

PRESS RELEASE



GROWING THE FUTURE

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TO: The Chronicle
The Spotlight

FROM: Stacey Mendoza

DATE: April 10, 2018

SUBJECT: St. Helens School District and Northwest Parenting Education & Support
Host 6th Annual Early Learning Fair

The St. Helens School District and Northwest Parenting Education & Support are hosting the sixth annual Early Learning Fair (ELF) on Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Helens High School Commons (2375 Gable Road in St. Helens).

Children ages birth to five are invited to bring their adults to see the great programs, businesses and services available to young children in the St. Helens area.

Children age 3 to teen participating in classes at OPAS (Oregon Performing Arts Studio) will perform at 11:00 a.m. demonstrating their dance skills in tap, hip hop, and ballet. The demonstrations will be followed by a mini follow along dance workshop for children 2-5 years old. Join us for some toe tapping fun!

Vault Elite will wow us at noon with cheer, tumbling and stunts!

Come early for the popular clothing exchange where you can trade your lightly-used children's clothing for someone else's in a more appropriate size. If you would like to participate in the exchange, but don't have any clothing of your own, don't worry. Canned food will be accepted in lieu of clothes.

A variety of family workshops will also be offered, one each hour, on the half hour, starting at 11:30 a.m. Classes are still being finalized, so check Northwest Parenting's website (www.nworparenting.org) for a final schedule of classes. Course offerings will include topics ranging from Baby Wearing, Kindergarten Readiness, Healthy Young Children, and a Family Story Time.

This year, ELF will coincide with the Week of the Young Child, an annual program sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of the Week of the Young Child is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. The 2018 Week of the Young Child is April 16-21.

For further information regarding ELF, please contact St. Helens School District's Early Learning Director, Martine Barnett at 503-366-7426 or Julianne Cullen from Northwest Parenting Education and Support at 503-556-3736.