



# REACH

REACH is a program of  
Educational Service District 112



SPRING 2025

# NEWSLETTER

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

This spring has been an incredibly busy and enriching season for our REACH Program, filled with hands-on learning and visits from inspiring community partners.

Every Tuesday, Makers Club met with Ms. Betsy Barnhart, where students explored creativity and critical thinking through building and experimentation. From crafting flashlights to designing and constructing miniature houses, students were fully immersed in learning by doing.

Thanks to Arts in Education of the Gorge, we welcomed muralist Molly Holmlund, who worked with students to continue the beautiful mural in the Wishram School Gymnasium. The newest additions—a man cooking salmon and an old train—add rich cultural and historical elements to the artwork.

We also had the opportunity to work with artist Lacy Spray, who taught students how to use natural objects as printing tools. Each student created three unique types of journals, combining artistic expression with a connection to nature.

In collaboration with the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, students took a special fishing trip to Horsethief Lake, where they learned outdoor skills and had a blast trying to catch the big one!

To wrap up our regular afterschool programming, we had a visit from Yuki Martin, who introduced students to the traditional Japanese art of Origami. Students were excited to create a variety of intricate paper designs while learning about the cultural significance of this timeless craft.

Spring has been a season full of creativity, exploration, and meaningful connection. We're so grateful to our partners for bringing such memorable experiences to our students!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We're looking forward to a fun-filled and action-packed summer activities program, kicking off on Monday, June 16th! We'll be starting things off right—with ice cream and a trip to Tree Top Play Park in The Dalles, Oregon.

## FIELD TRIPS

In March, we took a special return trip to Klickitat Mile 1 to celebrate the completion of the restoration project. Back in the fall of 2023, our REACH students helped plant trees, shrubs, and other native plants to support the revitalization of the area—so it was incredibly rewarding to see the progress and growth firsthand.

In April, we made our beloved annual spring visit to Howard's Haven, where students had an absolute blast feeding apples to the horses and helping Risi feed hay to all of her animals. It's always a joyful, hands-on experience that deepens our connection to nature and animal care.

## PARENT EVENTS

February kicked off with our Valentine Family Event, where students and their families came together to create heartfelt Valentines for their loved ones. The evening was made even more special with a delicious taco dinner generously provided by Wishram School District.

In April, we hosted an exciting Family STEM Night in partnership with Career Connect Southwest. Families engaged in hands-on learning and creative activities, and we proudly showcased student artwork and Career & Technical Education (CTE) projects. It was a fantastic evening of innovation and connection—we're already looking forward to next year's event! Later that month, we joined forces with Wishram School's Migrant Education Program for their Cultural Event. This meaningful gathering brought together people of all backgrounds to celebrate and learn about the rich traditions and heritage of our local Native American communities. In May, Fort Vancouver Regional Library's CASS Mobile Art program visited, offering families the chance to explore their creativity through collaborative and individual art projects. The results were beautiful, and the experience brought joy to all who participated. We wrapped up our family engagement season in June with another lively Family STEM Night, this time in partnership with Wishram School's Title I Program. The event was filled with hands-on fun, learning, and community connections.



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