

news

Calendar

- 8/28: Volunteer Work Party & Campus Cleanup, 12-4
at Harbor School
- 8/30: Carpe Diem Parent Meeting at 6:30pm
at Carpe Diem Primary
- 8/31: Middle School Parent Meeting at 6:30pm
at Harbor School
- 9/01: Upper Elementary Parent Meeting at 6:30pm
at Harbor School
- 9/05: LABOR DAY
No School
- 9/06: Carpe Diem Drop-In & Welcome, 3-5pm
at Carpe Diem Primary
- Back-to-School Potluck Picnic, 5-7pm
All Families Welcome!
Harbor School main campus
- 9/07: First Day School
at THS & CD
- 9/12: Camp Niwana Trip
Grades 4 - 8
- 9/14: Ian Moore Concert at Nashi Orchards
(For parents who bought in at 2016 Voyagers Auction)
- 9/16: Back from Camp Niwana
Grades 4 - 8
- 9/23: Early Dismissal at Noon
THS & CD
- 9/24: Carpe Diem Open House, Saturday 12-2pm
at Carpe Diem Primary
- 9/29: Carpe Diem Curriculum Night at 6:30pm
at Carpe Diem Primary

SPANISH PROGRAM NEWS

For Kindergarten through 8th Grade

I am pleased to announce that **Russell Ray** will be our new K-8 Spanish teacher for the 2016/17 academic year!

Russell comes to us from The Bush School in Seattle where for the last three years he has taught Kindergarten through 5th Grade and has also served as Head of the K-12 World Languages Department. Prior to his work with The Bush School, Russell worked at Heritage Hall School in Oklahoma City where he taught pre-school through 3rd grade. Russell has also worked as a Spanish instructor at the University of Oklahoma and as a High School Spanish teacher prior to that.

In addition to his teaching, Russ is a Certified Master Teacher with the Oklahoma State Department of Education, a National Board Certified Teacher (*World Languages Other than English*) and in 2008 and 2009 was recognized as **Teacher of the Year** by the Oklahoma Foreign Language Teachers' Association and the Southwest Conference On Language Teaching respectively. Russ currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Washington Association for Language Teaching and has presented at various national conferences.

Russell has lived on Vashon for the past three years and also serves as a trustee on the Board for Vashon Center for the Arts.

I am thrilled that someone with Russell's knowledge and experience has accepted this new position at our school. I am excited to work alongside him as we lay the foundation for a strong, dynamic K-8 Spanish program at our school and I hope you will join me in welcoming him to our community.

The Start of Something New

With Russell's arrival, we are laying the foundations for a new approach to language instruction that will begin as soon as students enter our school and end when they graduate 8th grade.

The main goal of our new Spanish program



Russell Ray

is to provide an opportunity for students to listen to and speak Spanish in a safe and encouraging environment from an early age. The program will develop the skills required to master a language as well as instill in students a respect and love of culture. Our program will draw upon the worlds of music, food, art, travel and service learning to develop a rich and meaningful experience for all students.

Of course, we are now just at the beginning of putting this program into place. There will inevitably be a period of transition as Russell becomes acquainted with the experiences and skill levels of our existing students and begins to generate enthusiasm and excitement among students who will be learning Spanish for the first time. I am confident however that we will be able to develop a well-rounded and exemplary Spanish program over the months and years to come - one that allows our children to be successful in a multi-lingual world and also allows them to have a deeper and more empathetic understanding of the different cultures that make up the world around them. - Mark McGough, Head of School

Thank You Kristen

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us at school on Monday as we celebrated Kristen Spangler's work with us on a gloriously sunny afternoon. It was great to see a number of alumni coming back to say goodbye to Kristen as well as a number of new Carpe Diem families and students of all ages running around campus, enjoying a moment to play together and look forward to what will undoubtedly be a fun school year.



Cake & Hugs!
We'll miss you,
Kristen!

Back-to-School Parent Meetings

Back to School Parent Meetings are almost upon us and I would like to take a moment to share our plan for these meetings.

Our Back-to-School meetings are an opportunity for us to come together and talk about our mission and values and how they impact our school, our policies and procedures. We will also share the school structure, the composition and responsibilities of our fantastic Board of Trustees and talk about volunteer and giving opportunities, particularly the importance of the Harbor Fund and our annual auction.

These meetings are also an opportunity for you to come together with other parents in your section of the school, get to know them better, and ask any burning questions that you may have.

I look forward to seeing you all there!

Here's the Back-to-School meeting schedule for next week:

- ▶ **Carpe Diem Primary Parents**
WHEN: **Tuesday, August 30 at 6:30PM**
WHERE: **Carpe Diem Campus**
- ▶ **Middle School Parents**
WHEN: **Wednesday, August 31 at 6:30PM**
WHERE: **Harbor School Campus**
- ▶ **Upper Elementary Parents**
WHEN: **Thursday, September 1 at 6:30PM**
WHERE: **Harbor School Campus**

Campus Work Party

Sunday, August 28, 12-4PM at Harbor School

There's a big work party scheduled for this Sunday, August 28, from 12-4PM to help get our main campus ready for the start of school. After roaming the campus and scoping out all the classrooms, we've noticed some minor repairs, weeding, touch-up painting, and more that needs to be done.

Please join us! Even an hour of service will go a long way! If you plan on coming, please bring work gloves and wear clothes you don't mind getting messy in.

We'll have the classrooms and outdoor areas looking spiffy in no time!

Big Thanks!

A big shout out to parent volunteers **Rob Prince Sr.** and **Christian Pearson**, for being incredible worker bees this summer! From dump runs to hanging blinds to securing furniture to walls, the list goes on and on. We are tremendously grateful for your dedication and service.

