

What's news in Tahoma schools?

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

School District highlights

School Board approves 2011-12 operating budget

The Tahoma School Board has adopted a general fund budget of \$66,886,995 to operate the school district in the 2011-2012 school year.

The general fund is the district's biggest budget and pays for all daily operating costs, including salaries, supplies, fuel, utilities, insurance and maintenance. It is derived from state education funding, local tax levies and a small percentage of federal funds.

Copies of the budget are available for viewing in the Financial Services office at Central Services Center, 25720 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Road SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038.

Lunch prices rising

A change in federal school lunch program regulations will cause lunch prices to go up slightly for Tahoma students.

The price for an elementary school lunch is now \$2.50, a 10-cent increase. Middle, junior high and high school lunches now will be \$3, also a 10-cent increase.

Prices for milk and breakfast remain the same as last year.

Bus schedules available online

School bus routes and schedules for the 2011-2012 school year were published in last week's VOICE of the Valley and also are available on the school district's main Web page.

Visit us on the Web:
www.tahomasd.us

3 more portable buildings in service as enrollment climbs

Tahoma school principals anticipate their buildings being filled to capacity and beyond, in some cases, when school begins Sept. 6

To meet some of the anticipated enrollment increase, the school district purchased and installed two double-classroom portable buildings on the campuses of Rock Creek Elementary and Tahoma Junior High. A third portable building was placed adjacent to the gymnasium at Tahoma Junior High and will serve as an additional locker and changing area.

It is unlikely that any additional portable classrooms can be added to existing school sites because there is no room for them or because the site already is at its legal limit for impermeable surfaces, such as paving or buildings.

A citizen committee is exploring short- and long-term solutions to the district's overcrowding, following defeat of last April's \$125 million construction bond measure. The committee will present recommendations to the Tahoma School Board in October. The committee is looking at many options but has not yet finished its work.



Portable classroom buildings were put in place on the former outdoor basketball court at Rock Creek Elementary (above) and on the back lawn at Tahoma Junior High during the summer. There are now 73 portable classroom buildings being used in the district, housing about 25 percent of the district's 7,400 students.



TLC's fall learning programs offer something for everyone

The Tahoma Learning Community is offering a full lineup of fall activities for children and adults who live in the Tahoma School District.

TLC is now taking online registrations for fall programs including:

The Art of Glass Fusing,

Belly Dancing, Social Networking, Dog Obedience, Fencing, Tae Kwon Do, Chinese, Funny French, Tap Dance, Stretch 'N' Grow Kids Fitness programs, Digital Photography, Voice Overs, Money & Finance Classes, Fall Tennis Lessons, Big K

Basketball for Kindergarten and Pre-K, Santa Slam Basketball Camp, Winter Cheer Camp at THS, Art for Kids School, Crafts for Teens and Adults, Zumba, Mad Science, Boating Safely, Travel to Costa Rica & Belize, and much more.

Visit us online at

www.tahomasd.us/community. Click on Tahoma Learning Community and the Online Registration button. Or call TLC at 425-413-3405 for more information.

Look for Tahoma Learning Community on Facebook for updates on classes and events.