



Lincoln Options

Opus

*A community dedicated to
learning, kindness, and
celebration!*



2016 May

Calendar

May

2-6 – Staff Appreciation Week
5 – Nicaragua Cultural Night
8 – Mt Ranier Trip – RD Delegation
9 – Anti Oppression Conversation
10 – OCC Mtg
13 – Early Release
24 – OCC Mtg
26 – Theme Night at Lincoln
27 – Early Release
30 – No School

June

3 – Camp Elderberry
7 – OCC Mtg 6:30 pm
10 – District-Wide Early Release
17 – Last day of school

We need you!

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Lincoln Options Council News

By Jess Revelas, Options Council President

This month I am filled with gratitude for our Lincoln Options community. Over the past few weeks, we have learned that the Olympia School District is pressing for the Options Program to adopt a new, district-wide, standardized English/ Language Arts curriculum—one that did not pass muster with Marcela and Caron due to its misalignment with our Options philosophy. **So many of you have shown up for our school** by writing letters to the School Board, attending Board meetings, and discussing strategies to keep the core of the Options Program (a developmentally appropriate curriculum with multi-age, project-based classrooms) intact. Lincoln would not be Lincoln without your commitment and involvement.

Second, I am so grateful that the OCC's coffers are full, and it's possible to fund all of our essential programs—**thanks to the amazing auction team!!!** This years' auctions were an incredible example of what can be accomplished with good planning and the tireless dedication of a few volunteers.

The small auction team—led by Elizabeth McManus—did the work of so many: they procured hundreds of donations from the community, planned a successful silent auction in the gym, then held a huge, beautiful party in St. John's church with ample and delicious food and wine, and in the throughout it all, kept track of hundreds of bids and donations. Whew! I am in awe! **Thank you SO MUCH Elizabeth McManus, Arwen Bouton, Sarah Davis, Brent Evans, Sharon Love, Titus Mutchler, Nicole Butigan, and Andrea Seabert Olsen.**



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Thanks to these incredible volunteers' successful fundraising, and your contributions, Lincoln is able to offer Spanish to our kids, have an awesome day at Camp Elderberry each year, fund the garden and keep up the playground equipment, offer our staff additional training and supplement their classroom budgets, and keep an as-needed fund available for families in need, among other things. These essential parts of Lincoln would not be possible without fundraising!

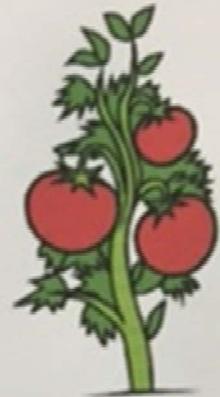
Lastly, the OCC is winding down for the year and we need to **fill open positions for 2016-2017!** My term as **president** is ending and no one has yet volunteered to do the job. If you're interested in the position, please get in touch with me. It's rewarding and interesting! The OCC also needs a **secretary**, and someone interested in "interning" with the **treasurer** (she won't just drop all the responsibility in your lap right away). And speaking of **fundraising**, we will need a new crop of dedicated volunteers who are willing to go the distance to make fundraising happen next year!

Volunteering for the OCC is a great way to get deeply involved with our program. You can help shape the direction of the program, help decide what gets funded, be part of a committee to work on something you're passionate about, and get to hang out with Marcela! This work is important and we need your voice! Let Marcela or me know if you are thinking about it and we'll brief you on the open jobs.

Thank you all for being a part of this community!

Love,
Jess

TOMATO PLANT SALE!



PERFECT FOR MOTHER'S DAY

ORGANICALLY RAISED!

5 varieties to choose from

**BE THERE EARLY!
FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED**

**Pick up: May 5th and 6th
In the greenhouse
8:30-9:30am
3:00-3:30pm**

**MANITOBA
LEGEND**

CHERRY BUZZ

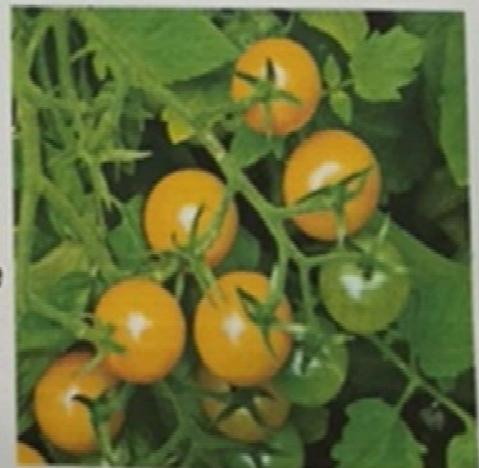
OREGON SPRING

SIBERIA

\$3

**order forms are available from
the office and will be sent home**

All proceeds will benefit Lincoln Garden



Anti Oppression Conversation

RESCHEDULED DATE: May 9, 2016

Native People in Education

Presented by

Dr. John Hopkins and

Paulette Frisina

- Learn about how education has affected native identity and the “indigenous voice of survivance.”
- Discuss issues of cultural appropriation and cultural sensitivity.
- Discuss how these issues apply to our Lincoln community.

6:30-8:30 - Lincoln Library - No Cost - Free ChildCare



Dr. John Hopkins currently serves as the Associate Dean of Students and Director of Service & Diversity Initiatives of Saint Martin's University. He also teaches courses in Communication Studies and Social Justice. Prior to his appointment at Saint Martin's, John developed an interest in multicultural education and Indigenous education while serving as an instructor and Project Director of Family Literacy for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe's education division (1996 – 1999) and serving as an Associate Director of Seattle University's Office of Multicultural Affairs (2001 – 2006). John earned his Ph.D. in Education from the University of Washington, his master's degree in Philosophy from Marquette University, and his bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Seattle University.

His research addresses the way conversations unfold within colonizing frameworks between mainstream education and Indigenous communities. Drawing from the Indigenous philosophical literature, he attempts to articulate a distinctive Indigenous political theory that reveals the limits of recent writings in the politics of reconciliation and that proposes decolonizing strategies for Native students in public schools.

Camp Elderberry



JUNE 3rd, 2016
Friday



*Countdown to CAMP
ELDERBERRY*

Thank you to all who turned in forms and have signed up to lead activities or help in other ways at Camp Elderberry. As always, we are fine-tuning the many activities that will be offered at Camp Elderberry this year, and appreciate all of your enthusiasm.

Forms for Activity leading were due back Friday April 22nd, but it's *not* too late to sign-up to help in other areas.

We Still Need:

- Saturday Morning Cleanup Coordinator
- Potluck Crew Members
- Recycling/Garbage/Compost Coordinator
- Alumni Coordinator
- And Many More

Each of us is a unique strand in the intricate web of life and here to make a difference. Deepak Chopra.



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*Alone we can do so
little; together we can
do so much*
-Helen Keller

Permission Packet

You should have already received, via Kid Mail, the large **Permission Packet**. This packet must be **completed and back to school no later than May 6th**. A lot is done with the information inside this packet, so the sooner we get it back the more prepared we are. If you lose your form, or if it never arrived via kid-mail, we will be posting them to the Options website: lincoln.osd.wednet.edu. There will also be additional copies in the office and on the Camp Elderberry Bulletin Board.

New to Lincoln?

If you are a new Lincoln family, there is information in the Call for Help packet that went home in April. Please ask another family that has been to Camp Elderberry or contact the coordinator, Jill, with any questions.

Lastly, check out the Camp Elderberry Bulletin Board (in the hall outside the office). There you will find many photos and maps, an overview of the day, and all the forms that have been sent home.

Please contact me anytime at 561-4154 or at jilllieseke@yahoo.com

Camp Elderberry Potluck



Potluck 2016

The potluck at Camp Elderberry gives us an opportunity to have a communal meal and celebrate our year together. The moment we step into the dining hall, we have a feast ahead for our eyes and palate. We sit amongst friends or new acquaintances as we eat food we made for one another. One cannot help but feel the bond and goodwill with our school community. One of our goals for the potluck is not making it a burden on families in terms of time and expense.

What to bring?



Main Course, and a salad, appetizer, or dessert

v Each family is asked to bring a main course that serves at least 12, plus a salad, or dessert. Consider joining with another family in bringing your food – have each family make one dish (salad, dessert, or main course) in larger portions than what you would normally bring on your own.



Tips and ideas

v There are some great places in Olympia to buy food that is pre-made in the deli section or that are available in large portions such as the Olympia Food Co-Op, Trader Joe's, Costco, Top Food, or Fred Meyers.

v Some popular food in past years have been finger foods such as veggies and dip, fruit kabobs, quesadillas, tortilla roll-ups, mini-bagel sandwiches, deviled eggs, and of course pizza which is always the favorite with kids.



Potluck Guidelines

- We can accept food needing to be heated up or frozen foods, but **anything frozen must be thawed ahead of time**. Please give the potluck crew written instructions, if needed, on heating up your food and we'll do it for you.
- We won't be able to accommodate food needing spoons or bowls. Supply your own.
- Desserts not requiring a plate make for easy cleanup – who doesn't love a cupcake? Just like at Grandma's dessert will come out after everyone is through the food line.
- **Please remember that dishes need to be peanut-free.**
- Pre-cut or slice your food – this works well for portioning food and makes the food line move quickly.
- Please mark your dishes and serving utensils with your name. We'll be washing the potluck serving dishes and getting them back to you after dinner.
- Bring your own place settings for your family – plates, forks and cups.
- Make a label about your dish, especially if has specific dietary ingredients, such as being gluten-free or vegetarian.
- Bring your food to the Camp Elderberry mess hall anytime during the day – there is a walk-in fridge and plenty of counter space to place your food. We'll have signs marking locations for food storage.
- 5th graders and their families will go through the potluck line first. After that everyone else will line up and walk to one of four tables with a full spread of delicious food.

Ducks, garden, chickens, bikes, and much, much more...

By Paul Rocks

This pretty planet just keeps giving us authentic opportunities to experience the outdoors.

Currently at Lincoln we have:

Ducks

Last week the ducks hatched. We started with fifteen eggs and ended up with seven ducklings. They are pretty cute. I save much of my life science teaching for this event. During the last two weeks we have used the ducks to explore food webs, energy transfers, life cycles, adaptations, heredity, evolution, and behavior. The kids are so excited about this project, as humans we have an affinity for the natural world, and our need for connection.

There are lots of connections happening in the garden. Where to begin? The garden is really in great shape, mainly because of the many adults that intentionally care for this piece of land. Our three new raised bed are beautiful, and will offer years of productivity. We have a large amount of lettuce growing that kids started. Soon it will be filling the salad bar and heading to the Food Bank. Our relationship with the Food Bank remains strong. Recently, a local Girl Scout group spent a Saturday building beds in the garden, specifically to foster this bond.

Chicks

Megan Lanese is the new chicken coordinator. She purchased six chicks and is working hard to ensure that chickens are part of the Lincoln experience.

Garden Work Party (note the time, we're hoping this works better for folks)

May 7th 2-5

Plant sale

May 28 (time to be decided, we are working on a pre-order)

Biking to School

The month of May is also the Bicycle Commuter Contest. This year students have two options to participate. They can do the full contest (bccblog.com). When you go to register, Lincoln's team name is *Lincoln Lightning*, Sayre Hodgson, Jasper's mom, is our contact person (sayreh@uw.edu). The other option is a mini contest just open for kids. This is a two-week contest, and it is very accessible. Forms are in the office. Bike to school day is May 4th, and bike to work day is May 20th.

This is an incredible planet we get to live on, glad to be sharing the ride with all you folks!

All photos
by Paul
Rocks





Be a Guardian of the Garden, a Summer Savior!

**Do you love the Lincoln Garden?
It needs you this summer, when our special
place is at its most bountiful.**

Pull some weeds, eat some raspberries, harvest some cukes for the food bank.

The garden has a watering system, thank goodness. But it needs weeding, harvesting, and love to keep it going all summer long.

What can you do?

- ✓ Families sign up for a week or two to help out in the garden over summer break
- ✓ Come for as little or as much as you can - even just a few hours in a week helps a lot.
- ✓ Toward the end of summer, harvesting becomes very important. We'll harvest and freeze tomatoes for this fall's Harvest Festival, and bring loads of veggies to the Thurston County Food Bank.

Interested?

Please contact Chelsea Buchanan at briscoebuchanan@gmail.com or

[360/350-9473](tel:3603509473). Watch for sign up sheets in the hall and at Camp Elderberry.



Right: photo of Oliver B.

Welcome Telma!

Spanish Language
Activity Night
(Thurs. May 5)

Mt Rainier Trip
(Sun. May 8)

What Connects Us ~ To Santo Tomás, Nicaragua

By Teacher Emily Petrie

For 15 years Lincoln has partnered with Rubén Darío Elementary School in Santo Tomás, Nicaragua. The sister school relationship is based on the idea that people-to-people exchange inspires peace and understanding between communities. As part of Spanish class students at Lincoln exchange letters written in Spanish with students at Rubén Darío. Reading letters from Santo Tomás is each year one of my favorite classroom activities. The conversations that the letters inspire are rich with questions about children far away. This year I heard kindergarteners marvel at the similarities and differences in our experiences. “Kids in Santo Tomás like soccer just like I do!?” or questions like “Are there lions where they live?”

This spring brings our Lincoln community another opportunity to strengthen the relationship. As part of the seventh delegation from Santo Tomás, Lincoln will be hosting Telma, the librarian from Rubén Darío. When I was in Santo Tomás last summer Telma spoke eloquently of the pride she feels in the small library she runs at Rubén Darío, grateful for the support of the Lincoln community has offered to the students and teachers at this school in Santo Tomás. Telma explained that because of the relationship with Lincoln, children have access to a great diversity of books that would not otherwise be available.

Telma describes her experience in education in this way “I’ve been involved in primary school education for 18 years now: teaching, working in administration, and running the school library for the last eight years. I feel very satisfied and proud of my work teaching and being the librarian at the Rubén Darío school. I’ve had the opportunity to not only instruct but also to imbue social and moral values in the children.” As a teacher myself I recognize in Telma’s words the same joy I feel knowing my work



Follow me to Page



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has a positive impact on children's lives. I am very much looking forward to sharing with Telma Lincoln's focus on Kindness, Community, and Celebration.

A big thank you goes out to Heather, Tim and Zoe McCloud for hosting Telma in their home and to all the members of the OCC Spanish Committee. For more information contact me, Emily Petrie at epetrie@osd.wendnet.edu or text 360.480.8720.

If you're looking for more opportunities to interact with the delegates check out the TSTSCA facebook page. Of special note are the following two events:

Spanish-Language Activist Night, Thursday, May 5th, 2016, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, in the Lincoln Gym (213 21st Ave SE, Olympia)

Mount Rainier Trip, Sunday, May 8th, 8:30 am, carpool departing from Lincoln Options Elementary (213 21st Ave SE, Olympia). Please email, tstsca@gmail.com by May 6 to reserve or to offer space.

The photo below pictures Telma with her fellow delegates from Santo Tomas. This is the new play structure build in the town's central park.





ALL ABOUT PUBERTY

A sponsored **FAMILY NIGHT** for parents, caregivers,
and their 10-12 year old pre-teens

Join Planned Parenthood educators for an evening with these learning goals:

- Encourage family communication about issues of sexuality and adolescence.
- Provide accurate information about the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty.

Planned Parenthood has over 30 years of experience providing classes for families. Youth and adults praise these presenters for their ability to make a group feel comfortable when discussing potentially challenging subjects:

- ✓ "I liked the way information was communicated factually without judgments attached" (Parent)
- ✓ "It brought this up in an atmosphere that was comfortable and will stimulate further conversation." (Parent)
- ✓ "I liked that we talked about things I normally wouldn't talk about." (10 year old)
- ✓ "I liked that I got to learn about how my body is going to start to change." (11 year old)
- ✓ "I was afraid to approach the subject of sexuality and this opened the door to communication." (Parent)

All About Puberty includes group activities, video, discussion, opportunities to ask anonymous questions, and tips and parent resources for keeping the lines of communication open! All About Puberty is open to everyone. All gender identity/expressions are welcome.

DAY: Thursday May 12th
TIME: 6:00-8:30 pm
PLACE: Lincoln Elementary Cafeteria
FEE: Suggested donation of \$25/family (No one is turned away for lack of funds)
SPONSORED BY:



Pre-Registering assures that we have enough materials for all participants. To pre-register, please fill out the information below and turn in along with payment to the Misc. OCC Funds Mailbox in the office before the night of the event. You may also register at the event.

Make checks payable to PPGHI

- Sign us up for All About Puberty \$25 attached here
 _____ (# of) youth and adults attending Reduced cost: \$_____ (contribution amount)

Student's Name(s): _____

Grade(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone/Cell: _____

All About Puberty
 is an educational program of Planned Parenthood
 For more information please contact (360) 754-1556

Playground Committee Update

By Sharonne O'Shea and Sarah Clifthorne

After two years of work, we are on track to install new playground equipment this summer! Part of how we can afford to get this new equipment is that we are doing a "community install" with the playground equipment company supervising us. **Look out for sign-up sheets to help demolish and install this summer.** We've got this Lincoln! Let's do it!

Fairy Housing Shortage Crisis! Fairies Need Your Help Now!

The Playground Committee will be working to create a new fairy neighborhood outside Marcela's office once the school district has completed some repair work involving her deck. We need your help to obtain concrete toadstools as permanent housing for the fairies that will relocate there. These toadstools also happen to fill a requested need by our school's Physical Therapist to "help develop balance, coordination, and visual-special skills for gross motor development" of kids.

You ask: "What can I do?" Shout "I believe in fairies" 3 times as you write a check to Lincoln Options and help make this permanent fairy housing a reality. Then watch for construction opportunities coming your way soon.

Our goal is to raise \$2600 and every small or large donation helps make this a reality!



You are invited to a Nicaraguan Cultural Exchange Night!

Brought to you by Lincoln &
the Thurston Santo Tomas Sister County Association

Join us for an evening with our visitors from Nicaragua
and celebrate our Sister-School Connection!

Thursday, May 5th, 2016, 6:00pm, in the Lincoln Gym
(213 21st Ave SE, Olympia)

Food, Music, Dancing, Spanish Conversation, Activities,
Friendship!

For more information, or to help with planning,
contact Emily at 360.480.8720

Lincoln Options Opus

May 2016

It's our Opus.

If you have an item for the
Opus, please forward it to
Sarah Clifthorne at
opuseditor@gmail.com. The
deadline for submissions is
the 15th of each month for the
next month's issue.

Questions? Feedback?
Suggestions for
improvements? Contact us
via email. Thanks!

