

Madison Husky Highlights

MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Amanda Overly
Principal

616 Pecks Drive
Everett, WA 98203
425.385.5900



December 2018

From the Principal

Dear Madison Families

It is hard to believe we're already a third of the way through the school year! We've made some great memories and have so many more experiences to come. I hope many of you made it to the Fall Festival—the kids had a blast. Thank you to the PTA for the amazing job they did organizing the event and to all of you who helped with donations or running an event. Next, the PTA is planning Movie Night on December 7, and they will be showing *The Incredibles 2*!

I would like to introduce Melissa Karmil, our new Family Support Specialist. Melissa has worked with families at Emerson Elementary and Everett High School, and she is passionate about creating a sense of belonging for all. She is your main contact if your family needs assistance with resources, both in the school and throughout the community. Her contact information is mkarmil@everettsd.org or she can be reached at 425-385-5910. In addition, should your family need resources or assistance over the winter break, you can dial 211.

Finally, I would like to share a few reminders with you. The cold weather is quickly moving in. Please remind your children to bundle up. Recess will continue to be outside, and we want to make sure the kids enjoy their breaks without catching cold. Please encourage good hygiene and hand washing as well, as we are approaching the flu season. I have asked the custodians to be diligent about sterilizing door handles and sinks.

We will be opening our Super Secret Surprise for attendance sometime between December 3rd and the 7th. Let the kids know—they won't want to miss this!

On December 13th, we will have our Annual Talent Show. There will be 3 showings in the cafeteria—9:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 6:00 pm. You are welcome to come to any show. For the daytime shows, please check in with the main office.

We will close out December with our Winter Sing-along on Friday, December 21. This is a fun event for students so we hope to see everyone at school!

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year to start 2019!

Amanda M. Overly
Principal

December 7

PTA Movie Night 6:00 pm
Incredibles 2
Learning Improvement Friday
Dismissal at 1:35 pm

December 10-13

Book Fair
Hours on December 10-12 3:00-4:30 pm
Hours on December 13 3:00-6:00 pm
Talent Show 6:30 PM

December 14

Learning Improvement Friday
Dismissal at 1:35 pm

December 18

PTA General Meeting 5:30 pm
PTA Board Meeting 6:00 pm

December 21

Learning Improvement Friday
Dismissal at 1:35 pm

December 24- January 4

No School Winter Break



The gift of attendance

Absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. Just a few missed days here and there, even excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation. This holiday season, give your children the gift of an education and the habit of attendance.

Graduation rates jump to 95.7%

Our graduation rate jumped even higher for the 11th year in a row. Now 95.7 percent of our students graduate on time! Learn how strategic staff actions helped bring the graduation rate from 53 percent just 15 years ago to this year's all-time high.

<http://bit.ly/2018gradrates>

Parent safety tip

Before you take your child to a friend's sleepover or party, make sure you know a few important things first.

- Find out about the friend's "house rules" and who else will be at home, like parents, another adult, brothers, or sisters.
- Ask about what they plan to do during the visit.
- Talk with your child about things that are important to you: no guns, violent TV and video games, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Take this time to review behaviors that are healthy and those that are dangerous.
- If your child does not have his or her own cell phone, be sure to have the telephone number of where he or she can be reached.
- If there is a change of plans, you need to be told.

Get to know other parents

- Talk with them on the phone.
- Meet them at neighborhood or school events.
- Greet them when dropping your child off at their home.

Communication is key

School-aged children need and want more independence. Good communication, with clear expectations, helps parents and children trust that what is going on is safe.

Source: *HealthyChildren.org*

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.





Family resources

Could you or a family you know use some help? Find information and links to helpful resources on the district's [Parent Tools webpage](#):

- Washington State Library – local and regional information about services and agencies offering help to families in a variety of ways including food, shelter, clothing, childcare, legal services, employment opportunities, and counseling
- Everett Public Schools Kids In Transition (KIT) program – supports homeless children and youth to continue their education
- Help for military families
- Snohomish Health District for Snohomish County community dental resources for children and adults
- United Way of Snohomish County – 2-1-1 is a free telephone number that is your best "first call" to quickly find the right source of help. The information line is staffed by trained operators from Volunteers of America Western Washington who can connect you to a wide range of community services.

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