

REACH Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2025–2026

Our **K–5th grade program** has been busy experimenting and creating in the kitchen and classroom! Students have enjoyed making different kinds of play dough and gooey concoctions, including peanut butter playdough, salt dough, frosting playdough, Oobleck, and slime. These hands-on activities have been a fun way for students to explore their creativity while learning basic science concepts.

The **6th–12th grade program** has been enjoying a weekly **Dungeons & Dragons Club**, led by volunteer Aidan Kobeck. Students have also been helping organize family events and meals, as well as setting up a monthly **Family Game Night** for the community.

In **September**, we partnered with the **Columbia River Gorge Discovery Center** for a fun-filled family event. Families toured the museum, participated in nature watercolor activities, built an osprey nest, and enjoyed many other engaging experiences. We even shared lunch together with all of our families. It was a fantastic day for everyone who attended.

In **December**, in partnership with **Student and School Success team from the ESD 112**, we welcomed the Brunos, who taught our students Indigenous math-related games. Students enjoyed learning new ways to think about math through culture and play.

In **October**, REACH partnered with the **Wishram School District Title Program** for a family event focused on **Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM)**. Later that month, we helped host the **Wishram School Halloween Carnival**. The Wishram School ASB and REACH worked together to create an evening filled with candy, games, and fun for students and families from the Wishram community.

November was **Native American Heritage Month**, and our secondary students planned and prepared a special dinner of venison stew and fry bread. The event also included traditional arts and crafts representing Native Nations across **Turtle Island**.

December was a busy and festive month. Families gathered for a **Winter Craft Night**, where they created beach glass trees and traditional ornaments while sharing dinner together. We also enjoyed a wonderful evening of songs and poetry during our annual **Winter Program**.

We have a very busy schedule planned for this spring. We are partnering with the **Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries** to bring in several exciting presenters. Upcoming activities include magic performances, stunt demonstrations, Dungeons & Dragons sessions, and a presentation on the history and cultural application of henna—just to name a few.

Our partner, **Arts in Education of the Gorge**, will help students create a historical mural on the north gym wall. They are also working with our 6th–12th grade students to design and paint a new **school spirit mural** on the south gym wall.

At the same time, we are beginning to plan our **summer program**, and we are excited about everything the rest of the school year—and summer—will bring!

K-5 Student Highlight:

Aleister Legarde 2nd Grade

- My favorite thing about REACH is Is doing projects like creating with magnets and making edible playdough, it was yummy!
 - Something fun I did in REACH recently was the nutrition lesson with Miss Julie from Klickitat County Health Department. We made a pretend healthy plate using sponges, beans legumes, and tissue paper. .
- I have learned how to make origami.
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6-12 Student Highlight:

- Luz-Clarita Mendez 10th Grade
- My favorite thing about REACH is that it gives us a time to catch up with friends before going home. I also like doing all the fun activities that we plan each month.
- Something fun I have done in REACH recently was when we made pancakes into art, oh, and cooking.
 - Something I have learned in REACH recently is how to bake lemon cookies and make crispy homemade fries.

Quote You only live once.