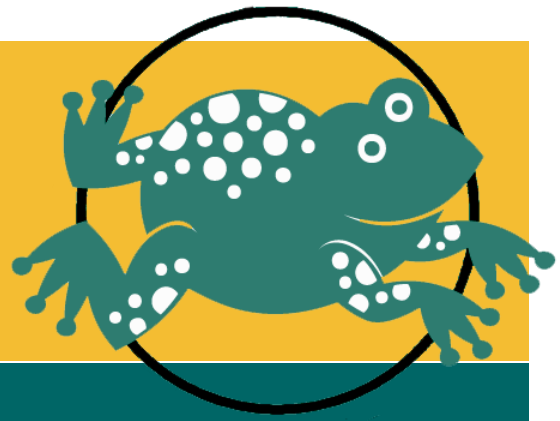


# Penny Creek Frog News

PENNY CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



June 2019

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 10

## From the Principal

Greetings Penny Creek Families,

We have had an exciting school year. Our students have accomplished so much and we are proud of how they have all grown. I will miss all 780 smiling and energetic faces around the campus every day!

By now, many of you are making your summer plans. Hopefully they include an adventure, family time and some reading! Speaking of reading, I would like to encourage all of our students to participate in the Everett Public Schools Summer Reading Program! Be sure your child records their reading on the official log and that they find time to take AR tests. Students who participate will receive incentives for reaching their reading goals, and schools that have at least 75 percent of their students reach their reading goals will be recognized by the district. We have to all work together to earn this honor!

We ask that you take time this summer to help strengthen those reading muscles! Children should be engaging with books every day over the summer to maintain and strengthen their literacy skills. A few months of reading loss can compound over the years. Below are some ways to sneak reading into your summer routine:

- Visit the PCE Library every Wednesday from 10:30 to 12:30. You can visit with staff (there will be guest readers), check out books and take AR tests.
- Take books with you and your child everywhere you go; to the doctor's office, on picnics, on road trips, etc.
- Let your child choose the books they want to read (as long as they're age-appropriate and are written at the *just right* level of difficulty).
- Support your child's reading experience by talking about the books.
- Read aloud to your child, even if they can read on their own. It helps build vocabulary and listening comprehension skills.
- As you're reading aloud, be sure to interact with your child by asking what they think might happen next, what a certain character is likely to do, whether the story is real or make-believe.

Thank you for your help and support throughout these last few weeks! We could not do it without you!

Sincerely,

Maggie Heater

**Maggie Heater**  
Principal

**Stefani Koetje**  
Assistant Principal

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### **June 3 & 4**

PTA Scholastic BOGO Bookfair  
Library 9am - 4pm

### **June 7**

Early Release 1pm Dismissal

### **June 11**

Former Student's  
Senior Grad Walk 2:30pm - 3pm

### **June 14**

Learning Improvement Friday  
2:15pm Dismissal

### **June 18**

Field Day 10am - 12pm

### **June 19**

Fifth Grade promotion Ceremony  
Cafeteria 2pm - 3pm

### **June 21**

Last Day of School  
Full Day 3:30pm Dismissal



## Penny Creek Summer Library Dates

Looking for something to do this summer? Need some new material to read? Come and join us in the library on Wednesdays this summer. You can check out books, take AR tests, and maybe even see some friends. The library will be open from 10:30-12:30 on Wednesday June 26, July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14, and 21.

## Innovation Expo and STEM Competition

Everett Public Schools will host the 4<sup>th</sup> annual spring Innovation Expo and STEM competition at Angel of the Winds Arena in Everett (2000 Hewitt Ave). This year the Expo is Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 pm. At Penny Creek, we have more than twenty of our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who have joined the district STEM competition. While the competition is for 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade and middle school, the Innovation Expo is open to all students, families and staff. It will be a very exciting, hands-on experience, spotlighting STEM and Innovation in Everett Public Schools and local STEM industries.

Questions? Please email Mrs. Medalia at [jmedalia@everettsd.org](mailto:jmedalia@everettsd.org). We hope to see you there!

## Next Year Class Placement Information

Our placement process is a team effort done with great care. As professional educators, we keep the best interests of your students in mind as we carefully build classes for the upcoming school year. Our intention is to carefully balance classrooms according to boy/girl ratio, academic performance, social-emotional development, special learning needs and independent work habits. As parents/guardians, you know your student well, and you may wish to share some information about your child that will help us make a decision.

If you have any important information about your student that will help us make a thoughtful placement, please email us at [pennycreek@everettsd.org](mailto:pennycreek@everettsd.org).

Because we are at the very beginning of the class placement process, class lists are tentative, and will not be confirmed until late August. Class placements will be announced through the [Home Access Center](#) the evening before Cookies at the Creek. No announcements will be made prior to this. The annual Cookies at the Creek is tentatively scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Penny Creek Attendance Corner

If your student is absent from school, please email the attendance office at [pceattendance@everettsd.org](mailto: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](#).



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## 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. Hope to see you there! The last running club of the school year will be 6/14/19.

## Kindergarten registration happening now

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2019? Registration began March 4 at all 17 district elementary schools. Which school will your kindergartner attend? To find out, click on *Transportation* under the *Parents* tab, or call the transportation department at 425-385-4144. If you are in the Tambark Creek Elementary School area, register at any southend elementary school.

## When does school end this year?

June 21 will be the last day of school and it is a full day with a regular dismissal time at 3:30pm.

Reminder: Friday, June 7, students will be released 2.5 hours early and Friday, June 14, students will be released 75 minutes early.

## SBA scores are coming soon

Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) scores will be available for all families and students this summer in the online Home Access Center (HAC). Families will also receive a hard copy in September. Find tools for parents to understand those SBA scores on the [district assessment website](#).

### How do I get the test scores?

[Instructions are online](#). If you don't have an account or have questions, contact [LMS@everettsd.org](mailto:LMS@everettsd.org).



## Stuff the Bus is coming!

With the support of our generous community, the Everett Public Schools Foundation is hosting its 10th annual Stuff the Bus for Kids school supply drive. Last year the Foundation delivered over 1,900 backpacks to students. This year they have requests for over 1,800 backpacks filled with school supplies. Look for collection bins at local businesses during the month of August and look for big yellow Durham school buses parked outside Fred Meyer in Mill Creek and QFC on Evergreen Way Aug. 16-18.



**URGENT NEED:** The Foundation needs 700 high school backpacks. To purchase and donate a backpack and other preassembled schools supply kits, they have partnered with [Supply All Kids](#), or you can contact Kirsten Hansen at [khansen@everettsd.org](mailto:khansen@everettsd.org).

## Vaccinations for next year

Now is the time to plan for the vaccinations your child will need before he or she enrolls next fall. We encourage you to obtain these vaccinations this school year and report them to the school nurse or office staff at your child's school. We'll track that information in the school database, which will help you avoid getting calls and overdue letters in the fall.

**Do you have a personal exemption for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)?** That exemption may not be valid for next school year due to a new state law. Learn more on the [Washington State Department of Health's website](#).

## Summer school registration is open!

[Registration materials are now online](#). Summer programs for high school students include opportunities to strengthen the skills and knowledge required for the district core expectations, repeat courses, extend their interests in academic areas, and take new courses. Tuition-based summer programs are offered for students through Online High School and at Cascade High School. Elementary and middle school summer programs are available for specific students who need academic support.

## Summer Reading Program

Everett Public Schools looks forward to another successful year of its summer reading program. We are partnering with Everett Public Library and Sno-Isle Libraries again this year. Watch your school's website for details about this summer's reading program. Students will receive incentives for reaching their reading goals, and schools that have at least 75 percent of their students reach their reading goals will be recognized by the district.





## School supply lists

Looking to get a jump start on next year's school supplies this summer? You can find the school supply list on your school's website under *Our School* around the last week of school.

## Summer meals

Did you know that many children qualify to receive free summer meals thanks to a federal grant? Summer meals are available July 8 through Aug. 15 at select locations and times. Find more details on the [Food and Nutrition Department website](#).

## Change to assessment requirements

The Washington State Legislature recently passed a bill creating multiple ways to meet required graduation assessments. School districts are required to administer the Smarter Balanced Assessment in both mathematics and English language arts to all 10th graders. Passing each of these assessments is the first "pathway" among a set of multiple pathways to graduate. Students identify their pathway in their High School and Beyond Plan. Students in the class of 2021 and beyond must still earn 24 credits to obtain a high school diploma.

For a complete list of graduation assessment requirement options, please visit the district [graduation website](#) under the *Students* tab.



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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.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

- Title IX Officer/Civil Rights Compliance Officer – Mary O'Brien, [MO'Brien@everettsd.org](mailto:MO'Brien@everettsd.org), 425-385-4106, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, [rballbach@everettsd.org](mailto:rballbach@everettsd.org), 425-385-4063, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- ADA Coordinator – Randi Seaberg, [rseaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:rseaberg@everettsd.org), 425-385-4104, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213