholders to increase the participation of underrepresented groups – including women/girls and minority, disabled and disadvantaged students – in STEAM fields. The organization currently achieves this through professional development opportunities for STEAM educators and through grant funded-collaborative STEAM programs and projects.

In the fall, Jaxen Price and his team diligently created a survey for youth and families in the East Metro area. A link was sent to the teachers at Butler Creek, as well as involved students of the Grizzlies team at the middle school to take part in the survey. Price would like to thank his science teacher, Mrs. Wolf, for her assistance in administering the survey. Other members of the program surveyed students from their schools as well. The results of the survey concluded that many of Centennial's students and staff are unaware of what STEAM is all about. Since then, Youth Council members have been working diligently to help bridge this gap. You may have most recently seen them at the last two Saturday Markets at MHCC, passing out fliers to help spread the word.

WOW Employee Wellness and Wellness Committee support student wellness

Congratulations Centennial staff on another amazing year. The 2017-18 school year has been busy, stressful, exhausting and very rewarding to see how students have achieved and grown over the year.

We saw teachers and classes take brain breaks, extra activity moments, support sports and games for students as well as join in the fun! The WOW Employee Wellness grant funds helped provide staff lunches, massages, new water bottles, and a new picnic table around the district. We hope that you all found some moments to just be together as a staff, de-stress, and have fun. We will continue to create more all staff challenges, workshops, and building treats for next year. Have a wonderful summer, relax and rejuvenate. Thank you all for your hard work, energy, and dedication everyday.

For more wellness resources: Check out OEBC wellness resources at <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEBC/Pages/Wellness.aspx> and the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) <https://www.myrbh.com/Home/Home?role=member> (access code: oebb)

If you would like to learn more about how to be a part of the Wellness Committee supporting our students or the WOW Committee focusing on staff wellness, contact Julie Mack. If you have wellness ideas, concerns, or need some new ideas about how to incorporate some wellness and fun, email Julie Mack. Thanks everyone and have an amazing summer!

A Message regarding the district's Energy Conservation Plan

Centennial District Staff,

Congrats on reaching the end of the school year! It is always impressive to see the individual success of every staff and student coming together to create an amazing year of fun experiences and academic achievements. While we do leave this school year facing a budget shortfall, we are optimistic that by us all working together as a community we can meet and overcome every obstacle. Centennial has revitalized the Centennial Resource Conservation Team (CRCT) forming the new Energy Team. The Energy Team has collaborated with Energy Trust's Strategic Energy Management cohort to look at how the district uses energy (gas & electric) as well as resource consumption and waste. We have established our baseline data for current use and identified ways that we can save the district money overall that can be reinvested in our students. Maintenance has been working hard to support our heating and cooling systems, replace lights with LEDs, and use energy efficient equipment as much as possible. To implement a district wide energy and resource conservation plan, we all need to work together to identify places where we can be better stewards of our buildings and save public funds in the process.

How you can help:

1. Make sure you and your students are using the proper recycle bins.
Identify a common location where staff can put items they no longer need

but still have some life left in them. Other staff may have been looking for that exact item!

2. Take your personal items home. Did you bring it to school? Cool, then take it home from school! The dumpster sizes have been reduced to save money and are not able to handle all our personal waste.
3. Take home microwaves, mini-fridges, heaters, or other personal equipment that can cause unnecessary power use and a strain on our breaker system. We know that there are a lot of individual reasons for needing some of these items (some rooms are too hot, too cold, need medication storage, you share this space with multiple staff and students, etc.). Maintenance will have a process for you to access equipment that you will need to make your space as comfortable as possible with the whole community in mind at the beginning of the next school year.
4. Personal lamps and extension cords should be taken home as they violate fire codes. Holiday lighting should also be removed.
5. Plug-in air fresheners should also be removed as we need to be respectful of staff and student's sensitivity and allergies to smells.
6. Send unwanted batteries or broken crayons to Julie Mack for recycle.
7. When we return to the 2018-19 school year, maintenance and your head custodians will have a provided list of acceptable chemicals, a system for addressing heating and cooling needs, and ideas for smart power strips to help us efficiently meet our technology needs.

Energy and resource conservation programs that effort from us all. We know that these are changes to your working and learning environment. Centennial is committed to making sure that we prioritize education needs, are good stewards of public funds, and create comfortable learning environments for us all.

Thank you so much for everything that you do every day. Please contact Julie Mack with any question, comments, or to be a part of the Energy Team. Have a wonderful and rejuvenating summer break!

Bus driver named a super hero by student



Last week Mark Balch, school bus driver #5, was presented a card by one of his young students. The card gave listed out the reasons Balch is a super hero.

According to Cathy Rosenthal, Special Education Routing Coordinator, "There is no better compliment than to be recognized and referred to as a Super Hero from our students. It is times like this that we realize our goals of touching lives and making a difference are being realized. What an amazing way to finish up our 2017-18 school year. We thank Mark for being an exceptional person and school bus driver and we

agree he is a SUPERHERO!"

Classifieds:



For Sale: Crate and Barrel Green Wool Rug,
Size is 9 by 12 feet, \$100 or best offer.
Call Linda Ernstrom at 503.705.7400.

For Sale: Two Black 4-shelf Ladder Shelves
- \$75 for the pair or best offer.
Call Linda Ernstrom at 503.705.7400.

