



# SWSD Navigator

November 1, 2019

---

A Publication for South Whidbey School District Parents and the Community

---

## DID YOU KNOW?

- 1) SWHS Honor Society students are providing [Peer Tutoring](#) EVERY THURSDAY during lunch in Room 134. ALL students who would like help with their Math or Science classes are welcome. We have tutors for every level. Days will be added as interest expands.
- 2) [Veterans Day](#) will be celebrated with Assemblies at all campuses. All South Whidbey veterans are invited to participate. Please see the [SWHS flyer linked here](#). Please find the [South Campus grades 5 & 6 flyer linked here](#). Please find the [SWES flyer linked here](#).
- 3) South Whidbey Elementary School [Harvest Festival](#) needs your RSVP as soon as possible. [See the flyer linked here](#).
- 4) South Whidbey Farms wants to compost your [Halloween Pumpkins](#). Please drop off your pumpkin at the elementary North or South Campus between November 1st and November 8th. [See the flyer linked here](#).
- 5) Next week, the [November Superintendent Salutation](#) will be published. Look for it on our district website [linked here](#).



[School Board Calendar Linked Here](#)

Island Country Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2019. All ballots must be postmarked on this date or returned to a ballot drop box by 8pm on Election Day.

On [Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30pm](#), there will be a joint workshop and business meeting. Agenda will be posted on November 15, 2019.

[Agendas and minutes from previous meetings and SWSD policies can be found on Board Docs linked here.](#)

Future Meetings:

December 11 Workshop/Meeting

January 8, 2020 Workshop

January 22, 2020 Retreat

February 12, 2020 Workshop

February 26, 2020 Business Meeting

**Outdoor Education is at work at South Whidbey**

One of the benefits of South Whidbey is the [\*\*Outdoor Classroom\*\*](#) managed by the Whidbey Watershed Stewards. Since the opening of the Outdoor Classroom in 1997, Whidbey Watershed Stewards have presented a steady program of K-5 lessons in spring and fall sessions. Each lesson is aligned with grade level learning objectives and is developed and guided by their staff and volunteer instructors.

The outdoor curriculum is updated and revised frequently to keep pace with changes in science, education theory, and the focus of the school systems. See more on the [curriculum linked here](#). Last month, our 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders took field trips to the Outdoor Classroom learning about the forest, food chains, and how decomposing organisms contribute to the health of plants and animals. In the spring, our 5th graders will release salmon into the stream that runs through the forest. There is so much learning at the Outdoor

Classroom. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Whidbey Watershed Stewards, please check out their [website linked here](#). The

Outdoor Classroom is located at 7015 Maxwellton Road. The property is open to the public. All are welcome! The self-guided trail (see [trail map](#)) is open to the public year-round. *We only ask that you respect the nature preserve and not disturb the wildlife and plants. Please leave your dog in the car while you walk.* The trail and boardwalk platforms are wheelchair accessible. A brochure at the information kiosk explains the viewpoints and the watershed system.

Thank you to the Whidbey Watershed Stewards and their volunteers that make this possible for our students.



Our 5th graders spent the day at the [Padilla Bay Interpretive Center](#) in Mt. Vernon. It was a gorgeous day. They looked for and collected different beach plants and animals, they learned about all the microscopic things that live in our water (and were able to look at them through the microscope), they visited the Padilla Bay aquarium and saw different native sea creatures. It was a wonderful day filled with all things Salish Sea!



**South Whidbey Middle School 7th graders were so proud of their service project!**

7th grade students from South Whidbey Middle School headed outdoors for a day of environmental exploration, service-learning and adventure at Deception Pass State Park. They engaged in hands-on experiential learning experiences by working alongside local environmental experts. On the trails they became field biologists who evaluated the habitat of shoreline, forest and wetland ecosystems with the state park's interpretive specialist. They stood under a 900-year-old Douglas Fir tree and contemplated why it had developed twists and turns and grew so low to the ground. On the beach along with an expert from the Orca Network they

role played how toxins travel through the food web and build up when they are passed from one member of the food web to another. Through a sound simulation activity, they experienced first-hand how an orca's ability to use echolocation to hunt is limited by increased noise in the Salish Sea. They problem solved ways to help lessen these real issues. A series of team building exercises enabled students to foster communication and understand the perspectives of others. They successfully completed multiple challenges involving the efforts of all team members. On the shore students applied team building skills through their participation in a service-learning project where they removed invasive dune grass from the shoreline. Students formed groups to complete the task by communicating, demonstrating leadership skills, cooperation and encouragement. They came together and took tremendous pride in their collective accomplishment.



Last week, South Whidbey Middle School **8th graders had their Adventure Skills Day!** These South Whidbey students are learning the necessary skills for their upcoming overnight backpacking trip in June. They spent the day at our local Castle Park learning how to quickly and efficiently setup their tents. Other stations included cooking with portable stoves, plant identification, navigation and compass use. Over the course of the school year, the 8th graders will continue to review how these skills and how the outdoors are connected to their studies. They will be prepared for the rigorous challenges of overnight backpacking in the Northwest.



Come support your home teams! [Athletics home page Linked Here.](#) The following are the upcoming scheduled HOME games

(all are subject to change due to weather):

Falcon Soccer	AWAY 11/2 at 3pm	Cedar Park Chr
Falcon Volleyball	AWAY 11/2 at 1pm	<a href="#">Lynden Christian</a>
Falcon V Football	AWAY November 1st	Kings
Cross Country	Sat 11/2 at 10am	District Championship
Falcon JV Football	Mon 11/4 @ 5:30pm	Kings



