

# Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

## From the Principal

Happy November! This is the month of Thanksgiving, so thank you for all the ways you have been involved with our school during the first months of the year. One of the things about Jefferson that I am most thankful for is the way the school community comes together to support each other and those beyond our walls. Here are two recent examples:

- Families' donations of nonperishable food are allowing PTA to provide weekend food backpacks to 29 Jefferson families. To sustain this program, we will need donations on an ongoing basis – not just during our two big food drives. Donations can be dropped off in the office at any time – think kid-friendly, easy to prepare foods!
- Families' donations of socks and underwear filled the blue collection barrel two and a half times (that's 130 gallons!) for the Lighthouse Cooperative-sponsored Socktober drive to benefit Everett's Union Gospel Mission.

Whether volunteering in classes, helping with PTA and Lighthouse events, or coming to conferences, your involvement makes a difference. It was great to see families at conferences, which are such an important part of the relationship between home and school. We as a staff firmly believe that families are our students' first teachers, and we can learn so much from you!

Every year, each school staff writes a School Improvement Plan (SIP) that guides their work for the year. Although teaching and learning are driven primarily by grade-level Common Core and state standards, the SIP identifies our schoolwide priorities. Ms. Stone and I will be sharing Jefferson's during upcoming PTA and Lighthouse meetings. We've also included a "SIP at a Glance" page later in this newsletter for you to read, and the full plan will be available later this month on the school website if you'd like to go deeper. A big part of the SIP has to do with creating a welcoming environment and partnering with families, so please let me know what else we can do as a staff to make Jefferson a great place for families!

Have a wonderful November!

*Mrs. Kelley*

**Elizabeth Kelley**  
Principal

**Jefferson Elementary School**  
2500 Cadet Way,  
Everett, WA 98208  
[www.everettsd.org/jefferson](http://www.everettsd.org/jefferson)

**Nov. 15**

Popcorn for sale at lunches

**Nov. 17**

Picture retake day  
2:15 p.m. dismissal

**Nov. 18**

Camp fund-raiser craft fair  
9 a.m.-noon, gym & cafeteria

**Nov. 20**

Culture Night, 6 p.m., cafeteria

**Nov. 22**

1 p.m. dismissal

**Nov. 23-24**

No school – Thanksgiving break

**Dec. 1**

2:15 p.m. dismissal



**Happy November from the Reading Room!**

November and December can be great months for reading progress. Here are a few suggestions for reading at home:

1. Choose a cozy spot.
2. Listen to your child read for a few minutes. Chat about the book. Make a prediction or a connection to the story. Ask a question, and then read on to find the answer.
3. Choose a classic book like *The Secret Garden*, *The Wizard of Oz*, or *the Little Princess*. Read a bit of the book to your child each night. It may take a couple of months to finish, but it will become a time you both look forward to! Other great read alouds are *Henry Huggins*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and *Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle*.

Enjoy your reading time!

**Mrs. Erickson**

**PTA Holiday Basket Collection Drive**

The Jefferson Elementary School PTA will be collecting food donations, toys and gift cards to contribute to multiple holiday baskets for several families within our community who are in need. A contribution of any size helps provide comfort for these families during the upcoming holiday season.

If a monetary contribution is preferred, checks made payable to Jefferson PTA will also be collected and used to purchase supplies.

You can see what's needed and sign up to give at <http://signup.com/go/yxKydjf>.

**Hello Jefferson Families!**

You are invited to our first Culture Night of the year! Please join us for a night of great food and fun. We will be showcasing student work that celebrates families and community.

**When:** Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 6 – 7pm  
**Where:** Jefferson Cafeteria  
**Who:** Students, families, and staff  
**What:** A potluck  
 Bring a favorite food! This can be a dessert, main dish, or side dish.  
**Please include a list of ingredients.**

In the spirit of building community, we will be hosting a food drive. We are looking for kid-friendly, easy prep foods and personal hygiene products.

Please return to your student's teacher to RSVP.

**Student's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Yes, we will be there!

**Food Donations Needed**

Support PTA and Jefferson's weekly food backpack program 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. Thanks!



## 2017-18 Jefferson Elementary School Improvement Plan at a Glance

All academic areas:

- Planning instruction based on standards and common assessments
- Analyzing student assessment data and using results to plan instruction

Reading	Writing	Math	Science
Balanced literacy via Reach for Reading curriculum	Balanced literacy via Reach for Reading curriculum	Balanced approach (conceptual, procedural, and application)	Inquiry writing process and related vocabulary
Grade-level intervention times	Revision and editing	Academic discourse and three-act tasks to support problem-solving	NGSS implementation (new standards)
i-Ready to drive interventions and monitor progress toward equity targets	Citing evidence in research/inquiry claim	Math fact fluency	WCAS (new state test)-style practice (fifth-graders)
Word meanings and language use through Reach & GLAD (English learner) strategies	Daily opportunities to use academic and domain-specific vocabulary in writing across the content areas	i-Ready to drive interventions and monitor progress toward equity targets	Content vocabulary through Reach & GLAD (English learner) strategies
Academic discourse			More 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> grade participation in district Innovations Expo
Accelerated Reader			

### Nonacademic Areas

#### Family partnerships

- Communicate events and resources (academic, Make Your Day) in multiple languages/formats
- Expand WatchD.O.G.S./Natural Leaders

#### Welcoming/safe/equitable and accessible culture

- Office environment welcoming to families and guest teachers
- Culture Nights and explorations
- Administrator visibility
- Begin two-year transition from Make Your Day to Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS)
- Refine student support processes (academic/behavioral/social-emotional)
- Increase Second Step lessons, and create anti-bullying student leadership group
- Pair Extended Resource students with gen-ed classes from Day 1

#### Attendance

- Frequent monitoring and family communication
- Recognition of students for good attendance

#### Technology

- i-Ready and Reach for Reading myNGconnect platform implementation
- STEM activities in technology classes
- Keyboarding without Tears



## District News for November

### Nov. 13-17 is American Education Week

American Education Week gives Americans a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. Read more about the [creation and history behind American Education Week](#) online.

### Accepting Highly Capable nominations until Dec. 1

Find forms and more information and evening information events on the [Highly Capable website](#). Referrals are for students currently in grades one through four for winter testing, which will take place in January 2018.

### The mobile app is here!

Everett Public Schools just launched a mobile app to make it easier for parents and students to connect with their schools. Download the free app for easy access to:

- grades and test scores
- staff directory
- bus route information
- checked out library items
- school and district calendars
- communications preferences
- attendance and class schedules
- customized social media stream
- and much more!

Go to the district [communications webpage](#) for more information or download the “Everett Public Schools” app from your phone’s app store. We’re excited to put this information in the palm of your hand.

### Bond and levy planning

Enrollment in Everett Public Schools is up and grew to about 19,900 students this fall. Snohomish County is the second fastest growing county in the state and Everett Public Schools continues to experience the highest growth in the county. Many district schools are already at or above capacity and 115 portables have been added to school sites over the years to help address growth. Growth will continue across the region in the coming years, and the district will grow by more than 1,600 students by 2026.

The need for additional schools and classroom space to manage this growth is critical, especially at the high school level. Without a new high school, enrollment at Jackson High School will exceed 2,300

students by 2021 and 30 portables will be required by 2026.

The board is also considering a Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy to renew the four-year levy that expires in 2018. The state does not fully fund education, and the levy would provide funding for educational programs and resources to support student learning, including Special education, before- and after-school programs and interventions, safety and security, athletics and activities. Additional information is available on the [district website](#). The board is expected to make a decision at its Nov. 21 meeting.

### Tips to help kids and parents in digital age

*The Daily Herald* shared an article from *The Washington Post* about things you can do at home to help keep your kids safe and healthy in a digital world: <http://bit.ly/1RWx3if>. Find out what Everett Public Schools students learn about digital citizenship on the district [Learning Management Services website](#).

### Capital projects updates

The district is hard at work on many projects approved by voters in April 2016. In September, staff rolled out computing devices to five schools as part of the district’s first phase of its 1:1 technology initiative. Students at Everett and Sequoia high schools and Garfield, Lowell and Monroe elementary schools now have individual access to technology. The rollout will continue to supply devices and training to several schools each year until all schools are 1:1.

See other capital projects updates on the [district website](#).

### 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](http://www.everettsd.org);
- watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts; or
- call our district information line 425-385-4636.

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](mailto:cstolz@everettsd.org), 425-385-4106; Title IX Officer – Randi Seaberg, [rseaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:rseaberg@everettsd.org), 425-385-4104; 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, [rballbach@everettsd.org](mailto:rballbach@everettsd.org), 425-385-4063; ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, [bclifford@everettsd.org](mailto:bclifford@everettsd.org), 425-385-5250  
Address: 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201





2017-2018

NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS®

# WITHIN REACH



Entries from  
all grades and all  
abilities welcome.



**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:**

November 30th, 2017

**FOR DETAILS, CONTACT:**

Leanne Heilman

leanneheilman@gmail.com

Learn more and get involved! [PTA.ORG/REFLECTIONS](http://PTA.ORG/REFLECTIONS)

