

Students to build public recreation project

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Warrenton Middle School students will design and build a public outdoor activity space that includes walking trails, a bike path, and a disc golf course with interpretive signs that share regional history.

Pacific Power announced this week that its foundation is donating \$9,500 to the campus for the student learning experience as well as a STEM summer camp in which students will work with robots, drones and remotely operated underwater vehicles.

It's the fifth Pacific Power grant that WMS Principal Josh Jannusch has won for the district during the past two years. Others have gone to the high school's STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and CTE (career-technical education) programs, which included the purchase of welding equipment.

"They have been really generous with us," Jannusch said of Pacific Power Foundation.

Jannusch's idea was to let the students get some use of the entire 58-acre site that includes the middle school. Eventually, the Warrenton-Hammond School District's high school and grade school will be built there as well.

"Our STEM class will be an integral part of this," he said. "The hope is that all classes will have some impact."

Math students will get a chance to apply their classroom lessons to real-world experiences. Science students will learn about construction techniques. Art classes will be involved in the design. English students will choose and write information for the interpretive signs. History students will gather the regional history. Even students in an elective class on podcasting will get a chance to report on the project.

"I've pretty much named every subject we have, but that's kind of the idea," Jannusch said. "We're using a multidisciplinary approach to this, which is education-ese for using all the different skills – English, math, art – to tie everything together and show that these subjects are applicable outside of school."

It answers the question for students who ask why they need to know how to conjugate a verb or solve a math equation. STEM and

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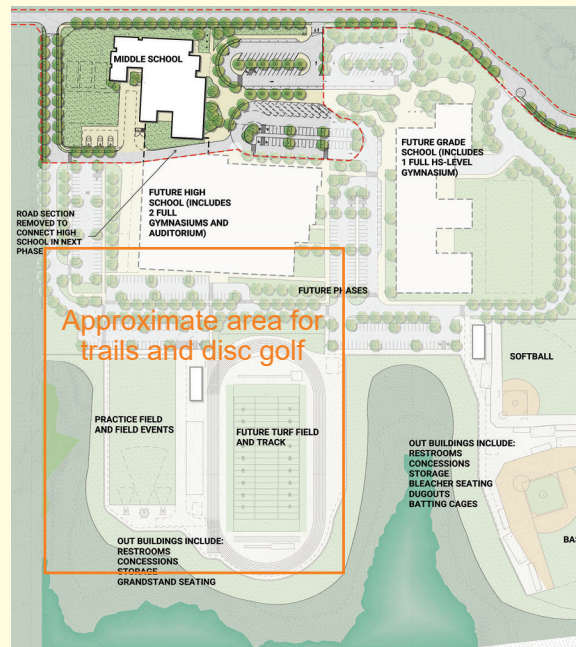


Cindy Yingst/The Columbia Press

Air National Guardsman Marcus Helenius throws a disc for his dog, Margot, Wednesday on a Warrenton Middle School field that's planned for a hiking, biking and disc golf area.



Jannusch



Seniors, disabled more vulnerable in disasters

The Columbia Press and news services

Older adults, people with disabilities, and those on fixed incomes are especially vulnerable during disasters.

"From a house fire to major earthquakes, taking simple steps to be prepared can be the difference between survival and recovery from a disaster," said Ed Flick, director of the Oregon Department of Human Services' Office of Resilience and Emergency Management.

TV and print news are filled with stories about those who weren't able to prepare for emergencies or evacuate. Many of the faces are older, disabled or poor.

"We aim to change that as soon as possible," Flick said.

September is preparedness month throughout the nation. Most are being told to be "two-weeks" prepared. But in Clatsop County, residents should be prepared to care for themselves for six weeks.

Emergency responders won't be as available during a mass casualty situation, said LeAnn Ivers, co-chair of the Disability Emergency Management Advisory Council. She's also hard of hearing and experiencing vision loss.

"We all need to prepare as if no one is coming to rescue us," Ivers said. "We can take control by creating our own plan and how we respond to disasters."

Ivers recommends these tips for older adults and people with disabilities, although many are relevant to everyone:

- If you have access and function-

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