

# Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



March 2019

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7

## From the Principal

Despite our recent weather, the calendar says that spring is almost here! Last week, we began getting back into **the routine of learning** after all those snow days and late starts. The time from now until spring break is one of our longest uninterrupted stretches (assuming Mother Nature cooperates!), and we are looking forward to all the learning that will happen.

This week, our students are wrapping up **i-Ready diagnostic testing** in math (grades 1-5) and reading (grades 3-5, with optional use in grades 1-2). We use i-Ready to monitor progress toward our school improvement goals. It's important to note that i-Ready measures proficiency against the end-of-the-year standard even in the fall, so that's why the percentages start out quite low. Here's a look at our growth from fall to winter:

Grade	Reading		Math	
	% of students at/above grade level		% of students at/above grade level	
	Fall	Winter	Fall	Winter
1			19%	49%
2			24%	46%
3	51%	65%	24%	57%
4	38%	59%	39%	68%
5	38%	50%	36%	70%

We are also continuing to focus on our **Charger Code** all-school behavior expectations of safety, kindness, respect, and responsibility. We are enjoying celebrating these traits, as well as students' academic achievements, at our monthly Charger Champions assemblies. We hope you'll join us!

Thank you for your support with getting your child to school on time each day! Our **No Tardy Taters** initiative, which we began in January, is making a huge difference. We had 140 tardies in January, which is a lot ... but it's down by 256 tardies from January 2018, when we had 396! The weather in February challenged us a bit, but we look forward to lowering our tardies even more in March, with your help!

**Elizabeth Kelley**  
Principal

**Jefferson Elementary School**  
425-385-7400  
2500 Cadet Way, Everett, WA 98208  
[www.everettsd.org/jefferson](http://www.everettsd.org/jefferson)

### **March 1**

PTA/Apex Fun Run Day  
Learning Improvement 2:15 dismissal

### **March 6**

Popcorn for sale at lunch

### **March 8**

Learning Improvement 2:15 dismissal  
PTA Bingo Night, 6:00 p.m.

### **March 14**

PTA General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### **March 15**

Learning Improvement 2:15 dismissal

### **March 18**

Family STEAM Night, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **March 20**

Popcorn for sale at lunch

### **March 22**

1 p.m. dismissal for conference prep

### **March 25-29**

1 p.m. dismissal for conferences  
Scholastic book fair

*(Continued on next page)*



*(Continued from previous page)*

March is a busy month, and there are all sorts of ways families can be involved at Jefferson:

- **Come to fun events:** PTA Bingo Night is at 6:00 p.m. March 8, and Family STEAM Night is at 6:30 p.m. March 18! Come take part in fun activities focused on science, tech, engineering, art, and math. Support the PTA backpack program by bringing a canned/boxed food item.
- **Attend conferences:** Be sure to set aside time the last week of the month to attend a conference with your child's teacher. You can provide scheduling input via a form sent home last week. These conferences provide an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, and to learn about how you can support learning at home.
- **Take our survey:** Educators are constantly asking ourselves how we are doing in our quest to help students become their very best selves. Now, we want to know how you – our community of families – think we are doing. Jefferson, like all Everett Public Schools, is committed to continuous improvement. Each year, we seek your insight to help us create our School Improvement Plan. You are invited to take part in this year's anonymous survey developed by the Center for Educational Effectiveness, a Bellevue-based research firm, for Everett Public Schools. A paper copy of the survey should have come home last week, or you can take the survey online at <https://www.research.net/r/EPS-Parent>. You may choose either method to respond. Although the survey is open through March 29, we are asking for paper copies to be returned by March 11. Your opinions are very valuable to us!

An early heads-up for our families with students in third, fourth, and fifth grades: Students will begin this year's state-mandated **Smarter Balanced Assessment testing** in late April, and will continue through much of May. We are still finalizing the testing schedule, and will get it to families as soon as it's complete. Please avoid scheduling vacations and appointments during school hours whenever possible.

Have a great month of March!

**Mrs. Kelley**, 425-385-7490 or [ekelley@everettsd.org](mailto:ekelley@everettsd.org)

### **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. 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 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.

**Are you planning to move for the 2019-2020 school year?** Please notify the office of this change as soon as possible, so we can better serve you when the time comes.

**Kindergarten registration will be open on March 4!** When registering your upcoming kindergartener please pick up a registration packet from the front office or print the complete packet at <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/4952>.



# News from Around the School

## News from PE Teacher Ms. Rowe

Another of the five components of fitness that we focus on during the school year is muscular strength. Muscular strength is the amount of force a person can use with their muscles. It is often measured by how much weight you can lift. Muscular strength can help us run faster, jump farther and higher, as well as lift and carry more. It also helps to strengthen our bones and can allow us do things more efficiently. Ways to practice muscular strength include push-ups, plank poses, crab walking, lifting heavier weight with fewer repetitions, and pull-ups. If you would like some more ideas on how to practice muscular strength with your child, check out [this site](#).

<b>Friday PE/Gym Rotation</b>				
<i>Please remind your student to bring their PE shoes on their scheduled days.</i>				
<b>March 1</b>	<b>March 8</b>	<b>March 15</b>	<b>March 22</b>	<b>March 29</b>
Clark	Denham	Weitkamp	Lucas	J. Nelson
Graham	Bennett	Adams	Graham	Bennett
Wright	Branch	Dinneen	Schmieder	Denham
Agustin	Lemkau	Schmieder	Jaycox	Lemkau
			Wright	

## News from Literacy Coach Ms. Erickson

Hello from the Reading Room! We are so proud of our EL students, who have just completed a comprehensive assessment of reading, writing, listening, and speaking in English. Great work!

Did you know that when a family member reads, children in the family benefit? Modeling the joy of reading actually has quite an impact on student enthusiasm for and progress in reading.

In the next few months, all Jefferson students will be developing strategies for answering questions about what they read clearly, completely, and (especially for grades 2-5) learning to cite evidence to support their answers.

Thanks for continuing to support literacy at home!

## News from Music Teacher Ms. Branch

Hello Charger families! Our 1st-5th grade concert at the Civic is approaching fast! There are only six weeks until April 15th, so remember to submit your taxes and then join us for a night of celebration and *Music from the Movies!*

Our concert this year will showcase some of the talents Jefferson students have to offer. Watch for a letter with more information, and specific grade levels will be getting permission slips for students to participate in instrumental group practices before or after school. If you or your child have some artistic talents you'd like to share, I'd love to hear from you! I'll need help with decorations and props very soon.

If your child is in kindergarten, fear not! Our kindergarten Spring Sing will take place on May 30th in the Jefferson Elementary gym. I'll send home more information at the end of this month.



## News from Math Specialist Ms. Roach

### WOW: Easy Goal Setting for Kids

Here is an easy, three-step system to help your child set a goal. Using just three letters, your child can set a goal to post on the refrigerator, in their room, or on the computer! Remember, goals can be 1) learning-based to learn something new in manageable parts, or 2) improvement-based to increase performance or efficiency in a certain area.

**W**hat do you want to learn or improve on? I want to \_\_\_\_\_.

Tell a goal that is specific and manageable. Example: *“I want to learn two new dance steps from YouTube by Friday!”* vs. *“I want to learn to dance.”* Or: *“I want to correctly spell three more words than on my last spelling test,”* instead of wanting to just spell better.

### **O**ne-two-three steps:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

These are two or three doable actions and time amounts that can a) be observed and b) completed by the student before the goal can be met. For example, saying *“I will read better”* is the goal, not the steps to get there. Saying, *“I will do more math”* isn’t observable or timebound. What type of math? What types of activities? For how long? A good example: *Spend 5 minutes each night to reread the weekly math vocabulary cards. Spend 3 minutes to write a sentence that explains how I got an answer, using the math vocabulary from class.*

**W**hen will you meet your goal or make changes to be successful next time? By \_\_\_\_\_.

Set a date. Not too far away, but not too soon! If the goal needs to be changed, that is OK ... just don’t give up!

## News from Ms. Klujber in the Technology Lab

Please join us March 18<sup>th</sup>

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Family S.T.E.A.M. Night

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math

- Fun hands-on activities for families
- Robotics demonstration
- Grade level estimation jars



## FREE learning tools for your entire family

Did you know that with your parent LMS user name and password, you have access to a powerful resource provided also to students and staff with their district logins? Hoonuit (formerly Atomic Learning) is a key partner in our dedication to providing the highest quality technology training resources.

Our subscription to Hoonuit includes:

- The Microsoft® Office Suite
- Adobe Suite
- Google Drive/apps/doc/form
- Internet Safety
- Career Skills training for personal career advancement
- Completing a FAFSA training for college planning
- Access for staff, students and their families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- More than 50,000 step-by-step technology tutorials.

Go to [www.atomiclearning.com/login/everettsd](http://www.atomiclearning.com/login/everettsd) and log in with your district username and password. Need a login and password? Email [LMS@everettsd.org](mailto:LMS@everettsd.org).

## Kindergarten registration begins this month

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2019? Registration begins March 4 at all 17 district elementary schools. Which school will your kindergartner attend? To find out, go to <http://bit.ly/2019-20PathFinder>, or call the transportation department at 425-385-4144. If your kindergartner will attend the new Tambark Creek Elementary School, register at your nearest neighborhood elementary school.

## Classified Employee Week

March 11-15, help us recognize the important work classified staff does for schools and students every day. We encourage you to take a moment and say thank you to office staff, crossing guards, paraeducators, maintenance staff, bus drivers and the many other classified staff who help schools and the district function smoothly.

## 21st annual student art shows

Everett Public Schools, in partnership with Everett Public Schools Foundation, is pleased to display the work of student artists at the Community Resource Center. See the art on display during regular business hours (7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) or during a reception.

- Elementary school Art Show: March 4-22, viewing only
- High school Art Show: April 9-25, reception on April 24
- Middle school Art Show: May 6-31, reception on May 23





## Make-up days

We have received many questions about how the district is going to make up the recent snow days, and some people have correctly referenced the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction noting that you can submit a waiver application for the recent snow days. The Basic Education Act also requires a number of minimal instructional hours, which cannot be waived. This means the solution to making up lost days due to inclement weather may result in a combination of adding days at the end of the school year and adjusting other days during the year. Once we are completely through the winter season, and all of the weather impacts are behind us, we will be able to determine the full extent of adjustments needed. The school board will be presented calendar revisions for action in the near future.

## New elementary boundaries and transportation for some

Because the new Tambark Creek Elementary School is opening this fall, some elementary students will attend a different school in the 2019-20 school year. Each family affected by the elementary school boundary changes should have received a letter during winter break, but next year's school attendance and bus route information is available at <http://bit.ly/2019-20PathFinder>.

## Youth internship partnership

Everett Career Link is a partnership between the City of Everett and Everett Public Schools offering high school internship opportunities. Everett Career Link's 90-hour summer internships are for students and employers seeking a proactive

approach to matching local talent with local opportunities. More information can be found on the district's [internships and youth apprenticeships website](#). Interested students can complete an [internship interest form](#), and interested employers can learn more on the district's website or email [careerlink@everettsd.org](mailto:careerlink@everettsd.org).



3900 Broadway  
Everett, WA 98201  
425-385-4000  
[www.everettsd.org](http://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](mailto:MO'Brien@everettsd.org), 425-385-4106
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, [rballbach@everettsd.org](mailto:rballbach@everettsd.org), 425-385-4063
- ADA Coordinator – Randi Seaberg, [rseaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:rseaberg@everettsd.org), 425-385-4104