

Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2020

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

From the Principal

It sounds so futuristic to say it, but happy 2020! I hope that everyone had very happy New Year and holiday celebrations. We are looking forward to seeing students back at school Monday, Jan. 6, for lots more learning! We will begin our first few days of 2020 with **a review of schoolwide behavior expectations** – the Charger Code. Ask your child to tell you about what he or she does to meet expectations of being safe, respectful, responsible, and kind. We will have a special focus on respect, which we are defining as “treating someone in a way that makes them feel cared for and important.” We will also be focusing on expectations for hallways and walking/waiting in line, as well as on problem-solving strategies for “small problems” that we want students to try to solve on their own before involving an adult. Don’t miss a chance to learn more about social-emotional learning from PBIS specialist Winter Graham on the next page!

During January we will **welcome a long-term guest counselor** covering Ms. Ortiz-Self’s legislative leave of absence through mid-March. Though we will miss Ms. Ortiz-Self greatly, she is leaving the program in excellent hands. Please continue to call the office if you or your family need the support of a school counselor.

Do you know about our **Watch D.O.G.S.** (Dads of Great Students) program? This is a national program that seeks to involve more fathers and father figures in schools. Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer for a day, but if you’re interested but can’t give us a full day, we’ll work something out! Adding onto a Lighthouse volunteer shift is also an option. D.O.G.S. must have district volunteer clearance, and can sign up for days using the calendar in the hallway, or by contacting parent coordinator Dan Osborne at osborne555@gmail.com or the school counselor at 425-385-7410.

Thanks for reading, and have a great January!

Mrs. Kelley

Elizabeth Kelley
Principal

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Jan. 6

Welcome back to school!

Jan. 9

PTA General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 10

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal

Jan. 17

Food drive begins

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal

Jan. 20

No school: Martin Luther King Jr. day

Jan. 22

Hearing screening day

Jan. 24

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal

Talent show auditions after school

Jan. 27

No school: Teacher work day

Jan. 31

Food drive ends

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal



Three Must-knows This Month

In this space, we will highlight three items each month that we think are really important for you to know about!

Food Drive	Dogs at School	Playground Use During the Day
<p>This month, we'll observe Martin Luther King, Jr., Day with an assembly and a focus on service. In conjunction, we will hold a food drive to stock our weekend food backpack program, which is so generously supported and run by PTA. Kid-friendly, easy-to-prepare meals and snacks are the best donations – think canned meats, mac and cheese, pasta/sauce, snacks, etc.</p>	<p>We love dogs, but we don't love seeing them at school! Everett Public Schools' policy does not allow dogs on school athletic fields at any time. Only service animals are allowed on campus from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays and during school/PTA/Lighthouse evening events. Thanks for leaving your pet home during drop-off, pick-up, the school day, and events!</p>	<p>Our playground is open to neighborhood/public use by children with adult supervision outside of school-day hours. If you're on campus early and waiting for students to be dismissed, please do not allow younger children to play on the playground if there are any Jefferson students using it. This helps us keep everyone safe and adequately supervised!</p>

From Mrs. Graham, PBIS specialist

Jefferson Elementary School's Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program focuses on teaching skills that will contribute to the social and academic success of all students. Social-emotional learning (SEL) at Jefferson is aimed at helping your child build awareness of their feelings, develop skills for managing emotions, and establish positive relationships with peers and adults in our community.

Did you know that the state of Washington has defined standards in the area of social-emotional learning just like in reading, science, and math? These standards outline a range of skills beginning in the early elementary years and concluding in adulthood. The standards are organized into six categories and are briefly summarized below.

Washington State SEL Standards	
<p>Self-Awareness: identify emotions, personal assets, areas for growth, identify supports</p>	<p>Social-Awareness: see others' perspectives, empathize with others</p>
<p>Self-Management: regulate emotions, thoughts, and behaviors</p>	<p>Social-Management: make safe and constructive choices about personal behavior and social interactions</p>
<p>Self-Efficacy: motivate self, persevere, see self as capable</p>	<p>Social-Engagement: consider others, show a desire to contribute to school and community</p>

Around the school, students are gaining a deeper understanding of social-emotional skills. In grades K-2, students are participating in lessons focused on identifying thoughts and feelings of self and others, following the group plan, thinking with our eyes, keeping our bodies safely in a group, and engaging in whole-body listening. In grades 3-5, select students are participating in small-group learning lessons focused on self-and social-management, while all learners continue participating in Second Step lessons focusing on skills such as disagreeing respectfully and using positive self-talk.

At home you can support your student's development of social-emotional skills. Encourage your child to identify and name their emotions and to recognize the feelings expressed by others. You can demonstrate distraction-free listening skills and model the steps to resolve interpersonal conflicts in constructive ways!

If you'd like more information on ways to support your child's social-emotional learning or have questions about the SEL Standards or PBIS, please reach out to me at wgraham@everettsd.org.



From Mrs. Rockwell in the Music Room

As we return from winter break in the music room, we will resume the great musical work we were accomplishing in December. Students will be composing their own rhythms and melodies, playing various percussion and melodic instruments, singing songs, and playing games. Students in grades 3-5 will continue playing the recorder. If you'd like to know more about what we're doing with the recorder, you can find the information on my classroom website: <https://www.everettsd.org/jfe-drockwell>. Don't forget to mark your calendar for our concerts! Our concert for grades 1 through 5 will be Monday, May 18, at the Everett Civic Auditorium. The Kindergarten Spring Sing will be held on Monday, June 1, on the Jefferson Elementary campus.

LIF Friday P.E./Gym Rotation			
<i>Please remind your student to bring their P.E. shoes on their scheduled days.</i>			
Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24	Jan. 31
Clark	Parks	Weitkamp	Weitkamp
Agustin	Nielson	Schmieder	Schmieder
Branch	Hanson	Wright	Wright
Dinneen	Lobdell	Adams	Adams

Greetings and a Request from Mrs. Erickson in the Reading Room

Our students and teachers have been working hard to develop literacy skills, and we are so proud of them! Now we'd like to ask for your help. We are looking for volunteers who can listen to and/or read with students here at school. This would be for about an hour in the morning, focusing on helping students who are beginning to make progress as a reader. If you would like to participate, please e-mail me at jerickson@everettsd.org. Please include the day(s) that work best for you, and the name of your child's teacher. We will get together in early January for a short training and then we can get started. Your help will make a big difference for some great little readers. Reading together is fun, no matter who is reading and who is listening. Thank you!

Hello from Mrs. Roach in the Math Room

Darn decimal division! Is your fifth-grader perplexed with decimal division? They aren't alone! Even adults like us can be put off by certain math concepts, which makes it hard sometimes to explain what it even means. Where do I place the decimal? Why is the answer sometimes larger than the dividend when division should make it smaller (or so you'd think, right)? Here are some interesting tidbits to help see decimal division in a new way:

Understanding that a division answer (quotient) can give you the number of whole groups **OR** the number in each group is key. This is a concept that seems fundamental, but is often forgotten when dividing decimals. Fifth-graders should be reminded of this, as shown in the following examples:

.48 divided by 6: Since 6 is a whole number, the problem is asking you to put .48 into 6 whole groups. Therefore, the answer will be the number in each group, and therefore be a decimal smaller than .48.
Answer: **.08**

A number divided by a decimal (example **.75 divided by .25**) is asking the opposite. Conceptually, kids should understand that you can't divide something into a quarter of a group (groups must be a whole number of at least 1 group), so this problem is asking to find the number of groups, in this case 3. There are 3 groups of .25 that make .75 (or three quarters make .75).



Parking Lot & Other Safety Reminders

The Jefferson parking lot is a busy place, and we are asking that everyone in our community follow procedures to ensure student safety and respectful interactions. **Please DO:**

- Use a designated parking space, or park at Eastmont Park & Ride, if you want to get out of your car to meet your student.
- Follow the 5 MPH speed limit.
- Pull forward when dropping off and picking up.
- Use crosswalks.
- Follow adult staff and student safety patrol directions.
- Remember that students are supervised until 3:45, and parking spaces and the pick-up line start clearing up about 3:40.
- Volunteer to help – contact the office!

Please DO NOT:

- Park/exit your vehicle anywhere along the curb or on Cadet Way/El Capitan.
- Pull up and wait (without using a parking space) in the parking aisles of the lot.
- Park and wait (or exit your vehicle) in the curb area past the main crosswalk by the office.
- Call your student to walk across the parking lot to meet you on their own.
- Block driveways or intersections in the neighborhood.

Bicycles, scooters, etc.: Per Everett Public Schools policy, students in grades three and above may ride bicycles to and from school. Students must walk their bicycles on campus, wear a helmet, and lock the bike to the rack behind the cafeteria. Skateboards, scooters, roller blades, roller shoes, etc., may not be ridden on district property. The district is not responsible for loss or theft of student property. If a student rides without a helmet, or does not secure their bike properly, bicycles may be confiscated for parents or guardians to come and pick up.

Important Reminders from the Jefferson Office

Checking a student out early: When checking your student out early, please remember to have photo ID.

Please note: Release of students to emergency contacts in non-emergency situations **requires** the express consent of a guardian. Please send a note to school with your student or call the office prior to their dismissal. Persons listed as emergency contacts are authorized to pick up students in the case of emergencies only. It is a parent/guardian's responsibility to notify emergency contacts that the school may contact them in the case of an emergency.

Vacation-related absences: If you are planning a vacation and your students will be missing school, please visit the office to fill out an absence request form. **Please note:** Per district policy, we may only excuse **up to** five days for vacation or travel-related absences per year.

Visitors and volunteers: Please remember to sign in and out of the office. A volunteer badge or visitor sticker must be worn and visible at all times.

Update your e-mail address with the office: Providing us with an up-to-date e-mail will help us keep you current on school news and relay information about your child.

Absence reporting: E-mail JFEattendance@everettsd.org using the e-mail address we have on record.

Have you signed up for HAC? This is where you can find your student's attendance and update your contact information. Please see the office for more details!

Snacks, birthdays, and celebrations per the Jefferson Elementary Student Handbook: Teachers may choose whether to have a daily snack time. Per district policy, each classroom may have three celebrations per year involving food (including sugary treats). Classroom teachers have three options when it comes to food for birthdays:

1. Teachers may elect to observe birthdays with food during their three classroom celebrations per year.
2. Teachers may allow students to bring fruits and/or vegetables to be eaten during the regular class snack time as a birthday celebration.
3. Teachers may mark the occasion of students' birthdays without any food.

Teachers will provide information on their plans each fall. Flower and balloon deliveries will not be accepted.



News from the District

January is School Board Appreciation Month

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition – a time to salute the work of school board members and celebrate public education. You can learn more about [board members online](#). You can also watch past school board meetings on the district's YouTube channel.

Good Citizenship Day



Good Citizenship Day shall be observed on January 16. On that day, social studies teachers coordinate a voter registration event in each history or social studies class attended by high school seniors. Students who will be eighteen years of age or older by the time of the next general election will be given the

opportunity to register to vote online in the classroom. Paper registration will also be made available in the classroom.

Delayed start or closed schools

If we must cancel school or delay the start of school, we will use our parent communication system to call in the morning, typically around 5:30 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 <https://www.everettsd.org/>
- watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts

Food and Nutrition

This month, the Food and Nutrition Department brings you potatoes grown in the PNW! Be sure to check out our menu for dishes containing this tasty harvest of the month!

Did you know that potatoes are the most popular vegetable grown in the US and are an excellent source of Vitamin C, B6 and potassium?



Find out more by checking out the Harvest of the Month flyer on our website at <https://www.everettsd.org>

Safety tip line


Do you or your student have a concern about someone experiencing bullying or harassment? Or have you perhaps heard a rumor about someone bringing a weapon or drugs to school? **Report it!** You can talk directly with your school's office or you can call, text or email your concern.

If there is reason for concern about safety on a designated walkway to school, call 9-1-1 immediately for authorized, quick help. We have strong partnerships with local law enforcement who share our interest in safe schools and neighborhoods.

Student safety is a priority for all of us. Working together, we can help make our neighborhoods and schools nurturing places for students to safely learn and grow.

3 easy ways

Text or call

 855-637-2095

 1350@alert1.us

 <http://1350.alert1.us>



3900 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201
425-385-4000
www.everettsd.org

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, 425-385-4106, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- ADA Coordinator – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213