



Music Building at Stevens Celebrates Grand Opening

On Saturday, October 2, green ribbon was flying everywhere as nine people cut the ten feet of ribbon to officially open the new music building at Stevens! With smiles plastered on the faces of students, parents, administration and especially Mr. Donohue, Mr. Morgan-Ellis and Ms. Heder, the official grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was underway for the new music building.

In anticipation students watched the construction occur all last school year as local work crews completed the new brick building built with bond money. Mr. Donohue said it was like celebrating his birthday everyday as he chose new music chairs, specialized computer software, and the finest equipment possible to outfit the new building with all the necessary components to run a top notch music program.

Students glowed with pride as the ceremony started with the jazz band students playing for parents, school board members and other community members. Even with only having had four weeks to produce a fantastic program showcasing new songs, Stevens students showed their talent and commitment to excellence by playing their new pieces like old pros! Speeches were given, ribbons were cut and jazz band students surprised Mr. Donohue with a plaque of gratitude for his many years of service and his dedication to making the band program at Stevens so successful. The orchestra followed next under the direction of Mr. Morgan-Ellis with two very different and fun numbers for the audience to enjoy. Evelyn Tobin was recognized for her many years of support in the district for music students, and all were invited to wander within the building while enjoying cookies and punch. More than 50% of the students at Stevens are involved in part of the music program. Between band, orchestra or choir, there is something to entice anyone to become involved.

The new music building with its top-notch computerized equipment comes at a critical time of support for teachers. For the past two years, elective teachers have been integrating their own curriculum to additionally support core subjects! Their hands-on classes are often the application of the knowledge learned in core classes. Shop isn't just shop anymore! Students write and describe projects they are working on. While walking through art class, you might see or hear a vivid and colorful explanation as students compare and contrast different art mediums. Media technology has students producing websites, creating digital portfolios and learning how to write and produce articles online. Learning in band that two quarter notes really equal a half note help students understand visually how to do fractions. Even p.e. teachers have students graphing and tracking their running times and scores to reinforce math units being taught. With this additional support from the elective teachers, Stevens students have been able to again increase their results on the WASL. This cross curricular integration of learning has been successful because of teachers' effort and dedication to teamwork combined with necessary technology materials to make it all happen.



Chuck Lisk, principal, admires the welcome sign created by students on the new music building built with bond money.



Evelyn Tobin, a long time supporter of music in the Port Angeles District poses with Ed Donohue, band teacher at Stevens.



Ashley Stevenson, right, who plays the violin and Teresa Geasey, left, who plays the cello in orchestra, willingly sampled the cookies after their performance at the grand opening.

Our Newest National Board Certified Teachers

We want to extend our congratulations to **Gloria Bond, Dorothy Stengel, and Krista Winn** for joining the ranks of National Board Certified Teachers! What an honor for these fine teachers, and it is such a rich reward for our school district and our students. Thank you for your dedication to making a difference in our students' academic success.

Quality schools are the result of quality teachers going above and beyond the call of duty.

- A community conversation was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Jefferson Elementary School Library
- The board met at 7:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the November 8 special meeting, November 15 special meeting, and November 15 regular board meeting were approved.
- Employment of **Larry Hurd** (COTA/District) and **Sandy Lawrence** (Secretary/PAHS) have been approved.
- A leave of absence has been approved for **Larry Hurd** for employment as shown above.
- Teachers approved for assignment outside of their endorsed areas include: **Rob Edwards** (Technology/Stevens), **Melissa Cowley** (Social Studies/Stevens), **Erik Gonzalez** (Athletic Strength-Conditioning/PAHS), and **Tom Seros** (Health/PAHS)
- Co-curricular assignments went to **John Campbell** (Co-advisor Club Pride, Roosevelt) and **Carolyn Sharnbroich** (Co-advisor Club Pride, Roosevelt).
- A donation of \$2,548.68 was accepted from the Dry Creek Parent Teacher Organization to pay for Dry Creek Elementary Math Manipulatives.
- Vouchers and budget reports were approved.
- National Merit Semi-Finalist **Caleb Dorfman** of the high school received an award.
- **Michelle Olsen** gave a presentation on Jefferson Elementary School, focusing on Jefferson's noteworthy success in teaching reading.
- **Jim Jones** and **Gary Smith** gave a report on Skyward Implementation Progress.
- **Jessica Schreiber** reported on a visit with Barry Burnett at Franklin, and commented on how well things are going.
- **Nancy McLaughlin** reported on the creation of a log sign at Fairview.
- **Cindy Kelly** reported on attending the Dry Creek Carnival.
- Board members expressed the importance of unified action with regard to the upcoming levy.
- **Charlie McClain** announced that **Brenda Hanrahan** would be leaving the school district beat.
- **Superintendent Cohn** reported on (1) a meeting with PIRA about the Mutsu students' visit in January; (2) the Clallam Business Incubator moving forward with strategic plan work; (3) the Senior Business Faire in January; (4) the community concert December 9 at the high school; (5) the High School Drama Club staging a A Christmas Carol with a bit of a twist; (6) the Student Leadership Team helping with the high school principal selection process; (7) Skagit Valley school district visiting Lincoln Center tomorrow; (8) community group presentations to provide background information for the levy; and (9) a draft board feedback form created specifically for special meetings.
- **Ron Spanjer** gave a review of the process for selecting the next PAHS principal.
- **Jeff Hinds** moved that the board approve for second reading and adoption revised Policy 1230, Legislative Representative. **Nancy McLaughlin** seconded the motion; it was voted and passed.
- **Jim Jones** gave background and options for the maintenance & operations levy proposal, and **Gary Smith** provided a similar context for a technology levy proposal. The board discussed the various options at length. **Nancy McLaughlin** put forward a motion to run a technology capital projects levy in parallel with a maintenance & operations levy on February 8, 2005. The motion was seconded by **Jeff Hinds**, voted and passed.
- **Jeff Hinds** put forward a motion to run a four-year technology levy. The motion was seconded by **Jessica Schreiber**, voted and passed.
- The meeting was recessed into executive session at 9:35 p.m., and adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

From the Personnel Office



Openings

Para-Educator/Special Ed	6.75 hrs/day	Roosevelt
Para Educator/Special Ed-Autism Support	2.75 hrs./day Tues-Fri	Hamilton
Para Educator/Special Ed-Autism Support	4.75 hrs./day Tues-Fri	Hamilton
Para Educator/Special Ed-Title 1	(2 hrs. Title, 1hr. Sp Ed)	Hamilton

For further details on these positions, please refer to "Job Opportunities" on your email system.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 6	Special Ed Committee Meeting	3:30—4:30 p.m.	Central Services Building
December 6	Special Board Work Session	7:00—9:00 p.m.	Central Services Building
December 8	Safe Schools Committee Meeting	3:30—4:30 p.m.	Central Services Building
December 9	Professional Development Committee Mtg.	12:00—3:00 p.m.	Central Services Building
December 9	Extended Day Kindergarten Committee Mtg.	2:45—3:45 p.m.	Central Services Building
December 9	Principals Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Central Services Building