April 7—13th is National Volunteer Week. Please join Gaston Elementary School in shining a light on our 201 dedicated volunteers!

Volunteers help build stronger communities, tackle society’s greatest challenges and transform the world by lending their time, talent and skills to make a difference in their communities. National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year.

Whether online, in person, with a vote, voice or wallet—doing good comes in many forms and we would like to thank our volunteers for all they do for our students, staff and the community of Gaston.

Mr. DeWolf would like to thank Mrs. Amber Medina. She knows the kids, is willing to take on any tasks, & gets full credit for any semblance of organization in my room.

Mrs. Westcott would like to thank:

Mrs. Laura Fordyce, Mrs. Sarah Fleskes, Mrs. Tracy Johnson, Mr. Scott Johnson, Mrs. Kelly Hansen, Mrs. Jessica Kraatz and Mrs. Tiffany Hardie for all the wonderful things they do to help her 1st graders.

Mr. Huffman would like to thank:

Mr. Steven Hoogerhuies & Mrs. Alisha Hoogerhuies who come in & are super helpful making small group reading run in our class on Tuesdays & Wednesdays.

Mrs. Nicole Svoboda helps with small group reading on Thursdays.

Candy Hermann comes in every month & helps me get prepared by making classroom copies & copying, folding, & stapling the decodables books that are crucial to early literacy.

Mrs. Beuchaine & Mrs. Leach in Preschool would like to thank Rita Weinstein who is always eager to help in any way. She is so kind & patient with the preschoolers & listens intently to their thoughts & ideas. Steve Sanford has been coming on Mondays regularly this year. He is a consistent support for all of the students & a positive male role model. Bette Troxell, “Nana”, brings creative energy & love to our classroom. She generously donates materials & ideas for our art projects. Preschool has been fortunate to have many parents & grandparents volunteer in a variety of situations. Thank you!
During March, the following classrooms had the least amount of absences and won the weekly Attendance Award.

Mrs. Hiersche’s 6th graders  
Ms. Henson’s 6th graders  
Mrs. Krause’s 1st graders  
Mr. DeWolf’s 4th graders

Gaston Elementary is continuing our hard work on making positive behavior choices at school and our perseverance is paying off! We have cut the number of referrals from last year to this year in half! We have 211 students who have not had any referrals at all this year! Way to go!

GREAT PROGRESS GASTON ELEMENTARY!

April 29th-May 3rd is State Testing Week for our 3rd through 6th grade students. Smarter Balanced is a computer-based assessment system designed to measure student learning. These important tests provide an evaluation of student understanding in reading and math. The tests serve as a tool for measuring the degree to which students are on track to graduate high-school and provide teachers & parents important information regarding student progress towards college and careers.

By working together, we can make your child’s testing experience positive and successful. Here are some suggestions for helping your child do their very best on testing week:

- Make sure your child gets a good night’s rest.
- Have your child eat a healthy, high-protein breakfast.
- Make sure your child arrives to school on-time.
- Gently encourage your child to do their best.

We are here to support the state testing process and create a positive and successful testing experience. If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact myself or your child’s classroom teacher.

Thank you for partnering with us.

Emily Putney  
Gaston Elementary  
Assessment Coordinator  
putneye@gastonk12.org

For more information visit:  
http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents/

### Testing Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Test Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 29</td>
<td>Language Computer Adaptive Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 30</td>
<td>Language Performance Task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 1</td>
<td>Review Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 2</td>
<td>Math Computer Adaptive Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 3</td>
<td>Math Performance Task</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information visit:  
http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents/

### Attendance Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classroom</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Hiersche’s 6th graders</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mrs. Krause’s 1st graders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. DeWolf’s 4th graders</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

FANTASTIC!
Cool Things We Are Doing

The Physics of Fun

Gaston Elementary All-Stars

Gaston All-Stars is a partnership with the News-Times where they recognize three students every few weeks in the newspaper. Their photo and a sentence or two as to why that student shines is included in the article. For March, Gaston Elementary teachers selected these three students for their All-Star qualities. Congratulations!

Audrey Perdew
Audrey is a wonderful positive member of our class. She always works hard on her school work, Audrey is a leader class and the school.

Wyatt Wismer
Wyatt is a Gaston All Star because he has an eagerness to his learning. He is always excited about what is being studied in school. He works hard to practice what is being done so he can be his best at it!

Devin Clowdus
Devin has been growing into such a leader in our class. Recently, Devin was the first third grader to master his multiplication facts 0-12! Keep up the great work Devin!
### April 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Preschool &amp; Kinder Roundup 5:00—6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>PTO meeting 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL Grading/Planning Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th-9th</td>
<td>SBAC Science Testing 5th grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Parent Conferences 12-4 pm PreK-6th gr 11:30 dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>School Board Meeting 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Spirit Day – wear Gaston spirit wear/green/yellow/gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Smokey the Bear visits 1st grade 2:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>PTO Hat Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th</td>
<td>Secretary’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>TAG Field Trip to the Children’s Theater 8:15 am—2:30 pm</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### May 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/29th-5th</td>
<td>SBAC Testing Grades 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>PTO meeting 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Spirit Day – wear Gaston spirit wear/green/yellow/gold</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th-10th</td>
<td>Teacher Appreciation Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>School Board Meeting 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>4th grade—12th Instrumental Concert—Commons 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>PTO Carnival 11:00-1:00 with raffle &amp; silent auction finishing at 1:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th</td>
<td>Kinder &amp; 1st Grade Field Trip—The Gilbert House 9:15 am—2:30 pm</td>
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</tbody>
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### June 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>PTO meeting 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**School’s Out For Summer**

**Wednesdays are 2:30 Dismissal**

**Call Before 2:00pm with going home changes**
Laurel has six apple trees in her yard. Each tree has a different number of apples on it. She counts 17 apples in all.

Question: How many apples are growing on each tree?

Remember to explain how you found the answer and how you can be sure it is correct.

Congratulations Rhys Niederberger!
The answer was 5 dimes.
If you would like to have an event or information published in the newsletter, please send the information to Mystie Taber at taberm@gastonk12.org by the 20th of the month for the following newsletter.

**Got Info?**

**Other Announcements**

**CARNIVAL Raffle Baskets**
- McMaster: We’ve Got Spirit Gaston merchandise
- Westcott: Game On Fortnite, Minecraft, etc
- Krause: Fun In the Sun
- Peterson: Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
- Huffman: Get It Together All things organization
- Smith: S’mores Galore Camping/Outdoors stuff
- DeWolf: Gardener’s Delight
- Christensen: Rainy Day Fun
- Ruiz: Culinary Delight
- Stewart: Relaxing Retreat
- Hersche: Let’s Do Coffee
- Henson: Arts & Crafts Oh My

Please consider donating an item to any of the classroom themes. Items can be sent with your child or dropped off in the office.

**GASTON SCHOOL PLAYGROUND PROJECT**
- **Working Together for Healthy Kids**

**How Can You Help?**
- Our playgrounds, blacktop, and indoor recess area are in need of a makeover!
- We are currently creating a plan to improve our play areas. This will be done in phases, and will include fundraising.
- Do you have resources or tools that could potentially support this project? Please let us know!
- Join us at our next meeting on April 16 at 5:30 in the Elementary School, or contact Mrs. Mckenzie: mkenzies@gastonk12.org.

**Supports for Summer**
- Parents: If you know of other summer support opportunities—let us know and we’ll get the word out in our next newsletter.

**Enjoy the sounds of spring at the Gaston 4th-12th grade Instrumental Concert.**
- Music will begin at 7:00 pm May 16th in the Commons Gym.

**The elementary health room could use donations of boxes of Kleenex and boys & girls underwear (new please) sizes 4 through 12. We have gone through our supply for the year. If you can help—we sure would appreciate it!**
Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici invites you to a

TOWN HALL MEETING

Thursday, April 18th, 2019
6:00pm
Gaston Jr/Sr High School Gymnasium,
300 Park St, Gaston, OR 97119

Join Rep. Suzanne Bonamici to talk about what matters to you. All are welcome!

Staff will be available to meet individually with anyone experiencing problems with federal agencies.

Please contact the district office at (503) 469 6010 with any questions or for more info.