



Serving the Communities of Ferndale, Lummi Island, Custer, Lummi Reservation and North Bellingham.

FERNDALE SCHOOLS

Summer 2008

Cascadia Elementary School opens

North Bellingham students and staff will be first to occupy the school

The district's eighth elementary school, Cascadia, will open its doors to students this fall.

First students to occupy the building will be from North Bellingham Elementary School.

With the failure of the bond issues this spring, which passage would have provided a

new building at North Bellingham, Ferndale School Board Members believe it is necessary to relocate students from the North Bellingham campus to Cascadia until a solution is found for North Bellingham.

See Cascadia, page two



Cascadia Elementary School

ConocoPhillips recognized as Business of the Year

Ferndale School Board recognized ConocoPhillips as Business of the Year for 2007-08.

Dr. Jim Gibson, Executive Director for Instructional Services, said Conoco shows

special interest in the district's success and development. This past year, Conoco supported Math Olympiad, the bond issues, sponsored a biodiesel workshop, and donated a computer and projector to

Ferndale High School's Career Center.

Ferndale students and families also benefited from Conoco's contributions to Bellingham Technical College and to the Boys' and Girls'

Club Learning Center.

Plant Manager Marjorie Hatter accepted the recognition on Conoco's behalf. She said Conoco cares a great deal about education and will continue to support the community.



Pictured left to right, back row Superintendent Roger Lehnert, Executive Director for Instructional Services Jim Gibson, School Board Members Bernie Thomas, John Hruby, Lee Anne Riddle and Stuart McKay; front row: ConocoPhillips Commercial Manager Mark Evans, ConocoPhillips Plant Manager Marjorie Hatter and School Board Member Norm Robertson

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*Ferndale
making a
Schools
difference*

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Parents and students
are invited to

North Bellingham
Elementary School
PTO's

Ice Cream Social at
Cascadia

September 2
4:30-6:00 p.m.
6175 Church Road

Ferndale High School
Fall Athletic Clearance
August 20 at 8:00 a.m.

Football Practice Begins
August 20 at 3:00 p.m.

Fall Sports' Practice Begins
August 25 at 3:00 p.m.

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Cascadia

The temporary location at Cascadia for North Bellingham Elementary improves the safety of children. Also, it offers possibilities for improving teaching and learning because the design of the new facility better supports collaborative teamwork and it has up-to-date technology.

In addition, the board's decision saves the district the ongoing cost of leased portables

and staffing expenses for opening a new school.

For parents who have questions or need more information about the move, the North Bellingham Elementary School office will be open Wednesdays in August.

The Cascadia school site was purchased in 2001 using funding from the 1998 Bond. The 2006 Bond provided building funding. Construction began on Cascadia

with the official groundbreaking in April 2007.

General Contractor on the project is Ebenal General Incorporated of Whatcom County. Architect is Rolluda Architects of Seattle.

For more information visit the district's website at www.fsd.k12.wa.us, click on Capital Projects, Updates and then Live Webcam

Complete physicals are important for kids of all ages

To participate in school sports' programs a child must have a physical exam within the last 13 months. Sports' physicals are different from complete physicals and are usually not covered by most insurance plans. On the other hand, complete physicals which emphasize prevention and health education are covered by most health insurances, usually without a co-pay. Most family doctors recommend that children over the age of 14 have a complete physical at least every two years.

The easiest and best way for a child to participate in sports is to give them the benefit of a complete physical. Here are the steps for completing the physical.

1. Call your child's primary care doctor.
2. Ask to schedule a complete annual physical.
3. Present your child's insurance coverage at registration.
4. Ask the doctor to complete the school's physical form as part of the visit.
5. If the doctor prefers to complete their own form, make sure that they specifically write *cleared to play sports*.

If your child is without health insurance, there are options. Washington State offers health insurance for kids up to age 19 for only \$15 per month. Did you know that a family of four making \$4300 a month

qualifies? For more information call 788-6594 to get the one-page application or to make an appointment. If you qualify, your child's coverage will usually start the first of the month in which you applied.

Options for health insurance

- Insurance provided by the student's family (provide copy of card for employer coverage, private plan, etc.)
- Free/reduced cost coverage (call 788-6594 or go to www.whatcomalliance.org/services/documents/qualifyingforkidsmedicaid.pdf to apply) A family of four can make over \$4000 per month and still take advantage of this option.
- Student Insurance policy purchased through the District (call athletics office for more info)

Washington Children's Health Programs

- Premium is \$15/month for each child
- No deductible or copays
- Medical, dental, vision and mental health benefits
- Accepted by most doctors
- Covers treatment of injuries regardless of where they occur

Back to school information

Student registration

Students new to the district should register for school directly at their neighborhood school between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays.

A reminder that preschool and kindergarten students must be three, four and five years old, respective to entry grade, prior to September 1.

Meal Prices

Please note the increase in lunch and breakfast prices for 2008-2009. Tickets may be purchased individually or in books of ten.

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Breakfast | |
| Reduced K-12 | FREE |
| Elementary | \$1.25 |
| Middle/High | \$1.50 |
| Adult | \$2.00 |

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Lunch | |
| Reduced K-3 | FREE |
| Reduced 4-12 | \$.40 |
| Elementary | \$2.50 |
| Middle/High | \$3.00 |
| Adult | \$3.50 |

| | |
|------|--------|
| Milk | \$.50 |
|------|--------|

School Supply Drive

Ferndale School District is once again sponsoring a School Supply Drive. Each year school supplies are gathered for income eligible students who are registered in Ferndale Schools. The supplies come from a combination of school, staff and community donations.

Both monetary and school supply donations are gratefully accepted.

Monetary donations may be sent to Ferndale School District, P.O. 698, Ferndale, Washington 98248, in care of the Readiness to Learn program. School supplies may be dropped off at the district office 6041 Vista Drive, Ferndale.

For more information contact the Family Community Coordinator at 360/383-9707

School offices open in August

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Beach | August 26 |
| Central | August 27 |
| Custer | August 27 |
| Eagleridge | August 18 |
| Mountain View | August 21 |
| North Bellingham | August 20 |
| Skyline | August 21 |
| Horizon | August 18 |
| Vista | August 18 |
| Ferndale High | August 14 |
| Clearview High | August 21 |
| Windward High | August 21 |

Back-to-School Extravaganza— August 28, 2:30-5:30 p.m. at Vista

Mark your calendar for Thursday, August 28, when the Third Back-to-School Extravaganza will be held from 2:30-5:30 p.m. at Vista Middle School Gymnasium.

Income qualifying families can visit the resource fair to receive school supplies and sign-

up for: clothing for children kindergarten through grade five, health care, dental screenings, English language learner classes and other community services.

For more information please contact the family community coordinator at 360/383-9589.

Notices

Child Find

Federal Public Law, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), requires that disabled children in the Ferndale School District, ages birth to 21, be identified, located and evaluated. If anyone suspects that a child (age birth to 21) has a disabling condition, and if that child resides in the Ferndale School District, please refer the child to Dr. Michael Berres, Director of Special Services, Ferndale School District, (360) 383-9221. Upon referral, the special services staff will make the appropriate follow-up.

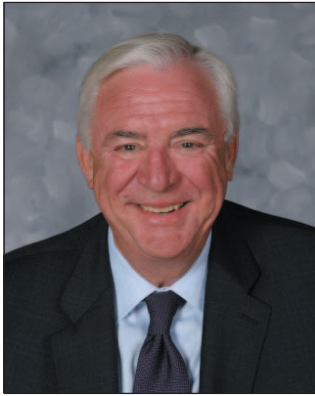
FSD complies with state and federal rules

Ferndale School District complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, age, or the presence of any non-job related sensory, mental or physical disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer Mr. Elvis Dellinger at the administration office, 360/383-9206, and/or Section 504 ADA Coordinator Dr. Michael Berres at the special services office, 360/383-9221.

Special Services opportunities

Ferndale School District provides reasonable opportunities for participation by teachers, parents and guardians of special education students, families, and other interested agencies, organizations, and program. Any application and any required policies, procedures, evaluations, plans, and reports will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public through the district's special services and superintendent offices. Please call the special services department at 360/383-9221 if you have questions or requests about this information.

Superintendent's message



Dr. Roger Lehnert

Dear Patrons,

Welcome back to a new school year. All of us are excited about the opening day of school.

Our custodians and maintenance crew have all been busy preparing our buildings and grounds. With limited budgets they have done an outstanding job!

Throughout the summer we have been busy preparing for the 2008-09 school year. Many teachers return to school to obtain additional education. You may not know, but our district has ten nationally board certified teachers.

Completing Cascadia Elementary School on time has challenged us all. As I write

this, the work force has been increased and we are making good progress. It is a 60,000 square foot building that we believe serves the present and the future. I think the best way to describe the mood is we are nervous, but confident.

Moving North Bellingham Elementary staff and students into Cascadia Elementary, plus moving students that live close to Cascadia into Cascadia, will create a school of approximately 450 students. It will also have the impact of lowering the student population at two of our largest elementary schools—Eagleridge and Skyline.

The move of North Bellingham Elementary to Cascadia will save us dollars used to lease and maintain portables, and provide a better instructional/learning environment. It will also enhance the safety and well-being of students. Including families that live within a short walking distance of Cascadia makes good sense because those students are within safe walking distances.

We also hope that within a short time to build a new North Bellingham Elementary School using the Custer design that is

already completed. We believe that design to be a prototype school that can be used in the future on almost any site the district has or may purchase. With some expansion and modifications, the design could be adopted to the secondary level as well.

If you are new to the area and have not registered your child(ren) do not wait. A great source of information is our website. You can access our website by going to www.fsd.k12.wa.us. Also, more information will be available as the school board and administration switch to an electronic board meeting process called BoardDocs.

Thank you for approving our technology levy request. Over the summer, we have been busy improving our infrastructure and installing a new phone system. Our Technology Oversight Committee is in place and working hard to plan what needs to be done. Change and improvements will not occur overnight, but the changes we anticipate will be well coordinated and interfaced with curriculum and instruction, along with other functions.

If you have little ones be sure to walk them to school or take them to school and let them become familiar with their surroundings so the “big building” is not overwhelming. Be sure to talk with them about talking to strangers and other safety matters.

If you are driving children to school or are a student driver, please observe the speed zone signs and be extra alert for students walking to and from school.

Enjoy our fall activities. Whether it is music, art, athletics, plus a host of other student activities, you will find a lot of opportunities for students to participate. I think you will be pleased at what you see. Take the time to volunteer and become involved. We certainly need and appreciate all of the help we receive. We hope you find this publication helpful. Again, welcome back and have a great school year. Go Eagles!

School Board of Directors
Mr. Stuart McKay, President
Mr. Norm Robertson
Ms. Lee Anne Riddle
Dr. John Hruby
Mr. Bernie Thomas

Superintendent/Board Secretary
Dr. Roger L. Lehnert

Editor
Tammy Bengen

FERNDALE SCHOOLS is a newsletter for Ferndale School District community members. Its purpose is to improve understanding of school programs. Questions or comments may be directed to the administration office, P.O. Box 698, 6041 Vista Drive, Ferndale, Washington 98248, 360/383-9207.

Visit the district website at
<http://www.fsd.k12.wa.us>

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Ferndale School District is an equal opportunity employer. The district is committed to providing equal opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, creed, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, age, or the presence of any non-job related sensory, mental or physical disability.

Our Mission

Ferndale School District, in partnership with families and the larger community, will educate each student to develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to lead a self-reliant, socially responsible life.

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FERNDALE
SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 698
Ferndale, WA 98248

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ECRWSS
Postal Customer

First Day of School is September 3—Calendar Enclosed