

**Jefferson
Elementary**
2500 Cadet Way
Everett, WA 98208
425.385.7400



Jefferson Charger

Elizabeth Kelley, Principal

www.everettsd.org

March 2017

From the Principal

March: A Month for Family Involvement!

There are all sorts of ways you can be involved at Jefferson this month:

- **Come to fun family events:** Bingo Night is at 6:30 p.m. March 10, and Culture Night is at 6:30 p.m. March 20!
- **Attend conferences:** Be sure to set aside time the last week of the month to attend a conference with your child's teacher. You can provide scheduling input via a form sent home March 3, which is due back March 10. These conferences provide an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, and to learn about how you can support your child at home.
- **Take our survey:** Educators are constantly asking ourselves how we are doing in our quest to help students become their very best selves. Now, we want to know how you – our community of families – think we are doing. Jefferson, like all Everett Public Schools, is committed to continuous improvement. Each year, we seek your insights to help us create our School Improvement Plan. You are invited to take part in this year's anonymous survey developed by the Center for Educational Effectiveness, a Bellevue-based research firm, for Everett Public Schools. The link to the survey is <https://www.research.net/r/eps-parent-2017>. Paper surveys are also available, and will be distributed March 10. You may choose either method to respond to the survey by March 28. Your opinions are very valuable to us, since you are partners in the education of Jefferson students!

Around the Corner: SBA/MSP Testing

Jefferson students in third, fourth, and fifth grades will begin this year's state-mandated Smarter Balanced Assessment testing the second week after spring break. Each grade level will have two days of testing in English language arts (ELA) and two days of testing in math. Fifth-graders will also take the one-day Measurement of Student Progress in science.

It's important to keep these tests in perspective. They are an important snapshot of how students are doing in relation to the Common Core State Standards (ELA/math) and the Washington State Science Learning Standards, but they are just one of many measures we use to understand how students are doing so that we can plan how to help those who are struggling, and challenge those who are ready. We assess students all the time – whether informally, through observations and day-to-day student work, or formally, such as on unit tests. Although these tests are important, they should not be a source of anxiety for students. By teaching our district-adopted curriculum, which is aligned to the standards, and by helping students learn the format of the tests and how to use Chromebooks, our teachers ensure that students will feel ready!

The testing schedule is below; please mark your family calendars accordingly. Although we can provide make-up testing due to illness or emergency, we ask that students be here on time each day, and that you avoid scheduling medical appointments or other absences on testing days.

Families play an important role in helping students be successful each day. Here are some tips:

- Ensure that your child gets a good night's sleep, and has a healthy breakfast that will keep them going all morning.
- Make sure your child gets to school on time. Walking in late can leave students feeling unsettled.
- Encourage your child to do their best, and validate that they are capable. After the test, praise them for their hard work.
- If your child is anxious, talk about self-calming strategies such as positive self-talk or taking deep breaths. If the child's anxiety is especially high, please let the classroom teacher know so that we can provide additional support at school.

	THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE	
Monday, April 17	Tuesday, April 18 ELA	Wednesday, April 19 ELA	Thursday, April 20 ELA	Friday, April 21
Monday, April 24	Tuesday, April 25 ELA	Wednesday, April 26 ELA	Thursday, April 27 ELA	Friday, April 28
Monday, May 1	Tuesday, May 2 Math	Wednesday, May 3 Math	Thursday, May 4 Math	Friday, May 5
Monday, May 8	Tuesday, May 9 Math	Wednesday, May 10 Math	Thursday, May 11 Math	Friday, May 12
Monday, May 15 Fifth-grade science				

Important after-school safety reminder

There is no student supervision on campus after 3:40 p.m. other than for scheduled activities, so students need to head home immediately after school rather than staying to play. Students may remain on campus after school only if they are directly supervised by a family member or other adult responsible for their care.

Thanks for your role in helping make this a great school community that ensures each student is successful and safe!

Mrs. Kelley

CALENDAR

Early Release Fridays 2:15 p.m.	3/10 3/17
PTA Bingo Night Cafeteria 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	3/10
Culture Night Cafeteria 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	3/20
Early Release 1:00 p.m. Conference Week	3/24 - 3/31
Scholastic Book Fair Cafeteria	3/27 - 3/31
Eisenhower 6th Grade Information Night 6:30 p.m. Gym	3/29
Spring Break NO SCHOOL	4/03 - 4/07

Reading Room News

Teachers and staff are looking forward to Parent-Teacher Conference Week! If you have questions or need resources to support your child in reading, please make a note of it on the conference appointment form. We are happy to answer questions and provide resources that you can use at home to support your child's reading development. As always, we encourage all students to read at home on a regular basis. Listening to an adult or older sibling read is also very helpful in developing comprehension skills.

Please feel free to contact me if there is any way I can support you and your child's reading progress.

Janet Erickson

425-385-7423



**PLEASE NOTE A
CHANGE
IN THE DEADLINE
TO PLACE**

ORDER FOR YEARBOOKS

The order form for the 2016 - 2017 Jefferson Yearbook states that the deadline is April 21st. This is incorrect. **The deadline is March 24th.**

Final Culture Night!

You are invited to our final culture night potluck of 2017! Join us in sharing our cultures with family and friends through any form of artistic expression: song, dance, poetry, food, and more!

What: Potluck and Cultural Expressions

Where: Jefferson Cafeteria

When: Monday, March 20th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Potluck: Bring a favorite dish. This can be a dessert, main dish, or side dish. **Please include a list of ingredients.**

The district shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, veteran or military status, the presence of any physical, sensory or mental disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a student with a disability. Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are: Affirmative Action Officer - Carol Stolz, cstolz@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106. Title IX Officer - Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104. 504 Coordinator - Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063. ADA Coordinator - Becky Clifford, bclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250. Address: 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Capital bond and levy project updates are now online

Watch the progress of projects authorized by voters in the 2016 election and in prior years. Project descriptions, photos and updates are on the district website at www.everettsd.org/bondandlevy.

We're growing.

1,500 more students projected in coming years—more than 800 at high school level.



ThoughtExchange

Emails will go to each guardian after March 1 asking for thoughts about enrollment growth in Everett Public Schools. What should the district consider as it plans for continued growth?

Didn't get an email? You can self-register at http://bit.ly/EPS_Texchange. Join the conversation at any time!

Board special meeting March 30

6-7:30 p.m.

Henry M. Jackson High School, 1508 136th St. SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012

Join Us!

Learn more about the district's tremendous high school enrollment growth issues and possible solutions to address growth over time.

Speak with a board member. Sign up during the event.

Hear what board members heard from community members about enrollment growth.

Important dates

Daylight Saving Time begins March 12.



Elementary school students will be released 2.5 hours earlier than normal March 24-31 for parent conferences.



Spring Break is April 3-7.

FREE learning tools for your entire family

Did you know that with your parent LMS user name and password, you have access to a powerful resource provided also to students and staff with their district log ins? Atomic Learning is a key partner in our dedication to providing the highest quality technology training resources available.

Our subscription to Atomic Learning includes:

- The Microsoft® Office Suite
- Adobe Suite
- Google Drive/apps/doc/form
- Internet Safety
- Career Skills training for personal career advancement
- Completing a FAFSA training for college planning
- Access for staff, students and their families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

More than 50,000 step-by-step technology tutorials.

Go to <http://www.atomiclearning.com/login/everettsd> and log in with your district username and password. Need a login and password? Contact LMS@everettsd.org.

Absence reporting

Each time your child is absent, please call the school attendance line, 425-385-7405, to indicate the reason. Per district policy, there are the eight valid excuses for absences and tardies:

- A-District or school-approved activity
- B-Illness, health condition, or medical appointment
- C-Family emergency
- D-Religious purposes (holiday/religious instruction)
- E-Judicial proceeding or jury duty
- F-Post-secondary, technical school or apprenticeship program visit or interview
- G-State-recognized search and rescue activities
- H-Absence directly related to the student's homeless status

While we always want to be respectful of your privacy, state absence reporting law requires us to state the reason for the absence. Please note that family vacations are not excused absences, with some exceptions to be approved in advance (death or serious illness in the family, family wedding or graduation, etc.).

In addition to absences, all tardies and early releases need to be excused using the same reasons as absences. Please note the following:

- Arriving between 9:15 and 9:45 counts as a tardy.
 - Arriving after 9:45 counts as a half-day absence.
 - Leaving between 3:00 and 3:30 counts as a tardy.
 - Leaving before 3:00 counts as a half-day absence.
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4th Grade Fundraiser

4th grade is working on raising money for 5th grade camp.

See's Candies order forms went home last week.

Forms are due back no later than March 27, 2017.

Make checks payable to Jefferson PTA.

Delivery will be April 10, 2017,

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm in the cafeteria.



A perfect treat for Spring

