

## Family Communication

### September 16, 2022

#### Hello Families,

This week we welcomed our youngest learners back to school! Our preschool program is up and running at Stanwood Elementary School, and the students couldn't be more excited to learn, play, paint and grow.

While at Port Susan Middle School this week, I observed students and staff taking note of the "Knight's Code." The staff developed this code to create schoolwide expectations and experiences for students; it was great to see students and staff making and keeping common agreements.



Thank you, families, for everything you have done to prepare your students for school this year. Students are arriving ready to learn, eager to grow, and engaged in learning daily. We look forward to partnering with you for the remainder of the school year.

#### Class Size and Strategic Plan

As we head into our third full week of school, we continue to monitor enrollment and class sizes. Our [District Strategic Plan](#) prioritizes small class sizes (Goal #1: Foundational Early Learning for Every Student), particularly in grades K-3. We know that keeping smaller class sizes at K-3 is the best practice. Based on current class sizes, we are adding the following classes:

- One Kindergarten class at Cedarhome
- One third grade class at Cedarhome

- One 1/2 split at Utsalady

Monitoring enrollment at **all** grade levels throughout the fourth day of school is a common practice; and triggers additional staffing (or reductions). This allows us to allocate resources responsibly to all schools and keep to our District Promise: *All students in the Stanwood-Camano School District will be **empowered to learn** in an inclusive setting and **prepared for the future** of their choice.*

### **Hispanic Heritage Month**

From Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the achievements, histories, traditions, and cultural diversity of Hispanic/Latino/Latinx Americans whose heritage is rooted in 20 Latin American countries and territories. Learn more about Hispanic Heritage Month [HERE](#).

### **Employee Recognition Program**

Please let us know about the extraordinary work our staff is doing! Nominations are now open for the 2022-23 Employee Recognition Program. Use the link below to nominate an SCSD staff member for Classified or Certificated Employee of the Month. Heritage Bank is a proud sponsor of the employee recognition program in partnership with Stanwood and Camano-Island area businesses. The nomination form is [HERE](#).

### **Regular Board Meeting Sept. 20**

The School Board will hold its regular meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, in the Board Room at the district office. Agendas are posted before the meeting [HERE](#), and Board Briefing meeting summaries are available [HERE](#).

### **Get social with us!**

Please remember to follow the SCSD on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), and please follow my tweets [@rumbaughstpt](#).

**Respectfully,  
Deborah Rumbaugh, Ed.D.  
Superintendent**