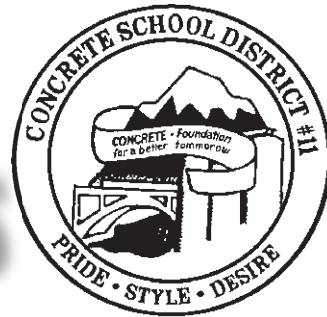




"Home of the Lions"

News from Concrete Schools

These are Your Schools!!



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Concrete School District #11 • 45389 Airport Way, Concrete, WA 98237 • Fall 2015 • Barbara Hawkings, Superintendent

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

By Barbara Hawkings, Superintendent

Welcome back! It's hard to believe, but the beginning of a new school year is right around the corner. We are focused on learning and family relationships, and it is evident just how important these are within our district and community. We have a great place to live, work and learn, and I am delighted to work together with you as a partner in your children's education. I share your pride in our schools and the commitment to making things better. We couldn't do it without the support of our families, communities and the hard work of our students. The process of teaching and learning is a complex endeavor but also a lifetime commitment. Strong communication with families, attending school events, and parent support for learning at home help us reach each student to ensure high levels of achievement.

Attendance is a focus for the principals this year, as research shows a direct link between higher attendance rates and improved learning. With just 180 days of school per year, each day that a student misses presents a challenge for teachers. Attendance is critical. When students miss 10 days or more a year, as many students did last year, teachers scramble to help them get caught up while trying to advance the rest of the class. I understand that it is important

to keep kids home when they don't feel well, but please make sure to do everything possible to avoid missing school for vacations, doctor's appointments, or other family commitments that could be scheduled outside the school day. Your commitment to ensure your child is in school as many of those 180 days as possible is one of the most important ways you can contribute to a successful school year.

This year our staff will engage in professional development throughout the school year. They will be engaged in the process of continuous learning to improve the instructional practices we use with students. We will facilitate this on the 11 late start days we have scheduled this year. On Wednesdays, approximately every three weeks, students will be picked up by the busses two hours later than normal. Classes will begin at the middle/high school at 9:45am and the elementary at 10:00am. The first late start will be September 16th. Please check our district calendar for all of these dates. I appreciate your support as we provide time for staff to further their education together.

I look forward to a great year. Feel free to contact me through email at bhawkings@concrete.k12.wa.us or by telephone at 360-853-4000.



IMPORTANT KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten will continue to be a full day, every day. In order to get to know the family and the kindergartener, the kindergarten teachers will be meeting individually with each family and their kindergartener. These individual family meetings will be scheduled for the first three days of school: Wednesday, September 2nd through Friday, September 4th. The first day of school for kindergarten students will be Tuesday, September 8, 2015. This is a

different date from when 1st through 12th grade students start school. The kindergarten teachers are looking forward to meeting the families and their kindergarteners!



ARTSONIA

Twenty-six students at Concrete Elementary earned the Hall of Fame award from Artsonia, an online children's art museum. They have published five or more pieces of artwork, have five or more fans and received five or more rave reviews! Thank you to all the families and friends who have become fans and left comments for our artists.



Row 1: Willa, Whitford, Camille Crawley, Taylor Latta, Alaura Danner, Maxwell Preis, E. Noah Martinez, Tanner Haj, Tim Howard. Row 2: Cail Wilson, Abigail Evans, Jaidyn Joyes, Brendon Boozer, Jacy Evans, Camden Howell, Natalie Lahr, Takoda Littlefield, Savannah Evans. Row 3: Anja Roozen, Ashley Parker, Bella Herrera, Isabella Martinez, Anna Kiele, Nathan Roemer, Jordan Latta. Not pictured Vija Vezis and Leah Tiemens.

CONCRETE ELEMENTARY NEWS

By Barbara Hawkings, Concrete Elementary School Principal & Superintendent

Concrete Elementary Families and Students:

I'd like to welcome you back for the 2015-16 school year. Our staff is eager for the school year to begin, and they have a strong commitment to the students in Concrete. I hope all of you have enjoyed the summer break and are ready for another great year.

School hours for the coming year will be 8:00am to 2:30pm. The warning bell rings at 7:55am. Buses usually start arriving to the school at 7:35am. We serve breakfast in our cafeteria at this time and also have supervision on the playground.

Attendance is a focus for the principals this year, as research shows a direct link between higher attendance rates and improved learning. With just 180 days of school per year, each day that a student misses presents a challenge for teachers. Attendance is critical. When students miss 10 days or more a year, as many students

(Continued on page 2)

PHONE NUMBER CHANGES

The Concrete School District is in the process of upgrading phone systems. Please make a note of the following phone number changes:

District Office:	853-4000
District Fax:	853-4004
High School:	853-4015
High School Fax:	853-4066
Special Services:	853-4008
Special Services Fax:	853-4013
Skagit River School House / Twin Cedars Alternative High School:	853-4049



In May Gladys Silrus, School Board Director in District #3, resigned her position. THANK YOU, Gladys, for volunteering your time to serve on the board of directors. You will be missed!

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Concrete Middle/High School Students and Families:

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is looking forward to a great year! We welcome the incoming 7th grade to the middle and high school campus. We will continue to operate both buildings from the high school main office.

We are remaining on a 7-Period day and will once again start the school day at 7:55AM and end at 2:45PM. There will also be 11 late starts (always on Wednesdays) throughout the year; those days will begin at 9:45AM. Our early release days (there are 7 of those) will end at 12:00PM.

Here are some important dates that will be coming up soon:

Date	Event	Time
Wed. Aug 19	High School Office Opens after being Closed for the Summer	7:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Tue. Aug 25	Middle School Orientation for 7th Grade Students and Parents – H.S. Commons	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Wed. Aug 26	Freshmen Orientation for 9th Grade Students and Parents – H.S. Commons	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Fri. Aug 28	Students Pick-up Class Schedules (or register if needed), Get Lockers, and Pay Student Fees (\$30 ASB & \$30 Activity Fee)	Seniors 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Juniors 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Sophomores 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Freshmen 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM 8th Grade 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM 7th Grade 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM
Wed. Sept 2	First Day of School	7:55 AM – 2:45 PM

Please come in on Friday, August 28 at the time designated on the chart above, and pick up your schedule or register for classes (if needed). Most high school students selected their elective classes just before school let out; however, due to Ms. Spike retiring, some changes may need to be made on your schedule.

We, at Concrete Middle/High School, welcome the support of parent volunteers – you are greatly appreciated. I also want to encourage students to get involved in student government (the ASB), in sports, and in our various other student activities. Now is the time to prepare for the future. Please get ready to do your best in all your classes and learn as much as you can. Let's make it a great year!

REMINDER: The first day of school is on **Wednesday, September 2nd** for 1st-12th grade students. Kindergarten students' first day of school is on **Tuesday, September 8th!**



See 2015-16 School Meal Prices, **page 2!**

Fall Sports Schedules, **page 3**

ELEMENTARY NEWS (Continued from page 1)

did last year, teachers scramble to help them get caught up, while trying to advance the rest of the class. I understand that it is important to keep kids home when they don't feel well, but please make sure to do everything possible to avoid missing school for vacations, doctor's appointments, or other family commitments that could be scheduled outside the school day. Your commitment to ensure your child is in school as many of those 180 days as possible is one of the most important ways you can contribute to a successful school year.

Kindergarten interviews will take place September 2nd, 3rd, and 4th with the kindergarten classes beginning on Tuesday, September 8th. If you have not completed your registration for kindergarten please come in as soon as possible so we can schedule an interview time.

The elementary **Open House** will be

September 30th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. We look forward to meeting all our families.

Once again, this year we will be focusing on a Character Trait a month. The character traits this year are as follows: September–Respect, October–Compassion, November–Responsibility, December–Kindness, January–Perseverance, February–Honesty, March–Cooperation, April–Sportsmanship, and May–Consideration. Throughout the month classrooms will focus on the trait of the month and then at the end of the month we will have a short assembly focused on that trait.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the elementary office at 360-853-8145 after August 19th. School supply lists are posted on our web page and at the Lotto counter at Albert's Red Apple.

I look forward to working with you to make this a great school year.

CONCRETE HIGH SCHOOL 2ND SEMESTER

HONOR STUDENTS – June 2015

The following students received a grade point average of 3.2 or higher. An * before their name denotes them as receiving a perfect 4.0.

7th GRADE

William Baird, Elizabeth Buchta, Thalen Cambo, Cody Carlson, Jacquelyn Jackson, Khyla Phillips, Izabela Ramos, Peyton Sanchez, *Troy Schmidt, and Devin Wilbur-Blankenship.

8th GRADE

*Jonathan Akers, Shanon Clemons, Tyler Coffell, Dalton Newby, and *Jaidyn Swanson.

9th GRADE

*Rebecca Azure, Riley Fichter, Caroline Gregush, Hannah Haskett, Erica Knuth, McKenna Kononen, Rebeckah McClure, Madisyn Renzelman, *Emily Schmidt, Mary Spangler, Jasara Taylor-Temple, and Robert Thompson Jr.

10th GRADE

Brook Barnedt, Emily Bridge, Ashlee Gilbert, Riley Pritchard, Hannah Rensink, and Chloe Stidman.

11th GRADE

Cassidy Cargile, Joshua Gentry, Jasmine Hopfield, Hannah Kononen, Mary Mauck, Shelby Meacham, Kevin McLaughlin, Donald Olmstead III, Hannah Peif, Amanda Perry, and Ashten Tygret.

12th GRADE

Kelse Cargile, Madeline Corn, Shayane Gilbert, and Haley McNealey.

TPEP LEADERSHIP AWARDS

At the May 28th school board meeting, Superintendent Barbara Hawkings presented each TPEP (Teacher-Principal Evaluation Process) team member with

an award for their hard work this year. They have all done an outstanding job and their work on this team is very much appreciated. Thank you!



From left: Mary Bianchini, Jaci Gallagher, Bill Howard, and Leilani Thomas. Not pictured: Rob Dahl and Vanessa Williams.

New Staff ...



Terry Walters joined the Concrete School District as a substitute bus driver in the spring of 2015. He will begin driving a regular bus route in September. On his time off he enjoys playing Irish music at several community events in the state. Helping out in the community is also very important to him, and he is looking forward to being a long-term bus driver in the district.



Beverly Mowrer (Bev) is an experienced teacher that has a passion for teaching and more importantly for reaching her students. She has received 3 *Teacher of the Year* awards, the *Washington State Golden Apple Award* and the *Stanley O. McNaughton Award* for excellence in teaching and making a difference in at risk youth. She has a M.Ed. in Science Ed. plus numerous science endorsements. She has been married for 37+ years, has two married children and one delightful grandson. She enjoys spending her summers in remote areas of the world honing her skills doing scientific research. She has lived in Skagit Valley since 1976.

Farewell ...



Peggy Kerschner resigned from her teaching position at Concrete Elementary School after 25 years of service in the Concrete School District. Peggy moved to Maine to be with her family! You will be missed, Peggy!



Kerry Spike retired from her teaching position at Concrete High School after 19 years of service in the Concrete School District. Kerry now gets to enjoy more time traveling and being with her family as well as getting some much deserved rest! You will be missed, Kerry!



Maryann Holbrook completed her counseling internship with Sally Straathof at Concrete High School last year. Maryann also previously worked as a school secretary at Concrete Elementary School and Skagit River School House as well as an administrative assistant in the district office. She resigned to accept a position as a middle school counselor in the Brewster School District. Maryann had 10 years of service in the Concrete School District. Congratulations on your new career, Maryann!



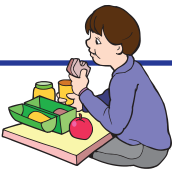
Ashleigh Howell resigned from her teaching position at Concrete Elementary School to take a teaching position in the Sedro Woolley School District. Ashleigh had 10 years of service in the Concrete School District. We wish you well, Ashleigh!



Rob Dahl left the Concrete School District to pursue other educational opportunities. We wish you well, Rob!

You will
all be
missed!

2015-2016 MEAL PRICES



LUNCH

Reduced .40 for 4th-12th Grades / Free for K – 3rd grades if state provides funding
Elementary Student K-6th 2.65
Middle & High School Student 7th-12th 2.85
Adult 3.60

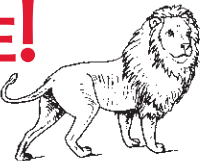
BREAKFAST

Reduced (If student qualifies for free and reduced meals then breakfast is free if state provides funding)
Elementary Student 1.50
Middle and High Student (7th-12th) 1.50
Adult 2.25
MILK (for all) .60

IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to a State Auditor's Office directive, there will be absolutely NO CHARGING MEALS. Funds must be available for all purchases.

FREE/REDUCED MEAL APPLICATION: If you would like an application for free or reduced meals, please pick one up at your child's school, the district office, or you may go to our website at www.concrete.k12.wa.us then click on the "parents" tab, click on cafeteria menus then click on the link for free/reduced application. If you qualify as direct cert you do not need to fill out an application.

CONCRETE SCHOOL DISTRICT ...
PRIDE, STYLE, DESIRE!



PEGGY KERSCHNER REACHES 100 MILES

By Paul Bianchini



On May 14, Peggy Kerschner, Concrete Elementary School’s creative design teacher, reached one hundred miles at the ‘100 Mile Club.’ In doing so, Mrs. Kerschner became the first-ever teacher at the elementary school to complete over one hundred miles in a single school year. She also joins 23 current & former students and parents from the past 12 years in this select group.

Mrs. Kerschner shows up to the ‘100 MC’ field every morning at 7:30am and walks four laps to start the school day. By

the end of her fourth lap, she usually has four or five students accompanying her. Her dedication inspired both students and staff as the entire school logged nearly 3,500 miles (14,000 laps) this past school year.

The 100 Mile Club is one of the many ways Concrete Elementary School students can meet the recommended 60 daily minutes of physical activity. It is offered every day of the school year (weather permitting) and is open to all students AND their parents.

SUMMER PROGRAM FIELD TRIP



July 22, 2015 – Summer program fun on a field trip to EyeSpy Border Collies in Concrete.



FINALE CONCERT
May 26, 2015



Music ... Sweet Music ...



CHS FALL 2015 SPORTS SCHEDULES

VARSITY FOOTBALL				
Day	Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Friday	September 4, 2015	La Conner	Concrete	7:00PM
Friday	September 11, 2015	Friday Harbor	Friday Harbor	6:30PM
Friday	September 18, 2015	Orcas Island	Concrete	TBD
Friday	September 25, 2015	Mission Secondary, B.C.	Concrete	7:00PM
Friday	October 9, 2015	La Conner	La Conner	7:00PM
Friday	October 16, 2015	Friday Harbor	Concrete	7:00PM
Saturday	October 24, 2015	Orcas Island	Orcas Island	1:30PM
Friday	October 30, 2015	Coupeville	Coupeville	7:00PM

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL				
Day	Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Thursday	September 10, 2015	Mount Rainier Lutheran	Mount Rainier Lutheran	6:00PM
Tuesday	September 15, 2015	Darrington	Concrete	6:30PM
Thursday	September 17, 2015	Shoreline Christian	Concrete	6:30PM
Saturday	September 19, 2015	Friday Harbor	Concrete	1:00PM
Thursday	September 24, 2015	Orcas Island	Orcas Island	6:30PM
Thursday	October 1, 2015	La Conner	Concrete	6:30PM
Tuesday	October 6, 2015	Friday Harbor	Friday Harbor	4:30PM
Thursday	October 8, 2015	Darrington	Darrington	6:30PM
Monday	October 12, 2015	Mount Vernon Christian	Concrete	6:30PM
Friday	October 16, 2015	Orcas Island	Concrete	6:30PM
Tuesday	October 20, 2015	Cedar Park Christian	Cedar Park Christian	6:30PM
Thursday	October 22, 2015	La Conner	La Conner	6:30PM

VARSITY SOCCER				
Day	Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Thursday	September 10, 2015	Orcas Island	Concrete	5:00PM
Saturday	September 12, 2015	South Whidbey	Concrete	12:00PM
Monday	September 14, 2015	Seattle Lutheran	Concrete	4:00PM
Tuesday	September 15, 2015	La Conner	La Conner	6:00PM
Saturday	September 19, 2015	Friday Harbor	Concrete	1:00PM
Friday	September 25, 2015	Mount Vernon Christian	Mount Vernon Christian	3:30PM
Tuesday	September 29, 2015	Orcas Island	Orcas Island	4:00PM
Thursday	October 1, 2015	La Conner	Concrete	5:00PM
Tuesday	October 6, 2015	Friday Harbor	Friday Harbor	4:30PM
Monday	October 12, 2015	Mount Vernon Christian	Concrete	5:00PM
Thursday	October 15, 2015	Orcas Island	Concrete	5:00PM
Monday	October 19, 2015	La Conner	La Conner	6:00PM
Tuesday	October 20, 2015	Seattle Lutheran	Starfire Sports, Tukwila	3:30PM
Thursday	October 22, 2015	Friday Harbor	Concrete	5:00PM
Saturday	October 24, 2015	Bellevue Christian	Lake Washington High School	2:00PM
Thursday	October 29, 2015	Mount Vernon Christian	Mount Vernon Christian	4:00PM

*All schedules are subject to change

