



— FALL/WINTER 2024-2025

NEWSLETTER



It sounds like an exciting spring and summer ahead! Here's a guick rundown of the upcoming activities:

- March: Klickitat County Sheriff's Deputy Ben Corning will be visiting after school programming.
- April 1st and 2nd: Swish Basketball Camp will be in town with Coach Miguel Lopez to share basketball skills and techniques.
- April 10th: We'll be hosting a STEM Family Night with our community partners from the ESD 112 Career Connect SW-come join us for some fun. hands-on science activities!
- April 21st: We will be taking a trip to Howards Haven for more outdoor exploration and learning.

We can't wait to see everyone at these events! Stay tuned for more fun opportunities ahead!



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ACTIVITIES

It has been a busy yet exciting fall and winter filled with learning and new experiences! Our 2024-2025 REACH afterschool programming began on Monday, September 16th. To celebrate, we hosted a big Kick-Off event on September 28th at The Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles, Oregon, in partnership with Discovery Center/GEO.

PARENT EVENTS

Community and family engagement is a vital part of our REACH program. This past quarter, we hosted several events, including a Halloween Carnival, a Fall Cultural Event, a Christmas Celebration, and a Valentine's Making Event.



GRANT PARTNERS

Molly Holmlund and our students have been hard at work on a stunning mural in the gymnasium. The artwork beautifully depicts a man cooking salmon over a fire with a train emerging from a tunnel, adding to the rich storytelling of our space. This mural is a wonderful complement to the two previous murals and a testament to the creativity and dedication of our students. A big thank you to Molly and our community partner, Arts in Education of the Gorge, for making this project possible!

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LUCIS, 2ND GRADE

What is your favorite thing about REACH?

My favorite thing about REACH is having snack and sitting by my friends and visiting with them.

What is something fun you did at REACH recently?

Right now I am having fun building a house and guys with Legos.

What have you learned at REACH recently?

I have learned how to read and write the colors of the rainbow.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

In October, REACH partnered with Wishram District's TITLE Program for a literature-based movie night, complete with a popcorn bar—yummy! We also teamed up with Wishram ASB for a Family Movie Night, offering popcorn, apple cider, and hot cocoa. Additionally, we were involved in Wishram School's Annual Halloween Carnival. A big thank you to Yakama Nation Engineering: Tribal Transportation Program, and Ty Sohappy, for hosting a Bicycle Rodeo. Students, their families, and community members gathered in the school parking lot to learn bicycle safety, fix and repair bikes, and receive free bicycle helmets. It was a fun event with a great turnout!

In November, we collaborated with local community members Laura McConville, Suzanne McConville, and District support for an Evening of Cultural Enrichment to honor our Native American families and friends. The event was filled with song, traditional necklace beading, and basket weaving, led by Master Basket Weaver Charice McConville. A beautiful Yakama Nation and Warm Springs Nation flag raising ceremony took place, and venison stew and fry bread were served for dinner. A special thank you to Karina Alpiak and the secondary students for making all the fry bread, and to Miguel Lopez for the beautiful harvest of venison.

The Klickitat County Health Department presented students with important information about the importance of washing hands. Using phosphorescence lotion, students washed their hands and then held them under a black light. The results were shocking, showing just how much their hands lit up, indicating poor handwashing. It was a very educational experience.

We'd also like to thank our community partner, Aireann Duke, for providing free haircuts to students, families, and community members. This is such a special partnership, and we are incredibly grateful to Aireann!

In December, we partnered with Wishram School District to present a beautiful Winter Program for family, friends, and the community. The Wishram REACH 6-12 program made sugar cookies and drinks for all to enjoy. The evening ended with a special visit from Santa, bringing joy to all in attendance.

It has been an amazing few months filled with fun, learning, and community connection. We're so grateful for our partners and everyone who has helped make these events a success!



