

# Kamiak Elementary Recognized as 2024 State ESEA Distinguished School

Evan Hecker, Kamiak Elementary Principal



On behalf of Pullman Public Schools, I am thrilled to announce that Kamiak Elementary School has been recognized as a 2024 Washington State Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Distinguished School by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

This prestigious award, accompanied by a grant of \$15,000, celebrates the outstanding academic achievements of our students and highlights the collective efforts of our dedicated staff, supportive families, and resilient students. The \$15,000 award will be used to further enhance student learning at Kamiak Elementary school.

### Celebrating Academic Excellence

The State ESEA Distinguished Schools Program, established by the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA), highlights the success of federally funded schools making significant strides in student achievement.

Schools are recognized in three categories:

- Category 1: Exceptional student performance and academic growth
- Category 2: Closing the achievement gap between student groups
- Category 3: Serving special populations of students

Kamiak Elementary School earned recognition in Category 1: Exceptional student performance and academic growth, a testament to our professional learning community’s unwavering commitment to student success for all students.

Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chris Reykdal commended the achievement, stating:

*“I am excited about Kamiak Elementary School being recognized as a 2024 State ESEA Distinguished School. I am proud of the hard work of your students, teachers, and administrators to achieve this recognition.”*

I too am proud of our accomplishments and our wide array of strengths that include collaborative teaching and learning strategies, targeted professional development for staff, personalized programs to support student success, and robust partnerships among our school, parents, and our community. What makes our story particularly impactful is the documented improvement in student achievement, driven by our focused efforts, teamwork, and innovative approaches. We will continue to foster a positive learning environment where every student can thrive. We are pleased to see these efforts recognized at the state level.

**ADMIT ONE**  
TICKET NUMBER

**PHS DRAMA**

Spring Productions

**THE LIGHTNING THIEF**  
THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

May 1-3, 2025  
07:00 pm Shows & Saturday 2 pm matinee  
PHS Auditorium

**A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
-Classic Shakespeare-

May 15-17, 2025  
07:00 pm Shows & Saturday 2 pm matinee  
PHS Auditorium

**ADMISSION \$5 - STUDENTS ARE FREE**

**WASHINGTON GUARANTEED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM**

**THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU AT WASHINGTON'S PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**

With the Washington Guaranteed Admissions Program (WAGAP), college admissions don't have to be stressful. If you meet minimum GPA and coursework requirements, you're guaranteed a spot at six public four-year universities in Washington.

**HOW IT WORKS**

WAGAP works with participating high schools and shares your academic records with six four-year public universities in Washington. If you are an 11th and 12th grader from a participating school and meet basic requirements, you'll be guaranteed admission to those universities when you apply.

**OUR MISSION IS TO ENSURE LEARNING WHILE CHALLENGING AND SUPPORTING EACH STUDENT TO ACHIEVE FULL POTENTIAL**

To enroll in kindergarten, your student must be 5 years old by August 31, 2025

**ENROLL FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR TODAY!**

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT:**

- ✓ Proof of student's age (birth certificate, passport, adoption records, etc.)
- ✓ Up-to-date & medically verified immunization records
- ✓ Ages & Stages Questionnaire (Kindergarten Only)

If your student is currently enrolled at one of our schools, there is no need to reapply. You will be required to complete annual updates in August. Transferring students records will be requested from their former school upon completion of the application.

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER AT [WWW.PULLMANSCHOOLS.ORG/ENROLLMENT](http://WWW.PULLMANSCHOOLS.ORG/ENROLLMENT)

**SCAN ME**



# A New Approach to Online Safety for Pullman Schools

## Juston Pollestad, Executive Director of Operations

Pullman School District has provided one-to-one technology devices (Chromebooks) to students for several years to enhance access to learning. While these devices have been invaluable in many ways, they have also introduced challenges. Over time, and particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, schools nationwide became increasingly reliant on personal technology devices. Even with the return to in-person learning, this reliance has persisted, raising concerns about excessive screen time and its potential impact on students' mental and physical well-being.

Recognizing these challenges, the Pullman School Board has recently updated its policy on personal technology devices to minimize distractions during the school day. While Chromebooks remain an essential educational tool, the school board is committed to ensuring their use is structured, effective, and responsible.

To enhance online security, improve student engagement, and provide better support for educators and parents, Pullman School District will implement Linewize, a comprehensive digital safety and monitoring solution. This initiative represents a proactive approach to managing digital learning environments effectively.

### Key Features of Linewize

#### Content Awareness

Linewize’s real-time content awareness feature prevents exposure to inappropriate material without blocking entire websites.

- Inappropriate images on a webpage are blurred while the rest of the page remains accessible.
- Future updates will introduce video blurring and text analysis for enhanced content moderation.

This feature allows students to access educational resources safely without unnecessary restrictions.

#### Classwise Portal for Educators



The **Classwise** portal provides teachers with real-time visibility of student screens, enabling them to monitor activity and apply specific filtering controls. This ensures students remain focused on lesson-related content. The portal also supports direct teacher-to-student communication

and facilitates automated resource sharing, allowing educators to seamlessly distribute instructional materials to student devices.



#### Empowering Parents

Linewize equips parents with tools to better understand and manage their child’s online activity. Through this system, parents can:

- Access detailed reports on their child’s internet usage.
- Learn about online risks through educational resources.
- Establish internet rules at home, such as setting curfews or restricting certain content.
- Extend protection to personal devices, ensuring continued online safety beyond the school environment.

This initiative enables parents to guide their child's digital experience in a safe and informed manner.

#### Keys to Success

To ensure a smooth and effective implementation, Pullman School District, with the support of its Information Technology team, will focus on several key strategies:

- **Pilot Program** – A preliminary rollout will be conducted to gather feedback from early users and refine the system based on real-world application.
- **Community Engagement** – A dedicated landing page will provide essential information and resources for students, teachers, and parents.
- **Training & Support** – In-person training sessions will be held to ensure staff, students, and families can effectively utilize the new system.
- **Parental Involvement** – Actively engaging parents will be a priority to ensure families fully benefit from the available tools.

By proactively addressing the challenges associated with digital learning and Chromebook reliance, the Pullman School District remains committed to fostering a safe, engaging, and well-managed online environment for all students.

We look forward to sharing further updates as we progress toward the rollout of Linewize and continue working together to support student success in the digital age.

The PHS AAPI club presents

MULTICULTURAL Night

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

PULLMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOSTED BY THE PHS ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAPI) CLUB IN COOPERATION WITH THE WSU INTERNATIONAL CENTER AND THE PSD ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Join us in celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures in our community! Indulge in complimentary culinary delights while enjoying engaging games, vibrant displays, captivating cultural performances, and invaluable local insights.

20+ countries represented!complimentary food

cultural displays & performanceslocal info

fun games, activities, and more!

DON'T MISS OUT!

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Pullman High School

6:30-8:30 pm

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

Come tour your school and meet your teacher!

Each school will be hosting an open house for children who will be 5 years old by August 31, 2025, and will be entering kindergarten in one of our schools for the 2025-2026 school year.

MAY 29 2025

4:30 PM-6:00 PM

ENROLL ONLINE!

[www.pullmanschools.org/enrollment](http://www.pullmanschools.org/enrollment)

Enrollment may be completed during the Open House Event. Paper enrollment packets, including translated, are available at each school.

The Pullman School District Board of Directors and the Pullman School District shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities programs without regard to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation (including gender expression or identity), marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, participation in the Boy Scouts of America or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent, (509) 332-3144, [compliancecoord@psd267.org](mailto:compliancecoord@psd267.org), and Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent (509) 332-3144, [compliancecoord@psd267.org](mailto:compliancecoord@psd267.org). 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584. Title IX inquiries may also be directed toward the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR): <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>. Information about the nondiscrimination and sex- based discrimination policies and grievance procedures, and how to report a concern or complaint: [https://www.pullmanschools.org/families/hib-and-discrimination/discrimination\\_sexual\\_harassment](https://www.pullmanschools.org/families/hib-and-discrimination/discrimination_sexual_harassment).

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