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## RECOGNITIONS 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.

### **WE Embrace Equity: Days of Understanding at Southridge High School**

“I love seeing all of the smiling faces in the hallway every day...” “I love our school, but...it could be better.” Those were student’s opening comments at day two of the Southridge High School Days of Understanding.

Organized by the Student, Family and Community Outreach Counselor, Megan Rohlik, Days of Understanding is a way to improve school climate by bringing students together through open and honest communication.

More than 300 Southridge students from all social groups and nine staff members participated. There were also 46 student leaders who helped facilitate the two-day workshop.

Students were given the opportunity to share how they feel and why they feel that way. Each student who participated had the chance to hear and learn about each other, with the hopes of realizing that they are living this life together and they can help each other rather than hurt each other. Students received a bracelet after the workshop that says “Go human, Give what you need” as a reminder of what they learned and committed to during the activity.

Following the workshops, students were asked to volunteer for Principal Todd Corsetti’s Principal’s Equity Advisory Council (PEAC) to spread what they learned throughout the entire school. The goal of the Council is to create a culture that is more than just individual parts, but a relationship that is healthy, strong and supportive of all who make up the school.

### **WE Expect Excellence: College and Career Ready at Greenway Elementary School**

At Greenway Elementary School, being college and career ready is an attainable goal. With the help of middle school and high school counselors, all Greenway fifth graders will develop skills and knowledge that will help them to choose a college and path of study to present to parents and their peers this spring.

As part of the College and Career Readiness unit of study, counselor Bijoli Biswas coordinated with counselors at Conestoga Middle School and Southridge High School to create a lesson on how to apply and interview for a job or college.

Fifth grade students were given the opportunity to apply and interview for service learning positions throughout the school. There were four positions available: Classroom Assistant, Hall Monitor, Peace Helper and Leadership Team. Each position required an application, three letters of recommendation and an interview. The Leadership Team position also required teacher or counselor recommendation as well as a second interview.

**District Goal:** All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment.

Students learned how to fill out an application, how to approach a teacher for a letter of recommendation, and how to interview for a desired position. Counselors from Conestoga Middle School and Southridge High School conducted one-on-one interviews with each student, asking them six questions and rating them on their interview skills. The interviews focused on the skills of listening and identifying personal strengths, appearance, confidence and the importance of preparing for an interview and anticipating questions.

Students will be making applications and interviewing many times throughout their lives for college, clubs, teams and jobs. Every fifth grader at Greenway participated in the process and will leave elementary school with skills and knowledge that will benefit them throughout their lives.

**WE Expect Excellence: Excellence in Elementary Music Education Award – Jennifer Mohr Colett**

Jennifer Mohr Colett, Music Teacher at Fir Grove Elementary School was recently awarded the Excellence in Elementary Music Education Award by the Oregon Music Educator Association (OMEA).

This award recognizes the outstanding commitment and achievement to elementary music education. One nominator wrote “What I personally find extremely compelling about Jennifer’s teaching is her clear vision for her students and her deeply democratic view that ALL human beings are musical.”

“Jennifer works tirelessly to ensure that our students are exposed to a rich multi-cultural music experience. Her classroom is an inviting academic environment that allows students to simultaneously tap into their multi-sensory skill sets. I am honored to work alongside a music teacher with such a gift for music instruction. The halls and classrooms of our school are much more melodic and full of rhythm because of her work. I can’t think of a more deserving person to receive such a prestigious award,” states Erica Marson, Principal at Fir Grove Elementary School.

Jennifer is a graduate of Portland State University and has been teaching music for nine years. She is the co-founder of Beaverton Friends of Music.

Congratulations, Jennifer and thank you for all you do to support music education in the Beaverton School District.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the School Board recognize Southridge High School and Greenway Elementary School and Jennifer Mohr Colett for their contributions to student success.