



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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425-385-6900

Jennifer Lawler
Principal

Heather Harris
Office Manager

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425-385-6905

Barb Olson
Health Room
425-385-6906

Rhonda Atregenio
Counselor

Website
www.everettsd.org/silverlakees

**Connect-ED Messages
Missed a Call?**
1-877-737-5291

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year at Silver Lake Elementary! We want to extend a special welcome to the many new families who have joined our school community as well as welcome back all returning families.

At Silver Lake Elementary, our goal is to partner with families to provide a welcoming and peaceful school environment with high academic expectations and positive student behavior. I am pleased to share that Silver Lake has had a successful first couple weeks of school.

At Silver Lake Elementary School, teachers & staff are purposeful and intentional in our work to create a safe and supportive environment for all. Built upon the four school-wide expectations of **Respect, Responsibility, Safety, and Kindness**, our staff believes in the direct instruction, modeling, and ongoing practice of expected behaviors and attitudes for learning within our school. We have an expectation for consistency across all classrooms and grade levels in this area. Working together, we actively and explicitly promote a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

Curriculum Night

October 6th 5:30 – 7:30 PM

School Pictures

October 7th

Skate Night Oct. 9th

Everett Skate Deck
6:30-8:30

Your PTA will be conducting a Board of Directors meeting at 7:00.

ATTENDANCE

One of the most important things you can do to help your child succeed in school is to make sure he or she is there every day. When students miss school, they miss critical opportunities to learn and participate. Each lesson and class is critical to learning. The material covered each day depends on the lesson from the day before and introduces ideas for the next day. When your child must be absent, be sure to let us know the reason for the absences. For absences of five or more days, we ask for a written note from your doctor.

Call the 24-hour attendance line at **425-385-6905**

LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LAP)

Silver Lake Elementary School is receiving support from the state funded Learning Assistance Program (LAP). The LAP program is designed to provide supplemental support to eligible students who are identified as in need of additional assistance to meet state and local reading and math academic standards. Funds provide extended day classes and opportunities to include parents in the education of their children. If you have questions about the LAP program, please contact:

Jennifer Lawler, Principal, jlawler@everettsd.org, 425-385-6900 OR
Cynthia Jones, Director of Categorical Programs, cjones@everettsd.org, 425-385-4030.

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

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, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
- **ADA Coordinator** – Kristine McDowell, kmcdowell@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250 Address: 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201

CHANGES IN STATE ASSESSMENTS

Have you heard that state assessments are changing?

As a result of shifting to Common Core standards, all school districts in Washington State will begin using Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) in the 2014-15 school year. The new assessments are aligned to the Common Core standards. They will replace the MSP in reading, writing and math in grades three through eight. Students in grade eleven will also take the SBA.

How are we preparing students?

The district has been actively implementing the Common Core State Standards for the past two years. Curriculum specialists and teachers have been developing and using lessons and assessments aligned to the state standards. In addition, we are ensuring students will be ready for online testing by increasing technology use in the classroom. Starting in the 2013-2014 school year, a steering team made up of teachers, administrators, specialists and technology staff began creating a comprehensive plan to ensure that students are confident and ready to show their learning on these new assessments.

Questions or suggestions: If you have any questions or suggestions for information that you would like to see on this website, please email the Curriculum and Assessment Department at adiaz@everettsd.org.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT = INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY!

At Silver Lake Elementary, we view parent & family engagement as an **instructional strategy** to increase student achievement. We are committed to enhancing family engagement by linking it to learning in school. **Why focus on family engagement?** Just as certain instructional strategies can help a school to reach its learning goals, family and community engagement can be a strategy for getting students reading at grade level, closing achievement gaps, and motivating students for long-term educational success.

Researchers at the Harvard Family Research Project found that there is a, "positive relationship between having home-school partnerships and desirable student outcomes. **When parents and families have information about opportunities for students, they can be better advocates for their children.** Parents have the capacity to be involved in their children's education, regardless of their own education level, ethnicity, and socio-economic status. Parents from varied backgrounds can encourage their children about school, offer advice, talk to them about higher education, and keep them focused on learning and homework."

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVITIES ONLINE

We post approved fliers from community organizations on the district website and send a monthly email with a link to those approved activities and resources. From our district home page, on the *Parents* tab, find [Student Opportunities](#). The activities are listed by category. If you do not have Internet access, copies of approved fliers are available in the school office.

KIDS IN TRANSITION PROGRAM IN EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Kids in Transition (KIT) program supports students who qualify as homeless under federal McKinney-Vento legislation. Students who lack a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence may qualify. The KIT program works to eliminate barriers to students' academic success and extra-curricular participation. We ensure homeless students have school supplies and provide tutoring or facilitate student participation in extended day or summer school classes. We help students participate in activities such as sports or clubs by paying required fees. KIT provides transportation for eligible students to maintain school stability, as long as the commute is feasible. Last year, Everett Public Schools served 998 homeless students at some time during the school year. For more information, visit the [KIT website](#) or contact Amy Perusse at 425-385-4032 or aperusse@everettsd.org.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

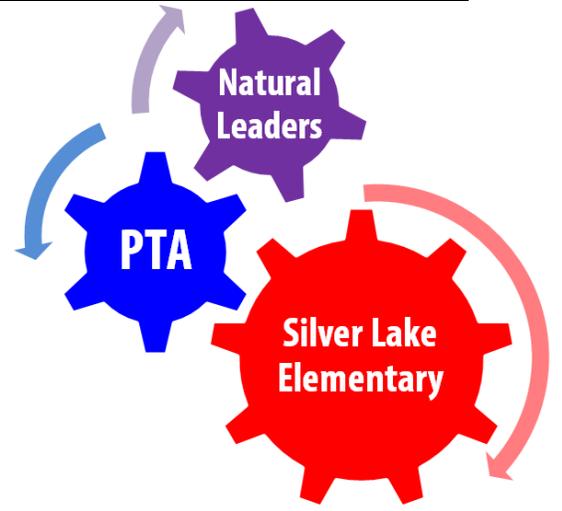
The Silver Lake Elementary Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a way to be engaged with your child's learning and be involved with the school. The PTA organizes volunteers to support a variety of school programs, activities, and special events. Many parents volunteer their time on committees through the PTA. You may be interested in helping with the different programs sponsored by the PTA or on any of the other PTA committees.

Please contact our **PTA President, Jill Miller**, with any PTA inquiries. Silver Lake Elementary (PTA) encourages you to join and participate in its many activities. A membership drive will be held in the fall and membership information is available in the school office throughout the school year.

NATURAL LEADERS

Silver Lake Natural Leaders are leaders in their community. They work as a team with other family/school connectors, family advocates, family support center staff, and school staff to:

1. Build relationships/connections with families;
2. Listen to families ideas on how to help their children be successful in school;
3. Bring families and schools together to plan/implement ideas.



PARENT ENGAGEMENT: LINKED TO LEARNING

At Silver Lake Elementary, we are committed to working in partnership with families and community members to make family involvement a strategy for achieving our school wide goals. According to research, the key feature of effective family involvement programs is that they are **linked to learning**. Therefore, information and messages about how parents can support their children at home will be woven into all family and community communications and activities/events, such as concerts, assemblies, conferences, newsletters, etc. For example, classroom teachers, reading/math specialists, the counselor and principal will convey messages to parents/families about weaving literacy and mathematics into daily experiences at home, etc. Silver Lake Elementary's lead Natural Leader, Marilou Garcia, is also a member of the school's PTA Board serving as the Vice President. Silver Lake Elementary anticipates that this new role will increase Spanish speaking family attendance at and participation in PTA and school events.

Natural Leader group is currently recruiting new parent group leaders and staff facilitators. They are currently seeking leaders for our main parent groups which in the past have included parent representatives from Ukrainian-American and Russian-American communities at Silver Lake Elementary

In addition, the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and Natural Leaders groups at Silver Lake Elementary will be working in partnership throughout the year to identify needs and assets early on in order to encourage more families to be involved in their child's learning, and so that as a community we may recognize the unique resources our families have to offer.

Would you like to help grow your Silver Lake PTA this year?

Your PTA is currently looking for volunteers for a Membership Chairperson(s) & a Membership Committee.

Are you a people person? You could do the face to face recruiting.

Do you work during the day but could spare time in the evening?

You could do the member input in the computer.

If you are interested or simply want more information, please contact Jill Miller at sleptapresident1@gmail.com.

Want to help, but don't have time?

Link your Fred Meyer rewards card to Silver Lake PTA.

It costs you nothing and you still get your reward points as you do right now. Simply go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

Search for Silver Lake Elementary PTA or our # 85175.
Thank you!

Contact Info for your PTA:

Silver Lake Elementary PTA:

sleptamustangs@gmail.com | (425) 385-6979

President – Jill Miller | sleptapresident1@gmail.com

Vice President – Marilu Garcia | sleptavicepresident@gmail.com

Treasurer – Jake Sand | sleptatreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary – Raegan Fisher | sleptasecretary@gmail.com

Email us! We'd love to hear from you!

Silver Lake PTA website:

<http://silverlakepta.weebly.com>



Find us on

Facebook

Silver Lake PTA 7.3.45

THINKING ABOUT HEALTH & WELLNESS – IT'S A GOOD THING FOR FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

Good grades and school success depend upon healthy bodies and healthy brains. Students spend almost one third of their time in school. During that time, they can eat a lot of good food or a lot of junk. Everett Public Schools food and nutrition policies and practices have long focused on building strong bodies and strong minds.



The new federal wellness requirements (under the 2010 *Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act*) mostly aligns with what our schools have already been doing – providing healthy food for students and limiting sugary snacks and drinks.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SCHOOLS TO HELP STUDENTS & FAMILIES EMPHASIZE HEALTH & WELLNESS?

Boosting physical activity time: Did you know that today fewer than five out of 10 children in the U.S. get 60 minutes of activity each day? Schools are helping kids get closer to that recommended 60 minutes with 20 minutes of daily recess and another 10 minutes of movement during the other parts of the day. Not only will this get kids moving, it can help improve test scores and make school more fun.

Extending learning into the cafeteria: Each month a different vegetable is the *star* of each cafeteria. Students smell, feel and taste that month's star veggie. They learn about where that veggie is grown, how it can be cooked and other fun facts about the fascinating world of the veggies we eat.

Measuring health and wellness success: Each winter schools will report their health and wellness program activities. The Student Wellness Committee will review those reports and share this health and wellness news each year.

ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS

Many records and documents in Everett Public Schools are available to the public. Parents and other citizens have the right to ask the school district to view or have copies made of records defined as "public" under state and federal laws including their own student's records and public records about discipline of school employees. Everett Public Schools public records requests are handled by the district's finance and business services office. Records can be requested by writing that office at PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213, sending an email to publicrecords@everettsd.org or calling 425-385-4150.

YOUR STUDENT'S RECORDS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

Everett Public Schools takes very seriously its duty to protect student records and privacy. Student transcripts and other education-related records are protected by multiple security measures. Only those teachers, administrators and other staff members who work directly with the student and have an educational need to know about the student have access to individual student records. Staff members are expected to maintain confidentiality about information contained in a student's records.

Your PTA is working with 360 Fundraising again this year.

Watch for more information to come home.
Expect your packets on Sept. 29th.

Without your fundraising help, the PTA would not be able to provide your school with:

Staff Grants	Grade Level Grants
Movie Nights	Dance
Bingo Night	5 th Grade Camp
Art Docent	End of Year Celebration

& much more

**Please help your PTA raise funds and help your
child win prizes!**

REGISTER TO VOTE!

Voter registration information and materials are available in an area in your school's main office. You can also link to voter registration online from the [Community section of our district website](#) or at <http://bit.ly/VoteRegistration>.

STUDENT SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

Many student safety tips are available for parents on our district website under the *Parents* tab, [Parent Tips](#). They include information about bike and walking safety, theft prevention, registered sex offender awareness and other helpful resources.