

Klahanie School 2026 Class Definition of **Community**

We Share.

We Play Together.

We Relax Together.

We Sing Together.

We Collaborate Ideas.

We are Creative Together.

We have Fun and Listen.

We Show What We Know.

I'm proud of you, I'm proud of you, I hope that you are proud of you.

I'm proud of you, I'm proud of you, I hope that you are proud of you.

~Fred Rogers

I'm proud of me, I'm proud of me.

I love, I love, I love me.

I'm proud of me, I'm proud of me.

I love, I love, I love my heart.

~Klahanie School

Klahanie Kids are mighty, mighty kids and mighty, mighty kids they are.

They work for equity, they work for peace, they work for love, they work for harmony!

Honoring our Indigenous, First Nations wisdoms as our core intention and integrations of council, we refer to Circle from that place of honor and respect.

**Welcome to our new and returning friends to class time for the end of June and July weeks!
See you July 13th for the last weeks of school.**

No School Week of July 6-July 10

Please check over your jovial family portal for updated end of the year fees. **All payments are due by August 6th.** Fees are listed in the accounting- statement and summary of your family portal. We are closing accounts - family portals, and the jovial system August 8th. Thank you.

July Curriculum Topics

- **Thank you Teachers!** Our school basked in the incredible expertise of kindness, playfulness, attention to detail, artistic-group project and curiosity and appreciation of Early Education from our incredible team. Thank you for your friendship, mentorship and community creations! We are so deeply fortunate and our programming thrives with such people enjoying time, offering consistencies, time, attention and kindness with your young students! Thank you Deb for the wonderful five years teaching beside you. You have made each day full of support, care, laughter and kindness. I've loved each moment working beside you. You are a treasure dear friend. And Perla, thank you for choosing us since you were in 7th grade to support young learners on the island. What an honor to witness your growth and support you. As well as Tallulah and amazing Celena for trusting in our work and offering so much joy to these students! Hugest hugs to you all and to the incredible paths you enter.
- **Grande Rondes' Tribal Leader, Peacemaker Kathryn Jones Harrison** [Kathryn Harrison, influential Oregon tribal leader, dies at 99 - oregonlive.com](#) , [Kathryn Harrison \(1924-2023\)](#) , [Oregon Historical Society to honor Kathryn Harrison | Smoke Signals](#), [What's in a School Rename: Kathryn Jones Harrison Outshines - The Corvallis Advocate](#), <https://www.nativeartsandcultures.org/remembering-kathryn-harrison>



- **Meaning and Practice of Resiliency and Nurturing Friendships:** Moving through life changes and acceptances of the new is our focus. How to find acceptances while honoring closings, grief in change and excitements about what is to come.
- **Sea Animal & Marine Life Exploration Deeper Dives into Octopus Life.** [Poulsbo aquarium welcomes new giant Pacific octopus](#) Naming of shells and local seaweed and water plant and animal life. We begin clear conversations about beach awareness and marine life etiquette. Salish Sea Vashon/Maury beaches, grace and courtesy behavior with beaches and marine animals--being a dear friend/Klahanie School alumni parent as well as marine biologist educator at Vashon Nature Center, Maria Metler set us up early on educating early about Salish Sea etiquette for humans, and how important our role is with local marine life. We bask in the learnings of our surrounding kelp beds, eelgrass habitats and precious estuaries we hold here on Maury and Vashon islands. As families we encourage kind relationship building with your local beaches and will encourage the children to use their hands in beach and forest cleanups all seasons.
- **Local Hummingbirds** [Hummingbirds - Seattle Audubon](#) , [Hummingbird Nests 101: Answers to All Your Questions - ABC](#)
- **Hummingbird magical nest explorations.**
- Baking a Berry Cake with all the garden berries harvested! Jam/Raspberry sauce over dairy free ideas children come up with.
- **Continued Healthy Relationship & Community exploration**, we will continue to support and explore the practice of Permission/Consent Play Practice and Coaching with friends in class to continue the sensory science learning (what happens in our bodies/brains to our fingertips) and emotions (more about what they are and what they can feel like and look, sound like).

- **We are going to break down moments that feel uncomfortable and find ways to empower ourselves and others around us.** Exploring that no matter what age, we deserve to be heard and seen and respected and we can call for that for ourselves, and for other people-living things (environment, animals).
- **We will explore age supported, what it means to love and ways we can show that to ourselves and to our families, our friends, our communities.** We honor starting in our backyards for making and sustainably honoring Peace in our world and also supporting when we need specific space. We will be asking students and teachers and the community to Show What We Know by acting and discussing in homes, classrooms, play moments, what Peace and Peaceful play means to us. Exploring, what does it mean to you, to me? And having fun with the richness of exploration in games, songs and puppet pauses diving a little deeper into self care moments as well.
- **In circle, we have been discussing moments when we feel “topsy-turvy” and do not know what to do with our bodies-choices, when feeling overwhelmed methods we can use to find best matches for ourselves in environments and encourage students to practice Pause and observation, sense-into their environment and choices, before moving to an action or choice.**
We are starting to become aware of empowerment in time we feel overwhelmed, actions we can take to ground ourselves to make insight with silence, and a chance to gather our awareness to one focus. *Pause* has become a great language focus and role playing practice in the classes, with wonderful impacts we are observing in both the classes. **Square Breathing practice.**

August Plannings:

August 6th: Everyone Graduates in the Klahanie Garden as a 2025-26 student and family.

Due to limited parking we will **request carpooling** for families please and thank you, **and parking at KVI/ or off of Chautaugua Rd and 204th Street**, where you can park off the road safely. Invitations will be coming home the first week back from July break, 10:30am-11:30am (graduation ceremony begins 11am). * Teachers will arrive at 9:45 am to help set up, and staff honoring before families arrive.

Thriftway Receipts, please keep them coming this final month! Vashon Thriftway receipts with Name and phone # on the top of each receipt please!

The background of the entire image is black. It is decorated with several red flowers of various sizes and styles, some with dark centers, and green stems with small leaves. There are also small yellow and white speckles scattered throughout, giving it a textured, artistic feel.

THANK YOU for Helping our Garden Grow

*Our intention is to instill a love of life
and the confidence necessary to explore
our ever-changing world.*



Klahanie School: Founded September 2009, Retiring August 2026

Dear Klahanie School Students, Families, and Staff, past and present,

Thank you for the years of learning, growing, and exploring together through our Montessori Anti-bias Educational lens. Providing this level of care has been a lifelong dream, and I was only able to achieve it because of your support.

I am immensely proud of the moments we shared within our Montessori environment on Vashon-Maury Island. Whether those moments were challenging, clear, or transformative, we learned together. Above all, I cherish the adaptive and resilient growth we shared with our students.

I am writing to share that Klahanie School is now docking as I prepare for retirement from running a school and teaching. While I am retiring from my role as Executive Director and transitioning away from Early Education teaching, I look forward to seeing where my strong skills and education will lead me next. My connection to our students remains strong, and I am always here to provide community support and celebrate who you are. I look forward to transitioning into new work devoted to societal health and support.

I wish you all the very best in your future learning adventures. Your love of learning is the foundation of the work I have been honored to offer daily as we sensorially celebrated our shared earth together. Onward we go to show what we know in kindness, equity, hope.

With much love, care, excitement, and gratitude,

Emily Graham

Founder, AMS Accredited Lead Teacher, and Executive Director

Klahanie School <http://www.klahanieschool.org>



Washington Federation
of Independent Schools

