

# Whittier Wildcat News

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



April 2022

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 8

## From the Principal

Welcome to May Whittier families! This week is **“Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week”** and I really want to honor the great work our Whittier teachers and staff members do every day to ensure that all students receive the best education and social emotional support at Whittier. We are so fortunate to have the hardest working, most caring, and most dedicated teachers, and support staff in the district. The Whittier staff have big hearts for your children and do their best to support them every day so that they are successful academically, socially, and emotionally. Take this opportunity to thank your child’s teacher and staff members this week, and to also encourage your child to express their appreciation and gratitude as well for staff appreciation week together. Thank you!

Whittier invites you to visit our May online Scholastic Book Fair, which will run from Monday, May 9 through Friday, May 13. Reading is vital to every child’s success and raising children as life-long readers means getting involved while they are young to help them get inspired to an amazing world of books. To highlight the book fair, we are hosting a spring **“Whittier Book Fair Family Night” Thursday, May 12 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria/gym.** And the Whittier PTA is also hosting a **Whittier Wildcat Birthday Carnival** celebration in the courtyard/small playground zone the same evening. For social distancing purposes, we ask that families attend this event in two sessions:

- Families with last names A-L: 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.
- Families with last names M-Z: 6:45 – 7:30 p.m.

Whittier 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have started their state assessments and they have worked so hard in giving their best effort! We are so proud of our students, and we know they will continue to demonstrate their best this month as well. Here is the testing schedule for the month of May:

Whittier Elementary School SBA and WCAS State Assessment Dates for 2022					
	ELA CAT	ELA PT	Math CAT	Math PT	WCAS Science
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	4/26	5/3	5/17	5/24	
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4/27	5/4	5/18	5/25	
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4/28	5/5	5/19	5/26	5/12

The final two months of the school year will be a busy period at Whittier so here are some of the important school-wide events to put on your calendars for the final seven weeks of the school year:

- Scholastic Online Book Fair: May 9 – 13
- Book Fair Family Night in the cafeteria/gym and Whittier Wildcat Carnival in courtyard & small playground: Thursday, May 12 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Spirit Day – “Comfy Cozy Spirit Day” (No PJs; Athletic wear and sweats OK): Friday, May 13
- Spirit Day – “Hats & Crazy Socks Day”: Friday, May 27
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Party Sponsored by the PTA at Adventure Trek: Friday, June 10 from 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- Whittier Cultural Festival: Tuesday, June 7 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Kindergarten Celebration of Learning: Tuesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Whittier
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bridging Ceremony: Thursday, June 16, at 6:30 p.m. at Whittier
- Field Day: Tuesday, June 21
- Last Day of School: Wednesday, June 22 (12:20 p.m. Dismissal)

Let’s continue to make the month of May a focused month of learning with kindness and compassion for each other. Thank you for your on-going support to help all our children succeed at Whittier!

## Tony Wentworth

Principal  
Whittier Elementary School  
916 Oakes Avenue,  
Everett, WA 98201  
[www.everettsd.org/whittier](http://www.everettsd.org/whittier)

**May 2-6**  
Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

**May 4**  
Natural Leaders Multicultural  
Family Night 6:00 pm

**May 6**  
LIF – 1:35 pm dismissal

**May 9-13**  
Spring Online Bookfair Week

**May 12**  
Book Fair Family Night 6-7:30 PM

**May 13**  
LIF – 1:35 pm dismissal

**May 19**  
EPS Robotics Extravaganza @ NMS 4-7 pm

**May 20**  
LIF – 1:35 pm dismissal

**May 27**  
LIF – 1:35 pm dismissal

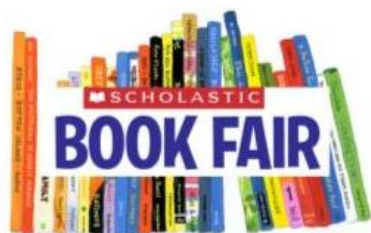
Tony Wentworth, Principal



## Whittier Book Fair Family Night

When: Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:30

Where: Gym & Cafeteria



*We hope to see you there!*

We still have a Whittier virtual book fair option!

May 9<sup>th</sup>-May 22nd

Access from our Whittier website homepage.

- Whittier's own online store, with a large selection of titles, at the right price points.
  - A Virtual Fair so you and your kids can experience the magic of the school shopping experience.
  - Every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly (25% back in rewards!)
  - Free shipping on orders \$25.00 or more
- \*Orders typically take 10-12 days to arrive.



Join us at book fair night for a chance to win a free basket of new books!

\*Make sure to ask for your student raffle ticket to enter the drawing that will be announced the following day.



## Whittier Math

### Illustrative Math K-5, A Problem-Based Curriculum

As you may know, Everett Public Schools has adopted the Illustrative Math curriculum for grades K-5 this year. The way your children are learning math may look different from what you remember in your school days! Here is some information to help you understand WHY.

**What is a problem-based curriculum?** Students spend most of their time in class working on carefully selected problems. Teachers help students understand the problems, ask questions to push their thinking, and guide discussions to be sure that the math is clear to all learners. Students often collaborate with their classmates—they talk about math, listen to each other's ideas, justify their thinking, and critique the reasoning of others. They gain experience communicating their ideas both verbally and in writing.

Current research says that students need to be able to think flexibly to use mathematical skills in their lives (and on the types of tests they will encounter throughout their schooling). Flexible thinking relies on understanding concepts and making connections between them. Over time, students gain the skills and the confidence to independently solve problems that they've never seen before.

**What can my student do to be successful in math?** Learning how to learn in a problem-based classroom can be a challenge for students at first. Over time, students gain independence and become more active learners, helping them build skills to take responsibility for their learning in other settings. Here are some ideas for encouraging your child:

- If you're not sure how to get started on a problem, that's OK! What can you try? Could you draw a picture? Could you make a guess? Could you describe an answer that's definitely wrong?
- If you're feeling stuck, write down what you notice and wonder, or a question you have, and then share that when it's time to work with others or discuss.
- Your job in this class is to come up with ideas and share them. You don't have to be right or confident at first but sharing your thinking will help everyone learn. It's okay to say, "This is just an idea . . ." or "I'm not really sure but I think . . ."
- Listen to your classmates and ask them about their ideas. One way that learning happens is by comparing your ideas to other people's ideas.



It's exciting to be able to support your students in their journey toward knowing, using, and enjoying mathematics. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to see sample materials.



## Whittier PTA



Happy Spring Wildcats! We are sure looking forward to sunnier days ahead!

Just a quick reminder that we have several events coming up in the last 2 months of school and we need volunteers! Here are our upcoming events:

- Spring Bookfair and Whittier Carnival - May 12th
- Celebration of Learning Cultural Festival - June 7th
- 5th Grade Hi-Trek Adventure Day - June 10th
- Apex Fun Run - June 17th
- Field Day - June 21st

If you would like to help at any of these events, please let your student's teacher know or email us at [ptawhittierelementary@gmail.com](mailto:ptawhittierelementary@gmail.com). More information will be sent out in coming weeks, so be on the lookout!

This week is Staff Appreciation Week at Whittier. The PTA is working hard celebrating our Whittier staff and all that they do for the students and families of our school. If you find time, please take a minute to send an email or a card to tell our teachers and staff members how much you appreciate them! Whittier Staff ROCKS!

With the end of the year approaching fast, there is a lot going on, and that can be overwhelming. As always if you have any questions for the Whittier PTA, please don't hesitate to reach out at [ptawhittierelementary@gmail.com](mailto:ptawhittierelementary@gmail.com).

Have a great month, see you soon!

Heather Reid, PTA President  
Sareh Hunt, PTA Vice-President  
Tiffany Leigh, PTA Treasurer  
Alexa Sheraton, PTA Secretary

## ECEAP preschool accepting applications for 2022-23

Everett Public Schools Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP) is a FREE preschool program for three- and four-year-old children from families with limited income. ECEAP prepares children for kindergarten and provides family support and health and nutrition services. It is funded by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF).

The six ECEAP sites within our school district are Cedar Wood, Hawthorne, Jackson, Lowell, Madison, and Silver Lake elementary schools. Students across the district are welcome to attend. Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please visit the [district ECEAP website](#) or call 425-385-4628.



## Summer Academy registration is open

Registration is open for Summer Academy 2022 and [registration materials are online](#). The elementary and middle school summer academies are available for current students in kindergarten through seventh grade to reinforce learning in reading, writing, and mathematics. Priority enrollment will be given to students who meet eligibility requirements. A variety of summer academy courses are available for high school students including district-facilitated credit recovery courses, Online High School and career exploration, mentorship, and internship opportunities through Everett Career Link. Tuition is waived for EPS students for elementary, middle, and high school (including OnlineHS.net courses) students.

Contact the Summer Academy with additional questions at [summerschool@everettsd.org](mailto:summerschool@everettsd.org).





## Kindergarten registration is open

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2022? Registration is open. You can complete enrollment forms for kindergarten [online](#)! A [step-by-step parent walkthrough video](#) is also available as a resource.

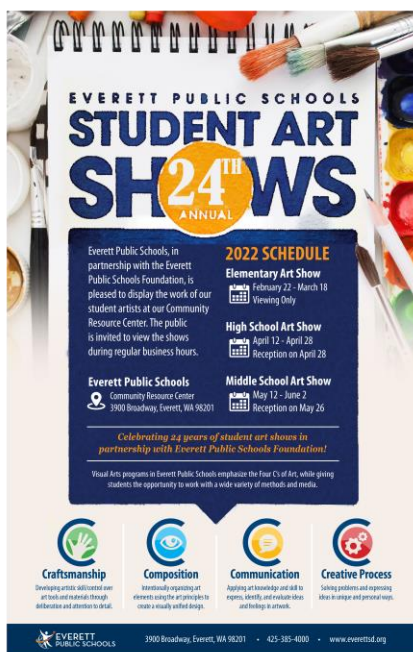
### Dual-language Spanish Immersion Program

The dual-language Spanish immersion program at Emerson Elementary School is an option for fall 2022. Families with children entering kindergarten will have the option to choose the dual language strand. This program gives elementary students an opportunity to complete the Everett Public Schools curriculum in a nontraditional and exciting way by immersing them in Spanish language and culture from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Students in the program will become proficient in both Spanish and English while learning the same curriculum content as their peers outside the program.

Priority will be given to students within the Emerson Elementary School attendance area. If a high number of students apply, a lottery will be conducted to select students. If the class is not filled from those in the Emerson attendance area, an additional lottery from beyond the school attendance area will be conducted. More information is available at [www.everettsd.org/DualLanguageSpanish](http://www.everettsd.org/DualLanguageSpanish).



## Student Art Shows



Everett Public Schools, in partnership with the Everett Public Schools Foundation, is celebrating 24 years of student art shows.

The elementary art show was on display at the Community Resource Center (CRC) from February 22 to March 18 and can be viewed virtually on the district’s website at [www.everettsd.org/StudentArtShows](http://www.everettsd.org/StudentArtShows).

High school art will be displayed for public viewing from April 11 to April 28. All participating students, their family members and friends are invited to the High School Art Show Reception on April 28, 2022, 6-7:30 p.m. at the CRC (3900 Broadway). Awards will be announced at this reception.

Middle school art will be displayed for public viewing from May 12 to June 2. All participating student artists and their family members and friends are invited to attend the Middle School Art Show reception on May 26, 6 – 7:30 p.m. at the Community Resource Center (3900 Broadway). Awards will be announced at this reception.



## Parent University



Parent University is an on-demand resource created to help parents and guardians become full partners in their child's education. Parent and family engagement in education positively impacts the academic and social success of children. Access important information such as resources available to students, how to understand SBA and SBA scores, how to access and log in to Canvas, how to view your student's schedule, navigating district systems and more.

Our goal is to increase collaboration and involvement between schools, families, and the community; to educate, empower and connect families with resources that build parent and student confidence, enhance character development, and promote life skills to increase the likelihood of family success in academic endeavors.

Content includes a selection of pre-recorded videos and how-to documents that can be viewed at any time.

If you have additional topics you would like to suggest, please fill out our ["Suggest a Topic" form](#). The form is also available on our Parent University webpage at [www.everettsd.org/ParentUniversity](http://www.everettsd.org/ParentUniversity). We value your partnership as we continually improve this resource for families.

## Graduation dates

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming high school graduations in June. Ceremony details will be shared soon.

- Sequoia High School June 16, 6 p.m. at Civic Auditorium
- Everett High School, June 18 at 11 a.m. at The Angel of the Winds Arena
- Cascade High School, June 18 at 3 p.m. at The Angel of the Winds Arena
- Jackson High School, June 18 at 7 p.m. at The Angel of the Winds Arena

## Family Engagement Advisory Council application

The district is currently seeking members to serve on the Family Engagement Advisory Council (FEAC) with a mission of having families work directly with district and school leadership, bringing the family voice to district and school-level decision-making. The term of membership is a minimum of two years. Members will serve from August 2022 to July 2024 with quarterly meetings.

If you are a parent, family member or guardian of a currently enrolled student in Everett Public Schools and are interested in serving on the FEAC, please apply on the districts website at [www.everettsd.org/FEAC](http://www.everettsd.org/FEAC). The application will be under Quick Links and will be accepted from May 16 to May 31.

## Enrollment and community resource fair

Join us at the Enrollment and Community Resource Fair on Thursday, May 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Community Resource Center at 3900 Broadway. Families will learn about providers in their community and in the schools! Service Providers include legal services, health and mental health services, education, and training resources and more! We are also enrolling for our preschool program, ECEAP. If you have a child that is at least 3 years old by August 31, please come and sign them up. There will also be door prizes. Any questions, please call Abby Mayers at 425-385-4138 or email [amayers@everettsd.org](mailto:amayers@everettsd.org).



# Let's Connect

The May Let's Connect will focus on transitions in education to a new school level. Mark your calendars for May 16 at 5 p.m. More information and how to register will be coming soon.



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. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints
- of alleged discrimination:

- **Title IX/Civil Rights**
- **Compliance Officer:**

- Kevin Allen
- 425-385-4100
- KAllen@everettsd.org
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213

- **Section 504 Coordinator:**

- Dave Peters
- 425-385-4063
- DPeters@everettsd.org
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213

- **ADA Coordinator:**

- Randi Seaberg
- 425-385-4104
- RSeaberg@everettsd.org
- PO Box 2098
- Everett, WA 98213