



GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

2008, 2009, 2010 *School of Distinction*
2009 OSPI *Washington Achievement Award*
15404 Silver Firs Drive
Everett, WA 98208
(425) 385-6600 Fax: (425) 385-6602

Linda Butler, Principal
Kalle Spear, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited that your student has chosen to participate on the Gateway Track Team. It is an honor to represent Gateway on one of their sports teams.

I wanted to make sure that all parents are informed with what we will be doing this season and this letter should answer most of your questions.

Student Behavior: We want our athletes to enjoy Track and Field and we also expect them to behave safely. In the event an athlete is behaving in a dangerous or disrespectful way we will correct the behavior, give the student a warning that if the behavior happens again they will be suspended from the team for one week and we will notify parents. If the behavior continues after the warning and parent contact we will suspend the student for a week. If the behavior continues when the student returns the student will not be allowed to continue with the team for the rest of the season.

Parent Volunteers welcomed: We are planning to have over 120 7th and 8th grade athletes plus a handful of 6th graders and will have four coaches. We welcome and encourage any parents available to help at practices. If you can help please fill out the district volunteer forms and let us know what days you are able to assist at practice. Previous track experience is not required and we will have you help in places you feel comfortable. To access the volunteer form on line go to: <http://www.everettsd.org> click on "Community" (top middle of screen), "Volunteer," then "Apply online."

Parent meeting: We will have a brief parent meeting in the Library at the end of practice on Tuesday April 16th from 5pm to about 5:20pm. We will go over student/athlete expectations and what parents need to know to support their student.

Practice schedule: We will have practice after school from 3:00 pm to 4:50 pm Monday through Friday every day we have school. At the conclusion of practice we will need to put away equipment so athletes will be available for pick up between 4:55 and 5pm.

- We will have a 5pm activity bus to take athletes home after practice. ***If a student has not been picked up by 5:10pm we will have them ride the activity bus home.***
- If there is no school there will be no practice, including if school is canceled for any reason we will not have practice.
- There will be no practices on days we have a meet or on Weekends.
- WIAA rules require that an athlete needs to have **8 practices before they can participate in a meet.** We have 12 practices before our first meet.
- We will have practice on the early release Fridays. Students need to go home after school and return to school at 3pm for the start of practice. There is not a supervised study hall on Fridays. We will NOT have practice of Friday May 17.

The great thing in the world is not so much where we stand, but in what direction we are moving.

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

- Personal gear for practice (we will be outside for the entire practice, rain or shine):
 - Running shoes or spikes (spikes not required)
 - Appropriate layers of clothing including sweats and sweatshirt, base layer clothing, etc.

Athletic Fee: There is a \$40 fee for each sport a student athlete participates in at the middle school level. This fee needs to be paid before an athlete can participate in a meet. Checks can be made out to “Gateway Middle School” and given to the front office. Financial assistance is available. Please contact Wendy Gitnes in the Gateway front office 425-385-6600 if you have questions about the available financial assistance.

Meet schedule: I have included the meet schedule with this letter. You can also access it online at <http://www.everettsd.org/Page/4851> click on “All Gateway Middle School Sports Schedules,” then “Track” (top of screen) and finally “Schedule” (in the blue section).

Expectations on Meet days: We will ***NOT have a bus bringing athletes back to Gateway.*** All students need to get a ride home from a parent or arrange a ride with a friend. Athletes can leave after they have completed their last event but we encourage them to stay until the end of the meet to support their teammates that are still competing. Please check out with one of the coaches before leaving an away meet. Seating is limited when we are not at one of the stadiums so you may want to bring a lawn chair for those meets.

Athletes need to bring the following to each meet:

- *Track Uniform* – we will issue uniforms to the students Monday April 22nd (we can volunteer help with issuing uniforms)
- *Sweats and any other clothing to keep them warm as they will be outside for the duration of the track meet* – we have sweats available for purchase (form included and this is an optional purchase and is not required in anyway) or students can check out Gateway Track sweats or wear their own
- *Water Bottle*
- *Running shoes* – spikes or throwing shoes are allowed if they have them (not required)

Let me know if you have any other questions and I look forward to an enjoyable season.

Gateway Track and Field Coaches
Jessen Schilaty | 425-385-6624 | jschilaty@everettsd.org
Rob Rogers
Jesse Williams