

*We Love Our  
Volunteers!*

**FRIDAY  
CONNECT**  
April 26, 2024



**Thank You, School Volunteers**

In the Chehalis School District, our partnerships with parents and community members help us create student achievement by ensuring our students are protected, supported and inspired. We are so grateful to have nearly 1,000 people who have volunteer clearances through the district. Whether they're chaperoning a field trip, helping out a classroom teacher or supporting district events, extracurriculars and athletics, this National School Volunteer Week we say 'Thank You!' to each and every one of them.



**Elementary Volunteers**

There are many ways that school volunteers serve. At our elementary schools, some volunteers are family members of students who volunteer to help with field trips and classroom activities. Men can volunteer to serve as Watch D.O.G.S. (dads of great students). Many of our parents also give their time through the [Chehalis PTO](#) (Parent Teacher Organization).

There are also school volunteers who are community members who want to make a difference in the lives of our students. Most notably, the [United Way of Lewis County](#) has reading buddies that come into our schools and read with students. Our students love this one-on-one time with these adults and their reading skills flourish with help from these volunteers.

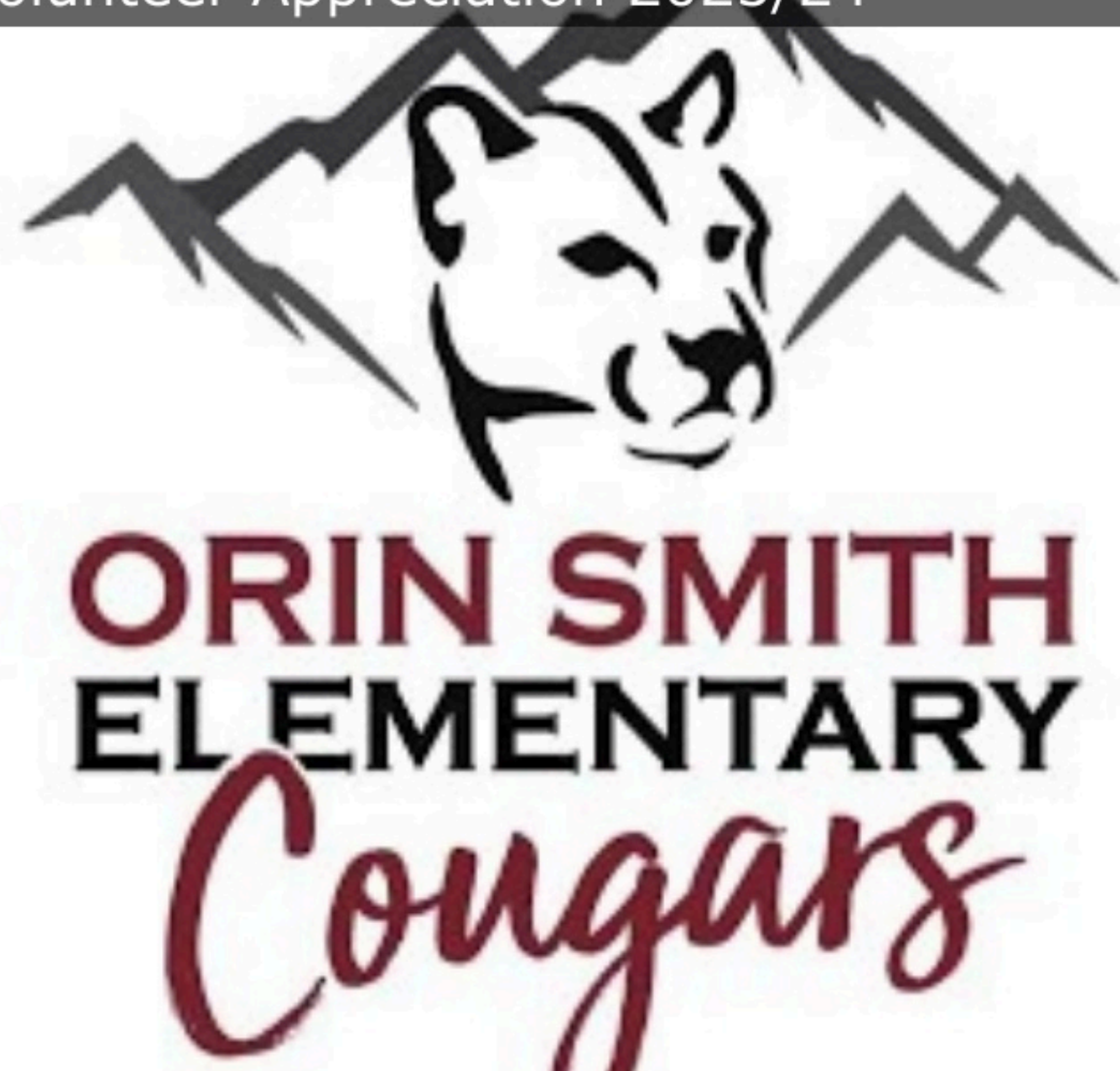
At James Lintott Elementary (grades K-2), school volunteers have logged a whopping 1,500 volunteer hours so far this school year. Lintott students will be honoring their school volunteers at an assembly and special Volunteer Appreciation event on May 3.

At Orin Smith Elementary (grades 3-5) school volunteers have logged 200 volunteer hours so far this year. Orin Smith student representatives held a volunteer appreciation breakfast on April 16. Students acted as servers and waited on the school volunteers and then treated them to a viewing of a special volunteer appreciation video that students throughout the building had created together.



**Watch the Volunteer Appreciation Video by Orin Smith Students**

Volunteer Appreciation 2023/24



**Secondary Volunteers**

At Chehalis Middle School (grades 6-8) and W.F. West High School (grades 9-12), the majority of school volunteer hours are as chaperones on long and short trips, as well as helping with extracurricular activities and athletics. A large deal of our secondaries are giving their time through booster clubs such as the Bearcat Athletics Boosters, Chehalis Music Booster Club and Chehalis Activators.

At Chehalis Middle School, six parent volunteers have stepped up this year to help staff manage students during lunch times and before and after school when there are a large number of students present in one place. Having those extra eyes on the scene helps keep student behavior positive.

"We appreciate them and want to thank them for spending their valuable time with us. They build great relationships with students as they connect during lunches, interact in the hallways and sometimes join in classroom activities. We are so thankful for the positive influence they have on our school culture and safety," said Principal Chris Simpson.



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