



**Community Partners and Outreach
School Board Report
October 2020**

Successes:

- Sustained over 80 community partnerships in the 2019-20 school year
- Included community partner highlights in district newsletter inserts in the PT Leader
- Partners and district combine grants, fundraising, and levy funds to provide high quality programs across all grade levels
- Community partners invited to join a variety of staff professional development sessions on culturally responsive teaching
- Strengthened partnership with NWMC through Maritime Skills Center Program and collaborative grant writing
- Presentations at community and regional groups including Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee, Nisqually River Education Project, Sea Doc Society
- Successful partnerships continued through school closure in the spring with organizations like Port Townsend Marine Science Center, and KPTZ
- New partnerships were formed in response to COVID including
 - Connected Students Initiative, to get kids home internet access
 - District participation in families and youth roundtable with Jumping Mouse, and now Families and Youth Committee as part of the intergovernmental COVID response
- Partnerships strengthened through COVID response:
 - Jefferson County Public Health
 - YMCA Childcare and Summer meals program
- Additional partners are reengaging for the 2020-21 school year including Skillmation, PT Public Library, YMCA

Challenges:

- School closure caused many projects to not be completed or started with community partners, some of which do not yet have a plan in place how they will continue to work with us this school year.
- It is unclear if some programs will happen this year due to COVID-19, and a plan needs to be made to reconnect and maintain programs as we shift back to a regular school schedule, including securing funding.

Suggestions for future partnership development:

- When programs shift, change significantly, or end, building principals and MDS director meet in person with the community partner to answer questions and plan for future programs. This should include any significant partnerships that have programs cancelled due to COVID.
- Continue MDS Community Advisory group as community partners indicate this is a useful way to stay connected, particularly now.
- MDS Director will reach out to core community partners through the fall to determine opportunities for remote or outdoor programs.