

View Ridge Viking News

VIEW RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4



From the Principal

Dear Families,

A new year brings opportunity and excitement for all! I hope you and your families enjoyed the winter break and had a joyful New Year's Day! Spending time reflecting on 2017 brought a smile to my face as I recalled many of our "Best Moments" here at View Ridge over the last year. These include:

*Growing readers with our fabulous Reading Specialist, Greta Fleckenstein's leadership! Our school was consistently in the TOP 3 of all 17 elementary schools when it came to Accelerated Reader (AR) participation. Our students engaged in EPS Summer Reading challenges, and our own VR Winter Reading Challenges. We increased by 75 participants in our Summer Reading program!

*Sending 63 students to our Summer School program at Madison Elementary School. It was a blast seeing so many familiar faces there, keeping up their learning!

*Welcoming over 105 students to our library during the summer, thanks to Ms. Eggink, our lovely librarian!

*Improving our Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) scores by 5-17% in 3rd grade math, 4th grade ELA and math, and 5th grade ELA and math. In 4th grade Math, 5th grade ELA and math, and 5th grade science we beat the state by double digits!

*Building up our student artists through our amazing volunteer-led art docent program and PTA Art Walk that raised about \$3,000 for supplies and resources!

*Participating in so many fun-filled family events including PTA Movie Nights, Moms & Muffins and Dads & Donuts, Special Guest Day, Carnival, School Dance, Back-to-School BBQ, and Summer FUNdamentals, just to name a few!

*Completing my first year as your Principal, and starting a second year!

*Experiencing the magic of music through our wonderful programs including our Winter Concert at the Everett Civic Auditorium. We are so lucky to learn from Mrs. Williams!

*Adding incredible teaching staff including Crissie Scott (Kindergarten), Kayla Soverns-Reed (Life Skills), Sean Reich (3rd Grade), Vicky North (5th Grade), Tat'yana Mcafee (HC), Sue Forbes (HC) and certificated support staff including Naimi Nanez (Counselor), Amy Beagle (SLP), Gail Orsillo (SLP), Grace Jarchow (OT), Megan Jensen (Psychologist). We also added our Assistant Principal, Aleta Smoot; our friendly custodian, Don Cruson, and fabulous paraeducators who support our students in the classroom and at recess/lunch/arrival/dismissal including Christelle Perman-Marshall, Cindy "Lynn" Caudil, Nikki Kautz, Heather Richardson, Lizzie Seabring.

WOW!!! WHAT A YEAR, 2017! And that's just a few of many special moments!

Let's make 2018 just as great, if not better!! -Miss Farias, Principal

Tina Farias
Principal

View Ridge Elementary School
202 Alder St.,
Everett, WA 98203
www.everettsd.org/viewridge

Jan. 26

Learning Improvement Friday

Jan. 29

No school

Feb. 2

Learning Improvement Friday

Feb. 9

Learning Improvement Friday
Report cards go home

Feb. 16

Learning Improvement Friday

Feb. 19-20

Mid -Winter Break – school closed

Feb. 23

Learning Improvement Friday



Viking Value of the Month! At our last assembly, we recognized 46 scholars for their hard work and academic growth and 44 heroes for showing perseverance. This month, our Viking Value focus is INTEGRITY! Please remind your student that integrity means always doing the right thing, even when it is hard and EVEN when no one is watching!

Viking Mascot/Logo:

Thank you to one of our amazing parents for submitting a new and improved Viking. Zeca Teixeira, parent of a second grader here at View Ridge, noticed that our mascot seemed “a little pixelated.” He spent some of his time (and TALENT) to update our logo and generously submitted it as a possible new logo. Our school leadership team has approved the use of this new mascot!! Hooray! We are so lucky to have not only talented students, but also, families! We will work to update our website and other documents quickly!

21st Century Skills:

This February, you’ll notice a new area on your child’s Elementary Progress Report. Our teachers are using 21st Century Skills (Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Critical Thinking, and Growth Mindset) as tools to measure behaviors that promote success. This will take the place of our former section on behaviors, but teachers will use the same grades—Consistently, Often, Sometimes, and Rarely—to score your child’s present levels. Please see our district website for more information:

<https://www.everettsd.org/21stcenturyskills>

ELA Corner (By Greta Fleckenstein, Reading Specialist):

There are always exciting things happening in ELA here at View Ridge. Below are some highlights of hard work and celebrations in reading and writing. If you ever have a question about your child or available supports here at View Ridge please feel free to contact me: Greta Fleckenstein gfleckenstein@everettsd.org 425-385-5476

Winter Reading Challenge: Thank you to all our amazing Viking readers that participated in our Winter Reading Challenge! 254 Viking Readers participated for a total of 107,993 minutes of winter reading! That is amazing and every reader should be celebrating their contribution towards those totals. Two classes however, earned the highest participation earning a hot chocolate party! From primary (our kindergarten- second grade classes) Ms. Rollings’ class soared to 73% of students participating for a total of 5,410 minutes. From intermediate (our third-fifth grade classes) it was Mrs. George’s class with 91% participation for a total of 14,496 minutes! Congratulations! Remember Summer Reading Challenge will be back again... Reading never goes out of style so keep reading!

After School Reading: STEER by invitation: This year we have already completed our first round of after-school reading for our second graders. These students worked hard for 5 weeks on reading skills, writing response and comprehension! We are excited for the winter reading assessment scores to show the growth of all the hard work! There will be a second round of support for invited second grade students in the spring!

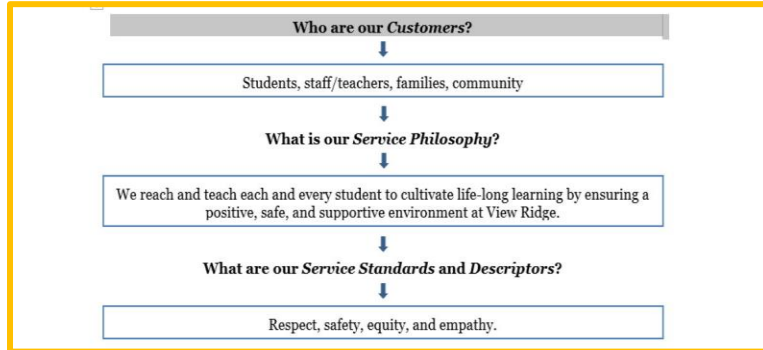
January 16th we started our first round of STEER for intermediate students (3rd-5th grade) these students are using after school time to improve reading comprehension, test taking strategies and response in writing from text sources. These skills will support students in meeting grade level standards and increase their confidence when the state test (SBAC) begins in the spring! We will host a second round of support in these skills again before Spring Break.

Morning Imagine Learning: Each and every morning 17 EL students join Mr. G before school, 8:20-8:50 am to complete their Imagine Learning program. This program is an assigned intervention that supports English Language student’s with vocabulary, reading, speaking and listening skills that are aligned to their grade level standards. By completing this program in the morning it provides the students with the support they need while not interrupting their school day. Getting up early, bringing their best and learning before the bell rings, those are some super Viking Scholars. If your student is completing Imagine Learning in class or before school and you are looking for some productive screen time at home, ask your student’s teacher how they can work on IL at home too!




Customer Service Policy (By Mrs. Smoot, Assistant Principal):

Customer service is important to us at View Ridge. In collaboration with our classified and certificated staff, during our August training days, we created a Customer Service Policy. It is important that the customer understands what he or she can expect in terms of service, and we hope our customer service policy communicates this well. The following is our policy and our commitment to our customers!



In addition, customer feedback is also very important to us at View Ridge. It provides us insight into how we are doing with respect to our policy as well as what opportunities we have to grow/improve on. Below is a survey created to acquire your feedback. Survey cards are available in the office next to a decorated shoebox where you can put your completed feedback form inside. There will also be one on a table to the left of the interior front doors.

 **View Ridge Elementary School**

Who are our customers - Students, Staff/Teachers, Families and Community! It is our goal, at View Ridge, to reach and teach each and every student to cultivate life-long learning by ensuring a positive, safe and supportive environment. We want all our "customers" to feel respected, safe, and treated with equity and empathy. Please let us know how we did.

I WAS TREATED WELL IN MY INTERACTIONS WITH VIEW RIDGE STAFF.

Circle one answer

(Strongly Agree) (Agree) (Disagree) (Strongly Disagree)

I am a (check one) ___ student ___ family member ___ community member

I talked to (check one or more) ___ office staff ___ teacher ___ other staff member

Comments:

We look forward to and appreciate your feedback to help make your experience at View Ridge the best it can be!



Access a teacher's website from a smartphone

Use this nifty [help sheet](#) for accessing teacher websites with a smartphone.

Are you registered to vote?

Students studied Dr. King's legacy in January. Among the advice he shared with the world is the responsibility and privilege we all have to vote. Registering to vote is easy. Click the link under [QuickLinks](#) on the district website.

Free tax preparation

United Way certified volunteers offer FREE tax preparation at several locations in Everett and throughout Snohomish County for families who made less than \$66,000 in 2017. Call 2-1-1 or visit the [United Way website](#) for more information.

Did you know?

Lots of valuable information about how our school is helping students achieve is available online. Our *School Performance Report* is linked directly from our school's home page. (Look under [QuickLinks](#) for a link to [OSPI Washington State School Report Card](#).) At that site you can browse through historical performance data for more than a decade – for any school in the district or the state. By following the prompts on that OSPI website, you can also find current and historical data aggregated at the district level.

Kindergarten registration begins in March

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2018? Registration begins on March 5, 2018, at all 17 district elementary schools. Which school will your kindergartner attend? To find out, click on *School and Route Finder* under the *Parents* tab, or call the transportation office at 425-385-4144.

Lunch payments just got easier



Want to see your student's lunch balance and pay a balance from your phone? If you're logged into the mobile app, you can find and pay your student's lunch balance under your student's info. A new icon inside the app gives a shortcut to deposit funds for your student's lunch account. To make a payment, look for the green chef's hat icon.

The latest news and information from schools in Everett Public Schools is available on smartphones and mobile devices with a mobile app. The free mobile app that is now available in the online [iTunes®](#) and [Google Play®](#) app stores.

Once you've downloaded the app, log in to "student info" with your LMS password to see student-specific information for each of your children.





Do you have a student in special education?

Did you know there is a Special Education PTSA in the district? The Special Education PTSA serves students, families, and educators involved in Special Education. They encourage students, families, educators and community members to work collaboratively to provide programs and activities recognizing each student's potential and enhancing the educational opportunities of children receiving and/or seeking special services in our district. Connect with the SEPTSA on [their Facebook page](#).

Career readiness

Did you know our state will add 740,000 jobs in the next five years? But, according to a University of Washington research study, there is now a mismatch between the jobs opening and local residents seeking those positions. As a result, many local openings are filled by people from outside our region.

Washington Roundtable members believe in the concept of "Washington jobs for Washington kids." For that concept to be a reality, Washington high school graduates must go on to earn a postsecondary credential. Today, fewer than 1 in 3 do so.

The 2018 Capital Bond funds will pay to transform portions of each existing three high schools into high tech vocational learning and training centers. In these centers students will gain a head start on credentials that could enable them to live and work right here in our communities. The fourth high school (funding of which will be provided in the 2018 Capital Bond) will include a high tech vocational learning center in its design. Hear what [local leaders are saying](#) about the career pathways plan and creating opportunities for students.

Career Pathways

- CASCADE HIGH SCHOOL**
Aerospace & Advanced Manufacturing
- EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL**
Medical & Health Careers
- JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL**
Information & Communication Technology
- NEW HIGH SCHOOL #4**
Energy & Sustainability



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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 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