

## Our Vision:

As educators, in partnership with parents and community, we are committed to preparing our students to face the challenges of a changing world. As explorers, our students will:

**E**ngage in collaboration

**X**emplify innovation

**P**ersevere in challenging endeavors

**L**earn with passion

**O**wn integrity

**R**each for the stars

**E**mbody resiliency

**R**adiate empathy

**S**eek joy

# The Gordon Flash

June 26, 2018

Our Mission is to assure high levels of learning for all students.

The Gordon Way: **S**afe, **T**eamwork, **A**ct Respectfully, **R**esponsible

Dear Gordon/Options Families,

As the outgoing principal, I wanted to close the year with a note thanking you for your support over the last four years of my principalship at Gordon. I have never known a more involved and caring group of parents who want to make the learning experience for all our children the very best. I would also like to acknowledge the following groups for their efforts in making Gordon a great place for kids:

Thank you to PTA for their unwavering support throughout the year

To our wonderful volunteers who come every Wednesday for Project Linus, a knitting group who teach our students to knit with purpose as they donate their blankets to local hospitals.

Rachel Strohmeyer for her dedication to keeping PASSPORT Club active- she served several years leading the club so our students could learn geography in a fun and meaningful way. We also want to thank the many volunteers recruited to help each month.

To Kingston Rotary for their part in our award from North Kitsap Schools Foundation grant for a STEM Celebration Day as well as STEM Family Nights. NKSD also funded our Before School Academic Program, which provides additional support for students in reading.

Michele Laboda and North Kitsap Fire and Rescue for their ongoing partnership with our kiddos and teachers, helping them to learn about safety.

Laurie Richens for providing Family Reading Night for our families each month.

### Mark your calendar:

Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> Student Class Assignments will be posted outside the school entry doors (by 3:00)

Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>: Gordon Meet and Greet: Come and meet your new teachers, Gordon's new Principal, and drop off any school supplies. Time TBD.

### We want to recognize our staff who are retiring and others who are moving on to new opportunities:

Retiring: Debbie Andersen (Kindergarten), Catherine McIsaac (1<sup>st</sup>), Annebeth Whited (2<sup>nd</sup> grade), Donna Butler (Special Education), Patsy Bryan (Paraeducator).

We wish them all our very best and thank them for their many years of service to students and their families.

### Moving on to new opportunities:

- Pamela Klusman (3<sup>rd</sup>) will be serving as the Academic and Behavior Coach at Vinland as well as working on her Administrative Internship.
- Kami McCollum (4<sup>th</sup>) will also be moving on to new opportunities.
- Jessica Malouf (Speech and Language Therapist) is the new parent of a baby girl; she will be staying at home full time with her daughter.

We also want to thank them and wish them the very best in their new endeavors.

### We are pleased to welcome the following new teachers joining our team for 18-19:

- Zoe Kunkel-Patterson (Primary, TBD)
- Amanda Goodman (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)
- Stephanie Stewart (4<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Suzanne Sullivan (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Erika Hanson (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Sanna Salo (Resource Room/Special Education)
- Samantha Waage (Paraeducator)
- Marilyn Rose (Paraeducator)



## Upcoming Events

**August 31<sup>st</sup>**  
Class Lists will be posted after 3 pm

**September 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Back to school Meet and Greet Time TBD

**September 5<sup>th</sup>**  
First Day of School

**September 10<sup>th</sup>**  
First Day of School for Kindergarten



Gordon Office:  
396-3800  
Attendance:  
396-3803

For more information on what is happening at Gordon, please visit the Gordon website.

## Safety Update:

As you all know, the district is moving forward with plans for improving safety measures for the 18-19 school year. Here is what you can expect in the fall:

- Buzz in system at the front door. Our office configuration/design will change over the summer to accommodate a side door entry. This allows the front door to be locked all day. Patrons and parents will enter the side door during the school day.
- All building doors are to be locked during the day. Staff will use Key Cards to gain access to the building.
- Raptor check in system will continue in our office.
- Options Primary K-1 classroom will move into the B Pod. This move ensures that our youngest students are in the building and can use the restroom without the worry of walking by themselves between buildings or with an adult that has a keycard throughout the day.
- Fifth graders will move into the portables. To ensure safety, typically older students are placed in portables.
- Those students in portables will work with the incoming principal and administrators regarding the use of keycards during the day.
- All district staff and teachers will be trained in ALICE procedures. Parents will receive communication regarding these procedures and how they will be taught to students.
- Continue working with students and staff around building community and education around social emotional development to help further prevent student isolation, aggression and bullying behavior among youth.

In closing, it has been an honor to be a part of your child's education at Gordon. As bittersweet as it is to retire, it is my absolute pleasure to introduce your new principal, Mrs. Christine Frantzen.

Best,

Karen Tollefson

Happy Summer Gordon Elementary and NK Options Families,

I am excited to have the opportunity to introduce myself as the incoming principal of Richard Gordon Elementary School. Over the next few months as students, families, and staff enjoy a much-needed summer vacation, I will be preparing for the next school year. It is an honor to join the Gordon and Options communities and to work collaboratively to meet the needs of each and every student who enters the building.

With over 20 years in education, I have served as a para-educator, elementary teacher, middle school teacher, professional coach, and a Dean of Students. Most recently, I spent the last three years as a Future Ready Learning Coach for the Central Kitsap School District. In this role, I supported staff and students in their integration of technology and 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills. This will be my first administrative position and I am excited to learn and grow throughout the school year.

In addition to my educational career, I have been married to my supportive husband for over 20 years; he is a manager for Northrup Grumman on Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor and an officer in the Air Force Reserves. We have two amazing children, Aubrey (15) who is eagerly learning to drive this summer and Preston (11) who is both excited and nervous to enter middle school this fall.

Please know that family engagement in education is crucial to student success. Creating a positive and productive partnership between families and the staff at Gordon/Options is incredibly important to me. Please consider following our Facebook page, I will periodically place updates there over the summer.

I am eager to get to know the students, staff, families, and community that makes Gordon/Options such a special place to be!

Wishing you a safe and fun summer full of memories!

Christine Frantzen, Principal

### **Nondiscrimination Notification**

The North Kitsap School District does not discriminate based on sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its program or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The North Kitsap School District offers classes in many career and technical education program areas (American Sign Language, Athletic Medicine, Computer Science, Culinary Arts, Digital Graphics/Photography, Environmental Science, FASCE, Health, Production Arts, Recording Arts) under its open admissions policy. For more information about CTE course offerings and admissions criteria, contact Kim Eimers (18360 Caldart Avenue NE; Poulsbo, WA 98370; 360-396-3040.) Lack of English language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in career and technical education programs. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Chris Willits, Assistant Superintendent 18360 Caldart Ave. NE, Poulsbo WA 98370 (360) 396-3003 [cwillits@nkschools.org](mailto:cwillits@nkschools.org)  
Lori Kingery, Assistant Director of Special Education 18360 Caldart Ave NE, Poulsbo WA 98370 (360)396-3072 [kingery@nkschools.org](mailto:kingery@nkschools.org)