

View Ridge Viking News

VIEW RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



MARCH/APRIL 2018

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6

From the Principal

Spring is in the air! Welcome to my favorite season of the year! It is wonderful seeing how a little bit of sun can lift our spirits. I wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone who attended our PTA-led Special Guest Day last week. It is always a treat to see many loved ones are involved in our students' academic and social-emotional well-being. This year, PTA Board Member Jen Campbell led the event and went above and beyond in making it a day to remember—even bringing in Navy volunteers to be special guests for our students. I am looking forward to more with the community and our families, and with conference week ahead, it is the perfect opportunity.

Spring parent/teacher conferences will run from March 26-March 30. I am hoping to see 100 percent participation in our spring conferences! We know how integral home-school communication is to each student's success. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, look at evidence of academic and social-emotional learning and progress, and provide ideas, feedback, and information to help reinforce or strengthen our work here at View Ridge. You may also get more information about how to support your child at home or through our summer school and summer reading programs. Please reach out to invite other support staff such as our counselor, reading specialist, assistant principal, or me, if you would like one or more of us to be part of your conference. Remember, while conference week is a dedicated time to meet with our staff to discuss your student(s), it is not the only time. Please always remember we are all available and interested in meeting face-to-face or on the phone during any day of the year.

View Ridge teachers have been working very intentionally in preparing all third and fifth grade students for the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) in English/Language Arts (ELA) and Math. Fifth grade students will also take the Washington Comprehensive Assessment in Science (WCAS), an additional requirement for fifth graders in Washington State. The testing window begins on April 26 and ends on May 29 (Make-ups will take place through June 7). Thank you for your support in helping to discuss the SBA and WCAS with your child and reminding them that it is an opportunity for them to show what they know! At View Ridge, we teach students to be "TESTING TURTLES"—to go slow and steady. As a parent, you may find it important to access specific testing details. These can be found in the **Quick Links** section of the district homepage or by going to the following link: <http://everettsd.schoolwires.net/Page/16044>. On the following page, you will find the state assessment schedule for our 3rd-5th grade students at View Ridge.

Tina Farias
Principal

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

March 23

Early Dismissal 1:00

March 26-30

Early Dismissal 1:00
Conference Week

April 2-6

Spring Break

April 13

Learning Improvement Friday

April 20

Learning Improvement Friday

April 27

Learning Improvement Friday



View Ridge Elementary School SBA and WCAS State Assessment Dates for 2018

	ELA CAT	ELA PT	Math CAT	Math PT	Science WCAS
5 th Grade	4/26	4/30	5/21	5-17	5/10
4 th Grade	5/2	5/9	5/16	5/23	N/A
3 rd Grade	5/15	5/29	5/1	5/8	N/A

Parent Pick up

Please refrain from parking within 30 feet of the stop sign on Sunset Lane during dismissal time, or at any time of the day. We understand the end of the day is busy with many busses and cares, but it is important to maintain compliance with all traffic requirements and to show understanding of our neighbors. Thank you for understanding.

Thank you for all that you do to support our students. Moreover, thank you for sending your student(s) to View Ridge! -Tina Farias

School Safety (by Mrs. Smoot, Assistant Principal)

Student safety and student well-being are two important essentials that View Ridge Elementary School staff continually work to create and protect. We are persistently working to prepare ourselves for any type of emergency by practicing monthly drills and by relentlessly refining our procedures.

Under the Washington State statute RCW 28A.320.125, View Ridge conducts one drill per month that include lockdowns, evacuations, earthquake, shelter-in-place, and severe weather. Prior to the drill, our staff provides a lesson on why, what, and how we perform the drill with our students in order to increase their understanding and preparedness. The drills are defined below:

1. **Evacuation** – to move students and staff away from threats, such as fires or tsunamis;
2. **Shelter-in-place** – to limit the exposure of students and staff to hazardous materials, such as chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants, released into the environment by isolating the inside environment from the outside; and
3. **Lockdown** – to isolate students and staff from threats of violence, such as suspicious trespassers or armed intruders, that may occur in a school or in the vicinity of a school.

Introduced two years ago as part of our emergency response systems, our staff has access to a RAVE application on their smartphones. In an emergency, a staff member can trigger the RAVE app, which automatically calls 911 and sends an alert, text message, and email to all school and district contacts via their smartphones, computers, and tablets about the specific emergency. This system increases communication and decreases response time.

Although we have these systems in place, we are always looking for ways to improve our practices and procedures. Feel free to connect with me if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas about safety and security.

Talking Tips for Parents:

In light of recent events involving acts of violence in schools, I wanted to share some talking points with you to foster and support conversations with your child. Parents and school staff can help children feel safe by establishing a sense of security through talking with them about their fears.

- **Reassure you child that they are safe** - emphasizing that schools are very safe. Validate their feelings, help put them into perspective and assist in expressing feelings appropriately.
- **Make time to talk** – Let their questions be your guide as to how much information to provide and be patient.



- **Early Elementary School** – need brief, simple information with reassurance that school and homes are safe; provide examples of school safety like exterior doors being locked and emergency drills practiced during the school day
- **Review Safety Procedures** – help you child identify at least one adult at school and in the community to whom they go if they feel threatened or at risk.
- **Limit television viewing of event** – developmentally inappropriate information can cause anxiety and confusion; adults need to be mindful of the content of conversations in front of children

Adapted from NASP, www.nasponline.org

Kindergarten registration happening now

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2018? Registration began March 5 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 Transportation at 425-385-4144.

Everett Ready—Kindergarten Summer Program (by Mrs. Fleck)

Do you have a student who will begin Kindergarten this coming fall? Do have a neighbor that will begin Kindergarten this coming fall?

View Ridge Elementary will house a summer learning opportunity for incoming Kindergartners. 8 days of AMAZING pre-kindergarten fun. A chance to get to know the school, classrooms and playground. 8 days of learning through play, exploration and gaining skills and confidence for a great Kindergarten year.

View Ridge Everett Ready Summer Kindergarten Program

July 30th –August 9th - Monday- Thursday 8:30-11:30

Only Kindergartners who are registered by MAY 15th will be considered for this amazing opportunity, so get to View Ridge to complete registration soon!

Easy access with district app

Download and log into the district app to quickly and easily access your student's info. You can also pay lunch balances, see books checked out from the library, and find the staff directory, school websites, calendars and more.

The free mobile app is available in the online iTunes® and Google Play® app stores.

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



Thank you, volunteers!

April 16-20 is Public Schools Volunteer Appreciation Week. We are grateful for the many volunteers who support students and staff, many of them each and every school day. With activities ranging from reading with students, to playground supervision support, Watch D.O.G.S., and chaperoning field trips, your help matters. Our volunteers contribute to making school the best part of students' day. Thank you!



ECEAP preschool accepting applications for 2018-19

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 Early Learning.

The five ECEAP sites within our school district are Garfield, Hawthorne, Lowell, Madison and Silver Lake elementary schools.

Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please call 425-385-4628 or visit the [district ECEAP website](#).



Innovation Expo June 6 – save the date!

Students and families will enjoy seeing and interacting at booths from every school in the district at this year's [Innovation Expo](#) June 6, 5-8 p.m., at Angel of the Winds (formerly Xfinity) Arena. Each school's booth is different and showcases something the students at that school are learning.

The STEM competition is a favorite part of the event for many students and families. See the best student projects from around the district and hear what the students learned by doing them. Learn more and download forms at <http://www.everettsd.org/expo>.



3900 Broadway
 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 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