



From left to right: School Nurses Emily Thornhill, Shermin Davidson and Cass Magnan-Wheelock.

LIFE-SAVING SCHOOL NURSES

"When I told people I was going to be a school nurse, they were like, oh, you're going to give bandaids and ice packs out."

Emily Thornhill,
School Nurse

School nurses work tirelessly to create and support health plans for every student with health care needs. They work to remove health care barriers, support public health, and educate on optimal health and medication. Plus, they are first responders, and their dedication saves lives!

Knowing our students

Just a regular day for School Nurse Emily Thornhill quickly turned into an emergency response after getting alerted a student was having a seizure. Emily rushed to the classroom and when she heard someone say the student's name she recognized it right away. Because she created a health plan for the student, she knew the student was diabetic and wasn't having a seizure, rather it was a hypoglycemic incident, which can turn fatal.

"Because of my case management work, I knew

this student also carried emergency medication, Glucagon, in their backpack and I was able to quickly administer it before the paramedics arrived," said Emily. The student was taken to the hospital and after a day of rest at home, was back at school.

Nurse mode never turns off

Whether she is serving students at work, or being mom at a basketball game, Shermin Davidson's nurse mode never turns off. And thanks to that, her fast-acting skills helped save a person's life.

It was early January when Shermin was in the stands at a high school basketball game watching her son play when she

**See Life-Saving
School Nurses,
Page 2**



A message from the Superintendent

I am so thrilled to have been selected as the continuing superintendent for our district. During the fall, I spent time learning about the district, its strengths and its opportunities. As I observed the passion and dedication that students, staff and community demonstrated toward the district, I knew I would be honored to serve here in support of their efforts.

Throughout this publication, you will see evidence of that dedication which I am referencing. From the highlighted nurses who have been able to save lives, to our students who are growing their passion and skills in music, to our service of our youngest learners, our students and staff are engaging in activities daily that highlight their important work.



Interim
Superintendent
Rebecca Miner

I hope you will take the time to look over the District Annual Report. Use the QR code to the right or find it on our website. It has a wealth of information about our schools and district. In our next edition of this newsletter, we will share the variety of ways to engage with us to support our community's greatest treasure: its children.

DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT



Equity. Engagement. Excellence.

For each and every student!

Learn more:
bit.ly/ESDannualreport

Life-Saving School Nurses – Continued from Page 1



Emily educates her student assistant on the importance of blood pressure checks.

noticed the referee fall to the ground. Her original thought was he must have tripped. As a few more seconds went by Shermin knew something was wrong and she and her husband, off-duty police officer Tyler Davidson, rushed to help. While it first seemed the man was having a seizure, it quickly turned into the man not having a pulse. Shermin and Mountlake Terrace High School Athletic Trainer Saboora Deen administered chest compressions and activated the AED while Tyler was on the phone with 911.

Just as South Fire paramedics arrived, the referee not only regained a pulse, but began to sit up. He was then rushed to the hospital. His doctor later said it's a miracle he survived and if it hadn't been for the people who



Shermin shows the AED she used to help save the referee's life.

responded so quickly, he may not be here today.

"I feel like I was just doing my job. I would have done it in any scenario I was in, even out in the public, at work or wherever, that's just what I do, what we (school nurses) do," said Shermin.

Ready for allergic reactions

School Nurse Cass Magnan-Wheelock recently administered an epi-pen to a high school student having an allergic reaction. Epi-pens work by relaxing the muscles in the airways and tightening the blood vessels. Cass knew exactly what to do and her quick response allowed for the medication to begin working instantly as paramedics made their way to campus.



Cass demonstrates to a high school student how epi-pens work.

In this case, the student had their own prescribed epi-pen with them, however, that might not always be the case. A student may be waiting on a new prescription, maybe they forgot their epi-pen at home, or a student or staff member may have never had a reaction before.

To prepare for any of these situations, the district's Student Health Services Director Mara Marano-Bianco has worked to secure stock epi-pens at each of our schools.

Having stock epi-pens in our schools can reduce the likelihood of a reaction turning into a much worse situation.

"The whole idea is to save lives. Whether it be a student or staff member," said Mara.

FROM DAWN TO DUSK AND BEYOND

Notes of dedication from our student musicians

Before the sun rises and after it sets, stories of dedication echo through the school hallways in the form of waltzes, marches, rondeaus, and jazz combos. Behind each composition, lies a common thread – a love for more than just an instrument and the sound it makes.



Watch our musicians!



bit.ly/ESDbands

District, it takes commitment and sacrifice.

The proof comes daily with classes that start so early, the time of day is aptly named “Zero Period.”

“Music class brings me a lot of joy, and it’s fun to wake up every morning to be able to go to jazz band. Music classes are a really nice break from the stressful environment of school, though it can be tough to balance practice and schoolwork at the same time,” said

junior Waylisha Grey who plays the baritone saxophone.

Aside from the early morning alarms and school day electives, students attend after school practices, evening performances and often private music lessons. Classmates become more than contemporaries who share a music stand.

“Music is not only a place of community, it’s also a family that you spend most of your educational career with. It’s an amazing place to be able to rely on,” said junior Joshua Henderson who plays the trumpet.

National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) consistently names Edmonds School District among the “Best Communities” in the nation for music education. The award program recognizes outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students and community leaders who have made music part of a well-rounded education.

“You get to meet a lot of new people because of the music community. There’s a lot of



Edmonds-Woodway’s Joshua Henderson performs at Edmonds Center for the Arts.

people that share the same interest so you can connect with a bunch of friends and experience a bunch of new things in terms of music,” said senior Andy Chen who plays trumpet.

Knowing friends, family and even strangers are in the audience mentally marching along with the conductor or silently singing with the strings makes the hard work worth it.

Said senior Jonah Barnett, “I am very grateful for the music program that our school district has because everybody in it works so hard to be able to do the one thing that we all love and have a passion for.”



Music Director Jake Bergevin and Edmonds-Woodway High’s Wind Symphony (Courtesy photo: Lynnwood High Music Director Phil Onishi).



Students featured in these photos attended the district's "Welcome to Kindergarten Fair" in February.

Edmonds School Dist 15
20420 68th Avenue West
Lynnwood, WA 98036-7405

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LYNNWOOD, WA
PERMIT NO. 23**

**ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER**

Enroll now for the 2023-24 school year

Will your child be 5 by August 31?
Is your family new to the area?
Then it's time to enroll!



bit.ly/EnrollESD

Inscripción
Ghi danh
Набор

중학교
등록
التسجيل

School tours

Many schools offer school tours and welcome events throughout spring.

Check your school's website and calendar for opportunities!

New student enrollment

Items you will need to gather:

- ☐ Passport or birth certificate
- ☐ Proof of home address dated within last 60 days
- ☐ Immunization (shots) record
- ☐ If applicable – previous school records



Interested in preschool?

We offer different programs, including free options, to meet the needs of young children and families.