

View Ridge Viking News

VIEW RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4



From the Principal:

Dear View Ridge Families,

With a few snow flurries to greet us, here is December! At View Ridge, December is the month we focus on the Viking Value of Integrity, which is doing the right thing even when no one is looking! This is a great time of year to try to be our personal best as we prepare for a season of fun, giving, and celebration.

During November, we met with many families during parent teacher conferences to share your student's growth and goals. Please continue to partner with our efforts to support students' social-emotional well-being and academic achievement by checking in regularly with your child about how school is going and what they are working on. Make sure your child is reading every night and/or practicing skills learned at school. A powerful way to keep students learning at home or over a long break is to have them read to you, read to a sibling, and log into iReady! Every little bit helps! November was all about KINDNESS and we celebrated over 42 heroes and 40 scholars. I sure am a lucky principal to have such amazing students! Congratulations to all of our heroes and scholars.

I know we are still in challenging times and many families are experiencing hardships or may need access to basic needs or supports. Please reach out to me, our counselor, our Assistant Principal, or our office staff if there is anything we do to help your family (or another View Ridge Family) out during this holiday season. I wish each of you a great winter break.

Go Vikings!!

--Sincerely, Tina Wood, Principal Kwood1@everettsd.org

From the Assistant Principal

Dear Viking Families,

Wow – December has come by so quickly! This time of year, can bring upon many joys along with many stresses. Please take a moment to enjoy the present and reflect upon the year in all the different ways we may celebrate. It has truly been a gift to learn from your students this year! Here are a few additional updates.

Attendance: Thank you to everyone who has been in communication about your student's attendance, whether it has been via phone, email, or in-person meeting. We know that letters recently went out and we want to ensure we are supporting families as much as possible. We are so glad your students are here and really appreciate your dedication to ensuring your students are at school!

Remember to take measures to stay healthy, and while following health measures, students can return to school after 24 hours of being fever free or without vomiting. If you do have to be out for multiple days, reach out to your child's teacher and consider continuing some

Tina Wood, Principal
View Ridge Elementary School
202 Alder St.,
Everett, WA 98203
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2022-2023 Student Calendar

December 2

- Learning Improvement Friday

December 8

- Winter Music Program at the Civic Auditorium 7-8pm

December 9

- Viking Pride Assembly-Primary
9:30am

- Viking Pride Assembly-Intermediate
10:05 am

- Learning Improvement Friday

- Day 2 of Hearing Screening

December 13 & 14

- Holiday Store

December 16

- Early Release 1pm

- VRE Spirit Day-Hat Day

December 19-31

- Winter Break-No School



learning online (I.e. iReady). We tend to see a decline around the holidays and want to support and encourage your student's attendance to provide continuity and a sense of belonging. Our students are so close to earning their dance party!

Safety: Safety - We are continuing our drills once a month and ensuring our building is secured, especially during these shorter days. Last month, we held a lockdown, where we checked for locked exterior doors. Students continued normal class operations within the class and building while minimizing movement.

Please also make sure winter weather wear is labeled and that you know how to get the most updated information during inclement weather on the district website and local news.

Food Drive: Thank you for those have already donated to the Food Drive that we are doing in partnership with Sequoia High School! The food drive will run through the 14th. Please continue to bring non-perishables. It has been heartwarming to see the generosity around the building and wish you a wonderful holiday season!

--Ms. Andrea Yee (ayee2@everettsd.org)

View Ridge Attendance Corner (from Ms. Yee)

We look forward to seeing your child at school every day. Regular school attendance is important, and we will work with you to ensure your child is present to benefit from an excellent education. If your student is absent or tardy from school, please email every day the attendance office at vattendance@everettsd.org or call at 425-385-5405 to let us know the reason for the absence or tardy. There is also a direct link on our webpage at: <https://www.everettsd.org/viewridgees>



If email is not possible, and even if you leave a message with the school attendance line, please send a written note to the school office within 30 days after your student returns to school.

- Absences must be reported (by email or note) within 30 days after a student returns back to school, not including Holidays or weekends, in order to have the absence excused. Emails or notes turned in past the 30-day timeframe will be accepted; however, the absence is not excused and will be coded as such.
- Automated attendance calls will be sent out daily at 10 a.m. If your student will be absent or tardy you must notify the office before 9:15 a.m. If it is reported after this time, you may receive the automated call.
- Please view the [Everett School District Attendance Procedure 3122P](#) for more information (including definitions of absences).
- Did you have a medical appointment for your child, or they were sick, and you brought them to the doctor? If so, make sure to ask for a medical note from the provider. Email the note to the attendance office so those absences can be coded as a medical note excused absence.
- Please fill out a [Prearranged Absence Form](#) if your student will be going on vacation/traveling or will miss school for an extended period of time. As per district policy, the principal or designee may excuse up to five (5) school days for a prearranged absence per student each school year.

From the Viking Staff:

Office Corner

Changes to a student's daily going home plan

Occasionally, you may need to change the plan of how your child is going home at the end of the school day. If this is the case for your family, we ask that a guardian **sends an email to the classroom teacher AND calls the school office at 425-385-5400 no**



later than 2:45 pm OR at least 45 minutes before school gets out when school dismissal is an Early Release or Learning Improvement Friday. Please include the name of your student, their teacher, and the change of plan. Our office will then deliver this information to your student. This method of communication helps to support our staff with accurate dismissal information.

Counselor's Corner with Mrs. Atrengenio

The holiday season is coming up, and I wanted to offer some local activities that might be of interest to your family. Spending quality time with your kids doing fun things together is a wonderful gift that gives memories that can outlast the latest toy. Here is a list of some fun local activities to get your excitement going 😊. Pick some, put them on your calendar and enjoy!



View digital
flier with
clickable
links

Coaching Corner with Mrs. Petersen and Mrs. Price

We have a new Winter Academic Challenge for 2022

Teachers will send home a color-by-number Winter Academic Challenge paper with students the week of December 12th. Each grade level will get a different picture to complete. The goal is to keep students reading and thinking over the break and create a fun way to celebrate their time and effort. Please send the challenge papers back to school by Friday, January 6th. Every student who returns a challenge paper will earn a Viking bracelet and their paper will be displayed in the halls at school!

Garden Corner:

Since our last garden update, the entire 5th grade and Mrs. Buitrago's HC class got their hands in the dirt for some fall planting. Mr. Gonzales, Mrs. Springer, and Mrs. Ashmore's classes focused on planting out our prominent new bulb bed. In the bed they worked together to plant daffodils, crocus, tulips, and allium. Mrs. Buitrago's class planted a few different varieties of wheat in various locations. The rest of the beds have been put to bed for the winter. We look forward to seeing all the beautiful colored bulbs and wheat emerge as the weather warms and the season gradually changes to Spring.



Library News with Mrs. Post: kpost@everettsd.org

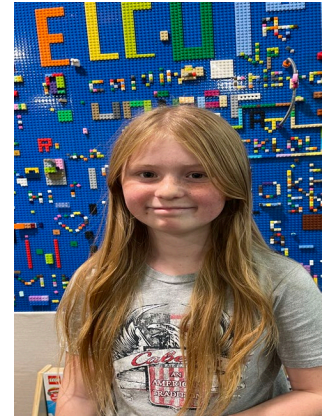


December Birthday Book Club Members:

Naomi Rocha 12/01, Jocelyn Ramirez 12/19, Lydia Quarterman 12/21

Shelf Elf of the Month for October and November

The October/November Shelf Elves of the month are Veronika Zadorozhnyi and Julia Skay. Veronika and Julia do not say much, but their actions are far from still. They responsibly arrive quietly every day and go straight to the book shelving cart. Respectfully they place all go back books on the correct shelf and order. They always ask how else they can help. With kindness occasionally they will read to students and help others complete their library lessons. Thank you for all you do Veronika and Julia!



Community:

EHS students would like to extend and invite to VRE to join us this Friday, December 2nd for Everett High Winter Wonderland. Our Main Building and front lawn will be decorated with holiday lights!





Everett Public Schools and View Ridge Elementary are on Twitter:

We are excited to join Everett Public Schools in the use of Twitter to share photos and updates of the amazing work being done here and to promote the learning and community events at View Ridge. Please follow us at https://twitter.com/EPS_VRE



Guaranteed Admissions Program

We are excited to announce Everett Public Schools is now a participating institution in the [Guaranteed Admission Program](#), or GAP.

Everett Public Schools has partnered with Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, The Evergreen State College, Washington State University and Western Washington University to help students meet their college and career goals through the Guaranteed Admissions Program (GAP). Through GAP, a student who meets the following criteria is guaranteed admission to these institutions.

To qualify for the Guaranteed Admissions Program, a student must have:

1. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
2. Completed necessary College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR) courses in high school (typically mirrors high school grad requirements)

Get admitted. Guaranteed.

With the Guaranteed Admissions Program, you are just steps away from admission to a Washington public four-year college or university.

To qualify, a student must have:

1. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
2. Completed necessary courses
3. Completed Opt-in form

Central Washington University | Eastern Washington University | The Evergreen State College | Washington State University | Western Washington University

EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON Guaranteed Admissions Program



3. Completed this Guaranteed Admissions Program Opt-in Form giving your permission to release information to the participating colleges and universities

The Guaranteed Admissions Program Opt-in Form is for parents/guardians of current juniors and seniors of Everett Public Schools high schools. The deadline for completing this form is Friday, January 6, 2023. [Opt-In Form](#)

Thank you for participating in the thoughtexchange

Last month, families and staff were invited to participate in a ThoughtExchange to share their thoughts on, “What is working well, and what opportunities are there to improve the way our district and schools communicate?” Thank you to all who participated. The results are in and posted on our [engagement webpage](#) with action items.

Parent University video highlight

New resources have been added to [Parent University](#), including a video highlight on high school course options (College in the High School, Advanced Placement and Running Start). To view the collection of short informative on-demand videos and “how-to” guides, click on Video Resources on the left menu.

We want to hear from our families! Everett Public Schools empowers parents and guardians to be engaged in their child's education. If you have a suggestion based upon a top concern and/or area of interest, we are seeking input as we develop more videos this school year.

If you have additional topics you would like to suggest, please email

communications@everettsd.org.



The gift of attendance

Absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. Just a few missed days here and there, even excused absences, can add up and lost learning time can put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation. This holiday season give your children the gift of an education and the habit of attendance.

Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as to connect with their peers and teachers. As long as your child is healthy, please encourage showing up to class when school is in session.

If your child is absent, please email the school at their attendance email address, which you can find on the school website. If email is not possible, and even if you leave a message with the school attendance line, please send a written note to the school office within 30 days after your student returns to school.





Family resources

Could you or a family you know use some help? Find information and links to helpful resources on the district's [Parent Tools webpage](#):

- [Washington State Library](#) – local and regional information about services and agencies offering help to families in a variety of ways including food, shelter, clothing, childcare, legal services, employment opportunities, and counseling
- Everett Public Schools [Kids In Transition \(KIT\) program](#) – supports homeless children and youth to continue their education
- Snohomish Health District for [Snohomish County community dental resources](#) for children and adults
- [United Way of Snohomish County](#) – 2-1-1 is a free telephone number that is your best "first call" to quickly find the right source of help. The information line is staffed by trained operators from Volunteers of America Western Washington who can connect you to a wide range of community services.



Calendar reminder

This is a friendly reminder that Winter Break is December 19 to January 2, with classes resuming on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.



Space still available in ECEAP preschool

Everett Public Schools Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP) is a FREE preschool program for three- and four-year-old children from families with limited income. ECEAP prepares children for kindergarten and provides family support and health and nutrition services. It is funded by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF).

The six ECEAP sites within our school district are Cedar Wood, Hawthorne, Jackson, Lowell, Madison, and Silver Lake elementary schools. Space is limited – apply now! For an application or more information, please visit the www.everettsd.org/ECEAP or call 425-385-4628.





Transitional Kindergarten Program

Everett Public Schools offers Transitional Kindergarten (TK) for children who are not currently in an early learning program and are scheduled to enter kindergarten in the fall of 2023. The program focuses on basic academic, social and self-help skills to jumpstart qualifying students toward success in school. Students will be screened and may qualify based on need.

To be eligible for screening, children must:

- be five years old by August 31, 2023
- live within the boundaries of Everett Public Schools
- not be currently enrolled in an early learning program
- demonstrate academic and/or social-emotional needs

Requests for screening opened in November. If you are interested in Transitional Kindergarten and believe your child may qualify, please visit our website at

www.everettsd.org/TransitionalKindergarten and submit an interest form by **Friday, December 16, 2022**.

Transitional Kindergarten begins in late January 2023 and will run through the last day of school in June 2023. School locations will be determined in January and will be communicated directly to eligible families. For preschool options, please visit our Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP) webpage at www.everettsd.org/ECEAP.



Accepting Highly Capable referrals until Dec. 16

The Highly Capable program in Everett Public Schools is designed to meet learning needs and challenge students who have advanced thinking and academic abilities. “HC” classes, as they are often referred to, are open to students in second, third, fourth and fifth grade. HC students learn and study in self-contained classrooms with a fast-paced curriculum that encourages and inspires them to develop higher level thinking skills. HC classrooms are held in specific schools in the district, based upon qualified enrollment. The district provides transportation to students in HC classes.

Find forms, information and evening events on the [Highly Capable website](#). Referrals are for students currently in grades one through four for winter testing, which will take place in February and March with more information to come.

Delayed start or closed schools

If we must cancel school or delay the start of school, we will use our parent communication system to call in the morning, typically around 5:30 a.m. (or sometimes the night before if it can already be determined) with a brief message about the reason for closure or delay. We will also use local media, social 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 is on the district website under the *Parents* tab.

In cases of inclement weather or other emergencies, please:

- check your email or phone for district messages
- listen for media announcements
- view the district’s website at www.everettsd.org
- watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts



Snow routes are online

School drop off and pick up locations may change in an emergency situation. If your child rides a bus to school, please become familiar with the snow route information on the district [transportation department's webpage](#) under "Snow Routes" icon in the center of the page.

Board of Distinction

Everett Public Schools board of directors earned high honors with the designation as a *Board of Distinction 2022*. Applications are reviewed by a panel of judges that includes former and current educational service district superintendents, State Board of Education board members, former school directors and other education leaders in Washington state. Scoring is based on how well applicants show alignment with the Washington School Board Standards, support their statements with data and demonstrate a link between outcomes and decisions made by the board.



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Everett, WA 98201
425-385-4000
www.everettsd.org

• Everett Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

• Title IX/Civil Rights
• Compliance Officer:
• Kevin Allen
• 425-385-4100
• KAllen@everettsd.org
• PO Box 2098
• Everett, WA 98213

Section 504 Coordinator:
Dave Peters
425-385-4063
DPeters@everettsd.org
PO Box 2098
Everett, WA 98213

ADA Coordinator:
Randi Seaberg
425-385-4104
RSeaberg@everettsd.org
PO Box 2098
Everett, WA 98213