

# Tiger Tribune

GARFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



December 2021

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

## From the Principal

### Hello Garfield Families,

As we head into the holiday season and reflect on 2021, I am filled with love and gratitude for this strong community. Thank you for your partnership and support as we navigate through these challenging times. Garfield truly is a special place. Thank you for making it so special!

Garfield was one of the first schools in Everett Public Schools to receive the new Interactive Flat Panels this past week. These were made possible from the 2016 Capital Levy and Bond for technology. This amazing technology has brought energy and rigor into our Tiger Pride theme this month, Be A Learner! Students and staff are finding new ways to engage and participate in learning. Ask your student about the new screen in their classroom and how they are using it!

We are excited to welcome volunteers beginning December 6th! Volunteers must complete the district clearance process (including proof of vaccination or exemption). If you are considering volunteering at Garfield please call our office at (425) 385-4700.

Winter break starts on Monday December 20th. My wish is that everyone has the opportunity to celebrate with loved ones whether in person or remotely, and do what brings you joy. Hopefully, your time will be able to include reading and finding math everywhere. Reading together and/or playing some games will be a great way to connect and to keep learning throughout the break! We will return on Monday January 3, 2022.

The holidays can be a difficult time for many. Please let me know if you have any needs this holiday season. We have resources and supports to assist with food, clothing, shelter, and mental health. Please reach out if you need anything, we are here to help. Please refer to our weekly Sunday Tiger News for details on holiday specific resources or call our office at (425) 385-4700.

On behalf of the entire Garfield staff, I wish you and your family peace, joy, and happiness in the New Year.

Warm Wishes,

*Mrs. Kathleen Stilwell*

Principal

**Kathleen Stilwell**  
Principal

**Brent Radcliff**  
Assistant Principal

**Garfield Elementary School**  
2215 Pine Street,  
Everett, WA 98201  
[www.everettsd.org/garfield](http://www.everettsd.org/garfield)

**Attendance Line**  
425-385-4705  
[GAAttendance@everettsd.org](mailto:GAAttendance@everettsd.org)

**December 3**  
Learning Improvement Friday  
2:15 pm Dismissal

**December 6**  
PTA Information Meeting  
6:30 – 7:30 pm

**December 10**  
Learning Improvement Friday  
2:15 pm Dismissal

**December 16**  
Holiday Lane  
5:00 – 6:00 pm

**December 17**  
Early Release  
1:00 pm Dismissal

**December 20-31**  
Holiday Break, No School



## 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, that also addressed 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 the following 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).



## 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.



### **ATTENDANCE:**

Parents please email your student's absences using the attendance email address: [GAAttendance@everettsd.org](mailto:GAAttendance@everettsd.org)

If you are unable to email, please call the attendance line at 425-385-4705

## 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 upon 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](#)





## 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.



## 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



## Accepting Highly Capable nominations until Dec. 17

The Highly Capable program in Everett Public Schools is designed to meet learning needs and 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.



## 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, 2022.

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)

Please visit our [\*\*ECEAP page\*\*](#) to learn about preschool opportunities that your child may also qualify for.



## 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.



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:

• Title IX/Civil Rights  
• Compliance Officer:  
• Kevin Allen  
• 425-385-4100  
• [KAllen@everettsd.org](mailto:KAllen@everettsd.org)  
• PO Box 2098  
• Everett, WA 98213

Section 504 Coordinator:  
Dave Peters  
425-385-4063  
[DPeters@everettsd.org](mailto:DPeters@everettsd.org)  
PO Box 2098  
Everett, WA 98213

ADA Coordinator:  
Randi Seaberg  
425-385-4104  
[RSeaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:RSeaberg@everettsd.org)  
PO Box 2098  
Everett, WA 98213