

# Gateway Page

GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2020



## Welcome Back!

Gateway Family:

Welcome back to what will be an unusual start for all of us. My hope is to keep you informed at all times. The Gateway staff is committed to help facilitate meaningful learning for our students. Our staff theme for the year is “Gateway Remix.” Why a remix? A remix is a song that an artist produces that is based on another song. While it is not a completely original song, it is a variation on the original with another artist’s interpretation.

So why am I sharing this? Six months ago, the rapidly shifting landscape meant continuing to shift learning and associated attendance and grades. Now that we have been able to plan, we know our students need more structure and more focused learning that includes feedback from a teacher, focused relationship building between teacher and students and with other students, and high expectations for attendance and feedback. It’s our “remix” of sorts – we take how we operated prior to March 13, how we operated the remainder of the school year, and now present a strong, more focused product for our students and families.

I know there are a number of questions, and I hope that this newsletter gives your family what you need to get started this school year. Typically, our parent newsletter is monthly. I will send weekly updates in September as needed to streamline communication from the school to you.

We are here to assist you. Please never hesitate to let myself or any staff member know what you need.

Matt Bennett, Principal

[mbennett@everettsd.org](mailto:mbennett@everettsd.org) (425) 385-6690

**Matthew Bennett**  
Principal

**David Campbell**  
Assistant Principal

**Gateway Middle School**  
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[www.everettsd.org/gateway](http://www.everettsd.org/gateway)  
Instagram: @GatewayMS\_EPS  
Twitter: @GatewayMS\_EPS  
Facebook: @GatewayMSEPS

**Sept. 9**

First day of classes

**Sept. 9-10**

Fall Entry Conferences

**Sept. 28**

GMS Curriculum Night



## Item Pickup

Our final item pickup event will be the day before school – Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 4pm-6pm.

At this time, you will pick up your Math and English consumable workbooks, a social studies book, a Chromebook, as well as a grade level t-shirt from your Associated Student Body (ASB). You may come any time during the event hours. Please drive thru the bus lane and check in with our greeter.

#12345

Size M

To help facilitate the flow of traffic please place an 8.5 x 11 piece of paper with your student's ID# and t-shirt size, written in LARGE print on your front dash and print, complete and sign the [Student Technology Use Agreement](#). Please bring the completed agreement with you. All students will be issued a device for the 2020-2021 school year. If your student still has a previously issued Chromebook checked out, please bring it with you to this event. Previously issued devices must be returned before a new device is issued, so bring last spring's device. We also will take back overdue library books!



## Student Schedules Available

[Click here to access student schedules now available in HAC.](#) Counselors can only make adjustments if a class is missing, or if a student is improperly placed in a level. Requests based on preferences are not able to be accommodated.

## First Day Photos

Yearbook needs our help! Please share with us your student's 1<sup>st</sup> Day Photo with us. Let's see our students in those Gateway Guardian t-shirts! Remember our class colors – 6<sup>th</sup> blue, 7<sup>th</sup> white, and 8<sup>th</sup> grey.

We are finalizing a way to collect images digitally and will communicate that to you before the first day.





## First Day Log-in

Log-in information for Zoom calls and links to student lessons will be in staff Canvas pages. This way, all teachers will have a consistent spot to post coursework and links to resources. First period teachers will email parents/students the Zoom link for 1<sup>st</sup> Period on the first day to expedite student log-in. Teachers will ONLY be sending this information and will send any other introductory information, after the first day of school, unless it is necessary for your student. This is to streamline communication, as we know how much communication comes out to parents the first week of school.

## First Week Schedule

The schedule for Weds. 9/9-Fri. 9/11 will be a 2.5 hour early release schedule each day, and is as follows:

1st Period	8:00-8:25am
5 min. passing	
2nd Period	8:30-8:55am
10 min. passing	
3rd Period	9:05-9:30am
10 min. passing	
4th Period	9:40-10:05am
10 min. passing	
5th Period	10:15-10:40am
10 min. passing	
6th Period	10:50-11:15am
10 min. passing	
7th Period	11:25-11:50am
Lunch	11:50-12:30

## Fall Entry Conferences

We are excited to announce our Fall Entry Conferences. We want to use the first week to ensure all of our students and parents have all of the tools they need to access school. Part of our plan is for each of our families to have a 10-minute window to connect with a teacher. Conferences will be with your student's 2<sup>nd</sup> hour teacher. Teachers will have some questions for you, and you will have a brief time to let us know if there are concerns about your student that we can assist with. More focused communication will take place after the first week after we have gotten to know your student.

Conferences will be Wednesday 9/9 from 12:30-3:00 pm and Thursday 9/10 from 12:30-5:30pm. If you would like to schedule a 10-minute appointment, please email your student's 2<sup>nd</sup> period teacher. Otherwise, teachers will be calling during those times. Please note that the call may come from a blocked number if staff are calling from a remote location and using their personal phones.



## ChromeBooks

The new ChromeBooks that were distributed for student use is due to voter support of the 2016 Levy, which also supported teacher training that occurred last year, and wifi upgrades to our building this summer. We know that many families have other devices at home. All students should check out a ChromeBook for a couple of reasons. First, use of non-district devices to access digital resources may be limited by non-district technology. Second, when we are back live in school, students will need ChromeBooks and outside devices are not able to access district wi-fi.

Repairs to ChromeBooks are covered by the district unless the damage is thought to be malicious. If one of the district ChromeBooks is stolen, please file a police report, and provide the report # to us as we will work with police to recover devices.

## ChromeBook Passwords

- 6<sup>th</sup> graders: student ID numbers and passwords do not change when transitioning schools. Your student ID and password from last year should still work.
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders: passwords do not automatically reset. You should be able to log in with last year’s password.
- Students new to the district: Use your student ID as your login. Your password is your birthdate month/date: MMDD. If you were born in May 2008, your password would be 0508.
- To reset your password, email Mrs. Trachte who will reset it. [mtrachte@everettsd.org](mailto:mtrachte@everettsd.org)

## Accessing Canvas

Teachers will all be using Canvas as a common landing page and platform this year. Canvas will be accessible by both students and parents. The easiest way to access Canvas is by going to the district web page, selecting “Students,” and then clicking on Canvas. Please note that enrollment of students in Canvas will happen closer to school opening, when student schedules are set.

The screenshot shows the Everett Public Schools website. At the top left is the logo. Below it is a navigation bar with links: COVID 2020-21, OUR DISTRICT, DEPARTMENTS, PROGRAMS, STUDENTS (highlighted with a blue arrow), PARENTS, COMMUNITY, STAFF. To the right of the navigation bar are icons for CONTACT, EMPLOYMENT, LUNCH MENU, and GRADES & MORE. Below the navigation bar is the 'STUDENT TOOLS' section. On the left is a sidebar with a list of tools. In the main content area, there is a grid of tool icons. A blue arrow points to the 'Canvas' icon in the grid.



## Accessing Student Email

All students have an Everett School District email account. We encourage to use these for communication with teachers and staff, as this streamlines the process. Updates and announcements will also be sent to student email addresses via the Canvas system. On the student ChromeBook, click “apps.everettsd.org bookmarks” and then “Office 365.” This opens the student’s Microsoft Office menu. Click on “Outlook” and students will be able to use email to communicate with staff.

## Live Assistance Line

Beginning the first day of school 9/9, and continuing until at least Friday, 9/18 we will be offering live assistance for parents and students. This will run from 8am-3pm each day. We know that sometimes it can be hard to navigate who to contact with your question. Our office staff will be available by Zoom during these times. If they can’t answer a question, they will forward your question/concern on to the appropriate party to contact you. Please note that this is NOT tech support. We will send out the link prior to school starting.

## Technology Support

Please visit <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/32723>

## Attendance

Attendance will be taken each class period. If your student will be absent, please email [GWYattendance@everettsd.org](mailto:GWYattendance@everettsd.org). Please include your student’s name, ID#, and reason for absence.

## Course Fees

We know we are in trying times. We eliminated class fees this year. ASB (student government) cards will not be sold, so students will have access to student activity and potential athletics without an additional fee. ASB will continue to function to support our students. Yearbooks will be available and we will notify you when online purchasing is available. Families needing to rent a musical instrument should coordinate with their music teacher to make arrangements.

## School Photos

Our photographer, Dorian Studios, is not taking school photos at this time, until at least January. We will communicate potential picture availability in the future.

## Library

We are working to set-up online ordering and curbside checkout for library books. We will also use this process to pass out novels for ELA classes. We will communicate out when the system is ready.

## School Supply List

An edited school supply list is now available on the Gateway website under “Our School.” These are suggested supplies, and we have eliminated supplies not necessary at this time. Some courses may request other supplies. If you are in need of assistance with acquiring supplies, please contact the main office.



## Dedicated Workspace for Students

Adolescents thrive in consistency. We have created a daily schedule to try to enhance consistency. We recommend creating a dedicated space for our students to study at home. Whether it be a folding table, desk, or corner of a dining room, having space for their ChromeBook and a pad of paper for notes.

## Weekly Schedule

<b>"A" Day</b> Monday, Wednesday		<b>"B" Day</b> Tuesday, Thursday		<b>LIF*</b> Friday	
Teacher office hours	7:30 – 8 a.m.	Teacher office hours	7:30 – 8 a.m.	Teacher office hours	7:30 – 8 a.m.
1st	8 – 9:15 a.m.	2nd	8 – 9:15 a.m.	1st	8 – 8:25 a.m.
Passing Time		Passing Time		Passing Time	
3rd	9:30 – 10:45 a.m.	4th	9:30 – 10:45 a.m.	2nd	8:35 – 9 a.m.
Passing Time		Passing Time		Passing Time	
Lunch	11 – 11:30 a.m.	Lunch	11 – 11:30 a.m.	3rd	9:10 – 9:35 a.m.
Passing Time		Passing Time		Passing Time	
5th	11:45 – 1 p.m.	6th	11:45 – 1 p.m.	4th	9:45 – 10:10 a.m.
Passing Time		Passing Time		Passing Time	
7th	1:15 – 2:35 p.m.	Directed Independent Learning / SEL advisory (alternating weeks)	1:15 – 2:35 p.m.	5th	10:20 – 10:45 a.m.
Teacher office hours	2:35 – 3 p.m.	Teacher office hours	2:35 – 3 p.m.	6th	10:55 – 11:20 a.m.
				Passing Time	
				7th	11:30 – 11:55 a.m.
				Lunch	12 – 12:30 p.m.
				Directed Independent Learning	12:30 – 1:20 p.m.
				LIF* Time	1:20 – 2:35 p.m.
				Teacher office hours	2:35 – 3 p.m.

\*LIF- Learning Improvement Friday, students dismissed 75 min early



## Stay Connected, #GatewayFamily!

# Stay connected, #GatewayFamily





**Instagram** @GatewayMS\_EPS  
**Twitter** @GatewayMS\_EPS  
**Facebook** @GatewayMSEPS



## Everett Public Schools: Adventure Together

Our district's theme to kick off the school year is **Adventure Together**. We chose "Adventure" because this school year is kicking off remotely, but not like it was in the spring. This year will look and feel much different and will be a new, exciting and challenging adventure for students, teachers and families. And, "Together" because we are all in this together. Although this start to school will feel different to everyone, we encourage taking on this challenge with courage, knowing we will all learn and grow as we navigate new and unexpected situations. We are here for every student, every family, every teacher, every staff member. We are a team! Let's Adventure Together!



## Parent University

Starting September 2, Everett Public Schools will have a Parent University available 24/7 online and mobile, for you to access important resources to help support your student's remote learning. You can find details on how to access and log in to Canvas, how to view your student's schedule, where to get meals, and much more. Resources will continue to be added throughout the year. You will find Parent University, and all other information related to remote learning, at [www.everettsd.org/COVID2020-21](http://www.everettsd.org/COVID2020-21)





## Learning model status

Everett Public Schools will begin the 2020-21 school year with 100% remote learning using our staged approach to reopening. As the numbers of positive COVID-19 cases and deaths continue to rise across our state and in our region, it has become clear at this time that our more robust remote learning model will be the safest way to form the foundation for student learning this fall.



Staged reentry to schools will be determined by the impacts of a changing COVID-19 pandemic, available resources, direction from Snohomish Health District, OSPI and our Governor. Having the flexibility and agility to move to different models will enable Everett Public Schools to provide the best education possible in whatever scenario presents itself.

The current status is 100% remote learning. Visit the [learning model status webpage](#) to get to know the five stages.

## Attendance procedures

We look forward to teaching your child every day. Regular attendance is important, and we will work with you to ensure your child is engaged in learning to benefit from an excellent education. If your child will miss remote learning, 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. Teachers will use digital Gradebook attendance to log student attendance daily. K-5 students will have attendance taken daily at the beginning of the day during their morning meeting. Grades 6-12 will have attendance taken in every class period.



## 2020-21 Immunization Changes

The way schools collect immunization records and comply with immunization rules has changed for the 2020-21 school year. As of August 1, 2020, a change in state immunization rules has affected three areas of immunization compliance:

- The definition of “conditional status” has been clarified. **Students must turn in their immunization paperwork on or before the first day of in-person learning.**
- All new immunization records from students need to be **medically verified**.
- The Tdap vaccine requirement for 6th through 12th graders has been changed to a 7th through 12th grade requirement.

A medically verified record includes one or more of the following and can be submitted by email to [EPS.BuildingRN.MailList@everettsd.org](mailto:EPS.BuildingRN.MailList@everettsd.org):

- A Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) printed from the Immunization Information System
- A physical copy of the CIS with a healthcare provider signature





- A physical copy of the CIS accompanying medical immunization records from a healthcare provider verified and signed by school staff
- A CIS printed from your MyIR account.

## Access your family's immunization information

To access your family's immunization information from the Washington State registry visit, sign up for [MyIR](#) to view, download and print your student's immunization records securely online. Once you register, you can access the records anytime you need them. You can print your child's Certificate of Immunization Status for school, childcare and camp programs.

## Ways to stay in touch

On the communications department webpage, you can sign up for [InTouch](#) announcements and school board meeting agendas highlights delivered to your email box twice monthly. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



## Mobile app

Families can [download the district mobile app](#) to easily access student information, grades, attendance, lunch balances, borrowed library books, calendars and more! Translate notifications and app functions into the language you prefer.



## Social & emotional health

The outbreak of COVID-19 may be stressful for people and communities. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children.

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. The emotional impact of an emergency on a person can depend on the person's characteristics and experiences, the social and economic circumstances of the person and their community, and the availability of local resources. People can become more distressed if they see repeated images or hear repeated reports about the outbreak in the media.

Children react, in part, on what they see from the adults around them. When parents and caregivers deal with the COVID-19 calmly and confidently, they can provide the best support for their children. Parents can be more reassuring to others around them, especially children, if they are better prepared. Please visit the district's [social & emotional health webpage](#) for more information.





## ECEAP preschool is now enrolling for 2020-21



**ECEAP has a positive impact on our family because it is a great program for my kids to start school and get ready for kindergarten. They also helped me see my own goals.**  
~ECEAP parent

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 includes family support and health and nutrition services. It is funded in partnership with [Snohomish County Human Services](#) and [Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families](#).

ECEAP will be providing remote preschool services this fall including virtual circle times and small groups, video libraries of fun, engaging activities, and learning materials for home-based activities. Additionally, ECEAP will support parents as their child's first and most important teacher through regular parent-teacher check-ins, family support coaching, resources, and online family support groups and informational classes.

The ECEAP preschool program is located at Cedar Wood (new for 2020-21), Garfield, Hawthorne, Lowell, Madison and Silver Lake elementary schools. ECEAP will be providing remote preschool services this fall including virtual circle times and small groups, video libraries of fun, engaging activities, and learning materials for home-based activities. Additionally, ECEAP will support parents as their child's first and most important teacher through regular parent-teacher check-ins, family support coaching, resources, and online family support groups and informational classes. Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please call 425-385-4628, email [eceap@everettsd.org](mailto:eceap@everettsd.org) or visit [our website](#).

## Kids in Transition program

Kids in Transition (KIT) program supports students who qualify as homeless under the federal [McKinney-Vento Homeless Act](#). Students without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence may qualify. The KIT program works to eliminate barriers to students' academic success and extra-curricular involvement. We ensure students experiencing homelessness have access to free school meals, school supplies, and uniforms. KIT can help students access extended day or summer school classes and provide access to tutoring when needed. The KIT Program can also cover fees required to take part in activities such as school-sponsored sports, clubs, and required class fees. KIT transports eligible students to maintain school stability, as long as the commute is in the best interest of the student.

Last year, Everett Public Schools served over 1,100 homeless students at some time during the school year. For more information, visit the [KIT website](#) or contact the KIT Program at 425-385-4032.





## Backpacks for students in need



Do you know a family who might be in need this year? Stuff the Bus for Kids ensures each child in Everett Public Schools starts the school year prepared to learn. The EPS Foundation will deliver over 1,900 backpacks, filled with school supplies, and make them available to any Everett Public School student who may need extra assistance.

Students in need of a backpack, please reach out to your school to receive your supplies. Backpacks will be available for pick up at each school beginning August 31, the week before school.

## Student opportunities and activities eflyers

We use *Peachjar* to email approved flyers from community organizations to parents and guardians. Schools also post those flyers on their websites. Look for the Peachjar button in the *Quicklinks* section of your school home page to see those flyers. You can also register there to have those flyers delivered to your email address if you aren't already receiving them.




## Safety tip line


Do you or your student have a concern about someone experiencing bullying or harassment? **Report it!** You can talk directly with your school's office or you can call, text or email your concern.


If there is reason for concern about safety on a designated walkway to school, call 9-1-1 immediately for authorized, quick help. We have strong partnerships with local law enforcement who share our interest in safe schools and neighborhoods. Student safety is a priority for all of us. Working together, we can help make our neighborhoods and schools nurturing places for students to safely learn and grow.

**3 easy ways**

Text or call

 855-637-2095

 1350@alert1.us

 <https://everett-wa.safeschoolsalert.com>

FOR  
EMERGENCIES,  
PLEASE CALL  
**911!**

## Access to public records

District records are public records. Parents and other citizens have the right to ask to view or have copies of records defined as "public" under state and federal laws. These include parents' and legal guardians' student's records and records about discipline of school employees.

The district's general counsel office handles public records requests. Request records by writing to that office at PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213, sending an email request to [publicrecords@everettsd.org](mailto:publicrecords@everettsd.org), or calling 425-385-4150.



## Your student's records are confidential

Everett Public Schools is serious about protecting student records and privacy. The district uses multiple security measures to safeguard student transcripts and other education-related records. Only those teachers, administrators and other staff members who work directly with students (and have an educational need to know) have access to individual student records. Staff members are required to maintain confidentiality of all information in a student's records.

## Register to vote!

It's easy! You can register online at <http://bit.ly/VoteRegistration> or stop by your school office to pick up paper registration materials.



3900 Broadway  
 Everett, WA 98201  
 425-385-4000  
[www.everettsd.org](http://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:**

- Mary O'Brien
- 425-385-4106
- [MO'brien@everettsd.org](mailto:MO'brien@everettsd.org)
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213

- **Section 504 Coordinator:**

- Dave Peters
- 425-385-4063
- [DPeters@everettsd.org](mailto:DPeters@everettsd.org)
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213

- **ADA Coordinator:**

- Randi Seaberg
- 425-385-4104
- [RSeaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:RSeaberg@everettsd.org)
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213