

Jefferson
Elementary
2500 Cadet Way
Everett, WA 98208
425.385.7400



Jefferson Charger

Elizabeth Kelley, Principal

www.everettsd.org

November 2016

From the Principal

Dear Jefferson families and guardians,

How did it get to be November already?! This is the month of Thanksgiving, so thank you for all the ways you have been involved with our school during the first eight weeks of the year! Whether volunteering in classes, helping with Lighthouse and PTA events, or coming to conferences, your involvement makes a difference. It was great to see families at conferences, which are such an important part of the relationship between home and school. We as a staff firmly believe that families are our students' first teachers, and we can learn so much from you!

One way to connect with your child's school experience is to understand Make Your Day, our school-wide citizenship and behavior management program. There are many misconceptions about this program, so I hope you'll take the time to read the section of this newsletter devoted to it. Speaking of the home-school connection, we'd love to have more families volunteer here at Jefferson. Whether you can help on an ongoing scheduled basis or just once in a while, please consider giving of your time. We can put you to work in any way you feel comfortable, whether that's in classrooms or behind the scenes. Fill out a volunteer application at <http://www.everettsd.org/domain/1452>, and then contact your child's teacher or the office!

Have a wonderful November!

Mrs. Kelley

Important information and reminders

Food assistance: Did you know that Jefferson Elementary has its own food bank? Each year, we have two food drives – one the week school starts, and another right after winter break. We have plenty of food, toiletries, and school supplies, and would love to share this with any family in need! You may not need assistance, but may know of a family that does. Either way, you may contact Counselor Lillian Ortiz-Self, Health Room Assistant Lori Lipp, or Principal Elizabeth Kelley to set up a time to pick up food or supplies. If you don't have transportation, we are happy to deliver. Asking for help can feel uncomfortable, and that's understandable. But we care about each and every Jefferson student and family, and want to see them benefit from this wonderful resource donated by our school community.

Parking lot: Thanks so much to everyone who is following our parking lot procedures to keep things moving quickly and safety. Here are a few reminders worth repeating:

- It is unsafe to drop students off except in the "kiss and go" line.
- Follow the direction of the arrows when moving through the lot.
- Do not use the parking lot behind the cafeteria; it is for staff and buses only.

Dogs on campus during arrival/dismissal: We ask that dogs be left at home or in the car (weather permitting) when you are dropping off or picking up students from school. Many students are afraid of dogs, have allergies, or simply do not know how to act appropriately around them. These are crowded times of day, with lots of extra noise and movement, so this will make it safer for kids and dogs alike!

Birthday treat policy: When planning classroom celebrations, please remember to check in with the classroom teacher ahead of time. Our handbook lists our birthday treat policy: "Treats should be store-bought healthy snacks ... no drinks, frozen treats, cupcakes, cookies, etc." Thanks for adhering to this policy, for the health and safety of all our students.

Medication given by family members at school: On occasion, it may be necessary for a family member to come to school to administer medication to a student. To ensure student safety and to allow us to document that a student has gotten medication, we ask that you sign in at the office and proceed to the health room to meet the student and give the medication.

Make Your Day

Do you speak “Make Your Day”? Our all-school citizenship and behavior management program requires a bit of language learning to really understand. The following are a few key words and phrases you may hear from your child, or from school staff members.

Philosophy of the program: Students are responsible for their own actions, and for coming to school ready to learn (with support from their families, of course). This program is based on three principles:

1. All students are capable of success.
2. Families/guardians are partners in their child’s growth.
3. Student success is generated by making appropriate choices at school and by open communication between school and home.

One School Rule: “Everyone has the right to learn and be physically and emotionally safe, free from interference from others.” This is the one basic rule that applies to all students, everywhere on our campus. In addition, there are two overriding expectations: “Do what’s expected. Do your best.”

Expectations: Learning or behavioral norms set by the teacher for each class period.

Earning Points: This occurs when students are following the one school rule, and meeting expectations. Students can earn a given number of points during the school day; they adjust points (earning fewer than the total possible for that period) when they engage in behavior that is not meeting expectations set by the teacher and communicated to the class. Students reflect on their own behavior and determine how many points they are earning.

Making Your Day: When students have earned a set number of points in the day, they “make their day.” The number of points required varies by grade level. Students who do not make their day bring home a “Make Your Day” slip as communication to parents. This slip will ask for your signature and that you discuss the day with your child. We do not expect any discipline at home as a result of the slip.

Choosing Step and Steps 1-3: When a student is engaged in behavior that interferes with another student’s learning or safety, he or she is allowed to choose Step 1. This involves sitting quietly for one to three minutes in a designated spot facing away from others. This is not a punishment, but it is a time for reflection about what the student needs to do differently to meet expectations. The student may progress to Step 2 and Step 3 if he or she refuses to go to Step 1, or refuses to do Step 1 appropriately.

Step 4: If a student progresses through Steps 1-3 and is still interfering with others, he or she is saying, “I need more guidance or structure to help me turn around my behavior.” In that case, the student will call a parent to come to school for a conference. The student on Step 4 is out of class until there has been a successful conference. A student may choose an automatic Step 4 for behavior that is willfully defiant, extremely disruptive, or severely harmful to self or others.

Choice vs. Punishment: Steps are the student’s choice, not a punishment. Since students are taught in advance what behaviors constitute “interfering,” continuing this behavior is the student’s choice. The student is asking to be allowed to spend time thinking about how to make a better choice.

If you have questions about Make Your Day, please contact your child’s teacher or any staff member.

CALENDAR

Early Release Fridays 2:15 pm	11/04 11/18 12/02
Standard Time Begins	11/06
Soccer Starts 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Grade 3 Mondays Grade 4/5 Wednesdays	11/07 and 11/09
Hearing Testing Grades K-3 and 5th	11/08
NO SCHOOL Veterans Day	11/11
Picture Retakes	11/18
Early Release 1:00 pm	11/23
NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break	11/24- 11/25
Vision Screening	11/30

Watch D.O.G.S. is up and running

If you're a dad, granddad, brother, uncle, or just a male friend that would like to spend the day with Jefferson students, please consider filling out the Watch D.O.G.S. registration form and applying for volunteer status through the school district.

You may pick up a registration form in the office and apply online on the district website for volunteer approval status. When you have completed these two items, contact our Counselor, Mrs. Ortiz-Self, at 425.385.7410, with your availability. There is a Watch D.O.G.S. sign-up calendar in the hallway in building B. You may also sign yourself up and then let Mrs. Ortiz-Self know which day you selected.

This is a fun program that gives the male people involved in our students' lives a chance to work with our wonderful students. You get the pleasure of being in classrooms, having lunch with the students, and interacting with them on the playground.

Please consider joining us for a day at Jefferson.



Hello from the Reading Room!

Here are a few tips for reading with your child at home:

1. If possible, read at about the same time each day. This makes it easier to keep the routine going.
2. Take turns reading, page by page or paragraph by paragraph. This is a great way to model fluent, expressive reading.
3. At the end of the book, talk about the main idea of a **non-fiction** book, or about the ways a character in a **fictional story** changed from the beginning to the end.

Thanks for reading with your child at home! It makes a huge difference in reading achievement.

Janet Erickson
Literacy Coach

The district shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, veteran or military status, the presence of any physical, sensory or mental disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a student with a disability. Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:
Affirmative Action
Office – Carol Stolz, cstolz@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106. Title IX Officer – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104. 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rbalbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063. ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, bclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250. Address: 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201

Remember to vote Nov. 8, 2016.



Accepting Highly Capable nominations until Dec. 1, 2016

Find forms and more information and evening information events on the [Highly Capable website](#). Nominations are for students currently in grades one through four for winter testing, which will take place in January 2017.

Tips to help kids and parents in digital age

The Daily Herald shared an article from *The Washington Post* about things you can do at home to help keep your kids safe and healthy in a digital world: <http://bit.ly/1RWx3if>.

Find out what Everett Public Schools students learn about digital citizenship on the district [Learning Management Services website](#).

Free research-based tools to help stop bullying

[Stopbullying.gov](#) has bullying prevention information and strategies. There are training modules, PowerPoints, toolkits, videos, resources, state-by-state laws and policies, suggestions about how to talk about bullying with your kids and much more.

Delayed start or closed schools

If we have to cancel school or delay the start of school, we will use our parent communication system to call in the morning after 5:45 a.m. with a brief message about the reason for closure or delay. We will also use local media and post the message on our website. **If there is no announcement about Everett Public Schools, school is on the regular schedule.**

More information and resources for school closures or delays, including what programs are impacted by a closure or delay and snow routes, is on the [district website](#) under the *Parents* tab.

In cases of inclement weather or other emergencies, please:

- watch district [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) posts;
- listen for media announcements;
- view the district's website at www.everettsd.org; or
- call our district information line 425-385-4636.

Parent communication system messages

Did you miss the last recorded call from us? If you would like to hear the most recent recorded calls made to your home phone, dial 1-877-737-5291 (1-877-REPLAY1) from the phone on which you receive your calls. You will hear a list of the most recent recorded messages sent to your home; select the message that you would like to hear.

Did you miss a call from us?

If missed a call from your school, please check your voice mail or your email for the message rather than calling the school. Schools are often inundated with phone calls from parents after they send an automated call and cannot answer all of the calls.

Is your contact information up-to-date at school?

Verify your contact information so we can reach you quickly.

Is your family prepared for an emergency?

Sign up for Smart911 to save time and possibly lives

Now you can provide 9-1-1 with the information they need to help any member of your family **before** an emergency happens.

Seconds count when ...

- A child is missing
- There's a fire
- You experience a medical emergency
- There's an accident at home, or on the job
- You are in a vehicle accident

Seconds save lives. [Sign up for Smart911 today](#).

Veteran's Day Assembly & Wall

Jefferson Elementary students and staff invite the veterans of our school community to join us for an all-school assembly at 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, in the gym. Please come and help us remember and honor the brave men and women who have served our country.

Contribute to our Veteran/Service Member Honor Wall by filling out and returning this section of the page by Monday, Nov. 7. Extra forms are available in the office if you would like to honor more than one veteran or active service member. Inside the star, please include:

- Veteran/service member name
- Branch of service
- Years of service

You may also include a photo in your star. Photos cannot be returned, so please use a copy!

