

Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



November 2018

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

From the Principal

Happy November! As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, we still have lots of special events going on at Jefferson, and a couple of important ways that you can be involved.

First, be sure to attend your child's conference during the week of Nov. 5-9. This is an important opportunity to find out how your child is doing both academically and in the behavior/social area. It's also a chance to continue to build a partnership with your child's teacher. Be sure to bring your questions and your suggestions for how we can make your child's school experience a great one. We as a staff firmly believe that families are our students' first teachers, and we can learn so much from you!

Second, this is the month of Thanksgiving. We will celebrate families and friendship with our first Family Culture Night of the school year at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19. Bring a dish to share for our potluck, and look forward to learning about how Jefferson families express gratitude. There will be some great talent on display, too, and students will get to contribute to a map showing where our families come from.

Speaking of the season of gratitude: Thank you for all the ways you have been involved with our school during the first months of the year. Whether volunteering in classes, helping with PTA and Lighthouse events, or coming to conferences, your involvement makes a difference. I am thankful for the way our school community supports our wider community. Here are two recent examples:

- Families' donations of nonperishable food are allowing PTA to provide weekend food backpacks to 17 Jefferson families. To sustain this program, we will need donations on an ongoing basis – not just during our two big food drives. Donations can be dropped off in the office at any time.
- Families' donations of socks and underwear through the Lighthouse Cooperative-sponsored Socktoberfest drive will benefit Everett's Union Gospel Mission. *(continued on page 2)*

Elizabeth Kelley Principal

Jefferson Elementary School
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2500 Cadet Way, Everett, WA 98208
www.everettsd.org/jefferson

November 2

1 PM dismissal

November 5-9

Parent-teacher conference week
1 PM dismissal, all week

November 9

Movie Night, 6:30 PM, Cafeteria

November 12

Veterans Day, no school

November 14

PTA Popcorn for sale at lunch

November 16

Picture day retakes

November 19

Family Night 6:00-7:30 PM

November 21

1 PM dismissal

November 22-23

Thanksgiving break, no school

November 26- Dec. 7

Holiday Basket Drive

November 28

PTA Popcorn for sale at lunch



Every year, each school staff writes a School Improvement Plan (SIP) that guides their work for the year. Although teaching and learning are driven primarily by grade-level Common Core and state standards, the SIP identifies our schoolwide priorities. Ms. Sternberg and I will be sharing Jefferson’s during upcoming PTA and Lighthouse meetings. We’ve also included a “SIP at a Glance” page later in this newsletter for you to read, and the full plan will be available later this month on the school website if you’d like to go deeper. A big part of the SIP has to do with creating a welcoming environment and partnering with families, so please let me know what else we can do as a staff to make Jefferson a great place for families!

Have a wonderful November!

Mrs. Kelley

Important Reminders from the Jefferson Office

Vacation related absences: If you are planning a vacation and your students will be missing school; please visit to 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.

Early dismissals from school: When checking your student out early, please remember to have photo ID.

Have you signed up for HAC? This is where you can find your student’s attendance and update your contact information. Please see the office for more details!

Friday PE/Gym Rotation				
<i>Please remind your student to bring their PE shoes on their scheduled days.</i>				
November 2	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 30
Dinh	J. Nelson	Dinh	No School	Denham
Adams	Bennett	Magley		Bennett
Weitkamp	Denham	Weitkamp		Branch
Camp	Lemkau	Adams		Lemkau
Magley		Dinneen		
Taylor		Schmieder		



News from the Gym

Wow, it has been a wonderful start to the school year in P.E. I just love greeting students at the gym door, seeing their smiling faces as well as their energy and excitement for physical education! Students have been working on learning the routines and expectations in gym and we will continue this practice. Thank you for supporting your child to wear correct shoes for P.E., so that he or she is able to participate in P.E. fully and safely. The gym will no longer provide a shoe loaning system, so it is important that your student wear P.E. shoes on the day of P.E. I just love seeing the responsibility that some students are showing by having a “back-up pair of shoes” kept in their backpacks that they can change into in case they forgot to wear correct shoes for P.E. This is a great strategy for students! If you are unsure of what day your child has P.E., please check with their classroom teacher or feel free to contact me. I am happy to help!

Ms. Rowe, srowe@everettsd.org or 425-385-7470

News from the Music Room

This month in Music, we will start to introduce more key concepts. So far we have emphasized beat, and done a few activities to help us practice finding and keeping a beat. We will now start to focus on pitch, melody, and rhythm. This will look different in each grade level.

Once again, don't forget to mark your calendar for our concerts. Our concert at the Everett Civic Auditorium will be Monday, April 15, 2019 for grades 1 through 5. Our Kindergarten Spring Sing will be held on Thursday, May 30, 2019.

Ms. Branch, Music teacher

News from the Library

Did you know that we check out about 150 books a day? Which means we should check in that many each day. Remember to bring your library books on your library day Monday through Thursday.

Keeping our library organized and looking nice is a lot of work for all of us who use the Library. We often use the Library for meetings before and after school, but that is not the time for books. Students, please do not go through the shelves looking for books unless it is your library time. Finally I hope you are enjoying those library books. Your parents are welcome to come see the library with you right before or after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. You can show them how we take care of our library.

**Sam Schmeckpeper
(Mr. Pepper)**

Librarian

Jefferson Elementary School

SSchmeckpeper@everettsd.org

425-385-7408 | 425-385-7402 Fax

Math News by Stacy Roach

*Congratulations to Mrs. Vila-Henninger's and Mrs. Camp's classes for winning the academic vocabulary call-in contest. Their students were able to call in and give an example of *analysis*. Each class got a math-related book for their class libraries.

*The next math challenge for all grades is due Monday, November 5th. Please help your child put their full name and circle their teacher's name as well. Next month's math challenge is focused on algebraic thinking and numeric equations.

*This month's Growth Mindset theme is “My Brain is Like a Muscle That Grows”. Students K-3 completed brain maps that flip up to reveal different parts of the brain and what each part is responsible for, and 4-5 participated in an essay contest. Ask your child's teacher for samples at conference time! The winners of the essay contest will go to a Brain Party that will take place during the last week of October.

Mrs. Roach, Math Coach



News from the Reading Room

Greetings from the Reading Room! Great things are happening in readings at Jefferson. We will be recognizing students who participated in the Summer Reading Challenge, and distributing prizes, very soon. We are eager to find out who wins their very own Kindle!

We also look forward to Parent-Teacher conferences. If you would like me to attend your child's conference, I am happy to do so. We are very proud of the progress students have already made this year. Thank you for continuing to support your child's literacy development.

Janet Erickson, ELA Coach

Accepting Highly Capable nominations until Dec. 1

Find forms and more information and evening information events on the [Highly Capable website](#). Referrals are for students currently in grades one through four for winter testing, which will take place in January 2019.

Remember to vote Nov. 6

Remember to deliver your ballot to a ballot drop box near you or put it in the mail by Nov. 6 – postage is not required for ballots.

Did you miss a call from us?

If you missed a call from your school, please first check your voice mail or your email 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.

Slight calendar change

There is a slight change to the school year calendar. **Friday, June 7** will be a 2.5 early release for all students to allow teachers time to complete grading. **Friday, June 14** will be a 75-minute early release for Learning Improvement Friday. The updated [year-at-a-glance](#) and [student art](#) calendars

are available online if you'd like to print them for your reference. The [district website calendar](#) is also a convenient, up-to-date reference that integrates with the [district mobile app](#). If you have the mobile app, you have the most current district and school calendar dates.

School performance report

Our school's performance report is available online on each school's website. More information is available on the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website](#). Click on "State Report Card" and select Everett from the list of districts.

Test scores show ... our students' rock!

Did you know that our district has the highest English Learner graduation rate in Washington State? And our student assessment scores last year outperformed the state's average assessment scores **in every subject!** Students are working hard in their learning, and staff are providing students with the targeted, coordinated supports they need to excel.

Is your family prepared?

Does your family have a plan in case of bad weather, school closure or delay? Who will pick up your student, if needed? How will you communicate if phone lines are jammed? Do you have needed emergency supplies in your car and at home?

[Snohomish County Emergency Management](#) has helpful online resources to help you create, and practice emergency response plans with your family and neighborhood.

FAFSA season has begun!

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is an office of the U.S. Department of Education. FAFSA coordinates with postsecondary schools and financial institutions to help students and families pay for college. Watch for FAFSA completion events happening around the district. Find more information at www.fafsa.ed.gov.



Online safety tips

- Keep the computer in a busy area of your home.
- Use an app to keep an eye on your child's online activity on their device.
- Talking about cyberbullying; ask if someone they know has been a victim. Ask if they have been victimized.
- Set up email and social media accounts with your children. Know their screen names and passwords and explain the reasons for not including any personal information in profiles.
- Know who is in the "buddy lists." Get to know the cyber friends as well as you do those who visit your home.

Parents and guardians may find the following resources helpful to begin a conversation about the dangers of engaging in cyberbullying and how to stay safe online:

- [Stop Bullying Now](#)
- [Ms. Parry's Guide to Correct Online Etiquette](#)
- [Common Sense Media](#)

Find out what Everett Public Schools students learn about digital citizenship on the district [Learning Management Services website](#).



3900 Broadway
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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 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



2018-19 Jefferson Elementary School Improvement Plan at a Glance

All academic areas:

- Planning instruction based on standards, common assessments, and student data
- Increasing teacher clarity (making learning outcomes and success criteria visible to students, and fostering student self-reflection in relation to outcomes/criteria)

Reading	Writing	Math	Science
<p>Balanced literacy via Reach for Reading curriculum (increasing rigor of questioning, aligning to SBA test format)</p> <p>i-Ready to drive interventions and monitor progress toward equity targets; regular use of online lessons</p> <p>Word meanings and language use through Reach & GLAD strategies</p> <p>Academic discourse</p> <p>Accelerated Reader use and student recognition</p>	<p>Balanced literacy via Reach for Reading curriculum (aligning with Building Foundations that Last, adapting prompts to SBA-style question stems)</p> <p>Revision and editing</p> <p>Citing evidence across all three forms of writing</p> <p>Daily opportunities to explain thinking in writing across the content areas using academic and domain-specific vocabulary</p>	<p>Balanced approach (conceptual, procedural, and application) with focus on three-act tasks and performance tasks</p> <p>Math fact fluency and student recognition</p> <p>i-Ready to drive interventions and monitor progress toward equity targets; regular use of online lessons</p> <p>Flexible intervention groups overseen by math specialist</p> <p>Geometry/measurement</p>	<p>Staff study and implementation of WCAS test, NGSS standards, district documents, and supplemental materials</p> <p>Content vocabulary through Reach & GLAD strategies</p> <p>Integration of math and science through measurement and data display, analysis, interpretation</p>

Nonacademic Areas

Family partnerships

- Promote family involvement through communication (multiple languages and channels, including increasing social media presence)
- Increase home/school interaction about academics through family nights and resources
- Provide families with information and training on Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (new behavior management program)
- Expand Watch D.O.G.S./Natural Leaders

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Welcoming/safe/equitable and accessible culture

- Ensure office environment is welcoming to families and guest teachers, with easy access to staff
- Hold culture nights and explorations
- Improve parking lot signage and flow
- Increase student recognition (academic and behavior/social)
- Fully implement PBIS Tier 1 through a trauma-informed lens, with Second Step taught by teachers
- Administer Panorama social-emotional survey in Grades 3-5 and use results to refine supports
- Analyze data by subgroup and respond to close achievement gaps and ensure equitable discipline
- Target underperforming students through Student Intervention Team process

Attendance

- Monitor attendance data and communicate with families regularly
- Recognize students for good attendance

Technology

- Provide time for i-Ready online lessons
- Use Reach for Reading myNGconnect platform in teaching and learning
- Increase collaboration between classroom teachers and tech specialist
- Participate in district training for accessing authentic learning 1:1 Chromebook transition