

THE HOWLER

Garibaldi Grade School | Newsletter



January 2025

Welcome back to a new calendar year! We hope your family had a relaxing and enjoyable Winter Break.

Just a reminder, if you are going to be out of town or someone else might be picking up your child, please make sure the office is aware. As always, if you have any questions or need anything, don't hesitate to reach out to us!

Important No School Days and Reminders

January 13th, Monday | School Board Meeting, 6:30pm @ District Office

January 16th, Thursday | Family Night BINGO, 5:30pm @ GGS

January 20th, Monday | No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday

January 31st, Friday | PRESCHOOL ONLY - No School

Welcome to the Wolf Den Experience!

We are excited to introduce a new program at GGS designed to build connections across all grade levels: the Wolf Den! This opportunity brings together students from Kindergarten through 5th grade, creating small, mixed-age groups that meet regularly for fun and meaningful activities.



Each student was assigned randomly assigned to a Wolf Den, and these groups will remain the same throughout the year. The goal is to create a sense of belonging and community across the

entire school. The Wolf Den program gives students a chance to form friendships beyond their immediate classmates, fostering leadership, empathy, and teamwork.

During Wolf Den time, students will participate in a variety of games and activities designed to teach valuable social skills, promote cooperation, and provide a space where everyone feels included. Older students will have the opportunity to take on leadership roles by guiding younger peers through activities, while younger students will benefit from positive role models. Together, they will learn the importance of teamwork, communication, and respect.



Some of the activities might include cooperative games, problem-solving challenges, and creative projects. Each session will focus on building trust, encouraging kindness, and strengthening the bonds within our school community. Teachers and staff will guide the groups, ensuring that everyone has a safe and supportive space to participate.

We believe that the Wolf Den program will help students develop important life skills while making our school a more connected and welcoming place for everyone. We look forward to seeing the friendships and leadership skills that will grow from this exciting new initiative.



Upcoming Family Nights!

Be sure to save the dates for upcoming Family Nights!

January 16th, 5:30 - 6:30pm - Family Bingo Night

February 13th, 5:30 - 6:30pm - Free Family Paint Night

March 20th, 5:30 - 7pm - Family Skate Night - Tillaskate

May 6th - Spring Music Program

January's Characteristic is being Organized

Each month, GGS focuses on a personal characteristic and teaches it to our students. Our focus for the month of January is being organized. Students who are organized plan and set goals and prioritize them. They are able to plan and carefully keep things neat.



At the end of the month we will be handing out three awards in each class, two for students who were demonstrating Being Organized, and one Pride of the Pack award focused on perseverance. Please talk with your child(ren) around the conversations they are having at school on being organized.

The Golden Brain Award!



The students have been learning all of the Tools and how to use them to manage their emotions and actions. It has been so exciting to see them be able to apply those skills in everyday situations. The Golden Brain award will be given out at our monthly assemblies to students who have been able to help themselves or others with our Toolbox Tools.

Every Day Matters and We're Here to Help!

Students miss school for many reasons. Some are related to transportation or basic needs, and others are connected to emotional or academic challenges. No matter what the reason, it's important to address the root cause before a student falls behind. GGS wants your child to succeed and is focused on helping smooth the way to regular attendance.

If your child or a child you care about regularly misses school, you can find support. Share your challenges so the staff can help.

Ashley Carr, our family resource coordinator, can help with immediate needs like food or clothing, to more complex ones like counseling, medical, or housing. We have many resources and staff to help, you are not alone!



Students who are present for 90% or more in the month of January will be able to play BINGO!

A great goal to work with your child on is if you student reaches at least 6 months of great attendance, they will be able to attend GGS's end of year attendance ice cream celebration!



Ms. H's Counseling Corner

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and enjoyed some quality time with family and friends. As we step into 2025, I'm excited to continue working with our students to help them grow emotionally, socially, and academically.

During the month of January we will be reviewing all of the Tools in our Toolbox, as well as our mood meter to help us continue to grow our emotional regulation skills. This new year is a perfect time to set a goal and take small steps every day practicing our Tools. These small steps can make a big difference in how we feel.

This month I would like to encourage everyone to practice their Words Tool. We use our Words Tool when we talk to others, and also when we talk to our brain. Our inner voice has a big impact on how we feel. Negative thoughts can bring us down, but positive self-talk can boost our

confidence and help us navigate challenges. Let's make an effort everyday to replace self-criticism with encouragement!

January Inspiration

If I cannot do
GREAT THINGS,
I can do
SMALL THINGS,
in a
GREAT WAY.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (March 1968)

Here's how to practice positive self-talk:

- **Challenge negative thoughts:** When you hear negative thoughts like "I can't do this" or "I'm not good enough," replace them with more positive and realistic ones like "I can try my best" or "I'm capable of learning and growing."
- **Use affirmations:** Start your day by saying, "I am strong," "I am kind," or "I am capable." These affirmations can help set a positive tone for the day.
- **Focus on progress, not perfection:** Remember that mistakes are part of learning. Celebrate how far you've come, not just where you want to go!

January is also the month when we will begin the next section of the Child Protection Unit. We will be using our 3 ways to stay safe and apply them to safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches. The third part to our lessons will be how to report these unsafe or unwanted touches to someone in our constellation of support. There will be an email sent out later in the month with a link to the information contained in this unit.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at cherieh@nknsd.org, or call.

Hearing Screening for K-3

On Tuesday, January 6th we will have hearing screenings for our Kindergarten through 3rd grade students. Any problem with hearing can get in the way of a child's speech, language, social and emotional development, and school readiness. Learning about a child's hearing problem early can improve social and emotional development and academic success. If your student is found to have further testing needed, our district nurse, Denise Weiss will contact you.

Vision Screenings - January 28, 2025

On January 28, 2025 Vision Screenings will be offered by the Lions Club for all students. These screenings occur each year as part of required Oregon school based health screenings. A follow up letter will be sent home within a few weeks of the screening ONLY if there are unexpected results or if your students need a follow up screening with an eye doctor. We appreciate this opportunity offered by the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.



OREGON LIONS
Sight & Hearing
= Foundation =

NKN School Board Meetings

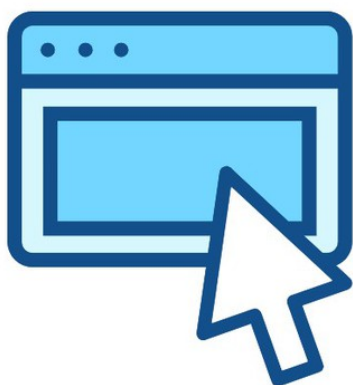
Next Meeting is Monday, January 13th, 6:30pm

This is a monthly meeting of our School Board. The meeting takes place at our District Office or through Zoom. You can access this meeting through our district website (www.nknsd.org) under "School Board" and then "Board Meetings".

GGG information online

"Is School Closed?"...

Our district has had its first official district wide school closure day.



How to Find GGS Information Online!

Besides our monthly Howler Newsletter, you can find school information online! Our district has an informative website at www.nknsd.org and Garibaldi Grade School has a page with all sorts of great information for our families. You can find this monthly newsletter, student handbook and even a parent page with information on busing, school lunches, wellness and more!

Reminder: Sign up for FlashAlert!

As we move into the stormy weather months, you can receive FlashAlert messages from NKN School District updating you on any delays or closures. To do this you go to

<https://www.flashalert.net/>, *manage your messenger subscription*, and make sure you are signed up for Neah-Kah-Nie School District.



**WE ARE
HIRING**

- Join Our Team -

Open Positions:

Elementary Special Education
Teacher -GGS

- Substitutes - PT & FT
Instructional Assistants,
Cafeteria helper,
custodian. Hired
through ESS.



If you have any questions about positions, reach out to Mrs. Nugent or Lisa in the school office.

Be a Substitute at Garibaldi Grade School!

Sign up to be an Instructional Assistant (classified) or Teacher (certified) substitute at any of our schools. Neah-Kah-Nie School District has contracted with ESS for our substitute services. To become a substitute for the District please go to ESS.com, click on the Job Seeker tab and type in Neah-Kah-Nie School District to begin the application process. If you have questions about the application process, or becoming a substitute, please contact 866-208-7454 x1 or email: applicationswest@ess.com.

Classroom Celebrations, Volunteering, and Field Trips

Reminder that all food that is brought for classroom celebrations needs to be store bought or food prepared in an health department inspected kitchen. Please let your child's teacher know prior to bringing in treats, it makes it easier for them to schedule a time to celebrate.

Also, if you would like to volunteer during a classroom party or field trip, remember you will need to have an approved volunteer background check on file. They are good for 3 years. Some field trips there is limited number of spots for volunteers, so please make sure you get the teacher's approval before making plans to attend.

Please Keep Students With Symptoms Out of School:

PLEASE KEEP STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS OUT OF SCHOOL

This list is school instructions, not medical advice. Please contact your health care provider with health concerns.

SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	THE STUDENT MAY RETURN AFTER...
 Fever: temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater	*Fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.
 New cough illness	* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (no cough or cough is well-controlled).
 New difficulty breathing	* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (breathing comfortably). <i>Urgent medical care may be needed.</i>
 Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in a day OR not able to control bowel movements	*Symptoms improving for 24 hours (no more than two bowel movements more than normal and no longer having accidents) OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 Vomiting: one or more episode that is unexplained	*Symptom-free for 24 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 Headache with stiff neck and fever	*Symptom-free OR with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions above. <i>Urgent medical care may be needed.</i>
Skin rash or open sores	*Symptom free , which means rash is gone OR sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Red eyes with colored drainage	*Symptom-free , which means redness and drainage are gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Jaundice: new yellow color in eyes or skin	*After the school has orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
Acting differently without a reason: unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.	*Symptom-free , which means return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Major health event, like an illness lasting 2 or more weeks OR a hospital stay, OR health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide.	*After the school has orders from doctor to school nurse AND after measures are in place for the student's safety. Please work with school staff to address special health-care needs so the student may attend safely.



JANUARY 2025

GARIBALDI GRADE SCHOOL

A variety of deli sandwiches are available daily as an option for lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		HAPPY NEW YEAR!! 1		
6 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NO SCHOOL	7 Breakfast Sandwich Tacos	8 Strawberry Cr. Cheese Bagel Mac & Cheese	9 Yogurt & Grahams Hamburgers	10 Blueberry Muffin Popcorn Chicken
13 French Toast Corn Dogs	14 Breakfast Bar Enchiladas	15 Cherry Strudel Orange Chicken Over Rice	16 Pancake on a Stick Chicken Burgers	17 Pumpkin Bread Soup & Toasted Cheese Sandwich
20 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY NO SCHOOL	21 Sausage & Biscuit Nachos	22 Banana Bread Crispy Chicken Drumsticks	23 Pancake Bites Pizza Sticks	24 Oatmeal Rounds Chicken Nuggets
27 Waffles Teriyaki Chicken Over Rice	28 Breakfast Sandwich Burritos	29 Strawberry Cr. Cheese Bagel Spaghetti	30 Strawberry Smoothie Tillamook Cheese Burger	31 Blueberry Muffin Breakfast For Lunch

A variety of fresh fruits and vegetables are available daily on our offering bar. All of our bread items are whole grain or whole wheat. GF options available. Fat-Free and 1% milks are offered daily. Whole grain cereals are an option at breakfast. Menu items are subject to change.

"This institute is an equal opportunity provider"



Garibaldi Grade School

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Lisa S

Lisa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

