

Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2019

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

From the Principal

The **first month of the school year** has flown by! School staff have enjoyed getting to know students, forming strong classroom communities, and digging into learning.

Most students have finished online **i-Ready diagnostic tests** in math (required for grades 1-5) and reading (required for grades 3-5). After finishing the diagnostic test, i-Ready sets a **personalized online learning path** to help students fill in skill gaps. Students can work on i-Ready at home or at school, but the ideal is to spend about 45 minutes per week in each subject area, not hours and hours. If you'd like to learn more about i-Ready, check out this [overview video](#), or [this one](#) that goes into greater detail and answers common questions. Your child's teacher can help you balance i-Ready time at home vs. time at school.

I'd like to encourage everyone to **join PTA to help support students and staff**. Even if you don't want to attend PTA meetings or volunteer for events, your support makes a difference! Learn more at PTA's [website](#). One way that PTA and our school community partner together to make a difference is through our **weekend food backpack program**. Donations are welcome all year.

Continued on next page

Important Safety Reminders

- **Dogs** are not allowed 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.
- The **back parking lot** is for buses, day care vans, delivery vehicles, and staff parking only. Please do not park, drop off, or pick up students in the back lot.
- Please help Jefferson **be a good neighbor** by driving cautiously and respecting driveways and other property in the neighborhood surrounding the school, as well as following parking lot procedures.

Elizabeth Kelley
Principal

Jefferson Elementary School
425-385-7400
2500 Cadet Way, Everett, WA 98208
www.everettsd.org/jefferson
Twitter: https://twitter.com/EPS_Jefferson

Oct. 1-11

PTA fall fund-raiser

Oct. 2

High School & Beyond (see flier at end)

Oct. 4

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal
PTA Movie Night, 6:30 p.m., cafeteria

Oct. 8

Picture day

Oct. 9

Free popcorn during lunches

Oct. 11

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal

Oct. 18

No school – Learning Improvement Day

Oct. 23

Free popcorn during lunches

Oct. 25

2:15 Learning Improvement dismissal
PTA Fall Family Dance, 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 29

PTA Skate Deck Night, 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 1 & 4-8

1:00 p.m. dismissal (conferences)



From the Principal, continued from previous page

If your family would benefit from the weekend food backpack program, please call counselor Lillian Ortiz-Self at 425-385-7410 or e-mail her at LOrtizSelf@everettsd.org. Participation is confidential!

In addition to learning how to **follow the Charger Code** – which is to be safe, respectful, responsible, and kind – in different areas of the school, students in every grade level are receiving instruction in social/emotional skills using Second Step, our district's adopted social/emotional skills curriculum. This supports students with developing behaviors for learning; communication and problem-solving skills; and strategies for managing emotions. You can get more information from teachers or by going to www.secondstep.org. Codes to register are:

- Kindergarten: SSPK FAMI LY70
- First grade: SSP1 FAMI LY71
- Second grade: SSP2 FAMI LY72
- Third grade: SSP3 FAMI LY73
- Fourth grade: SSP4 FAMI LY74
- Fifth grade: SSP5 FAMI LY75

Finally, as the weather changes, please **have your child dress to play outside (jackets and shoes)** each and every day, rain or shine!

Please reach out to me if you ever have questions, concerns, or ideas! Have a great month of October!

Mrs. Kelley

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 dismissal. Persons listed as emergency contacts are authorized to pick up students in case of emergencies only. It is a parent/guardian's responsibility to notify contacts that the school may contact them in case of an emergency.

Vacation-related absences: If you are planning a vacation and your student 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 Home Access Center? This is where you can find your student's attendance and update your contact information. Please see the office for more details!



News from Ms. Rowe in the Gym

My name is Ms. Rowe and I am the physical education teacher at Jefferson. I am very excited to be a part of the Jefferson school community and to work with your child! In P.E., students will learn and refine skills in fitness, motor skills, health and nutrition as well as social development and cooperation. We will do this through fun and engaging games, stations and cooperative work. The skills that we will be working on are sequenced throughout the school year using the Five for Life curriculum, and with your child's abilities in mind. We define success as learning, improving, and/or accomplishing skills. The overall goal is to help your child learn, have a variety of experiences, be successful and, of course, have fun!

P.E. Shoes: Your child will need to wear gym shoes (sneakers, tennis shoes) on the days that they have P.E. Gym shoes must have a flat bottom (no heel), and the foot must be fully covered. Sandals, Crocs, clogs, dress shoes, boots, and any heeled shoes are not appropriate for P.E. Gym shoes grip the gym floor so that students don't easily fall. Please check your child's weekly specialist schedule for which days they should wear gym shoes. Looking forward to a great year in fitness!

Friday P.E./Gym Rotation			
<i>Please remind your student to bring shoes!</i>			
October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Weitkamp	Clark	No School	Parks
Schmieder	Agustin		Nielson
Wright	Branch		Hanson
Adams	Dinneen		Lobdell
Gray	Gray		Kolosnitsyn

News from Ms. Klujber in the Library

My name is Angela Klujber and I am Jefferson's teacher librarian. I look forward to helping our students find good-fit books and introducing them to library resources that enhance learning. Right now, grades three through five are focusing on using the Destiny database to search for library materials. We are focusing on taking care of our library materials and reading for pleasure in the primary classes. Our library is a wonderful resource. Thank you for helping your child remember to bring library books back to school.

News from Mrs. Rockwell in the Music room

Welcome to another great year in music! My name is Mrs. Rockwell (formerly Miss Branch), and I am so happy to be back for my third year of teaching music at Jefferson! This year, our concert at the Everett Civic Auditorium will be Monday, May 18, for grades 1 through 5. Our Kindergarten Spring Sing will be held on Monday, June 1. Please save these important dates, and look for more information throughout this year. I will be updating my classroom webpage frequently. On it you'll find information about what we're learning in music, concert dates and locations, and a daily schedule of music. You can find my classroom webpage here: <https://www.everettsd.org/jfe-dbranch>. It's going to be a great year!

News from Mrs. Erickson's Reading Room

Welcome back from the reading team! We are excited to get back to the pursuit of literacy for all students. We have already begun checking in with new students and teachers, and planning for a focus on all students meeting or exceeding standard in reading and writing this year. Here are a few tips for supporting your child's literacy development:

- Ask your child what he or she is reading in class, what the teacher may be reading to the class, and what library books they checked out this week.
- Talk about books you enjoyed as an elementary-aged student. Your child may like to read the same ones.
- Be sure your child sees that you enjoy reading and writing, too.

We are always available to answer questions or offer support, so please do not hesitate to call if you need anything.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @EPS_Jefferson



Jefferson Elementary School - EPS
@EPS_Jefferson



News from Mrs. Graham, PBIS Specialist

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports were adopted schoolwide last year and are in full swing this year. Teachers began with a focus on **class meetings**. One critical component of an effective class meeting is giving and receiving compliments. Students will learn the anatomy of a compliment, why it's important to compliment others, and what to say when given a compliment. Additionally, we are using a new social thinking curriculum, and have begun our first lessons on **thoughts** and **feelings**. Students are learning what it means to play collaboratively, skills for establishing friendships, how to take others' thoughts into account, and skills for solving social problems. This accompanies our kindergarten through fifth-grade classroom-based learning that emphasizes school success through **social/emotional competence** and **self-regulation**. I look forward to continuing to work with our students on these important concepts! At home, you can support your student's **social thinking** by encouraging your child to recognize and acknowledge the thoughts and feelings of others. Focusing on verbal as well as non-verbal communication such as body language helps students to recognize the feelings of others and helps to build a foundation for successful social interactions and problem solving! If you have any questions about Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports at Jefferson, please reach out to me at wgraham@everettsd.org.

Calling Dads, Grandpas, Uncles, and other Males: Join us for WATCH D.O.G.S.!

WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) is one of the nation's largest and most respected school-based, family and community engagement organizations in the country. In 1998, the very first WATCH D.O.G.S. program launched at Gene George Elementary in Springdale, Arkansas. Today, more than 6,450 schools across the country – including Jefferson – have launched a WATCH D.O.G.S. program of their own. Each school year, hundreds of thousands of fathers and father-figures make a positive impact on millions of children by volunteering millions of hours in their local schools through this amazing, one-of-a-kind program.



At Jefferson, second-grade parent Dan Osborne is partnering with counselor Lillian Ortiz-Self to coordinate the program. Dan says, "I have done WATCH D.O.G.S. every year, and this program really supports our kids while allowing us to interact with them and many others that would love to have a supporting Dad at our school!" If you sign up, you'll help with morning arrival and announcements; spend time in your child's classroom as well as another (or your own kids' classes, if you have multiple students); and support at lunch and recess. We'll take you for any time you can give – it doesn't have to be a full day! There are three ways to sign up:

1. E-mail Dan at osborne555@gmail.com.
2. E-mail Lillian Ortiz-Self at LOrtizSelf@everettsd.org or call her at 425-385-7410.
3. Sign up on the master calendar located in the hallway by front office – just add your name to any date that is open.

Don't forget to fill out the background check application located on the Everett Public Schools website. If you filled one out last year, the background check is good for three years. This must be completed and approved prior to your first day.



News from the District

Access to public records (updated information)

District records are public records. Parents and other citizens have the right to ask to view or have copies of records defined as “public” under state and federal laws. Parents or guardians seeking education records may simply request those records from their individual schools, as they are entitled to such records under state and federal law and through district policy and procedure.

The district’s office of general counsel handles public records requests. Records may be requested in person, by phone or by sending an email request to publicrecords@everettsd.org. Wendy Snider is available to answer public records questions at 425-385-4188.

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 <https://www.everettsd.org/>
- Watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts

Did you miss a call from us?

If you missed a call from your school, please first check your voice mail, email or mobile app for the message rather than calling the school. Schools are often inundated with phone calls from parents after they send an automated call and cannot answer all of the calls.

Is your contact information up-to-date at school?

If your contact information has changed, please let your school know so we can reach you.

Back-to-school safety reminders

It’s helpful to talk with your child from time to time about staying safe and alert, especially when traveling to and from school. Here are just a few quick reminders:

- Walk with a buddy
- Be aware of your surroundings (cell phones and ear buds put away)
- Wait with a friend or adult at bus stops
- Report anything suspicious to an adult right away
- For adults, [stop for buses](#) when they have the stop arm out

Mobile app

Families can [download the district mobile app](#) to easily access student information, grades, attendance, lunch balances, borrowed library books, calendars and more! Translate notifications and app functions into the language you prefer.





Mapping your future

Students K through 12 and their families are invited to the High School and Beyond family nights to:

- Enjoy free pizza
- Keynote speaker: **2020 and Beyond: Preparing for the Future in the Digital Age**
- Learn about cool careers – it is never too early for elementary, middle and high school students!
- Visit the college & career fair
- Get help with financial aid and college admissions
- Get help registering for College Bound scholarships (grades 7 and 8)
- Interpreters available

Wednesday, Oct. 2 – Cascade HS

Wednesday, Oct. 9 – Everett HS

Thursday, Oct. 10 – Jackson HS

Middle and high school students

Can you fluently read, write, speak, and listen in a language other than English? Students in grades 7 through 12 in Everett Public Schools can earn high school credit in a world language by successfully passing district-approved assessments and demonstrating language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in this language. Assessments are available at \$10 for many different world languages. See the district [assessment website](#) for details.

Test dates: Nov. 13, 2019 and March 18, 2020

Fall registration: Sept. 16 – Oct. 11, 2019

Spring registration: Jan. 13 – Feb. 14, 2020

Also, check out the [new practice site](#) which was created to give students an overview of each kind of exam. Students can search their language and see what their specific exam will entail. There may even be a practice test available.

Website tools for you

The website has tools to make your life easier. Sign in with your LMS password to:

- Add your student's school and teachers' calendars to your calendar view
- Filter calendar items by category
- Export calendar items to your own calendar
- Access *Grades & More*, lunch menus and staff contact information from the home page
- Find directions and maps to event locations listed on the calendar



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

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



HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND

MAPPING YOUR FUTURE

What you can do now to chart your course – open to all Elementary, Middle and High School Students and their families

**Wednesday, Oct. 2
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

- Enjoy free pizza
- Visit the college & career fair
- Interpreters available
- Never too early to start exploring the possibilities

Event will be held at

CASCADE HIGH SCHOOL

**801 E. Casino Road
Everett, WA 98203**

COLLEGE
MILITARY
**INTERNSHIPS/
APPRENTICESHIPS**
SERVICE
**TECHNICAL/
VOCATIONAL**
**STRAIGHT
TO WORK**

**EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION**

Proud Sponsor of High School and Beyond Week!

Use **#EPS_HSandB** and share your pics on social media!

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