

The Gateway Page

GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January 2019

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5



From the Principal

Happy New Year and welcome back!

We hope that everyone had a restful and relaxing break! As we ring in 2018, many of us make resolutions, a commitment to making a change with our fresh start of the new year. This is a great opportunity for your student to also set some goals, too! I know that, together, we will all be working hard to reach those goals in the upcoming New Year. We sincerely appreciate your continued support in your student's education; we could never do this without you!

Missing and/or late assignments are one of the biggest challenges for middle school students, and "turning in my homework on time" tends to be at the top of the New Year's resolution list. Checking your student's Learning Management System (LMS) account regularly can help you to support your student in getting those assignments in and communicating with teachers about how to best support them from home. We have three weeks left before the end of the semester, so this is a great time to check LMS to get those last few missing assignments in!

Linda Butler
Principal

Andre Samuels
Kalle Spear
Assistant Principals

Gateway Middle School
15404 Silver Firs Drive,
Everett, WA 98208
www.everettsd.org/gateway

Jan. 7
School resumes

Jan. 11
Learning Improvement Friday

Jan. 14
PTSA General Membership Meeting
Library, 6:30-8:00

Jan. 18
Martin Luther King, Jr Assembly, 1:50-2:30
Learning Improvement Friday

Jan. 21
No School, MLK, Jr. Holiday

Jan. 25
Last Day of the Semester
Learning Improvement Friday, HS&B
Schedule

Jan. 28
No School, Teacher Work Day

Feb. 1
Learning Improvement Friday



Attendance is another popular resolution; getting to school regularly and *on time* is key to success at Gateway. Regular attendance is also one of our High School Readiness Indicators, which helps us to see if students are prepared and ready to take on their four-year plan in high school.

New Administrative Team Member

Mrs. Spear and I are happy to welcome Mr. Andre Samuels to the Gateway Administrative Team. Mr. Samuels has worked as an assistant principal at North Middle School for the past 2 and one-half years and joined our team in the middle of December. Many of our students have already met and talked with Mr. Samuels before Winter Break, and our entire student body will have the opportunity to work with Mr. Samuels through the remainder of the 2019 school year. Mrs. Spear will be on maternity leave until the end of April, and Mr. Samuels will be filling in during her absence.

Getting support when struggling is one of the most challenging things for our students to do. Building self-advocacy skills (teaching students to seek out resources/help on their own) is a skill we want all of our students to master by the time they leave GMS. We invite our parents to help support students by checking LMS, but students should be doing that, too! We have our after-school intervention Study Hall that is a great opportunity for your student to get some support in completing their work. Study Hall is available Monday through Thursday from 3:00 pm until 4:00 pm, and there is an activity bus that runs each afternoon at 4:10 pm for students who need transportation.

Some students needing additional support, a test re-take or just need to meet with a teacher should make arrangements with his/her teacher to do so. Many of our teachers are available after school to complete a make-up, pop-in to study club, or schedule a student to complete a re-take at lunch or before school, etc. Please be aware that while teachers can be flexible with their schedules, logistically, they cannot be expected to re-teach every lesson that your student may have missed due to absence.



Instruction here at GMS is designed to meet the needs of each student. The best way for your student to access the content and curriculum is to be in school, every day, on time. If your student has a pre-planned absence, please take note of the above information and contact the attendance line GatewayMSAttendance@everettsd.org. Thank you, again for your continued support of our schools! We appreciate all you do for us!

Do you YouTube?

The district does. Search for Everett Public Schools WA to find all of our district videos. Miss a school board meeting? You can find videos of those meetings there too.



We're hiring Para Educators!

If you've ever wanted to help in a classroom, or lend your talents at a school, apply to be a classroom para educator! Para educators in Everett Public Schools provide instructional support to classroom teachers and ensure students with special needs have access to their learning. You're not available? Tell a neighbor or friend! This is your opportunity to have a huge impact on your community, one student at a time.

Look for the Employment icon on www.Everettsd.org to apply. If you're interested, please call Lauren Weeden, Director of Special Services for North Region Schools, at 425-385-5791.

Freaked by too much Fortnite?

Hear from parents and students about the pitfalls and positives about the extremely popular video game at www.commonsemedia.org.





Help your student stay safer online through awareness and parent tips about this app and other games, movies and apps.

January is School Board Appreciation Month

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition – a time to salute the work of school board members and celebrate public education. This year, they were once again named a Board of Distinction. You can learn more about [board members online](#).

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.

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, typically around 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 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



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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 Officer – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104
- Title IX Officer – Mary O'Brien, MO'Brien@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
- ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, rclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250