

SCREAMING

EAGLES



NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE

LEAVENWORTH — A group of teenagers stood on a platform, calling out to a student on another platform, encouraging her to swing across on a rope.

She managed to do it without touching the ground, and they made room for her. Eventually about 10 students were all on the same platform, and they celebrated their success.

Through a Community Foundation of North Central Washington grant, Washington State University Extension has been working with WestSide High School in Wenatchee and other local schools for its 4-H Eco-Stewardship program.

Along with schoolwork and projects, the annual program includes field trips, like Wednesday's to the Tierra Learning Center near Leavenworth.

"In this day and age, students are very used to listening and being told what to think, expect, feel and what have you," said Andrew Wainwright, experiential education assistant with WSU Extension. "I find it really powerful for them to have the opportunity to teach themselves. They know what they need to learn better than I do. Rather than me telling them and having them figure out how to learn in my classroom, I figure out how they learn and I figure out a strategy to support that."

Seth Wendzel, experiential education coordinator for WSU Extension, leads the program. SkillSource and Discovery School have also been involved.

In another activity Wednesday, WestSide students had to try to take a log from a student whose back was turned. The student guarding the log then turned around and guessed who had the log while the other students faced away from him.

A correct guess would reset the game, but if he guessed wrong, the other students would keep heading toward the finish line.

"I'm trying to get them to communicate, make a plan, have a strategy and vision, and share it with each other," Wainwright said.

Junior Denim Mendall, 17, guarded the log for one round.

"In this community, we help out each other," he said. "We all actually have social skills that we need to work on, or disabilities."

Mendall, who has autism, said the program has helped him "immensely" with making friends and learning to work in a team. Freshman Jacqueline Brigleb, 14, said she enjoyed the rope activity.

"We had to trust the other people would catch us and try our best to get across without failing," she said. "I think it'll help me with just talking to other people around me. I have trouble communicating with people when I have an idea for anything. I think just doing a lot of activities helps me get to know people. That way, I can better understand people and work with them." Megan Cross, a math and science teacher at WestSide, said along with team-building exercises, students have learned about the environment. They've gone snowshoeing and river rafting, biked the Apple Capital Recreation Loop Trail, and learned about plants.

Students can participate in the program for two years in a row, Cross said.

"As a science teacher, I think this is some of the best education they're getting because it relates to their lives," she said. "They can actually see it, and they can share it with family and friends, like, 'Oh, the snow's going to melt and come down. That's why the river's big in the spring.' It makes science relevant."

WestSide Stories Clubs at WestSide!

Once upon a time, clubs were not a thing at WestSide and we rarely had students using their own time to better the world or themselves. Boy have things changed now for us! It all started seven years ago with our now famous Leadership Club who paved the way and made it a normal occurrence to have a club and gather together to make a difference. After that, we had the development of our Spanish Club which had successful meetings for two years and is now on temporary hiatus. Last year we added our Random Acts of Kindness club to help make a positive impact on our school community and greater Wenatchee community as well. In addition, DECA began as an active club and competition team at WSHS. Both clubs will be active this year as well. Our latest arrival has been the Kitten Fostering Club created to showcase and celebrate the Humane Society's fostering program and have our students cuddle with furry friends throughout the school year. They will be raising awareness as well as donations for the kitties in the local shelter. Great work to our students and the staff who support these great activities.

Senior Mentors 19/20

For the third year, WestSide will be launching a Senior Mentor Program to help guide our seniors through the multitude of activities and related to the High School and Beyond Plan. Along with twenty-two credits and passing the state assessments in English and Math, students are required to complete a High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) to ensure that they have had guidance about the options they have for post-high school. Through the Senior Mentor Program, WestSide students will be paired with a caring and compassionate adult who will help them through the journey of the HSBP. Student will meet with their mentors one or two times a month to work together through various topics with the goal of completing the plan well before time to graduate in June. The incentives for the student aside from time during the school day to complete their plan, will be doughnuts and hot cocoa as well as a .25 credit for completing the plan, and a chance to win a new iPad, with Apple's smart keyboard, and an Apple pen. This is a \$1,000 incentive afforded to our students for their

participation. Thank you to Gaby Fernandez and GEAR UP! For their support of the program and the iPad and accessories. We also thank WVCs, Hilary Martinez, for her support of the program and planning and recruiting.

Back to School Bash

This year started off with bang as Sage Hills Church set up our Back to School Bash/Open House once again for us this year. They had 200 quality backpacks all stuffed with the essentials and a backpack decorating station for students to customize their pack. In addition, they had music playing loud and proud, goey gross games that got people a principals messy, a delicious taco bar, free ice cream from an ice cream truck, haircuts for all, and physicals and well exams. Each student and staff member was given a WestSide trucker hats and celebrated for being who they are and for kicking off another school year in style! It was so much fun and we appreciate the partnership very much! Thanks Sage Hills Church for celebrating WestSide students and validating our program for the community.



Above: Students learn how to make sushi when all of their credits were earned

Important Dates:

November 11:
Veterans Day
Observed - No School

November 12:
Teacher Training -
No School

November 27: Half
Day for
Thanksgiving

November 28 and 29:
No School for
Thanksgiving

December 23 -
January 3: Winter
Break - No School

January 20: Martin
Luther King Jr. Day
- No School

January 21:
Professional
Development Day -
No School

January 27: Non-
Contract Day - No
School

February 17:
President's Day -
No School

Go Eagles!



Left: Students painting 3Cs rocks! Left Up: Seniors touring the Link station as they learn about careers in Wenatchee

SCREAMING EAGLE TIDBITS

Graduation

Thanks to the grant writing prowess of Reading Teacher, Mary Robinson, roughly 45 students from WestSide were able to travel to Stonewater Ranch for a full day of leadership training and low and high ropes team building. This is the second year we have been able to take students on this event and have had great results in team building and culture and climate in our building. Students are in the field with trained outdoor education facilitators for four and half hours to work together as a team and learn and grow from each other. Many of our students come back from the experience with a little bit different view of their fellow classmates, our school, and sometimes the world around them. One student shared that he saw the students at WestSide as individuals as he always had but also as part of a community where we all more in common than not. Another student shared that he would like to see us do more small and large group and team



building activities as a school. He said, "there are a lot of cool people here that I may not have a chance to meet or truly get to know on my own."

Senior Career Field Trip

The advanced English students in Mrs. DeMarco's class recently studied Greek Mythology. "The kids were very interested in this unit, and some were way more knowledgeable about Greek Mythology than I was! So it's been a pleasure learning alongside these students, having fun conversations about the connections to our own lives, and then seeing their original projects." Students had many final project options to choose from, but most created a "Wanted" or "Missing" poster. Some also created social media pages, original myths of their own writing, children's books, and digital artwork. WestSide has many talented artists in our midst, and it shows!

NCLI
Our No Child Left Inside (NCLI) program has already been active this year. In September they dissected salmon at the school and learned much about the biology of the Salmon. Roughly fifteen students were led through the dissection process while WSU Extension outdoor education gurus, Seth and Andrew, collaborated with science teacher, Megan, to help students through the process. There was lots of learning, lots of goey gross stuff, and lots of engaged students. Later in the month the crew saddled up in the trusty WestSide Suburban and went to the annual Kids

in the Creek field trip. Students group up for this day of fun in the outdoors to learn different aspect of fish and ecosystem biology with the experts in the field. Critical thinking skills are applied as students work together to solve the ecological concern for the year. Please see related Wenatchee World article about our students at the Tierra Learning Center near Leavenworth.



Far left: Ruben works a trick with Jason the Magician at the Back to School Bash!
Above: More students painting 3Cs rocks. Below: Mythology poster from Mrs. Demarco's room!



Gretchen Mann

Office Manager
mann.g@wenatcheeschools.org

Kory Kalahar

Principal
kalahar.k@wenatcheeschools.org

Elizabeth Cuevas

Attendance Secretary
cuevas.elizabeth@wenatcheeschools.org

SCREAMING EAGLES

WestSide High School

1510 Ninth St.
Wenatchee, WA. 98801
P 509 663-7947
F 509 664-3005

<http://www.wenatcheeschools.org/wshs/>

Nancy Snyder

Counselor
snyder.n@wenatcheeschools.org

Jan Bullock

Counselor
bullock.j@wenatcheeschools.org

"Our mission is to create an environment that provides hope, builds strong relationships, fosters deep academic learning, and REALIZES our full potential."

SCREAMING EAGLE TIDBITS

WESTSIDE DONATION BOOSTS LEADERSHIP CLUB, GREENHOUSE PROJECT!

Nevonne Daniels - Wenatchee World - Aug. 19, 2019

WENATCHEE — WestSide High School will be able to grow more leaders and vegetables in the future thanks to a \$10,000 donation from an anonymous community member.

The donor visited the alternative high school in May as part of the Wenatchee Rotary Club meeting, which included a presentation on the Leadership Club and the curriculum that could come with the addition of a greenhouse on the school's campus.

"She was so impressed that she felt compelled to help support the program," WestSide Principal Kory Kalahar said, designating \$8,000 for the greenhouse project and \$2,000 to help the leadership club continue its work.

The greenhouse project has been discussed since 2013 as an idea to create project-based curriculum to engage students in science, technology, engineering and math activities. At that time, Wenatchee Rotary Club and the Community Foundation of NCW created a fund to start gathering donations for the estimated \$24,000 cost.

"We would host Super Bowl parties to raise additional dollars," Kalahar said. "With this \$8,000 donation, we will be close to \$24,000 total for the project which means it could begin to move forward in planning. The STEM activities involved would mainly consist of the science and technology students would need to be immersed in to grow and cultivate the plants and vegetables as designated through our science department." Kalahar said the donation for the greenhouse will kick-start the planning phase.

"Being that we were not counting on this generous donation, we really now have the fun work of beginning collaboration around the idea of the greenhouse, curriculum, student outcomes, incentives and our overall goals," he said. "This work will help guide the design and needs associated with the greenhouse project. We are excited to begin this work to have our students have another STEM opportunity as well as a project-based learning experience that will have tangible hands-on activities and a product in the end."

Leadership Club is a service club that takes on projects designed to help the school and community. Students take on a variety of leadership roles and responsibilities, not only to raise money, but to accomplish their goals.

"They have been able to leverage support through grants and donations in the past to sustain their work since 100% of their efforts go back to the community in some way," he said.

The \$2,000 will help sustain the club, he said, with a goal of boosting membership and recruiting guest speakers. Some of the funds also will help with the annual field trip to Seattle that includes a college campus tour and a fun tourist activity. The \$10,000 donation is the largest gift from an individual the school has received in Kalahar's eight years at WestSide, he said.

"We have individuals and groups who donate money for scholarships to give to students to the tune of \$1,000 to \$2,000 per scholarship, but nothing like this," he said.

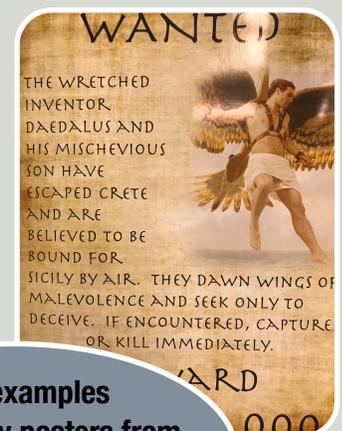
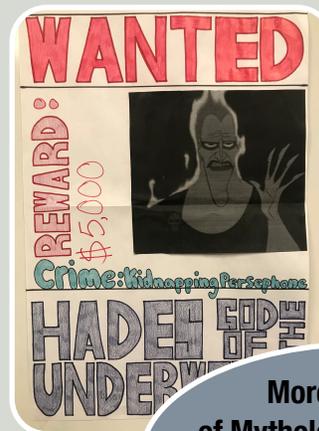
The Wenatchee Rotary Club, though, has been a staunch supporter, providing \$70,000 in 2011 to help support the school.

"Two years later they gave us another \$30,000 when we moved into our new building to help continue that financial support," he said.

The Wenatchee School Board officially accepted the \$10,000 donation at the Aug. 13 meeting.

Graduation Pathways

For a number of years, students have had three main requirements to graduate from high school. Today is really no different, but there have been some recent changes with the introduction of House Bill 1599 in the 2019 legislative session. Student still need 22 credits (24 beginning with the Class of 2021) along with passing state assessments, which now only includes English and math. Finally, the students also need to complete a High School and Beyond Plan to outline what they will do after their high school degree is complete. The only major changes that our students will experience is that there are a few more options available to make it through the assessments piece including the ASVAB test and a CTE pathway. Unfortunately, the state did remove the Collection of Evidence which was a very positive alternative for our students as they could show their mastery of the standards in a classroom setting as opposed to a standardized test setting. Either way, we will continue to work diligently to help our students meet state standards and WestSide's high expectations for all.



More examples of Mythology posters from Mrs. Demarco's class!

WestSide has Spirit!



Left: Angelica, Elizabeth, and Mr. Johnson get groovy for Blast from the Past Day! Right: Mr. Johnson and Mr. Kalahar try to look tough on Twin Day - fail.



Spirit Week 2019

Once again WestSide has amazing spirit for the week before Halloween. Here is the breakdown of the dress up days...

- Pajama Day
- Twin Day
- Pink Day
- Blast from the Past Day
- Gender Appreciation Day

We also threw in a random Costume Day on the 29th before we left for Conferences to show off all of the amazing costumes.



Costume Day at WestSide High School - need I say more?

Title 1A

Please check the WestSide High School website accessing the "parents" tab for more details about WestSide being a Title 1A school and the information available to you as a parent.

<https://www.wenatcheeschools.org/special-programs/title-1a>

**NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT
FOR SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Wenatchee 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:

Title IX Coordinator, Section 504/ADA
Coordinator

Mark Helm, Executive Director of Student
Services

235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801
helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org
509.663.8161

Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators

Mark Helm, Executive Director of Student
Services (students)

helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org

Kelly Lopez, Executive Director of Human
Resources (staff)

235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801
lopez.k@wenatcheeschools.org
509.663.8161

**DECLARACIÓN DE NO
DISCRIMINACIÓN**

**PARA PUBLICACIONES ESCOLARES Y
ANUNCIOS PÚBLICOS**

El Distrito Escolar de Wenatchee no discrimina en ningún programa o actividades basado en sexo, raza, credo, color, religión, origen nacional, edad, estatus militar o veterano, orientación sexual, expresión o identidad de genero, discapacidad, o el uso de un perro guía o animal de servicio y proporciona igualdad de acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos de jóvenes designados. Los siguientes empleados han sido designados para manejar las preguntas y quejas de supuesta discriminación:

Coordinador de Titulo IX, Coordinador de
Sección 504/ADA

Mark Helm, Director Ejecutivo de Servicios
Estudiantil

235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801
helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org
509.663.8161

Coordinadores de Cumplimiento de Derechos
Civiles

Mark Helm, Director Ejecutivo de Servicios
Estudiantil (estudiantes)

Kelly Lopez, Directora Ejecutiva de Recursos
Humanos (empleados)

235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801
lopez.k@wenatcheeschools.org
509.663.8161



Left: Students learn about their webbies. Top: Emily Fox in her Halloween Costume. Above Middle: More student websites. Above: Seniors tour the Stemilt Factory