

From the Principal

I hope that everyone had a warm and safe Thanksiving break! Students are back in school for three important weeks of learning between the holiday breaks, and *every day counts!* One of the easiest ways to support your child's learning, especially as the winter break and holidays approach, is to ensure that he or she is at school on time each day. We know that the parking lot is busy, and winter weather can slow things down. Please allow a few extra minutes in the morning so that your child can be in class by the 9:15 a.m. tardy bell at the very latest. Classes head down from the covered play area between 9:05 and 9:10, but student supervision there begins at 8:55. Students who enter with their classmates are more focused and feel more a part of the classroom community, which starts the day off right!

Each week, school staff members receive many questions from families about **what they can do at home** to support and extend learning. Here are some ideas:

- Talk to your child about what he or she is learning. Ask about homework, what's written in his or her planner, and work that comes home.
- Take advantage of our online learning resources, i-Ready (K-5 math and 3-5 reading) and IXL (K-5 math). i-Ready provides each student with a personalized lesson path based on their diagnostic test results.
- Explore the student tools available through the school with your child.
- Check out the district's <u>literacy resources</u> for families.

I have a piece of district news that I would like to highlight this month. In late November, the Everett Public Schools Board of Directors approved Feb. 13, 2018, *capital bond and replacement levy ballot measures*. The capital bond would include the construction of four new permanent classrooms at Jefferson to reduce class sizes, as well as a parking lot expansion and safety/access improvements. For more information, please click here.

Finally, an *important safety reminder* about dogs on campus: Only service animals are allowed on campus from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and during school events. Thank you for keeping dogs at home or in the car during those hours.

Have a wonderful December and holiday season!

Mrs. Kelley

Elizabeth Kelley Principal

Jefferson Elementary School 2500 Cadet Way Everett, WA 98208 www.everettsd.org/jefferson

Dec. 1 2:15 p.m. dismissal

Dec. 4-8 Holiday Store

Dec. 6Popcorn for sale at lunches

Dec. 7
Hearing screening for K-3 & 5

Dec. 8
Holiday basket drive ends 2:15 p.m. dismissal Movie Night, 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 15Pajama day
2:15 p.m. dismissal

Dec. 18-Jan. 1

Winter Break – School closed See you on Jan. 2, 2018!

When checking your student out early please remember to have your photo ID ready.

To report an absence, e-mail JFEattendance@everettsd.org.

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PTA Holiday Basket Collection Drive: It's Not Too Late!

It's not too late to sign up to contribute to the annual PTA drive for food donations, toys, and gift cards for holiday baskets for 15 families. A contribution of any size is welcome! You can see what's needed and sign up to give <u>here</u>, or write a check to Jefferson PTA to support holiday basket purchases.

Food Donations Needed

Support PTA and Jefferson's weekly food backpack program, currently serving 29 families, by donating easy-to-prepare, kid-friendly food at any time! Donations can be dropped off in the office. We are also collecting deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and feminine hygiene products. Do you have a wheeled backpack you no longer need? If so, please donate it to our backpack program by dropping it off in the office.

District News for December

Capital bond and replacement levy election

The School Board has approved Feb. 13, 2018, bond projects to meet future readiness needs, and a levy to replace an expiring one. Future readiness is the "why" behind the capital bond request, according to school board president Caroline Mason. "Bond funds are needed in three areas," she said. "Growth readiness, career readiness and facilities readiness." Click to read the <u>news release</u>.

Prepare for bad weather: How to find emergency school schedule information (usually by 5:45 a.m.)

See Safety and Emergencies page under Parents tab on district website for full details and other resources.

- <u>FlashAlert.net</u>: You can subscribe to receive notices at the same time those notices are sent to media outlets, or you can bookmark this site to check for a listing of regional school emergency schedule information.
- Media news reports (Media gets information from FlashAlert)
- District website: www.everettsd.org/
- District information line at 425-385-4636
- Blackboard Connect* calls, emails and text messages made to families usually by 5:45 a.m.
 *Please be sure your contact information is current at your school.
- Program impact chart outlines how various school programs and activities are impacted when school is cancelled or starts late.

No announcement means schools are on a regular schedule.

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 <u>snow</u> route information on the district transportation department's webpage.

Volunteer application online

Want to attend a field trip this spring? Time to renew an expired volunteer application? <u>Apply or renew quickly and easily online</u>. Applying online saves postage time and your application gets processed even faster.

Free research-based tools to help stop bullying

<u>www.stopbullying.gov/</u> has bullying prevention information and strategies. There are training modules, PowerPoints, toolkits, videos, resources, state-by-state laws and policies, suggestions about how to talk about bullying with your kids and much more.

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 Office – 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

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