

## Bienvenido!

A nuestras familias que hablan español.

RECURSOS EN ESPAÑOL

[www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu)

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**Special thanks**  
to our community  
for the passage of  
the 2010  
Supplemental Levy!

It is making a difference.  
Read more on page 2.



Serving Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Woodway, and portions of unincorporated Snohomish County

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# Students' Bill becomes state law

Our students and teachers are taking learning beyond the classroom. They are engaging their communities by applying social studies curricula to real-world needs and volunteerism. Throughout this edition of *Edmonds School District News*, you will read just a few of the many examples of civic engagement in our schools. The story that follows is an example of such learning, as one group of students fulfilled their dream, turning their idea into a state law.

When planning an assembly in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a club comprised of fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade students at Madrona K-8 studied civil rights and learned much more than they could share during the assembly. They wanted fellow students to understand the history of civil rights in our country.

This group worked with a state legislator last year to create a bill encouraging schools to teach about civil rights history. Sen. Maralyn Chase, D-32nd District, supported the cause and worked hand-in-hand with these students to draft the bill, which did not make it past its first hearing last year due to the lateness of it being introduced. That did not deter the students or Sen. Chase, who brought the bill back this year, when it became known as Senate Bill 5174 during this legislative session.

The opportunities this afforded for students to learn more about the legislative process were endless. The students participated in a hearing through a conference call in early February, and



From the classroom to Olympia, their idea is now state law

visited Olympia for the full Senate reading later in February.

"They're really determined, motivated kids," said teacher and club adviser Judi MacRae. "We definitely learned a lot about the process of a bill becoming law and what it's like to be in the legislature."

After approval by the state Senate and House of Representatives, the bill was turned over to Gov. Christine Gregoire, who signed it into law on April 13. Several students and parents made the trip to Olympia to see their bill officially become law.

"They loved this experience," MacRae said. "This gave them a chance to be a part of making something happen that they feel passionate about."

## Levy bolsters student learning

*The 2008 Technology/Capital Levy has put additional tech tools in our classrooms. See the article on page 3 for more information on the capital work funded by this levy.*

The students in Carly Althaus's class at College Place Middle School are engaged in their learning, thanks, in part, to the unique resources provided by the 2008

Technology/Capital Levy. Using a web-based program, their social studies classroom is transformed into a country, and the students are its citizens. Through this program and supplemental classroom activities, they are trading goods, holding elections, and learning about government, the economy, and citizenship.

*continues on page 2*

Laptop carts (background) have helped transform teacher Carly Althaus's classroom.



## Message from the Superintendent



Nick Brossoit,  
Superintendent

Dear Community:

Given all the challenges in our world today, let's recognize a few of the many accomplishments of our students, staff, and school community thus far this school year. We have a growing list of these and more posted at [www.edmonds.wednet.edu/accomplishments](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/accomplishments).

### Students: Accomplishments

- Our district's graduation rates are at their highest, due to the hard work of our staff, students and parents. The district's extended graduation rate was 93.3 percent, which is up from about 67.5 percent just over six years ago.
- Two seniors were National Merit Semifinalists: Edmonds-Woodway High's Joshua Daranciag and Denise Schmitz.
- The Washington Scholars Program honors the accomplishment of three high school seniors from each of the state's 49 legislative districts on the basis of academic achievement, leadership, and community service. Congratulations to Edmonds-Woodway High's Ashley Semanskee, Meadowdale High's Daniel Hipke, Mountlake Terrace High's Jessica Lindsay, and alternate Michelle Cheng of Edmonds-Woodway High.

*continues on page 2*

# Developing the 2011-12 budget

## Our thanks to you for the 2010 Supplemental Levy

Community involvement and support is again factoring into our annual budget planning process. The purpose of this article is to share with you what that involvement has entailed and how your support is making a big difference in our planning for the 2011-12 school year. At the time this newsletter went to the printer, the Legislature was still holding its special session and final funding amounts were not yet available. We encourage you to visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu/budget/1112](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/budget/1112) for the latest information.

## Supplemental Levy: Making a difference this year and next

It is unarguably one of the most difficult economic times in our country's most recent history. Yet, in the Edmonds School District, where 20,000 students from the communities of Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Woodway, and unincorporated south Snohomish County are served, the commitment to public education remains a priority. In August 2010, voters approved a new tax that is being used to:

- Offset unprecedented mid-year reductions from the state and other mid-year impacts totaling nearly \$3 million;
- Prevent deep cuts to programs, and is approximately \$7 million toward balancing the 2011-12 budget.

During community forums this spring, Superintendent Nick Brossoit emphasized that we have had to make reductions totaling almost \$30 million over the last five years. "Without the Supplemental Levy we would be having a totally different conversation right now," he said.

## Community Budget Meetings

Four community budget meetings were held during spring to offer, parents, staff, and interested community members an opportunity to learn about and comment on our current budget proposal. What is referred to as our "plus/minus" sheet was reviewed at each meeting, best reflecting what the current Senate, House, and Governor's budget proposals would mean to our district. Each meeting was attended by at least two School Board members so they could hear feedback directly.

## School Board Meetings & Study Sessions

Our School Board is required to adopt the final budget by the end of August. The first reading is scheduled for July 5, followed by the second reading August 16. Between now and then the Board is actively seeking answers to their questions regarding impacts to students, staff, and families regarding proposed reductions and possible limited restorations, which include returning to the every day, half-day kindergarten model.

"After so many years of reductions, there is not one area of our organization that has not felt deep cuts, which makes it even more difficult to find areas to reduce," said Board President Susan Paine, "however, we are also trying to balance this with ways to serve growing and changing needs of our community. It is a difficult but thoughtful process that would not be possible without the community support we are afforded in this district."

## Would you like to learn more; have questions?

In addition to finding documents and latest information posted on [www.edmonds.wednet.edu/budget/1112](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/budget/1112), please feel free to:

- Contact Marla Miller, executive director of business and operations at either 425-431-7036 or [millerm@edmonds.wednet.edu](mailto:millerm@edmonds.wednet.edu); or
- Register on our website to be a Key Communicator and receive weekly updates on current accomplishments of staff and students as well budget information. Visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu) and click the register button in the upper right hand corner.

## Levy bolsters student learning *continued from cover*

Throughout the school year, Althausen checks out a mobile lab of laptops for her students to use during these lessons. With each student engaged, she can differentiate her instruction so it is best suited for each student.

"This type of teaching makes them more motivated," she said. "You're teaching to what they are interested in and to their level."

Throughout the district, mobile labs have made it possible for teachers to support student learning in this way. Each mobile lab consists of a cart and 15 laptop computers, and the number of mobile labs at each school varies based upon student enrollment.

## Message from the Superintendent *continued from cover*

- The state recognized Chase Lake Community School, Madrona K-8, and Maplewood K-8 for their student's academic accomplishments by awarding them Washington Achievement Awards in 2010.
- The back page of this newsletter highlights the community engagement of our graduating seniors. We will celebrate all of our graduates during ceremonies throughout June.

## Staff: Regional, National Recognitions for Teachers, Principals, and More

- In December, 21 more of our teachers received word that they had joined the ranks as National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT). They are: Birgit Albiker-Osterhaug (Alderwood Middle), Carly Althausen (College Place Middle), Jamie Baggett (Hazelwood), Cassandra Bauman (Alderwood Middle), Catherine Feller (Lynnwood), Anne Gregerson (Sherwood), Daniel Johnston (Mountlake Terrace High), Nicole Jones (Cedar Way), Tanya King (Beverly), Stacey Kinnear (Mountlake Terrace High), Joy Lohnes (Brier), Jennifer Martin (Meadowdale Elementary), Keri McManus (College Place Middle), Erica Morgan (Sherwood), Karen Rautenberg (Seaview), Cathryn Roberts (College Place Elementary), Bob Shepard (Seaview), Soraya Soltani (Edmonds Elementary), Kristyn Staal (Cedar Way), Jeffrey Stone (Alderwood Middle), and Sam Wahbeh (Edmonds-Woodway High). These additional teachers make our district's total number nearly 100 who have received this distinction.
- A number of teachers and administrators received state and national-level awards this year: Brier Terrace Middle teacher Ruth Brick – Middle School Teacher of the Year award from the Washington State Veterans of Foreign Wars; Terrace Park principal Mary Freitas – outstanding educator award from the Washington Association of Educators of Talented and Gifted; school nurse Katie Johnson – top nurse in Western Washington by the March of Dimes; Lynnwood High teacher Molly McFadden – Ed Erickson Career and Technical Teacher of the Year for 2010 by the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education; Lynnwood Elementary teacher Susan Sellers – Teacher of the Year award from the Washington Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; and Mountlake Terrace High principal Greg Schwab – one of three national recipients of The Educational Theatre Association Administrator's Award.

## Community: Contributions Make a Difference

- We are extremely thankful for our community's support of the Supplemental Levy approved this past August. Voter support for this funding resulted in the additional dollars we are using to offset unprecedented mid-year reductions from the state. Additionally, it will prevent deeper program reductions that would have happened next year. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone for making this such a wonderful community in which to live, work, and learn. We appreciate your continued support.
- The Edmonds Public Schools Foundation annually raises funds to contribute toward classroom grants in our district's schools, enhancing the educational experience. We strongly encourage you to learn more about how you can contribute to this great work. Please visit [www.edmondspsf.org](http://www.edmondspsf.org) to learn more.
- The Edmonds School District Alumni Association distributes scholarships to deserving high school seniors annually. This year, the association will give a total of \$50,000 to at least three graduating seniors from each of our high schools. Please visit [www.esdalumni.org](http://www.esdalumni.org) to learn more.

Please join us in recognizing all who have achieved this year, and those who have helped others achieve at higher levels. Thanks to all of you who have been and continue to support our young people.

Sincerely,



Nick J. Brossoit, Ed.D., Superintendent

**Did you know?**  
**The 2008 Technology/Capital Levy expires in 2012.**

The increased access to technology tools has been one important aspect of the 2008 Technology/Capital Levy. In addition to increasing the number of mobile labs in each school, this voter-approved levy has allowed our district to replace existing projectors, document cameras, and instructional laptops in classrooms; update the school libraries' catalog system; offer Edmonds eLearning, an online learning option for students in grades 9-12; and provide funds to each school, allowing the schools to determine which technology tools they would like to have available.



## NEW school opening Fall 2011 – on time and within budget!

The opening of the new Meadowdale Middle School facility is just months away, with progress on track for school to start in September. This project is funded by the voter-approved 2006 Capital Construction Bond, which also funded the construction of the new Lynnwood High School.

In order to provide former students and community members a chance to say goodbye to the old school, an open house is being hosted Saturday, June 4 from noon to 3 p.m. Visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu) for more details! The old building is scheduled to be demolished in July, with the area prepared for additional parking and a mixed-use field.

Finishing details are being completed on the interior of the new building. For pictures, visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu/cpo](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/cpo).

### 2008 Technology/Capital Levy providing safety enhancements, improving energy efficiency

*The voter-approved 2008 Technology/Capital Levy funds both technology tools to support student learning and capital facility needs and improvements at a number of our schools. See article on page 1 for more information on the technology work funded by this levy.*

During the summer, the district's capital projects staff, custodians, and maintenance workers are hard at work improving and maintaining the school facilities in our district. Work scheduled includes:

- ▶ Installing HVAC digital control systems to improve energy efficiency and maintain room temperatures at 24 school sites;
- ▶ Installing closed circuit cameras on the exterior of all high schools to improve safety;
- ▶ Improving the baseball field conditions at Edmonds-Woodway and Meadowdale high schools;
- ▶ Installing new playground equipment at Cedar Way Elementary, through the levy's Capital Partnership Program. The funds raised by outside groups to support small capital improvements are then matched by levy dollars through the Capital Partnership Program;
- ▶ Designing new roof for Westgate Elementary; and
- ▶ Replacing carpet at Mountlake Terrace High.

## THANK YOU!

### January 2011 District Fair with a new F.A.C.E. supporters

Barnes & Noble  
Epson  
MicroK12

Computrace by AbsoluteSoftware  
GovConnection  
[edmonds.patch.com](http://edmonds.patch.com)

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Grant,  
supporting our prekindergarten providers

families  
and  
**F.A.C.E.** engaged!  
communities

## Now through June 30, and beginning again Aug. 1 Kindergarten Registration for 2011-12

at each neighborhood school.

Call 425-431-7176 for kindergarten information.

## Mark Your Calendar!


- June 1** **Superintendent's Roundtable** at the ESC\*, 12-1 p.m.  
Program topic, "Student Wellness for Academic success: Health, Nutrition and Physical Fitness in our schools."
- June 7** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- June 21** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- June 24** **Last Day of School**, Early Release
- July 5** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- Aug. 16** **Primary Election**
- Aug. 16** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 7** **First Day of School**
- Oct. 8** **Edmonds Public Schools Foundation's**  
3rd Annual Bill Hamilton **Street Strut 5K**



\* The Educational Service Center (ESC) is located at 20420 68th Ave. W, Lynnwood, 98036 (just south of Edmonds Community College).

## Stay in Contact with Us

Are you interested in receiving more detailed information about the events and news from our district?

- **Become a "Key Communicator"**  
and receive news directly in your inbox! Visit us online at [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu) and "register."
- **Check your local educational access TV channel**  
for updates from our district during the summer! (Comcast Channel 21/26 or Verizon Channel 38)
- **[www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu)**
-  Find us on Facebook



## EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**SUSAN PAINE**, DIRECTOR DISTRICT 1, PRESIDENT

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### Edmonds School District 15



Congratulations to the Class of 2011!

The Alumni Association is granting \$50,000 worth of scholarships to graduating seniors.

# Students' Bill becomes state law – see front cover

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[www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu)



## Anna Ketola, Meadowdale High

Through "Go the Second Mile," a local non-profit, I'm working on an awareness campaign regarding malaria in Rwanda. I love being involved in something bigger than myself. The people I have connected with through this and other international efforts are so much like me, but so different because of the issues they face. Through this, I have learned that I have a passion for helping others. **Meadowdale High's** graduation is at 1 p.m. June 18 at Edmonds Stadium.

## Tariq Yusuf, Edmonds Heights K-12



I have been a volunteer in my community for a number of years, and this tax season, I volunteered with AARP Tax-Aide at the Lynnwood Library to assist low-income and elderly individuals file their taxes. Taxes are thought of as overwhelming to some, so I enjoyed applying my interest in math in a way that benefits others. As a student at the University of Washington next year, I plan to continue volunteering, possibly in tax preparation again if my studies allow. **Edmonds Heights K-12's** graduation is at 7 p.m. June 10 in the former Woodway High Gym.



Graduates!  
Tell us about  
your **CIVIC**  
engagement  
and what it  
means to you...

# Class of 2011



## Prince Varghese, Lynnwood High

Since I moved to the U.S. in 2007, my teachers Carol Gittins and Gary McLaughlin have encouraged me to get more involved and volunteer as a way to improve my English skills. Volunteering at Swedish/Edmonds for almost two years has given me confidence in my ability to communicate, and I've also been able to make a difference for the patients who come into the hospital. I love volunteering! **Lynnwood High's** graduation is at 7 p.m. June 18 at Edmonds Stadium.



## Jessica Williams, Mountlake Terrace High

I organized "anti-bullying week" activities at my school in April as a way to make more students aware of their actions. It's important to me that people think before they speak, and I don't think all students do that when interacting with each other. I hoped it would raise awareness and make my school an even better place to learn. After graduation, I plan to move to Georgia and attend community college while I determine which goals I want to pursue. **Mountlake Terrace High's** graduation is at 6:30 p.m. June 16 at Edmonds Stadium.



## Molly Mullins, Scriber Lake High

My interest in nature and the world around me has been the foundation for my time volunteering at Providence Hospital. I am enrolled in the medical assisting program at Sno-Isle Tech Skills Center and am particularly interested in naturopathic medicine. I enjoy sharing what I've learned so that others can be more knowledgeable and able to take care of themselves. I think everyone has something to teach, and we just need to learn to listen. **Scriber Lake High's** graduation is at 7 p.m. June 15 in the former Woodway High Gym.



**Maplewood Center**, which serves high needs special education students in grades K-12, is having its graduation at 9:30 a.m. June 9 at Maplewood Center.

## Thomas Ernst, Edmonds-Woodway High



Receiving my FCC amateur radio license has provided me with a great opportunity to give back to my community through emergency preparedness. Besides participating in regional drills, I volunteer at community events to support radio communication needs. This has also provided me with a skill that will be useful as I prepare to enter the U.S. Naval Academy in 2012. **Edmonds-Woodway High's** graduation is at 6:30 p.m. June 17 at Edmonds Stadium.



Edmonds School District News provides school and education information to all the residents of Edmonds School District #15. For more information about the District, please call the Administration Office at (425) 431-7000 or visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu). To request this newsletter in a different format for people with disabilities please call (425) 431-7044. Board of Directors: Susan Paine, President; Gary Noble, Vice President; and members Ann McMurray, Susan Phillips, and Patrick Shields. Superintendent: Nick J. Brossoit, Ed.D. Writing, Editing: DJ Jakala and Jennifer Piplic. Art Direction and Design: District Printing Services Jeanne Macdonald. Photography: School, District staff. Printed with soy ink on 30% Post Consumer Waste recycled paper.

The Edmonds School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or physical, sensory or mental handicaps (see Board Policy 6005). This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquires regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Compliance Officer, Debby Carter (425-431-7023); Section 504 Coordinator, Katy Wysocki (425-431-7186); or ADA Coordinator, Debby Carter (425-431-7023). Visit or mail: 20420 68th Ave. W, Lynnwood, WA 98036.

**Why am I getting this newsletter?** This newsletter is intended to reach all residents in our District including the nearly 70 percent of households without school-age children. We use bulk mailing rather than individually addressing each newsletter because it is the least expensive way to distribute this newsletter.

