

SUMMER
2015



Communities In Schools of Lakewood

Helping Kids Prepare For Life

www.lakewood.ciswa.org | (253)-589-7489

Site Coordination at Clover Park High School

CISL is excited to launch site coordination at Clover Park High School (CPHS) this summer. Leah Livingston is CISL's first site coordinator at CPHS and currently is supporting summer school for 9th graders. One of her main goals this year is to recruit and train caring adults to support students in a variety of ways at the school. If you would like to learn more about volunteering at CPHS or another CISL partner school, contact Leah at 253- 589-7489.



Four Heroes Elementary School

In the fall, the new Four Heroes Elementary School will open. The school is located at 9101 Lakewood Drive SW. If you can imagine what it feels like to move into a new home, you can imagine how eager students are to enter their new school. Principal John Mitchell, site coordinator Daniel Nego, and site assistant Elvia Fernandez worked together at Southgate Elementary over the past year and are



just as eager to build a dynamic learning community at the school, where every student is surrounded by caring adults from the school and community.



Southgate Elementary Stories

In the spring, site coordinator Daniel Nego, related these stories in a recent monthly report: "Juan (not his real name) came to Southgate

Elementary midway through the year. He struggled to fit in and find his place within the community and was referred to the after-school program (ASP). At first he acted out and tried to disrupt the small groups; however, with constant guidance from teachers and ASP staff, Juan started to feel wanted and began to control his actions. By the end of the year, Juan really turned around. His teachers noticed the difference in his behavior and attitude. The support and tough love he experienced in the ASP helped Juan to find his place and feel accepted.

Maria also joined the school midway through the year. Her home life was unstable and mom was away much of the time taking classes. The ASP provided her an outlet for her to develop hobbies and receive support in reading and math. The ASP helped Maria to achieve her math and reading test score goals, and gave her a safe place to thrive until her mom picked her up. The ASP helps many students to feel a deeper sense of belonging and affirmation.

A Fond Farewell to Christina Klas

CISL staff and board salute Christina Klas for nine years of stellar work as administrative assistant. Christina's computer skills were instrumental in strengthening CISL's infrastructure, replacing outdated technology and improving fundraising capacity. CISL's budget more than doubled during her tenure. Her interpersonal skills were put to use in cultivating community partners and strengthening student support at Tillicum Elementary School, which eventually became CISL's largest after-school program. Christina is close to completing practicums to become a school psychologist and we wish her all the best in her endeavors.

-Dave O'Keeffe, board and staff

DONATE TODAY

Online

www.lakewood.ciswa.org

or

Call

253.589.7489

Southgate Career Fair

Last spring, Southgate Elementary School hosted it's annual Career Day. The school wide event was well attended with more than 20 career representatives! The overall focus was "time traveling to our future." Students are more likely to succeed in school if they have a vision of what they can be when they grow up. Learning about careers from people in those careers is a big deal for elementary students. When adults come to the school to support events like career day, it shows students that the community cares about them. Thanks to everyone, especially the Rotary Club of Clover Park, for supporting students at Southgate!



Southgate student at Career Fair

THANK YOU MENTORS!

"Because of my mentor I'm staying out of trouble and my future is going to be a lot better." -5th grade student

"She makes me know someone cares." -8th grade student

"She would tell me I could be whoever I wanted to be and however I wanted to be." -4th grade student

Our mentors are making a difference in the lives of kids throughout Lakewood. Find out how you can become a Champions Mentor by calling mentor coordinator Bre Wilson at 253.589-7489 or bre.cisl@gmail.com.

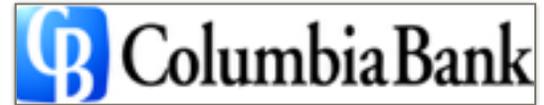
Site Coordination In Action at Lochburn Middle School

—Kate Marselus, site coordinator

I had an opportunity to connect a community resource with our students at Lochburn. Eighth grade teacher Mrs. Richardson contacted me with an unusual request. Students in her advisory class were wondering how to

get jobs this summer and she asked if there was anything I could do to help them. Communities In Schools board member and branch manager at Lakewood's Columbia Bank Melissa Missall agreed to present a class on resume writing and local job opportunities for fourteen and fifteen year olds.

The students learned that the point of a resume is to interest an employer enough to be called for an interview and focus on their skills and accomplishments. Melissa had the students break into groups and examine real resumes to see firsthand what works and what doesn't on a resume. They learned that grammar is very important; resumes should be one page, if possible; and resumes must have your name and phone number at the top so the employer can contact you for an interview. We ran out of time before Melissa could talk about money management. Our goal for next year is to offer a four-week series, that will include resume writing and money management.



Summer Program Collaboration in Action

An amazing thing is happening in the Springbrook neighborhood (near McChord gate off of Bridgeport). Several organizations are working together—and sharing funds—to provide a dynamic summer experience for children who have few places to go and little to do over the summer.



The Springbrook Summer Day Camp runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday from noon to 4 p.m. and includes lunch and a variety of structured activities that involve reading, sports, fitness, healthy choices and game. The camp is primarily funded by Lakewood First Lions Club and led by staff and volunteers from: Lakewood Boys & Girls Club, Lakewood YMCA, Communities in Schools, Lakewood's CHOICE Coalition, Centerforce, Pierce County Library, Caring for Kids, Springbrook Community Garden

Group, Franciscan Hospital and St. Leo's Food Connection/Emergency Food Network (EFN). Kids even get to go on weekly field trips to Lakewood YMCA, Lakewood Boys & Girls Club, Lakewood Library, EFN's Mother Earth Farm, police and fire stations, UW Tacoma, downtown museums, CP pool and Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium.

This is a summer students will remember for a long time!

CISL Salutes School Staff Partners

CISL could not coordinate effective after-school and mentor programs without the support, cooperation, expertise and passion of school principals, teachers, para educators, counselors and office staff. CISL is fortunate to work with administrators and school staff who do "whatever it takes" to give students the extra help they need to be successful in school.



Southgate teachers and students



Champions for Youth Breakfast Creates a Community Buzz

Thanks to the generosity of Lakewood contributors and sponsors, the youth in our community will benefit from \$22,000 raised at CISL's annual breakfast.

Erin Jones, Director of Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) in Tacoma Public Schools shared stories of students who overcame significant barriers and achieved success. Mentee, Kayli Ryan, and her mentor Kathie Theoe, described their seven year journey from disengagement to completing Running Start college courses at Pierce College. And Tyee Park site coordinator Ruth Rosas shared a very personal story of overcoming hunger and hardship growing up in South Central Los Angeles. Each of these stories included caring adults impacting young lives in very positive ways.

CISL appreciates the generous donations of those who attended and the businesses that sponsored the event. If you see one of our sponsors, please thank them for supporting kids and families in Lakewood:

Cindy Thompson, Dennis Higashiyama, G. Robb Cooper, [Harborstone Credit Union](#), [St. Clare Hospital](#), [Cash America](#), [Neal Walter Real Estate](#), [Columbia Bank](#), [Key Bank-Lakewood](#), [Clover Park Technical College](#), [LeMay Enterprises](#), [First Baptist Church of Lakewood](#), [Puget Sound Orthopaedics](#), [Lakes Body Shop](#), [Pierce College](#) and [Rolf's Import](#).



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COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF LAKEWOOD

Funders in the Spotlight

This quarter CISL is featuring three funders who are helping to launch site coordination at Clover Park High School (CPHS):

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) contributed \$1,000. PSE's mission is to energize the communities we serve with support for innovative programs. We work to be in tune with local needs and priorities and are committed to investing wisely in programs that deliver meaningful, measurable and long-lasting results for generations to come.

Umpqua Bank contributed \$2,000. They support the organizations programs focused on the needs of children that fulfill their educational experience, promote their well-being and inspire them to reach their full potential.

Discuren Foundation contributed \$10,000. Discuren Foundation has supported CISL after-school programs for several years and is excited to hear about the expansion to Clover Park High School.

Additional funds are being raised through our annual Fall Campaign which kicks off with a 5K and 10K Fun Run on Halloween. Look for a flier in your inbox soon!