

Dear Patrons,

Our school board and I are proud and thankful to you, our community, for your continued support for the education of our students; you show this support in many ways which include a variety of events such as sports, music, theater, grandparents' day, and parent-teacher conferences. You also volunteer for PTO, music boosters, high school boosters, in our schools and athletic activities. In addition, we are grateful for your support at the ballot box on February 13th where community voters overwhelmingly approved a flat rate for the Educational Programs and Operations (EPO) and also supported a slight rate increase in the four-year Technology Levies for 2019 through 2023.

As noted in the Tri-City Herald, after careful consideration our school board voted to hold the EPO levy rate flat. In part, this decision came after considering the state legislatures' approval of HB 2242. This bill arguably contains the greatest funding change for public schools in the history of our state. These comprehensive changes include areas that must be revisited and updated, including the possibility of changes to the levy rates as noted in this legislation. Regardless, the district will *likely* collect a ceiling rate that will be less than what was approved by our voters; if this occurs, our homeowners will see a decrease in school taxes beginning in 2019. (The idea in the new law is that the state will make up the funding difference.) Moreover, a temporary law enacted in the midst of the Great Recession allows a district to propose a supplemental EPO levy, but this law sunsets at the end of this year and, unless it is changed, school districts cannot run supplemental levies. In short, with uncertain funding from HB 2242 in mind, our school board and you as voters put our students first. Our school board applauds you as voters for this forward thinking.

And, again, thank you for your continued financial support of our students. Borrowing and slightly altering one of my favorite quotes about education from Ben Franklin, "When a community that pours its purse into its head, no one can take it from them."

Sincerely,

Lou Gates, Superintendent

4th Grade Store

If you are spring cleaning please keep the 4th Grade Store Day in mind. Store Day is similar to a yard sale where adults and teachers sell items to the 4th grade students with the "Funny Money" they earned during their economics unit. Usable items such as games, stuffed animals, silly T-shirts, candles, costume jewelry, etc. are great items for the store. You can drop your donations off at the Elementary School office during school hours, or email Mrs. Beden at heather.beden@csd400.org for more information. As always, we appreciate your assistance in making this a successful and fun activity for our students.

Elementary Concerts

This month features two fabulous concerts by our elementary students. Our 3rd graders will be presenting their concert on March 15th at 6:30pm in the High School Auditorium. The 4th graders will perform on March 22nd at 6:30pm in the High School Auditorium. As always, admission is free and we hope to see you there. Thank you for supporting our musical talents!



Classified Staff Appreciation

Columbia School District appreciates our classified school employees. These employees are involved in nearly every aspect of education—maintaining buildings and grounds, preparing and serving meals, cleaning our schools, assisting in the classroom, assisting with technology, administrative support and transporting our students. Classified staff appreciation week is March 12-16th. Please join us in recognizing them!

School Board Seeks Community Input

Please join us Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 6:30pm in the commons of Columbia High School to meet our three Superintendent candidates Robert Bowman, Todd Hilberg, and Ellen Perconti at a community forum. Your feedback is an important part of the decision making process, so please come meet these highly qualified, and capable candidates. You will be given the opportunity to meet each candidate, then fill out and submit a feedback form all in the same

Attention High School Students

Tri-Tech Applications for the 2018/2019 school year are due by March 15th and can be turned in to Ms. Custer. Applications are approved on a first come-first serve basis so turn them in early!



STEAM night is coming to Columbia Elementary on Wednesday, April 25th from 5-7 pm!

Come down to see Minanzi Marimba, Scholastic Book Fair, Lampson Crane, Walla Walla Fire Department, the REACH Museum, Academy of Children's Theater, the Wildlife Refuge and many more exhibitors that will be there!

Dinner will be available for purchase at the event. Elementary families, be looking for more information coming home in March and April.

You won't want to miss it!

Burbank Public Library News

Robotics is back! On March 9, from 1pm to 3pm we will have our second **EV3 Lego Robotics** session; registration is limited to 16 middle and high school students.

On March 29, from 1pm to 3pm, we will have our very first **WeDo 2.0 Lego Robotics** session; registration is limited to 16 students, grades 3-6. Stop by and sign up, or call the library at 509-545-6549 to register.

Our **READ ACROSS AMERICA** celebration will take place on March 9, 1pm to 2pm. We will have a special story time with Miss Sheira featuring a Dr. Seuss classic, craft, and a snack, plus a free book to take home!

On March 16 we will hold a **Teen Lock-In** from 6pm to 10pm. This event is open to students in grades 6 to 12. Come unlock some mysteries of a dystopian society, eat some yummy food, and watch a movie on our big screen.

Our **Homework Zone** program runs on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. The homework assistance program is open to children grades 1 through 8 and runs from 3 PM to 4 PM.

Check out our **Saturday morning story times at 10:30 AM**. At Baby/Toddler story times, children enjoy stories, movement, and rhyme to help get children ready for preschool and kindergarten.

Watch for information on social media and at <https://burbanklibrarywworld.wixsite.com/info>

Columbia Elementary Night at the Mariners!

Saturday, May 19th at 6:10 pm

vs. Detroit Tigers

Felix Hernandez Bobble-head Night

Game tickets will be \$13.00

Order forms will go home April 19th

Call Mr. Yale at 547-9393 for any questions!

Grange Scholarship Breakfast

Join us at the Burbank Grange each Sunday in the month of March for a pancake breakfast to raise money for scholarships for graduating seniors. Breakfast will be served from 8am-12pm. Cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. For questions please contact Lori Teeters (509) 554-6713, Stephanie Martin (509) 430-1027 or email burbankgrange630@gmail.com. Come enjoy a delicious breakfast and support the students of Columbia High!

Crystal Apple Winner

Congratulations to our 2018 Crystal Apple award winner, **Jimalee Custer**. Ms. Custer has been with the Columbia School District since 2003. She taught math for many years before taking on the role of guidance counselor at the high school. Please join us in recognizing Ms. Custer at the Crystal Apple award ceremony on Thursday, **March 15th at 4:30 p.m. at the ESD 123!** Congratulations Jimalee!

Attention High School Seniors

The CHS Coyote Boosters' Club is pleased to offer four \$1,000.00 scholarships to graduating seniors who will be attending a post high school education program or college. The application and instructions can be found on the Columbia High School webpage. All applications are due to Ms. Custer by Friday, April 27th at 3:00 pm. Please contact Julie DeBord at julie.debord@csd400.org if you have any

School Board Meeting



Regular Board Meeting

March 12, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Future Board Meeting Dates:

March 26, 2018 & April 9, 2018

For a complete list of agenda items, please visit the district website at <http://www.csd400.org/CSD/board.php>

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS WANTED:

Columbia School District is currently accepting applications for substitute bus drivers. The District will be offering training classes this summer for those who meet the bus driving qualifications. If you are interested please contact Holly Brickey at 380-0145.



We are also in need of substitute **FOOD SERVICE WORKERS** and substitute **CUSTODIANS**. If you are interested, please

visit our employment website at <https://csd400.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx> or call 509-547-2136 with any questions.

Middle School Yearbooks

Middle School yearbooks are available now to order. There is a limited quantity. Buy yours now so you don't miss those middle school memories. Cost will be \$25 from February through April 30th, May 1st the price goes up to \$30! Bring your cash/check (payable to CMS) to the middle school office, or you can pay on-line through the Family Access Portal of Skyward.

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Columbia School District News

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Columbia School District #400
755 Maple Street
Burbank, WA 99323

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| Administration | (509) 547-2136 |
| Elementary School | (509) 547-9393 |
| Middle School | (509) 545-8571 |
| High School | (509) 545-8573 |
| Transportation | (509) 380-0145 |

www.csd400.org

Columbia 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. Columbia High School offers classes in many career and technical education program areas under its open admissions policy. Lack of English language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in career and technical education programs. Inquiries regarding compliance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX Officer, Joan Dove or Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Zachery Carpenter at Columbia School District, Maple Street, Burbank WA 99323, (509) 547-2136.