

# What's news in Tahoma schools?

Presented as a community service by the VOICE of the Valley and Tahoma School District

## School District highlights

### Tahoma calendar approved for 2012-13

The Tahoma School Board has approved the academic calendar for the 2012-2013 school year.

A pdf copy of the calendar is available on the Tahoma web page: [www.tahomasd.us/about/news/calendar.html](http://www.tahomasd.us/about/news/calendar.html)

The first day of school is Tuesday, Sept. 4 and the last day is Tuesday, June 18. Winter break is Dec. 20 through Jan. 1; mid-winter break is Feb. 18-22; and spring break is April 1-5.

The calendar will be modified this spring when early release and waiver days are designated.

### School board reorganizes

Three Tahoma School Board members were sworn into office during the Dec. 20 board meeting, following certification of the Nov. 8 election.

Incumbent board members Mary Jane Glaser, Didem Pierson and Bill Clausmeyer were re-elected to four-year terms.

After the swearing-in ceremony, the board elected new officers for this year. Pierson will be board president, Clausmeyer is vice president, Tami Henkel is Teaching and Learning representative and sustainability representative, Tim Adam is financial representative and Glaser is legislative representative.

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[www.tahomasd.us](http://www.tahomasd.us)

### 10 Tahoma teachers earn national certification

Tahoma School District now has 41 teachers who have successfully attained National Board Certification, including 10 this year.

National certification requires teachers to conduct rigorous study and self-assessment of teaching practices. Teachers must submit a four-part portfolio and a six-exercise content and pedagogy assessment. The 10 entries document a teacher's success in the classroom as evidenced by his or her students' learning. The portfolio is then assessed by a national panel of peers.

Washington state ranks fourth in the nation in the number of teachers who have completed national board certification.



Tahoma High School teachers who successfully achieved National Board Certification are: (top, from left) Jami Suhovorsnik, Brett Thompson and Gretchen Wulfinf. (bottom, from left) Laura Granger, Brooke Dillon and Darcie Muller.



Tahoma Junior High teachers Kim McHenry, left, and Sara Saverud attained National Board Certification this year.



Tahoma Middle School teachers Renee Stroup, left, and Laura Bennett earned National Board Certification this year.

### 'Tis the season to recycle, says THS green team

Americans throw away, on average, 25 percent more trash during the period between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day than any other time of year. The Tahoma High School Green Team has assembled some ideas to help reduce that holiday trash.

Please save Styrofoam packaging to recycle. <http://styrorecycle.com/> You can drop it off in Renton at this address: 800 SW 43rd St., west of the IKEA store.

All holiday leftovers, the turkey carcass, or the candy and cookies that you choose not to eat can go into yard waste. Don't have yard waste? Make a New Year's resolution and sign up for the service! Christmas greens, poinsettias, and your tree also are compostable.

Those pesky unusable light strands are recyclable! All McLendon Hardware locations will accept them.

Wrapping paper can go in your recycle bin. Ribbons and bows are reusable, of course!

Want more information on having a Green Holiday? Check out the King County Solid Waste site: <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/eco>