Learn more about the Feb. 8 replacement levies (pg. 1)

LSSD welcomes two new board members (pg. 2)

Our students are doing amazing things (pgs. 3-5)
Replacement levies on Feb. 8 ballot to fund educational programs and technology

Lake Stevens School District will have two replacement levies on the Feb. 8, 2022 ballot—a replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy and a replacement Technology Levy.

The current levies, which voters approved in 2018, expire this year. The replacement levies will provide funding for schools through 2026. These are not new taxes.

“We are asking our community to replace our local levies so we can continue to provide quality programs led by staff members who support the learning needs of all of our students,” said Dr. Ken Collins, Superintendent of Lake Stevens School District. “Our Board of Directors was very intentional in selecting a levy amount that allows us to continue to provide the programs and services that our community has come to expect, while also considering the impact of our taxpayers,” said Collins. “We work very hard to be fiscally prudent and we appreciate our community’s longstanding history of supporting its schools.”

Replacement Educational Programs & Operations Levy

The replacement Educational Programs & Operations Levy helps fund the following:

- Nurses
- Student mental health support professionals
- School safety and security
- Family Engagement Specialists
- Early learning programs
- Special education programs
- Student transportation
- Professional learning
- Substitute personnel
- Supplies and materials
- Extracurricular activities and athletics

Replacement Technology Levy

The replacement Technology Levy helps fund the following:

- Classroom technology to maintain 1:1 devices for students
- Replacement of classroom technology and aging devices
- Professional learning
- Technical support
- Infrastructure upgrades, including network, bandwidth and phones
- Innovative technology

Learn more at www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/levy
Lake Stevens School District welcomes our new school board members

Lake Stevens School District congratulates and welcomes the new and returning school board members to our five-member Board of Directors. This governing body is responsible for establishing policy for the more than 9,300 students and 1,100 employees in Lake Stevens School District.

Welcome to:
• Vildan Kirby
• Dr. Nina Kim Hanson

These board members join the following already seated members:
• Mari Taylor, President
• David Iseminger, Vice President
• Paul Lund, Legislative Representative

“I sincerely welcome our two new board members, and congratulate them on their election victories,” said Dr. Ken Collins, Superintendent of Lake Stevens School District. “I am excited about the opportunity to work alongside these leaders. I’d also like to express my gratitude to board member John Boerger, who served our board for 14 years; and to board member Brian Kesler, who served our board for one year. We sincerely appreciate their leadership, dedication, and commitment to our students, employees and community.”

Learn more about the board, including meeting dates and locations, agendas and minutes, and board policies at www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/board

The board welcomes community participation and engagement. They can be reached at schoolboard@lkstevens.wednet.edu

From the left: Vildan Kirby and Dr. Nina Kim Hanson

We greatly appreciate the Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors for their tireless work on behalf of our students, employees and community.
Four Lake Stevens High School students earned national FCCLA honors

While this year’s Family, Career and Community Leaders (FCCLA) National Fall Conference was online, it didn’t stop four of our Lake Stevens High School (LSHS) students from earning national honors.

Overall, 16 LSHS FCCLA students participated in these demonstrations in early November.

Skills Demonstrations provide opportunities for members to demonstrate college- and career-ready skills in Family and Consumer Sciences and related occupations.

More than 700 participants from across the nation virtually participated in the conference to hear from keynote speakers, engage in leadership workshops, participate in a community service project, and explore the four career pathways of Human Services, Hospitality and Tourism, Education and Training, and Visual Arts and Design.

The following four students earned national honors for their performance in the Skills Demonstrations:

**Cianna Cox**
12th-grade

Cianna Cox earned second place in the nation in the Science and Family Consumer Science (FCS) Challenge Skills Demonstration. The Science in FCS Challenge allows participants to complete challenges related to FCS subject matter, including science and technology concepts related to food, health and textile sciences. Cox also won a $35,000 scholarship to Sullivan University in Kentucky.

Cox is new to FCCLA this year, and this was her first time competing. She joined FCCLA because she has a passion for cooking and learning new things. In addition to FCCLA, Cox is part of the culinary program at Sno-Isle Tech Skills Center. She hopes to own her own bakery someday, and has already been accepted into the Culinary Institute of America.

**Nevaeh Boon**
10th-grade

Nevaeh Boon earned second place in the nation in the Fashion Construction and Design Skills Demonstration, which allows participants to demonstrate their knowledge of fashion construction and design subject matter, including vocabulary, elements and principles of design, and textile knowledge.

This is Boon’s first year as a member of FCCLA. The Skills Demonstration caused them a bit of anxiety at first, but they had fun showing how much they knew. Boon’s counselor encouraged them to join FCCLA because of their love of fashion design.

Boon has been incredibly welcomed into the FCCLA club at Lake Stevens High School. They are also an active participant in the high school’s Gender Sexuality Alliance Club. While they aren’t sure what the future holds after high school, they have a great deal of interests and hobbies to tap into and explore.

**Taima Prasad**
10th-grade

Taima Prasad earned second place in the nation in the Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation Challenge, which allows participants to complete questions related to Family and Consumer Sciences subject matter, including hospitality, tourism, and recreation content.

This was Prasad’s first time competing, and her first year of FCCLA membership. As part of the challenge, she answered questions regarding how she would handle financial and business situations, what certain procedures are, and how she’d treat others in specific business situations. Prasad joined FCCLA to expand her leadership skills, to prepare for a future career, and to strengthen her interpersonal communications, critical thinking, and creativity.

Prasad loves children, and has experience tutoring, counseling and babysitting, and wants to continue being a positive role model by pursuing a career in child psychology. In addition to FCCLA, she’s a former member of the National Junior Honor Society.

“I absolutely love FCCLA’s approach to give to those in need, connect friends, and meet new people in life who will help your journey towards becoming something great in the future,” said Prasad.

**Lake Stevens High School FCCLA National Conference Skills Demonstration participants**

- Evan Aldag
- Harini Arumugam Gandhi
- Molly Rose Bates
- Ethan Bachtel
- Abbie Bishop
- Nevaeh Boon
- Arianna Burbach
- Cianna Cox
- Maddy Duffy
- Sam Fisher
- Adrianna Kime
- Ashlyn Mackey
- Taima Prasad
- Piper Tregoning
- Amelia Vasquez
- Saho Yamashita

Participating in the national conference and in competitive events such as Skills Demonstrations equip students with the tools, knowledge, and opportunities needed to be college- and career-ready. Members utilize the skills learned and experiences gained through FCCLA to improve families, careers, and communities across America.

“I absolutely love FCCLA’s approach to GIVE to those in need, CONNECT friends, and MEET new people in life who will HELP your journey towards becoming something great in the future.”

—Taima Prasad, Lake Stevens High School 10th-grader

To learn more, visit fcclaine.org.
Lake Stevens School District’s athletic teams have a long history in the spotlight, establishing a winning tradition. This year’s Lake Stevens High School fall sports teams are no exception.

**Football**
The Lake Stevens High School Football Team finished second in the state. Overall, the Vikings finished their regular season 11-0, and were the WESCO 4A League Champions for the ninth-year in a row.

**Volleyball**
The Lake Stevens High School Volleyball Team finished seventh in the state. They finished their regular season 19-2, and were the WESCO 4A League Champions for the seventh year in a row.

**Girls Cross Country**
The Lake Stevens High School Girls Cross Country Team finished seventh in the state.

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Three Lake Stevens students competed in elite Microsoft World Championship

Lake Stevens High School students, Sean Crawford, Jeremiah Wilson, and Trevor Wilson, participated in the Microsoft Office Specialist World Championship in November—a global competition that tests students’ skills on Microsoft Office Word, Excel and PowerPoint. The students earned first place in their respective divisions of the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) 2021 National Championships.

Trevor Wilson earned first place in the Microsoft Word 2019, Jeremiah Wilson placed first in Microsoft Excel 2019, and Sean Crawford placed first in Microsoft Excel 2016. More than 239,000 nationwide entrants between the ages of 13 and 22 competed for the 6 coveted divisions first place positions. Our students represented Lake Stevens and Washington State brilliantly winning three of the six divisions—dominating the US Championship!

These students mastered Microsoft programs as part of the Computer Applications course, taught by Karen Coulombe, at Cavelero Mid High School. The course prepares students for the MOS programs in Word, PowerPoint, and Excel that leads to their Microsoft Office certification—a key benchmark sought by employers.

“Our students are learning and practicing a wide variety of beginning to very complex computer skills,” said Coulombe. “Most leave this freshman class with three to 17 various Microsoft Industry certifications. These Industry certifications set these students apart for scholarships, internships and jobs. The most competitive students have dedicated themselves to a very rigorous and thorough training regime. Rest assured our three national champions have logged hundreds of hours working with all of these programs at the highest level of proficiency. Employers will absolutely recognize their abilities and seek them to join their workplace teams.”

Our US Champions went on to compete on the World Stage in November 2021. More than 200,000 students, ages 13 to 22, from 108 countries participated in the World Championship. Competitors completed a 30-minute timed written exam and a 3-hour hands on project. Since this year’s competition was online, each competitor worked in a Remote Desktop environment with access to the Microsoft application and limited internet access.

Jeremiah Wilson was excited to compete in the competition, which was cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It was a big relief to be able to compete in the competition,” said Wilson. “I won Nationals last year, and have been practicing for Worlds. I spent one- to three-hours each day remembering Excel and making sure I understood its functions, graphs, charts and the workbook. At the competition we were given three hours to complete a project. We also had to answer multiple choice questions. I completed the competition in two hours and 22 minutes.”

While World competitors don’t know where they ranked unless they placed third or above, it’s an incredible honor for three of our local students to earn a spot representing Lake Stevens High School. Check out this year’s winners here at www.moschampionship.com/past.

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Lake Stevens High School fall athletes finish strong

Lake Stevens School District’s athletic teams have a long history in the spotlight, establishing a winning tradition. This year’s Lake Stevens High School fall sports teams are no exception.

**Girls Swimming & Diving**
Four Lake Stevens High School swimmers participated in the state championship, and two were alternates. Overall, the team placed second in the WESCO 4A League and second in districts.

**Girls Soccer**
The Lake Stevens High School Girls Soccer Team finished third in WESCO 4A and participated in the District Tournament.

**Boys Tennis**
The Lake Stevens High School Boys Tennis Team finished third in WESCO 4A and had six players participate in the District Tournament.
Robotics Club adapts to changes, fights its way back after shutdown

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on teaching and learning, extracurricular activities, and athletics. One group that has been especially impacted is the Lake Stevens Robotics Club. When schools closed in March 2020, the Club had just competed in the VEX Washington State Championship tournaments for middle and high school students. Robotics Club members didn’t even have a chance to dismantle their robots before the shutdown.

The resilience of students and employees has been remarkable, and the VBots—Lake Stevens High School’s Club—and the CBots—Cavelero Mid High School’s Club—are no exception. While the Club is split into two groups, students and employees work tirelessly to create a positive and creative learning environment for all who seek to learn about robotics.

The Club is led by Cavelero Mid High School teachers Karen Coulombe, Jeff Lynass, Mike McGrath and Will Fredin. Student leaders include Grace Davis (President), Emma Cox (Vice President), Ethan Sewell (Secretary), and Hanna Michalisin (Treasurer). Cavelero ASB Officers include Amelia Stalkhe (President), Keiani Guest (Vice President), Camila Mondragon Martinez (Secretary), Riley Walrod (Treasurer).

Despite the major setback of not being able to work in person during the 2020-21 school year, Lake Stevens Robotics evolved to be able to continue meeting virtually. If you’re able to begin to wrap your mind around building and coding a robot for competition, imagine doing it virtually through Google Meets.

Individual teams worked together to create an engineering notebook that included documentation of their team and of the rules, in-depth strategies of gameplay, and preliminary designs of their chassis and intake/delivery systems sketched out and explained. They then met with their advisor to verify they were ready. Since teams had to stay socially distanced, one person was designated to build the robot, or split the build into modules that could be fit together. The designated builder then picked up the robot, and gathered documentation for an extensive slideshow showcasing a complete inventory of the robot and materials.

"We are so thrilled to be back," said Grace Davis, a Lake Stevens High School senior, VBot President, and member of the Six Smart Ones Robotics Team. "The transition was a challenge—especially during the shutdown—but we have had many members return, and we are working to recruit additional members from the high school and Cavelero. We had our first in-person tournament in mid-November and it was great."

There are 72 members of the Lake Stevens Robotics Club. Sixteen teams participated in the fall tournament, which was held at Cavelero Mid High School. Most were from Lake Stevens, but teams from Bellevue and Shoreline also took part. The 2021-22 VEX Robotics Game is called Tipping Point. Games change annually, so teams are consistently stretching their knowledge and skills to meet new demands. The object of Tipping Point is to attain a higher score than the opposing Alliance by scoring rings, moving mobile goals to alliance zones, and by elevating on platforms at the end of a match. Winners were determined by the number of matches won, and bracket ranking.

Davis’ team, 8931R—aka the Six Smart Ones, earned the Judge’s Award. The team is made up of Davis, Ethan Sewell, Hanna Michalisin, Tiffany Tran, Emma Cox and Ezekiel Ross.

Team 8931K—the Karrots—were the Tournament Champions and will advance to the state tournament in March in Kirkland. The team is made up of Jordan Cantu, Nathaniel Wilson, Bryan Schmid, Miguel Cervantes and Reid McDougal.

Most of the members of the Karrots have been part of robotics clubs since middle school—both Lake Stevens and North Lake Middle Schools.

continued on pg. 6
Welcome to 2022! I hope you had a restful holiday and a Happy New Year. Although, in the world of education, we celebrate the New Year each September. However, the changing of the calendar year is when we transition into the second semester of the school year. There are many exciting things happening in our district, and we are incredibly grateful to have our students in our buildings for full-time, in-person teaching and learning.

January is School Board Appreciation Month and I want to thank our board of directors for their leadership and dedication to our district and community. This includes our newest directors—Vildan Kirby and Dr. Nina Kim Hanson—who were sworn in during the Dec. 8, 2021 meeting. This gratitude is also extended to John Boerger, who served on the board for 14 years, and to Brian Kesler, who served on the board for one year. Board members are volunteers who selflessly give of themselves to make our district the excellent place that it is.

On pages 3, 4 and 5, please take a few minutes to read about the amazing things our students are doing in robotics, technology, extracurricular activities, and athletics. I’m incredibly proud of them, and appreciative of the support and encouragement they receive from our teachers, coaches, school staff, and community. Registered voters in our community should have received their ballots to vote in a special election on Tuesday, Feb. 8. If you’re not a registered voter, or if you need to update your registration, visit vote.wa.gov. Lake Stevens School District has two replacement levies on the ballot—a replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy and a replacement Technology Levy. The current levies, which voters approved in 2018, expire this year. These replacement levies will provide funding for our schools through 2026. These are not new taxes. Detailed information about these measures, and how they support our students, is available on our district website, www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/levy. Please be sure to reach out if you have questions or need additional information.

Kindergarten enrollment for the 2022-23 school year opens this March. To learn more, please visit our website or call your local elementary school. We are excited to welcome the graduating Class of 2034 to Lake Stevens Schools!

As always, I welcome any questions you have about our schools. Please feel free to contact me at 425-335-1500.

Sincerely,

Ken Collins, Ed.D.
Superintendent

"Robotics" continued

Alex Escalante, an eighth-grader at Cavelero Mid High School, is new to the Club this year, and joined because of the strong sense of camaraderie. “Everyone is super helpful, and it’s a nice space to learn and make friends.”

To learn more about the Lake Stevens Robotics Club, visit: www.cbots-vbots.club

Kindergarten enrollment for next school year begins March 15

Kindergarten enrollment for the 2022-23 school year begins on Tuesday, March 15. Each elementary school will share a family information video presentation on its website the week of March 7. Enrollment packets for the 2022-23 school year will be available on the school district website at the beginning of March. Paper copies will be available at all elementary schools, and at the Educational Services Center.

Children must be five-years-old by Aug. 31, 2022 to enroll in kindergarten for the 2022-23 school year. When enrolling your child, please bring the completed enrollment packet, an official copy of the child’s birth certificate, proof of immunization, and proof of residence in Lake Stevens School District. Enrollment is limited to those students who live within school district boundaries.

The first day of school for kindergarten for the 2022-23 school year is Monday, Sept. 12. More information is available at: www.lkstevens.wednet.edu(kindergarten

K-7 Family Conferences are Feb. 14 to 17

Family conferences for kindergarten through seventh-grade are Monday, Feb. 14 through Thursday, Feb. 17. Families will receive information about conferences from their child’s school or teacher(s). Elementary and middle school students will be released 2.5 hours early Monday through Thursday. Lunch will be served at school. There will be no preschool the week of the 14th.

All schools are closed Friday, Feb. 18 and Monday, Feb. 21.

LAKE STEVENS SCHOOL DISTRICT IS

HIRING

Substitute teachers and paraeducators
► Flexible hours and placements
► $160 to $200 per day, and additional incentives
► Select the schools or grade levels where you work

Emergency substitutes
Do you have a bachelor’s degree? You could be eligible to join our emergency substitute teacher pool. Ongoing paid training available. For more information, call 425-335-1667

Bus drivers and substitute drivers
► Paid training provided
► Flexible hours and schedules
► Part time hours available
► Earn $25+ an hour

Custodians
► Full-time and part-time positions available
► Follow the school schedule with holidays and vacations off
► Competitive wages and full benefits packages available
In accordance with RCW 49.60, the Lake Stevens School District does not discriminate in employment and schools. The Lake Stevens School District provides Equal Educational and Employment Opportunity without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, handicap/disability, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, creed, religion, age, veteran or military status, use of a trained dog to guide or service animal by a person with a disability, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and designated youth groups. The district complies with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations to include, but not limited to, Title IX, Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, RCW 49.60 “The Law Against Discrimination,” and RCW 28A.640 “Sex Equity,” and covers, but is not limited to, all district programs, courses, activities, including extracurricular activities, services, access to facilities, etc. Inquiries regarding compliance procedures should be directed to Lake Stevens School District, 12309 22nd St NE, Lake Stevens, WA 98258, Attention: Title IX and Civil Rights Officer, John Balmer, (425) 335-1500, John_Balmer@lkstevens.wednet.edu or ADA Compliance Officer and Section 504 Compliance Officer, Miriam Tencate, (425) 335-1500, Miriam_Tencate@lkstevens.wednet.edu.

IMPORTANT DATES

Dates are subject to change. Please confirm dates and times on the district website calendar.

February
- 8: Election Day—Please vote!
- 9: School Board Meeting at the ESC and via Zoom
- 14-17: Family Conferences; 2.5 hour early release, no preschool
- 18-21: No School
- 23: School Board Meeting at Mt. Pilchuck Elementary and via Zoom

85-minute early releases: 4, 11, 25

March
- 7-11: Classified Employees Appreciation Week
- 9: School Board Meeting at the ESC and via Zoom
- 23: School Board Meeting at Glenwood Elementary and via Zoom

85-minute early releases: 4, 11, 18, 25

April
- 4-8: Spring Break
- 13: School Board Meeting at the ESC and via Zoom
- 25-29: Administrative Professionals Week
- 27: School Board Meeting at the ESC and via Zoom

85-minute early releases: 1, 15, 22, 29

REMEMBER TO VOTE BY FEB. 8

Ballots for the Feb. 8, 2022 Special Election were mailed to registered Snohomish County voters on Jan. 21. Ballots must be postmarked no later than midnight on Feb. 8, 2022. Lake Stevens’ 24-hour secure ballot drop box is located at 1800 Main Street near the boat launch. Ballots must be in the box by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Are you a registered voter? Have you moved or changed your name? Registering to vote, or updating your registration is quick and easy. Visit vote.wa.gov to get started. Paper registration forms are available at your neighborhood school, or the Educational Services Center. Monday, Jan. 31 is the last day to register online to be eligible for voting in the Feb. 8, 2022 election. For more information, visit: www.snoco.org/elections