

**WE EXPECT EXCELLENCE****WE INNOVATE****WE EMBRACE EQUITY****WE COLLABORATE**

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY**POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION**

Tonight, the District recognizes the following individuals for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the Beaverton School District and the community. The following recognitions exemplify the Pillars of Excellence Innovation and Equity.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**WE Expect Excellence: Teacher of the Year – Lora Wells**

The Oregon Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (ORFACS) recently named Lora Wells Teacher of the Year.

The Teacher of the Year award is for a teacher with an outstanding program related to one or more of the following areas: career awareness job skill training, consumer education/family finance, creative dimension/alternative program designs, family life/personal and social development and nutrition education/diet and health. Lora exemplifies all of these.

Lora came to Westview High School in 2001. Over the years she has built the Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) program. There are more than 2,400 students at Westview High School, and 1,200 have requested Lora's class! Lora is currently the Department Chair for the CTE (Career Technical Education) teachers at Westview High School. She also serves on the Advisory Board for CTE with Portland Community College, which helps coordinate articulation for all CTE teachers in the Portland Metro area.

Principal Jon Franco states. "Lora is adored by her students. Her knowledge, commitment, and energy make foods and culinary the most sought after classes in the school. Lora has tremendous faith in her students and she gives them tremendous responsibility. Her students work in teams, with students taking turns as the kitchen manager. Her students host the yearly Cat Cafe for the benefit of the school as well as support many events and programs such as the Little Wildcats Preschool. Lora is relentless with her own professional development, attending workshops and conferences every summer. Students earn dual credit in her classes and compete in state and national competitions...and they win! She is very deserving of this award."

The Oregon Restaurant Association Educational Foundation and the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation Association also recognized Lora as the Teacher of the Year in 2012. Congratulations, Lora!

WE Innovate 1st Place Technology category of STEM Awards at Broadcom MASTERS Science Fair – Aditya Jain

Aditya Jain, a freshman at Westview High School, won first place in the Technology category of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Awards at the 2014 Broadcom MASTERS National Science Fair in Washington, D.C. Aditya's project on an automated diagnostic tool for lung cancer solitary pulmonary nodules was titled *It's a Matter of Life & Breath: An Improved Automated Diagnostic Tool for Lung Cancer Solitary Pulmonary Nodules (SPN) Detection towards Population Based Screening*.

Aditya was awarded \$3,500 to support his choice of STEM summer camp experiences offered around the country, as well as an iPad. Stoller Middle School, where Aditya attended when he entered the preliminary qualifying competition will receive \$1,000 to further STEM education. Winners had the opportunity to tour the White House, meet top executives in the technology and science fields, and shake hands with President Obama.

Congratulations, Aditya and good luck in your future endeavors!

WE Innovate: Deer Park Academy

Thanks to a 2014-2015-budget addition and a School Board committed to equity, Deer Park Academy has transitioned to a full-day program for students in grades 6-12. Students at Deer Park now attend school from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Students are referred to Deer Park by their school counselor or principal, and usually stay for about one semester. The majority of students have been expelled due to a discipline violation. Special Education students often attend Deer Park awaiting a program review. The school also offers an opportunity for students to engage in individual and group counseling, including art therapy.

Previously, the program was 7:30 – 11:15 a.m. for high school students and 12:15 – 3:30 p.m. for middle school students and courses offered included only Math, Language Arts, Health and Social Studies.

Students now have the opportunity to complete core courses and electives in 90-minute block class periods. Students in the middle grades (6-8) take Humanities, PE, Math and a rotation of Horticulture, Art and Music. High school students in grades 9-12 take Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and Math in the morning and PE and elective courses in the afternoon. Elective options include Art, Horticulture and the Psychology of Achievement. Students have the opportunity to earn four academic credits per semester. The school also offers the APEX online learning program to students who may be credit deficient in core courses.

The school staff has also grown with the full-day schedule to include 13 full time teachers, four instructional assistants, a school psychologist and a school counselor. With the additional staff Deer Park is able to offer additional supports to students.

The school motto is BRIDGE: Be safe, Relationships, Integrity, Daily effort, Goals, Educate...Principal Carmen Gelman hopes that Deer Park Academy will be the BRIDGE that helps her students succeed in school, in the community and in their futures, she believes that every one of her students has the ability to go on to college and career success.

WE Embrace Equity: National Native American Heritage Month

The District's Native American Student Program received a \$78,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Education for developing "Culturally Responsive Pedagogy for Native American Students." The four goals are:

1. Ensure that all Native American students graduate on time.
2. Raise all Native American identity through family gatherings and events.
3. Provide professional development for all teachers to learn about the Native American culture. A summer workshop was offered.
4. Build a Beaverton School District Native American Cultural Trust.

The program has also developed a partnership with Portland State University to develop rubrics.

Louise Wilmes, coordinator for the District's Native American Program is here tonight along with some parents to help us appreciate this culture and its people.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the School Board recognize Lora Wells, Aditya Jain, Deer Park Academy for their contributions to student success and acknowledge and Native American Heritage Month.