

# Options Go Beyond the Everyday for Bainbridge Island Students



*Eagle Harbor High School students spent five days fully immersed in the study of the Elwha River ecosystem. Their research included examination of local geology.*

**WITH TEST SCORES** among the highest in the state, Bainbridge Island's public schools are well known for rigorous academic programs. In addition, our students have access to a variety of high-quality vocational, alternative and extra-curricular opportunities.

Nearly 250 students each year choose an alternative learning experience as part of their educational program. The Home School Support Program, Eagle Harbor High School contract study courses, and Bainbridge High School independent study courses give our students access to more than 35 different alternative offerings like 3-D Computer Modeling, Construction Production, and the Elwha River Dam Project.

In addition, juniors and seniors have access to the programs offered at the West Sound Technical Skills Center. Participating students gain the knowledge and skills they need to earn advanced placement in apprenticeships, technical schools or universities—or to go directly into the job market in their chosen fields. The Skills Center offers a wide variety of vocational training programs, from Automotive Repair to Culinary Arts to Law Enforcement.

## IN THE KNOW

### Building Our Schools

Our capital projects office has been working hard to bring life to the projects voters approved in March 2006. Several projects were completed over the summer including: roofing replacements, new science classrooms and heating and ventilation equipment replacement at BHS, floor replacement at Blakely, and septic repairs at Wilkes.

At this time, our primary focus is on the BHS Addition and Modernization project. We are closely monitoring the volatile construction market and are working aggressively with architects and value engineers to identify design efficiencies and cost savings.

**Join us!** Stop by the High School November 16th at 7 pm when Mahlum Architects presents a virtual tour, exterior elevations and model of the project.



### Budget Corner

What's the difference between a levy and a bond? What is an M&O levy and why does the district have to renew it? Answers to these and other questions can be found in the new brochure *How your public schools are funded*. Look for it on the district website, [www.bainbridge.wednet.edu](http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu), in school offices and other public spaces, or by calling 206-780-1398.



[www.bainbridge.wednet.edu](http://www.bainbridge.wednet.edu)

More about Bainbridge Island Schools, or call 206-780-1398

### Volunteer Opportunities

The Rockin' Rollin' Readers at Ordway Elementary School and the Eagle's Nest at Wilkes Elementary School are wonderful groups of senior citizens who spend time each week in classrooms reading with students. For more information about these and comparable opportunities at the other schools, please call the B.I.S.D. Community Relations Office, 206-780-1398.

### Conversations with Ken Crawford

Everyone is welcome for casual conversations with Superintendent Ken Crawford. It doesn't matter if you have a preschooler, a current student or no kids at all. Schools are a vital part of our community and we want to hear from you!

Get to know your superintendent, exchange views and talk about our schools.

The last session for fall: Thursday, December 7, 9:30 am, at Wilkes Elementary School, 12781 NE Madison Avenue. More opportunities await you this winter.

### STUDENT

Jonathon Hallet



Students often step out and demonstrate their interests and passions, as has Bainbridge High School senior Jonathon Hallet. For years, studying nature and capturing those images on film have excited Hallet. At BHS, he is able to blend his zeal for photography and his interest in environmental stewardship.

Through BHS photography classes, Hallet learned dark room techniques, Photoshop proficiency, and how to print on canvas. With his enthusiasm and developing talents, it is no wonder he captured dual honors in a pool of 3,985 entries at the Washington State High School Photography competition last spring. Hallet took 1st place in Color with his macro-image of a dahlia (above), and 2nd place in Landscape with a black and white shot of Point Reyes.

### STAFF

Brad Lewis & Janet Neuhauser



We are pleased to announce that two Bainbridge High School teachers, math teacher Brad Lewis and photography teacher Janet Neuhauser, received Washington State University's *Educators in Excellence* award. This recognition goes to individuals who have made a significant difference in the lives of students.

A former BHS student nominated Lewis and wrote, "Every day in Mr. Lewis' statistics class brought both learning and entertainment. His humor and understanding connected him to his students, and his intelligence prompted unanimous respect amongst them."

Neuhauser's nomination stated, "Mrs. Neuhauser has always encouraged her students to strive for the best. She allowed her students to be creative and to find their own paths through high school, and I will always remember how much I enjoyed coming into her class."

## Upcoming

### NOVEMBER

- 16 Sneak Peak, High School Design (details inside)
- 29 Winter Gala, Bainbridge High School
- 30 School Board Meeting

### DECEMBER

- 6 Early Dismissal-staff development
- 7 Winter Holiday Band & Choir Concert, Woodward Middle School
- 14 School Board Meeting
- 18-1/1 Winter Break

### JANUARY

- 2 School Resumes
- 5 Geography Bee, Woodward Middle School
- 10 Early Dismissal-staff development
- 11 School Board Meeting
- 15 No School-MLK Jr. Day
- 24-26 No School-Grades 5-8 Parent Conferences
- 24-26 High School Final Exams-Half-days
- 25 School Board Meeting
- 30 Celebration of Light, Wilkes Elementary School



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*OpenBook is a publication by the  
Bainbridge Island School District  
to connect with and bring timely  
information to our community.*