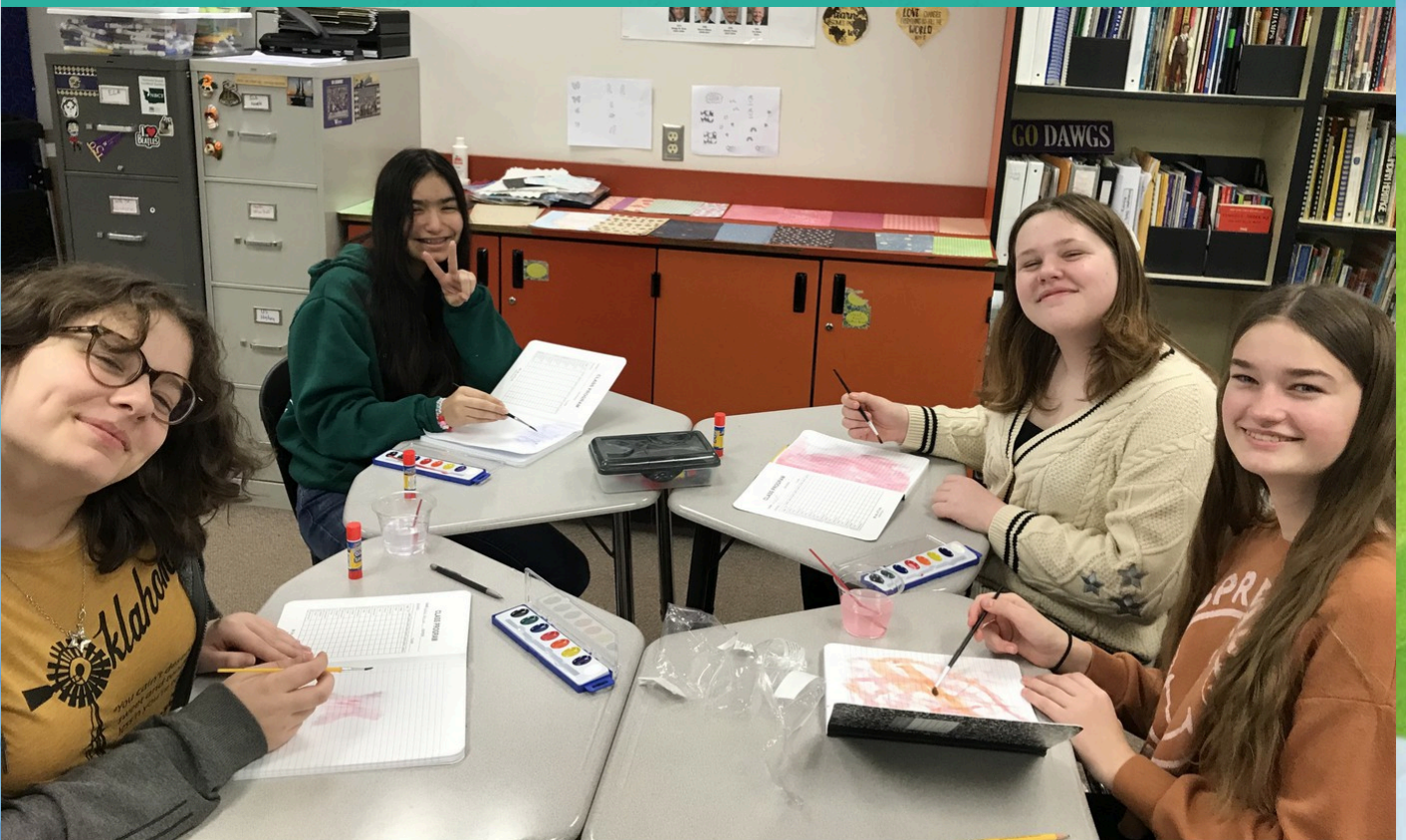


Aberdeen Schools

Keeping you informed about our schools -- March 19, 2024



Exploring new things at Miller

The bell schedule was a little different on a recent Friday at Miller Junior High School when a new slate of classes gave students a chance to explore different hobbies and activities. The classes were developed by teachers and staff, and the final offerings were decided based on student interest.

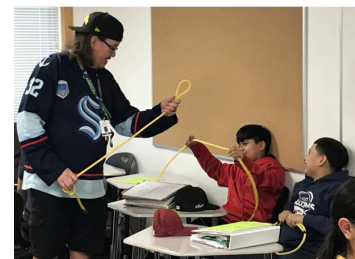
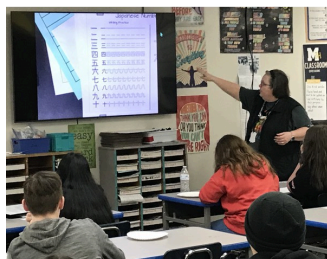
It's an eclectic mix of interests that includes:

- Single serve cooking
- No Bake Cookies
- Shaken Food
- Instapot Cooking
- Introduction to Crochet
- Art Journaling and Bookbinding

- Tie Dye
- Graphic Novel Writing
- Board Games
- Cellphone Photography
- Hair Braiding and Heat Tools
- Strength Training
- CO2 Race Cars
- Cake Decorating
- Learning Japanese
- Origami
- Basic Drawing
- Beginner (no contact) Boxing
- Knot tying and Rop Splicing
- 3 on 3 Bracket Basketball
- Yoga
- Intro to Card Games
- Zumba/Dance Aerobics
- Miller Improvement Team. (In this class, students have taken on the project of beautifying the rear of the building.)

"The feedback from students and staff was very positive," Principal John Meers said. "This was a pilot, and we will be holding two more sessions of Explorer Class this year. We are studying feedback from staff and students to improve our classes, and we hope to make this a regular part of our student experience in the future."

He said enthusiasm was high throughout the school. "Staff put a lot of work into preparing for this, and I think the payoff was very much worth it."





Geared up at Robert Gray Elementary

The Pacific Science Center visited Robert Gray Elementary School recently to share the "Get in Gear" lesson. The students in Melissa Fritts' 3rd Grade class were among those learning about mechanical engineering using gears.

"The students were super engaged and excited," Mrs. Fritts said.

SCHOOL BOARD



Annica Mizin
amizin@asd5.org
(360) 589-8598

Jessica Jurasin
jjurasin@asd5.org
(360) 581-6708

Suzy Ritter
sritter@asd5.org
(360) 591-3181

Jennifer Durney
jdurney@asd5.org
(360) 580-6054

Jeremy Wright
jeremywright@asd5.org
(503) 516-9798

Next meeting is Tuesday, March 19

[Agenda for March 19](#) (pdf)

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, in the Community Room at Aberdeen High School.

Those who attend regular meetings are welcome to sign up at the meeting to provide public comment on agenda items. Written public comment for the record can also be submitted up to noon the day of the meeting by writing to schoolboard@asd5.org. Comments or concerns not on the agenda can be brought to the attention of the district by contacting the Superintendent's Office or by contacting individual board members.

Summary of the March 5 meeting

President Jennifer Durney convened the regular meeting of the Aberdeen School District Board of Directors at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, 2024, in the Community Room at Aberdeen High School. In attendance were Jessica Jurasin, Annica Mizin, Suzy Ritter and Jeremy Wright, along with student representatives Harnoor Jandu and Mikyla Gunter, Superintendent Jeffrey Thake and 12 patrons and staff.

The meeting began with the flag salute.

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included:

- The minutes from the regular meeting on Feb. 20, 2024,
- An overnight trip for the varsity baseball team at Aberdeen High School to travel to Richland for exhibition games and team activities on March 31 to April 2 during Spring Break,
- A trip for the Cats Cave team at Aberdeen High School to travel to Astoria, Ore., on

- May 23,
- A gift to the District from the Weatherwax Family Grants Fund at the Grays Harbor Community Foundation in the amount of \$13,260 to support student participation in the UW Summer STEM Camp, and
- A gift to the District from the Weatherwax Family Grants Fund at the Grays Harbor Community Foundation in the amount of \$35,000 from the for Twin Harbors Skills Center Support Expansion.

Comments from the Board

President Durney and Director Wright shared information from a meeting with a parent that touched on numerous topics, including discussion about communication and transparency when incidents take place at school, the need for updated first aid kits at the junior high and a request for upgrades to sports uniforms.

The Board discussed the dress codes at the secondary level and asked the administration to review alignment between schools and enforcement.

The Board discussed making sure signs from the recent special levy campaign are collected.

Comments from Student Representatives

Representative Mikyla Gunter reported that the Harbor Learning Center is trying to organize a dance for April and that students are working on a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser. She also reported that the Harbor Learning Center has dual credit opportunities with Snug Harbor, which is enabling her to work at Snug Harbor while also taking an early childcare basic course.

Representative Harnoor Jandu said Aberdeen High School recently held its Tolo dance and that Spring sports have begun. She also shared information students are getting from teachers that appears to be discouraging them from attempting Running Start. President Durney advised that the high school is working to offer some college courses at the high school.

Superintendent's Report

District Mission, Vision and Values

Superintendent Thake discussed the work that has taken place developing mission, vision and values statements for the District and shared a one-page document launching the vision and goals for 2030.

Miller Exploratory Classes

Superintendent Thake shared information about exploratory classes that teachers have developed at Miller to encourage engagement and experiencing new activities. The exploratory classes include fun activities and crafts that are aligned to the curriculum such as board games, tie dye T-shirts, baking, crochet, graphic novel writing, strength training, coding, foreign languages, and intro to sports injury and first aid. He said students and staff seemed to truly enjoy the first session on March 1. Board members are invited to attend the next Exploratory day.

Survey

Superintendent Thake reported that a community survey is being prepared that will seek information and feedback about Aberdeen schools. The survey is scheduled to begin March 25.

Seismic Safety Phase 1 Planning

Superintendent Thake reported that consultants from ESD 112 will provide an update on the geology and engineering work taking place to assess the seismic safety needs at the Harbor Learning Center, A.J. West, Stevens elementary school and Miller Junior High. Seismic safety options will include assessing the pros and cons of retrofitting, evacuation towers or relocation from the tsunami zone. He said a steering committee of community members and staff from each school is being formed that will help formulate recommendations to the Board. In addition, he recommended a workshop on Tuesday, May 7, where more detail will be shared, which the Board approved.

New Business

Ednetics

A proposal to purchase equipment to upgrade the District's technology infrastructure was approved. E-rate funds are expected to cover 85 percent of the cost.

New Market Agreement

Renewal of the inter-district cooperative agreement with the New Market Skills Center in Tumwater allowing Aberdeen students to enroll in New Market courses was approved.

Bus Purchase

The purchase of two, 78-passenger Thomas Built diesel buses from Schetky of Lakewood at a cost of \$193,253.85 each was approved.

Personnel Report

Following an executive session, the Board approved the Personnel Report.

Community Survey opens next week

The School Board and superintendent are eager to hear from the community about our schools -- what's good, what's excellent and what needs improvement. To that end, a survey will open next Thursday, March 21, and will remain open until April 19.



"The feedback from the greater Aberdeen community will be used in a cycle of continuous improvement," Superintendent Jeffrey Thake said.

The link will be posted and shared on various websites, shared with local media and will appear in this newsletter starting next week until the survey closes.



Hopkins Preschool celebrates Dr. Seuss

The Cat in the Hat visited every classroom at Hopkins Preschool earlier this month for reading in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday.

Principal Darby Carroll said that in addition to hearing the Cat read aloud, "Students all had an adventure bite with green eggs and ham along with strawberries and banana Kabobs."



Reminder: Conferences take place before Spring Break

March 2024

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Sat / Sun

Aberdeen
Rotary
Club



BUSINESS WEEK: MARCH 25-29

				1	2	3
4 Stevens Husky Celebration AHS and Miller Choir Festival Auditorium 7 pm	5 School Board 6 pm	6 Collaboration Day Early Release Sophomore Mock Interviews	7 AHS and Hoquiam ASL Night Auditorium 6 pm Central Park PTO 6 pm	8 RGray Winter Cooperation Celebration	9 SAT Testing	10
11 Robert Gray PTO	12 Music Boosters 7 pm Bobcat Boosters 7 pm Stevens PTO 6 pm AHS/Miller Band Concert Auditorium 7 pm	13	14 McDermoth PTO 6 pm	15 Weather Makeup Day If Needed Robert Gray Book Fair	16	17
18 Robert Gray Book Fair	19 School Board 6 pm Robert Gray Book Fair	20 Robert Gray Book Fair	21 Secondary Conferences No School Grades 6-12 GEAR UP Family Night 6 pm High School Choir at SPSCC Central Park Assembly Robert Gray Book Fair	22 Secondary Conferences No School Grades 6-12 Elementary Early Release No Preschool High School Choir at SPSCC Robert Gray Book Fair	23 Choral Jazz Festival, Fife Middle School Instrumental solo and Ensemble at Griffin	24
25 Elementary Early Release: Spring Conferences No Preschool Elementary Book Fairs	26 Elementary Early Release: Spring Conferences No Preschool Elementary Book Fairs	27 Elementary Early Release: Spring Conferences No Preschool Elementary Book Fairs	28 Elementary Early Release: Spring Conferences No Preschool Stevens Assembly Elementary Book Fairs	29 Elementary Early Release: Spring Conferences No Preschool Robert Gray Smooth Sailing Elementary Book Fairs	30	31

Central Park Lions Club Park
7130 Lions Club Park Road



This event is not associated with or sponsored by Aberdeen School District #5

THE KNIGHT'S TOUR:

continues...

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

K-12 SCHOLASTIC CHESS Tournament



**MARCH 16, 2024
10 AM-4PM
ABERDEEN
HIGH SCHOOL
GYM**

**410 NORTH G ST.
ABERDEEN, WA 98520**

This is a WA State Elementary Chess Qualifier

1. Open to all K-12 Students (rated or unrated)
2. Registration is limited to the first 100 players
3. Format: 5-Round Swiss-Sys Pairing System (S-C-O)
4. Rounds will be limited to 40 minutes. Clocks will be provided afterwards to finish in a timely manner
5. Trophies and Medal will be awarded.

SCHEDULE:

Check-in: 9:15 am

Welcome/Instruction: 9:45

Round 1 - 10:00am

Round 2 - 11:00am

Lunch Break

Rd. 3 - 12:30pm

Rd. 4 - 1:30pm

Rd. 5 - 2:30pm

Awarding Ceremony ~ 3:45pm

Trophies and Medals will be awarded

This is a Family Event. Parents/Guardians are advised to Supervise students 4th grade or younger

REGISTER ONLINE: chessreg.com

\$18 Registration (if Registered before February 23, 2023)

\$25 Registration (February 24 onwards)



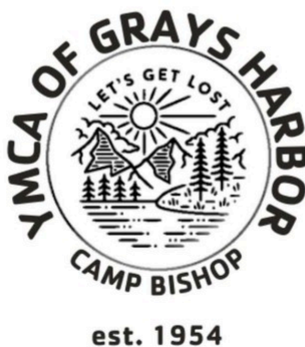
CAMP BISHOP

BEST SUMMER EVER!

Nestled in the foothills of the Olympic Mountains and situated on beautiful Lost Lake, between Elma and Shelton, Camp Bishop provides an excellent setting for the YMCA'S traditional resident camping program. Camp is a place where we teach kids about acceptance and tolerance. We co-exist with other campers, share stories, and life lessons and learn to appreciate others for who they are. Camp Bishop is a place where kids can feel as if they belong. We teach kids how to make friends and provide positive staff role models to help them be successful at camp and connect with others. The "cabin group" and "unit" structure, gives kids a much-needed identity at camp, which helps them to fit in. Camp Bishop staff work extremely hard to help kids connect with new friends and form positive bonds with their leaders and the camp leadership.

SCHEDULE

Campers Wake Up
Polar Bear Plunge
Flag Raising/Breakfast
Morning Inspirations
AM Activities
Lunch
Mail Call/Lake Jump
Quiet Time
Cabin Building Activities
Water Front
PM Activities
Flag Retirement/Dinner
Evening Activities
Cabin Responsibilities
Campfire
Daily Reflection
Lights Out



ACTIVITIES

Archery
Fishing
Canoeing
Kayaking
Swim Lessons
STEAM Crafts
Outdoor Living
Field Sports
Low Ropes Challenge Course



OVERNIGHT CAMP DATES

Session 1: July 14th – July 19th
Session 2: July 21st – July 26th
Session 3: July 28th – Aug 2nd

K – 9th Grade
(as of Fall 2024)

www.ghymca.net/camp-bishop

Register!

Sign up today

www.ghymca.net/programs



BEST SUMMER EVER!

The YMCA is committed to keeping camp affordable for all families. YMCA of Grays Harbor is subsidizing approximately 25% of the cost of camp for all campers, reflected in the price already.

OVERNIGHT CAMP RATES

Member	Program Member*
\$595	\$700

*Program Member pricing does not include \$11 Program Membership fee.

Financial Assistance available upon request. See details below for more information.

A non-refundable deposit of \$75 is required for each registered week of camp.

MINI CAMP *EXPANDED AGES*

Grades: K-4 (grade entering in the fall of 2024)

A great introduction to our overnight camping, allowing for all the fun without being away too long.

Mini Campers participate in camp activities alongside older campers, but leveled at their age group. This is a great experience for younger children to join their siblings and share in the camping fun with smaller cabin numbers to provide more staff attention.

2 Nights:

July 14th - July 16th
July 21st - July 23rd
July 28th - July 30th

5 Nights:

July 14th - July 19th
July 21st - July 26th
July 28th - August 2nd

MINI CAMP RATES

	Member	Program Member*
2 Nights	\$435	\$525
5 Nights	\$595	\$700

Fundraise your way to Camp!

Each year, we offer a fundraiser to help reduce the cost of Camp. This year, we are offering TWO fundraising opportunities! To participate in the fundraiser, register at the Front Desk or online, but your camper has to be registered for at least one camp session first. Upon registering, all the details will be emailed to you.

For All Financial Assistance (FA)

We understand that the cost of camp may not be affordable for all families. The YMCA of Grays Harbor supports Camp For All by providing a minimum 20% scholarship for all families that apply, by offering an optional 20% subsidy, no income documentation required. If the cost of camp is a barrier for your family, use scholarship code ForAll20 during online checkout to access the 20% subsidy.

For more information regarding For All assistance, please contact the Member Services Desk at the YMCA, 360.537.9622, or email Julie Loomis, jloomis@ghymca.net

Spring Weekend Overnighter

March 16th-17th Grades: K-6th

Get a taste of summer camp with this weekend overnight. Campers will have the opportunity to stay a night at camp and participate in the many activities that we offer during the summer. This includes: kayaking, STEAM crafts, archery, field games, campfire/s'mores, silly skits.

Cost: \$100 members, \$175 program members



YMCA of Grays Harbor
2500 Simpson Ave I Hoquiam, WA | 360.537.9622
www.ghymca.net

YMCA of Grays Harbor memberships, programs, and events are not sponsored by any of the school districts and the districts have no oversight over the programs, events, staff, or operations.



Stay in touch

- Superintendent Jeffrey Thake, jthake@asd5.org
- Business Office, Elyssa Louderback, elouderback@asd5.org
- Human Resources, Christi Sayres, csayres@asd5.org
- Special Education, Rick Bates, rbates@asd5.org
- Career & Technical Education, Lynn Green, lgreen@asd5.org
- Teaching, Learning & Technology, Traci Sandstrom, tsandstrom@asd5.org
- Food Services, Jaime Matisons, jmatisons@asd5.org

School Office Hours

A.J. West Elementary School

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2130 / Principal Nani Villarreal

Central Park Elementary School

- Office Hours: 8:15 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2170 / Principal Ruth Erwin-Svoboda

McDermoth Elementary School

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- (360) 538-2120 / Principal Mindi Hammill

Robert Gray Elementary School

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- (360) 538-2140 / Principal Sherri Northington

Stevens Elementary School

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2150 / Principal Jamie Stotler

Harbor Learning Center

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- (360) 538-2180 / Principal Lisa Griebel

Hopkins Preschool

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- (360) 538-2190 / Principal Darby Carroll

Miller Junior High School

- Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- (360) 538-2100 / Principal John Meers

Aberdeen High School

- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- (360) 538-2040 General / Principal Aaron Roiko
- (360) 538-2060 Attendance Line

2023-2024 Aberdeen School District Calendar

August 2023					February 2024				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
	1*	2	3	4				1	2
7	8	9	10	11	5	6*	7√	8	9
14	15*	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	19	20*	21	22	23
28	29	30	31		26	27	28	29	
02/180					113/180				
September 2023					March 2024				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
				1					1
4	5*	6	7	8	4	5*	6√	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
18	19*	20	21	22	18	19*	20	21	22
25	26	27√	28	29	25	26	27	28	29
22/180					133/180				
October 2023					April 2024				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
2	3*	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5
9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10√	11	12
16	17*	18	19	20	15	16*	17	18	19
23	24	25√	26	27	22	23	24	25	26
30	31				29	30			
44/180					150/180				
November 2023					May 2024				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3			1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	6	7*	8	9	10
13	14*	15	16	17	13	14	15√	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	20	21*	22	23	24
27	28	29	30		27	28	29	30	31
62/180					171/180				
December 2023					June 2024				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
				1	3	4*	5	6	7
4	5	6√	7	8	10	11	12	13√	14
11	12*	13	14	15	17	18*	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29					
73/180					180/180				
January 2024					July 2024				
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5	1	2*	3	4	5
8	9	10√	11	12	8	9	10	11	12
15	16*	17	18	19	15	16*	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31			29	30	31		
94/180									

August 2023
28 Professional Development
29 Professional Development
30 First Day of School

September 2023
04 Labor Day-No School

October 2023
10 Veterans Day Observed - No School
22-24 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2023
15 Early Release
18-29 Winter Break

January 2024
01 Winter Break continues
15 Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday-No School

February 2024
19 Presidents Day Holiday -No School
20 Professional Development-No School

March 2024
15 Weather Makeup Day, If Needed

April 2024
1-5 Spring Break

May 2024
24 Weather Makeup Day, If Needed
27 Memorial Day Holiday

June 2024
13 Last Day of School / Early Release
19 Juneteenth

* Denotes Board meeting
√ Collaboration Days:
09/27 10/25
12/6 01/10
02/07 03/06
04/10 05/15

Office of the Education Ombuds

The Washington State Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO) was created to help families navigate the education system.

The Aberdeen 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 employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Christi Sayres, Title IX Coordinator and Civil rights Compliance Coordinator, 216 North G St., Aberdeen, WA 98520; (360) 538-2222; csayres@asd5.org; Dr. Richard Bates, Section 504/ADA Coordinator, 216 North G St., Aberdeen, WA 98520; (360) 538-2017; rbates@asd5.org.



Aberdeen
School District



ASD5 News

ASD5 is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters