From the Principal

Dear Penny Creek Families:

We are a month into the year and things are going well. During September we emphasized Penny Creek PRIDE, and school-wide expectations. At Penny Creek, PRIDE stands for:

- Problem Solver
- Respectful
- In Control and Safe
- Do your best
- Everyone Cares

During the first two weeks of school, students learned how to show PRIDE throughout the school—in their classroom, hallways, lunchroom and playground. Each day teachers and paraeducators look for ways students are meeting expectations, and award PRIDE tickets to reinforce our expectations.

At the beginning of the year, we set a goal to earn 1,000 tickets by the end of September. I am pleased to report that we have earned 2,000 and are well on our way to 3,000! To award students for showing Penny Creek PRIDE, we held a dance party during the lunch recess time last week. Kids had a lot of fun running around, dancing, and playing to upbeat and positive music.

At October’s Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) Committee meeting, we will determine awards to be provided school wide each time we meet an important milestone. As we do, Penny, our favorite Penny Creek Frog (seen in picture below), hops to her next lily pad.

The PBIS committee, consisting of teachers, paraeducators, and administrators meets monthly to monitor student discipline data and determine if further supports are needed. For example, if our data shows an increase in discipline events occurring during lunches, we know we need to review our lunchroom plan, reteach behavior expectations, and find ways to positively recognize students for meeting expectations. After doing so, we monitor the plan and make any needed adjustments. We take this work seriously because a safe and orderly environment is foundational to learning.

If I can answer further questions about our PBIS work, or any other aspect of the school, please don’t hesitate to ask. 😊

Best,

Marti
Penny Creek Attendance Corner

If your student is absent from school, please email the attendance office at pceattendance@everettsd.org to let us know the reason for the absence. There is also a direct link on our webpage at: https://www.everettsd.org/pennycreek

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 that you can turn in to the attendance office. Those absences can then be coded as a medical excuse.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Many of our students arrive and depart from Penny Creek on assigned school buses. For those families that transport students to and from school by cars, we have designated specific arrival and departure options. Student safety is our number one priority at Penny Creek and we ask that you read through each option and select the method that will work best for you and your student(s). You can view the arrival and dismissal procedures on the Penny Creek webpage.

For the safety of your students please note the following:

- **Morning arrival:** Morning supervision time begins at 8:50 a.m. Please stay with your students until staff is present.
- **Kiss and Go:** Drop off lanes will open at 8:50 a.m. Cars should enter through the west entrance and turn right into the Kiss and Go loop. Follow the lane around in front of the gym, and pull forward to the covered area when directed by staff. Kiss and go lanes will close every morning at 9:10 a.m. Buses will be entering and exiting our parking lot at that time. If you arrive after 9:10 a.m. please park in the front lot and walk your student into school using the crosswalk.
- **Arrival after 9:15 a.m.:** Please park you vehicle and walk your student into the office where you can sign them in. Students arriving after 9:15 a.m. will be tardy.

Changes to a student’s daily going home plan

Occasionally, we need to change the plan of how our child is going home at the end of the school day. Maybe Dad is picking up instead of riding the bus or Grandma will be at Kiss and Go instead of the parent pick up location in the Courtyard. If this is the case for your family, we ask that a guardian sends an email to the school office at PennyCreek@everettsd.org and the classroom teacher by 2:50 pm on Mon-Thurs and 1:35 pm on Friday. Please include the name of your student, their teacher, and the change of plan. Our office will then send out a messenger to deliver this information. We ask that you please send this email before these times. This method of communication helps to support our staff with accurate message delivery.

Checking out a Penny Creek student during the school day

Sometimes it is necessary for a parent/guardian to pick up a student before Penny Creek’s dismissal time. To help us prepare, please send a note or email the school office at PennyCreek@everettsd.org in advance, letting us know the specific date, time and who will be picking up your child. Students who are dismissed during the school day must be signed out from the school office by their parent/guardian (or adult designee) before leaving the school grounds. If an adult designee is coming to check out your child, a note or email to the school office at PennyCreek@everettsd.org must be submitted by the guardian to confirm. Students will be called from the classroom for dismissal once the parent/guardian (or adult designee) arrives at the office. For the safety and security of students, we will ask for photo identification.
Penny Creek save the date events

October 3, 2019 Picture Day (Volunteers needed)
October 17, 2019 PTA Skate Night
October 31, 2019 PTA Popcorn Day
November 4 – 10, 2019 Parent Teacher Conference Week (Dismissal at 1 p.m. all week)
November 4 – 10, 2019 PTA Hosted Scholastic Bookfair
November 12, 2019 Veteran’s Day Assembly 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.
November 14, 2019 Picture Retake Day

PCE Running Club

Start your weekend off right! On Friday mornings join Mrs. Wood (and other teachers) on the field from 8:40am-9:10am. Rock out to some great tunes while exercising. Student must have permission slip on file to participate. Hope to see you there! The last running club of the season will be 11/22/19.

Attention volunteers

Our schools rely on volunteers to support many important activities!

- We are digital! All volunteer applications and background checks can only be processed online.
- We are focused on safety! Each applicant requires background check and safety training.

Please plan ahead so your application can be processed in time for volunteer opportunities. The new application is now available online at [www.everettsd.org/volunteer](http://www.everettsd.org/volunteer).

Penny Creek is now on Twitter

Follow Penny Creek Elementary School on Twitter as we share our insights!
Go to [https://twitter.com/search-home](https://twitter.com/search-home) and search Penny Creek Elementary School on Twitter and see what’s happening in OUR school.
#EPS_AlwaysLearning

Access to public records (updated information)

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. Parents or guardians seeking education records may simply request those records from their individual schools, as they are entitled to such records under state and federal law and through district policy and procedure.

The district’s office of general counsel handles public records requests. Records may be requested in person, by phone or by sending an email request to publicrecords@everettsd.org. Wendy Snider is available to answer public records questions at 425-385-4188.
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 [https://www.everettsd.org/](https://www.everettsd.org/)
- watch district Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts

Did you miss a call from us?

If you missed a call from your school, please first check your voice mail, email or mobile app for the message rather than calling the school. Schools are often inundated with phone calls from parents after they send an automated call and cannot answer all of the calls.

Is your contact information up-to-date at school?

If your contact information has changed, please let your school know so we can reach you.

Back-to-school safety reminders

It’s helpful to talk with your child from time to time about staying safe and alert, especially when traveling to and from school. Here are just a few quick reminders:

- Walk with a buddy
- Be aware of your surroundings (cell phones and ear buds put away)
- Wait with a friend or adult at bus stops
- Report anything suspicious to an adult right away
- For adults, stop for buses when they have the stop arm out

Mobile app

Families can [download the district mobile app](https://www.everettsd.org/) 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.
Mapping your future

Students K through 12 and their families are invited to the High School and Beyond family nights to:

- Enjoy free pizza
- Keynote speaker: 2020 and Beyond: Preparing for the Future in the Digital Age
- Learn about cool careers – it is never too early for elementary, middle and high school students!
- Visit the college & career fair
- Get help with financial aid and college admissions
- Get help registering for College Bound scholarships (grades 7 and 8)
- Interpreters available

Middle and high school students

Can you fluently read, write, speak, and listen in a language other than English? Students in grades 7 through 12 in Everett Public Schools can earn high school credit in a world language by successfully passing district-approved assessments and demonstrating language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in this language. Assessments are available at $10 for many different world languages. See the district assessment website for details.

Test dates: Nov. 13, 2019 and March 18, 2020
Fall registration: Sept. 16 – Oct. 11, 2019
Spring registration: Jan. 13 – Feb. 14, 2020

Also, check out the new practice site which was created to give students an overview of each kind of exam. Students can search their language and see what their specific exam will entail. There may even be a practice test available.

Website tools for you

The website has tools to make your life easier. Sign in with your LMS password to:

- Add your student’s school and teachers’ calendars to your calendar view
- Filter calendar items by category
- Export calendar items to your personal calendar
- Access Grades & More, lunch menus and staff contact information from the home page
- Find directions and maps to event locations listed on the calendar