Beards: Judging of Lynden's best nearing A2

Lynden Tribune

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A trio of seniors **leads Lynden** to state

The Lynden boys are headed back to Yakima for the 2A state basketball tournament and a trio of seniors have always been buddies in sports together. SPORTS, B1



Three girls teams headed to Yakima

The Lynden, Lynden Christian and Nooksack Valley girls basketball teams are all headed to Yakima for state basketball. Check out how they got there. **SPORTS**, **B1**



Home & Garden Show takes over Lynden

The annual Whatcom County Home & Garden Show kicks off this weekend in Lynden and we have you covered with stories of exhibitors. HOME, C1

ACADEMICS

Lynden schools' design passing final scrutiny

Fisher going to bid this spring for new construction starting in June

By Calvin Bratt editor@lyndentribune.com

LYNDEN — Designs for new Fisher Elementary and Lynden Middle schools are passing their first tests of community scrutiny.

About 25 people, many with connections to either of the two schools, showed up Monday evening to hear and see overviews of plans by the architectural firms involved.

After verbal and visual presentations, attendees could inspect the displays and floor plans more closely.

"I can't wait to see it once it's all done," said Suzie Cartagena, a paraeducator at Lynden Middle School, whose fourth-grade son Angel also

See **Designs** on A2



paraeducator, talks with architect David King. (Calvin Bratt/Lynden Tribune)

Lynden hires VanderYacht as assistant superintendent

Isom principal will make transition next school year

By Tim Newcomb tim@lyndentribune.com

LYNDEN — Lynden fixture David Vander Yacht has served the Lynden School District in numerous roles already. His next position moves him into the district's administrative office as new assistant superintendent.

VanderYacht, currently principal at Isom Elementary School, will serve out the school year at Isom before making the transition to the district office, filling a currently vacant assistant superintendent role, focusing on human resources and operations.

A 1986 graduate of Lynden High School, VanderYacht attended Edmonds Community College, Western Washington University and City University. He holds a K-8 elementary education teaching endorsement, a 4-12 psychology endorsement and a principal's certificate, and in 2013 earned his superintendent's

VanderYacht has served in the Lynden School District since 1992 when he was hired to teach seventh and eighth grade English and social studies. He taught in the middle school for 10 years, then in 2002 became the middle school's assistant principal while serving as director of the Lynden Summer Migrant Program from 1996 to 2006. In 2004, he became the principal at Isom.

Along with his positions held during the normal school day, VanderYacht has coached football, basketball, baseball and fastpitch. He serves on the Lynden Scholarship Foundation Board and is an active member of Calvary Creekside Church.

"David's unique experience in Lynden as an active community member, coach, youth advocate and school leader has equipped him for the role of assistant superintendent for human resources and operations," said Jim Frey, superintendent. "We are excited for David to move into this role and know that he will continue to be a great ambassador for all Lynden schools and the Lynden community."

Legislature creates education task force

All 42nd District members vote no on pair of bills

By Izumi Hansen

WNPA Olympia News Bureau

OLYMPIA — In a Feb. 25 maneuver that brought a Senate-approved basic-education bill to the House floor for debate, state representatives reaffirmed their support of the measure. The bill was signed by Gov. Jay Inslee on Mon-

SB 6195, called the basic education bill, establishes a task force to recommend legislative action on teacher salaries. It also requires the Legislature to reduce local reliance on school levies by the end of the 2017 legislative session.

The task force must collect data on teacher compensation from local school districts, according to WashingtonVotes.org.

Many legislators and outside education organizations believe the bill doesn't go far enough with resolving the underfunding issue, while

some say they understand the bill is bipartisan progress and wish the bill could have done more.

The Senate bill advanced Feb. 23 on a 26-23 vote after being amended to include the same language as the House version, HB 2366, which the House passed last month. Typically, a bill must go through more public hearings after being passed by one chamber. The House suspended this rule in order to vote on the bill Thursday.

See Education on A3



Weather

Thursday 55°/42° Friday 53°/43° Saturday 53°/43° Sunday 52°/41°

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