

# Jefferson Charger News

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



December 2021

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

## From the Principal

December is upon us! We have two short weeks ahead before winter break, and **every day counts!** This can be a challenging time for students, as they often experience mixed feelings about upcoming events and changes in schedules at home. At school, we support students by sticking to routines, keeping expectations high, and staying focused on learning each day. We appreciate your support in ensuring that your child comes to school ready to learn each day!

Each month, we focus on a character trait. So far, we've explored kindness, responsibility, and gratitude. In December, we are **focusing on empathy**, defined as being able to understand the emotions or feelings of others. This [blog post](#) has some ideas about how you can foster empathy at home.

We are excited to **welcome volunteers** beginning Dec. 6! As always, volunteers must have completed the district [clearance process](#) (including providing proof of vaccination or having been granted an exemption by the Human Resources Department), and must arrange volunteering in advance with the classroom teacher.

This is a time of year when things can be especially challenging for **families in need**. Check out the next page of this newsletter for four local food bank options. You can also find information and links to helpful resources on the district's [Parent Tools webpage](#). Additionally, I encourage everyone to continue to support our [PTA weekend food backpack program](#).

Looking ahead to our return from winter break, we are so excited that Jefferson will once again host a **Transitional Kindergarten** (TK) program class beginning Feb. 5. If you have a child who will start kindergarten next fall, I highly encourage you to check out the TK information on Page 5 of this newsletter, or to visit the [district page](#). The interest form must be submitted by Dec. 22 so that your child can be screened for this fantastic program.

Thanks for reading! I hope you have a great month of December, and enjoyable winter holiday celebrations!

**Mrs. Kelley**

**Elizabeth Kelley**  
Principal

**Jefferson Elementary School**  
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Everett, WA 98208  
[www.everettsd.org/jefferson](http://www.everettsd.org/jefferson)  
[https://twitter.com/EPS\\_Jefferson](https://twitter.com/EPS_Jefferson)

**Dec. 5**

Online PTA Scholastic book fair ends

**Dec. 17**

1 p.m. early release

**Dec. 18-Jan. 2**

No school for winter break

**Jan. 3**

School resumes



### News from the Gym

In P.E., students are continuing their learning in cooperative games using teamwork, communication and problem-solving. In smaller group stations, students are participating in activities that support cardiorespiratory and muscular endurance, as well as strength, flexibility, motor skills, and social development. Thank you again for supporting your child to wear safe shoes so that they can fully participate in their physical education class!

Also, as a reminder, if your child is injured in some way, for example if they are wearing a cast or brace, please make sure to submit a doctor’s note to the office or health room outlining any physical restrictions so that we can best support your student in P.E. and at recess. Questions or concerns? Feel free to e-mail me at [srowe@everettsd.org](mailto:srowe@everettsd.org). – Ms. Rowe

### News from the Art Room

We are heading north of the border for the next three weeks! Students will learn about Canadian art and artists, with lots of cool-weather projects in the works. Students in Grades K-2 will continue to focus on shape, line, form, contrast, and value. Students in Grades 3-5 are working on value (shades/tints), color mixing, and using highlights/ shadows to create form. We are experimenting more with paint these days, so be sure to dress your students with that in mind on their art day.



I am excited to announce that we were awarded a grant from the Everett Public Schools Foundation! The funding will support our Spring Arts Showcase, which will happen on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Students will work on creating artwork that GLOWS under black light for our immersive art show. Additionally, we will work on creating a schoolwide “Best Part of Me” show where students will write poems and reflect on what they love about themselves. Stay tuned and a BIG thank you to the Everett Public Schools Foundation! – Mrs. Aguilera

### News from the Learning Lab

We are so thankful for the amazing learning we see in students! We’re thankful for all the classroom teachers and paraeducators who are providing extra support to them. We are grateful for the teamwork of our Jefferson staff, and especially thankful for all the families who encourage literacy and math practice at home. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or suggestions.

Jessica Lundgren [jlundgren@everettsd.org](mailto:jlundgren@everettsd.org)

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### HOLIDAY FOOD BANK OPTIONS

\*No ID or documentation required to receive food at these locations\*

Everett Food Bank	S. Everett Food Bank	Village Food Bank	Sultan Food Bank
1230 Broadway, Everett 98201	805 Casino Rd, Everett 98204	14 E Casino Rd, Everett 98208	617 1 <sup>st</sup> St, Sultan 98294
December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> 10am – 3pm	December 21 <sup>st</sup> , 3pm – 5pm	December 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2pm – 5pm	December 17 <sup>th</sup> , 9:30am – 1pm December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 5pm – 7pm



# DISTRICT NEWS

## Replacement levies



Everett Public Schools board of directors voted to put two replacement levies on the February 2022 ballot. The 4-year replacement Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy and the 6-year Capital levy would replace two levies expiring in 2022 and would start collecting in 2023. Replacing both expiring levies within a stable tax rate, while also addressing the educational needs of all our students, was a primary goal in planning the renewal levies for the February 8, 2022, election. Having good schools and facilities has a positive effect on our neighborhoods. Better schools help build a stronger community, which will improve our quality of life, keep crime down, and help increase the values of our homes. All students should be given the same opportunities regardless of their abilities, backgrounds, or family income. This funding will ensure all students in Everett Public Schools have the same opportunities to learn, grow, and succeed.

Local EP&O levy funding allows Everett Public Schools to provide the quality education our community expects for our children, which goes beyond the minimum funded by the state. The proposed renewal levy rate is \$2.20 per \$1,000 of assessed property value (AV). This is an increase of 27 cents per \$1,000 AV. This covers basic operating expenses and includes:

- Special education services
- Additional program offerings such as summer school, early learning, elementary dual language, choice programs, orchestra, family partnerships, and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)
- Additional guidance and mental health counseling services, nurses, health room assistants, staff mentors, and positive behavior coaches
- Student transportation
- Safety and security
- Extra-curricular clubs, sports, and activities
- Costs over state funding for full time, part-time and substitute staff

The \$325.5 million replacement capital levy provides funding to acquire, improve, or maintain school facilities in these categories:

- **Technology:** Our students benefit from ongoing integration of technology into their learning, \$96 million
- **Increased safety and security:** Our students will learn in buildings that are made to be safer and more secure., \$2 million
- **Equal access, same experience:** Every student will have the same opportunity to learn in well-functioning, safe and modern spaces, \$172 million
- **Maintenance and mandatory upgrades:** Our facilities are valuable community assets and must be maintained to increase their life expectancy and comply with state-mandated upgrades, \$54 million

The passing of both the replacement EP&O and Capital levies will increase your Everett Public Schools-related property tax rates by an estimated \$0.84 per \$1,000 AV when compared to 2022 and an estimated \$0.33 when compared to 2021. However, the new tax rates will still be substantially lower than rates paid by district property owners prior to 2021.

For more information about the upcoming replacement levies, visit [www.everettsd.org/2022Levies](http://www.everettsd.org/2022Levies).



## Parent University “Suggest a Topic” Form

We want to hear from our families! Everett Public Schools empowers parents and guardians to be engaged in their child's education. Parent University is a series of short informative on-demand videos and "how to" guides based on parents' top concerns and areas of interest. We are seeking input from families as we develop videos this school year. Please visit the “Suggest a Topic” form and tell us about additional topics that will help meet the needs of you and your student(s).

[Link to Parent University webpage](#)

[Link to Form](#)



## Volunteers in schools

The district will begin allowing school-based volunteers who are approved and meet the Washington State COVID-19 vaccination requirement beginning December 6. Please visit the [volunteer webpage](#) under the Parents tab for information on the application update and vaccination verification process.

## The gift of attendance

Absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. Just a few missed days here and there, even excused absences, can add up and lost learning time can put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation. This holiday season, give your children the gift of an education and the habit of attendance.



## Family resources

Could you or a family you know use some help? Find information and links to helpful resources on the district's [Parent Tools webpage](#):

- Washington State Library – local and regional information about services and agencies offering help to families in a variety of ways including food, shelter, clothing, childcare, legal services, employment opportunities, and counseling
- Everett Public Schools [Kids In Transition \(KIT\) program](#) – supports homeless children and youth to continue their education
- Snohomish Health District for Snohomish County community dental resources for children and adults
- United Way of Snohomish County – 2-1-1 is a free telephone number that is your best "first call" to quickly find the right source of help. The information line is staffed by trained operators from Volunteers of America Western Washington who can connect you to a wide range of community services





## Space still available in ECEAP preschool

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



## Transitional Kindergarten Program

Everett Public Schools is offering **Transitional Kindergarten** for children who are not currently in an early learning program and are scheduled to begin kindergarten in the fall of 2022. This program will focus on foundational academic, social and self-help skills to jumpstart qualifying students toward success in school. Students will be screened in December and January and may qualify based on need. The Transitional Kindergarten classrooms will be located at several of the elementary schools in our district. Sites will be determined based on enrollment. Transitional Kindergarten will start on Tuesday, February 1, and will run through the last day of school, which is currently June 22.

To be eligible for Transitional Kindergarten, children must:

- be 5 years old by August 31, 2022
- live within the boundaries of Everett Public Schools
- not be currently enrolled in an early learning program
- demonstrate academic and/or social-emotional needs through a screening process



The screening is an assessment used to determine your child's developmental strengths and needs. During this time, your child will draw, count, name colors, jump and have fun! Following the screening, you will have an opportunity to talk about the results and ask questions about your child's development. At this time, families will also learn whether or not their child qualifies for Transitional Kindergarten. If you are interested in Transitional Kindergarten, please complete the interest form linked here:

**[Transitional Kindergarten Interest Form](#)**. For questions or assistance, please contact Helen Cooley, P-5 Instruction & Early Learning Programs Administrative Assistant: 425-385-4088 or 425-385-4024

## Accepting Highly Capable nominations until Dec. 17

The Highly Capable program in Everett Public Schools is designed to meet learning needs and to challenge students who have advanced thinking and academic abilities. "HC" classes, as they are often referred to, are open to students in second, third, fourth and fifth grade. HC students learn and study in self-contained classrooms with a fast-paced curriculum that encourages and inspires them to develop higher-level thinking skills. HC classrooms are held in specific schools in the district, based upon qualified enrollment. The district provides transportation to students in HC classes. Find forms, information and evening events on the [Highly Capable website](#). Referrals are for students currently in grades one through four for winter testing, which will take place in February, with more information to come.



## Delayed start or closed schools

If we must cancel school or delay the start of school, we will use our parent communication system to call in the morning, typically around 5:30 a.m., with a brief message about the reason for closure or delay. We will also use local media and post the message on our website. **If there is no announcement about Everett Public Schools, school is on the regular schedule.** More information and resources for school closures or delays is on the district website under the *Parents* tab. In cases of inclement weather or other emergencies, please:

- check your email or phone for district messages
- listen for media announcements
- view the district’s website at [www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org)
- watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts

## Snow routes are online

School drop-off and pick-up locations may change in an emergency situation. If your child rides a bus to school, please become familiar with the snow route information on the district [transportation department’s webpage](#).

## Board of Distinction

Everett Public Schools board of directors earned high honors with the designation as a *Board of Distinction 2021*. Applications are reviewed by a panel of judges that includes former and current educational service district superintendents, State Board of Education board members, former school directors, and other education leaders in Washington state. Scoring is based on how well applicants show alignment with the Washington School Board Standards, support their statements with data and demonstrate a link between outcomes and decisions made by the board.



Everett Public Schools board of directors front: April Berg, Caroline Mason, Andrew Nicholls. Back: Pam LeSesne, Traci Mitchell

## Register to vote!

It’s easy! Visit the [Snohomish County webpage](#) for details on the three ways you can register to vote or update your registration.

**EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS®**

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title IX/Civil Rights</li> <li>• Compliance Officer:</li> <li>• Kevin Allen</li> <li>• 425-385-4100</li> <li>• KAllen@everettsd.org</li> <li>• PO Box 2098</li> <li>• Everett, WA 98213</li> </ul>	<p><b>Section 504 Coordinator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dave Peters</li> <li>• 425-385-4063</li> <li>• DPeters@everettsd.org</li> <li>• PO Box 2098</li> <li>• Everett, WA 98213</li> </ul>	<p><b>ADA Coordinator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Randi Seaberg</li> <li>• 425-385-4104</li> <li>• RSeaberg@everettsd.org</li> <li>• PO Box 2098</li> <li>• Everett, WA 98213</li> </ul>
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