



# Welcome to Kindergarten 2025-2026

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# Welcome to Lowell Elementary



## Thank you for joining us today!

### Introductions:

- Administration
  - Elizabeth Kelley (principal)
  - Victoria Dowdy (assistant principal)
- Teachers
  - Whitney Bullock
  - Amber McPartland
  - Laura Rheaume
  - Cristie Smith





At EPS, Kindergarten begins with **Everett Ready**, a transition-into-kindergarten program

- **Monday, August 18, to Thursday, August 21**
- **Half-day: 3 hours in the morning (8:30-11:30 a.m.)**
- **Transportation provided for qualified students**  
(If student is enrolled and registered for Everett Ready by July 31)
- **Family meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> right after arrival**



For more information: [www.everettsd.org/everettready](http://www.everettsd.org/everettready)

### Family Connection Meeting

- Welcomes you into the Washington K-12 system as partners in your child's education through a family conference with your child's teacher
- Take place during the first 3 school days when grades 1-12 students are starting school
- An opportunity to know your child's teacher, share information about your child, and ask questions

### Whole-Child Assessment

Helps kindergarten teachers learn about the skills and strengths of the children in their classrooms so they can meet the needs of each child.

### Early Learning Collaboration

Aligns practices of early learning professionals and kindergarten teachers to support smooth transitions for children.

# Welcome to Kindergarten



First day of school (grades 1 to 12) – Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025



## Family Connection Meetings

Wednesday, Aug. 27 to Friday, Aug. 29

Your student's teacher will contact you in late August to schedule your one-on-one meeting

First day of attendance for kindergarteners  
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025



visit [www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org) to view 2025-2026 calendar

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills



# A Day in Kindergarten



**Morning Welcome Circle**

**Social Emotional Learning**

**Literacy - Reading & Writing**

*Lunch & Recess*

**Math**

**Plan-Do-Reflect**

*Recess*

**Specialist**

**Science**

**Closing Circle**



Specialists are:  
Physical Education, Library, Music, and Art



# Plan – Do – Reflect (PDR)



## A model of play-based learning

### PLAN

Choice with intention

### DO

Develops competent thinkers,  
decision makers, & problem solvers

### REFLECT

Remembering & reflecting with  
analysis

- Enhances creativity, critical thinking & problem-solving
- Contributes to the development of self-regulation & social skills
  - Promotes physical well-being & coordination
    - Encourages reading & writing
  - Enhances communication & collaboration
    - Develops character & citizenship



# Second Step™ – Social Emotional Learning



The Second Step™ curriculum promotes self-regulation: the ability to monitor and manage emotions, thoughts, and behaviors.

Helps children focus their attention on learning when they might be distracted by others, upset by a problem, or excited about an upcoming event.

Increases the ability to self-regulate and helps children get along better, engage with teachers and their peers, and promoting positive social goals and values.

It's a key to school readiness that supports children's ability to be successful in both academic and social situations.



# Illustrative Mathematics



The big ideas in kindergarten include; representing and comparing whole numbers, initially with sets of objects; understanding and applying addition and subtraction; and describing shapes and space. More time in kindergarten is devoted to numbers than to other topics.

The mathematical work for kindergarten is partitioned into 8 units:

1. Math in Our World
2. Numbers 1–10
3. Flat Shapes All Around Us
4. Understanding Addition and Subtraction
5. Composing and Decomposing Numbers to 10
6. Numbers 0-20
7. Solid Shapes All Around Us
8. Putting It All Together





## Reading Foundational Skills

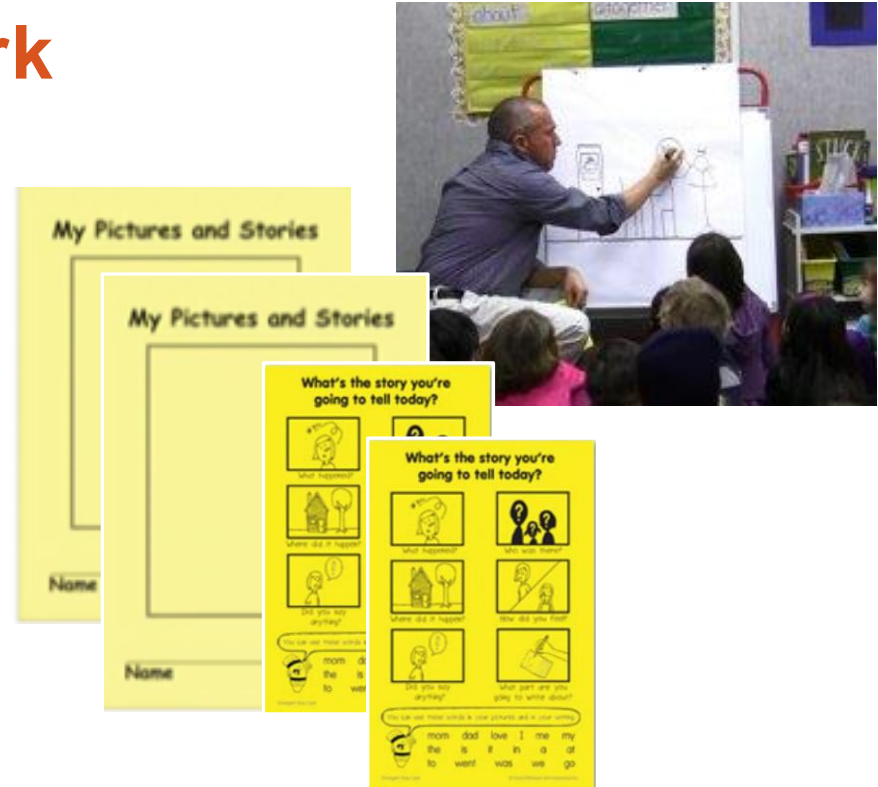
- Phonemic awareness
- Phonics
- Sight words
- Shared reading
- Small flexible groups
- Independent practice





## Learning how stories work Telling about a memory

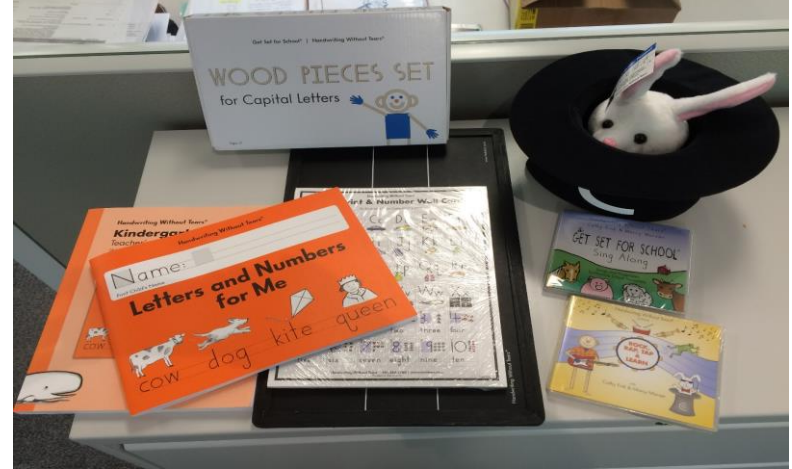
- What happened?
- Who was there?
- Where did it happen?
- How did you feel?
- What did you say?





## Fine Motor Development

- Pencil grip
- Correct letter and number formation
- Letter proportion and spacing
- Building stamina for writing





## Learn about...

- Life science
- Physical science

## Apply...

- Next Generation Science Standards practices and crosscutting concepts

## Participate in STEM engineering challenges

- Ask questions
- Observe
- Gather information
- Design
- Test
- Compare possible solutions



# Challenging Options



## Learning Enrichment Achievement Program (LEAP)

Challenging Options provide accelerated and enriched academic opportunities for students in grades K-12.

- There are two programs to serve students in the elementary schools: LEAP (Grades K-5) and the Highly Capable self-contained classrooms (Grades 2-5)
- To be screened for LEAP in the fall, kindergarten families need to complete a referral form. Link to the form and deadline for submission will be available on [www.everettsd.org/challengingoptions](http://www.everettsd.org/challengingoptions) by the first day of school.
- If, following the screening process, the student is identified for LEAP they are served in their general education classroom, with the same teacher, beginning in the second half of the school year.

For more information: [www.everettsd.org/challengingoptions](http://www.everettsd.org/challengingoptions)



# Multilingual Learner (ML) Program



- The program provides structured language acquisition instructions to students whose native language is not English and qualified Native American students
- Students are assessed measuring their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Scores indicate if support is required
- ML services are available at all our schools



# Current Students (Preschool / Transitional Kindergarten)




If you have a student currently attending an EPS early learning program: ECEAP Preschool, Developmental Preschool (DPK), or Transitional Kindergarten (TK), they are already EPS students and **do not need** to be re-enrolled. Before end of school year, your student's teacher will send you forms to be completed and returned to your school:

- Everett Ready Registration Form
- Kindergarten Questionnaire
- Kindergarten Transportation
- Updated Certificate of Immunization

All forms are also available on website [www.everettsd/kindergartenenrollment](http://www.everettsd/kindergartenenrollment)

- Make sure that your child's **vaccination** is completed before their 1<sup>st</sup> day of school attendance:
  - Everett Ready - August 18
  - or
  - 1<sup>st</sup> day of school - September 2
- Complete / submit the '**Annual Health History**' by mid-July, at the latest, if your child:
  - has a life-threatening condition / a medical plan
  - and
  - will be attending Everett Ready.



## ANNUAL HEALTH HISTORY FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

(This form must be  
filled out by the parent or guardian)

Student name:	Last	First	MI	Birth date:
School:	Grade:		Student ID#	

We require an updated Annual Health History each school year; the information provided will be shared with pertinent staff members to ensure your child's safety.

Students with life-threatening conditions are also to complete this form (PHEM) as the state of school's School Nurse.

**1. List 2023 medical conditions or issues**

**2. List the following medical conditions**

**Lat**

☐ **Aspirin** (Please check box if yes)  
Does your child require  
Does your child have it

☐ **Allergy** (Please check only if allergic)  
Allergenic(s):

☐ **Diabetes** Diagnostic date: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Pump OR ☐ Inject

☐ **Seizures** Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you child's seizure  
Does your child require

**Any other medical conditions**

\_\_\_\_\_ that could affect your child's school health conditions, migraines, Crohn's disease, PKU, etc.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Medications (includes prescriptions)**

**My student requires medication(s) at school: ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A**

*(Please attach and attach your current prescription to this form. If you are on 2023-2024 (2023) you are required to attach a dated Medical Alert) name \_\_\_\_\_ Diagnosis or symptoms requiring medication \_\_\_\_\_*

# Before / After School Care



EPS partners with the **YMCA** to provide before and after school care at many of our schools. Lowell has a YMCA before and after school program on site. Website: <https://ymca-snoco.org/programs/child-care/school-age-care/>

There are also community childcare programs that transport students to and from some schools for before and after school care. This includes the **Boys & Girls Club**. Website: <https://bgcsc.org/clubs/everett-club/childcare/>



# Getting To & From School



## Your child may:

- Walk
- Ride a district bus
- Come by private vehicle



# Transportation



## Bus Transportation

- Provided for students who reside outside a half-mile radius of the school
- Designated bus stops located along routes in central locations
- Routes are available on the district website prior to the start of school
- Route information is communicated to families via automated phone call and email prior to start of school
- All students have assigned seats with kindergartners in front of bus



For additional information and forms: [www.everettsd.org/busroutes](http://www.everettsd.org/busroutes)  
[www.everettsd.org/transportation](http://www.everettsd.org/transportation)

# School Schedule



## Arrival times:

- **8:10:** Student arrival/supervision begins (go to breakfast in the cafeteria, or line up outside classroom)
- **8:30:** Teachers bring students into classrooms
- **8:35:** Students are considered tardy after this, and must enter through the office

## Dismissal times:

- **2:50:** Monday-Thursday
- **1:35:** Friday
- **12:20:** Early release days (see district calendar)



# Morning Arrival



## Where does my student go?

- All students enter through the south blacktop double doors in the back of the school, and proceed to breakfast or to sit in a line outside their classroom (in the hallway)
- Buses are met by staff
- Staff also meet and direct car drop-off students
- Students use the main entrance only if they are arriving after 8:35 a.m.

# Afternoon Dismissal



## Where does my student go?

- **Bus:** Teachers walk students to their buses
- **Walking:** Teachers walk students to meet families on the grass near the bus area
- **Car pick-up:** Staff walk students to the pick-up area to wait for their vehicle (south end of the building along View Drive, by the leopard mural)
  - You can help us by making a dashboard sign with your child's name and the letter K

# Food and Nutrition Services



## Students:

- Breakfast is available every day
- May get either a hot or cold lunch at school
- May bring lunch from home



**In 2025-26**, all Lowell students get free breakfast and lunch!

**School meals** are prepared to be free of these allergens: peanuts, tree nuts, shellfish and pork. If your student has other allergies, you can submit a *Special Dietary Accommodation Request* form.

For additional information and forms: <https://www.everettsd.org/foodservices>

# Family Involvement



## Ways to support your child's learning

- Make attendance a priority
- Come to school and family events
- Participate in WaKIDS family meeting and parent-teacher conferences
- Help with class projects/work
- Volunteer
- Join -- visit [lowellelementarypta.com](http://lowellelementarypta.com)



*Being involved in your student's school sends a positive message about the importance of education!*

# Creating Independence



- Independently use the bathroom
- Put on, zip, and button coat
- Blow own nose
- Wash hands
- Open food & lunch containers
- Clean up small spills
- Put away materials
- Ask for help



# Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines



**EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
PreK-3 Cross District Coalition

## Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines

Parents and families have a very important role as their child's first teacher. Children learn in different ways and at different rates. They come to school with varying skills. These guidelines highlight some of the skills that will help your child be prepared for kindergarten. The list below suggests ways to work with your child to help him/her be successful in school.

Social/ Emotional	Yes, my child can do this	Yes, my child can do this
1 My child can follow 2-step directions consistently and is beginning to follow 3-step directions.		
2 My child can remember and follow routines (ex: dinner, bath, brush teeth, read bedtime story, go to bed).		
3 My child can tell about his/her own feelings (ex: I feel happy, I feel sad, I feel excited).		
4 My child can calm him/herself when frustrated or upset.		
5 My child can put on his/her own coat.		
6 My child can use the bathroom independently.		
7 My child can wash his/her hands.		
8 My child can put away toys, clean up small spills and pick up after him/herself.		
9 My child shares, takes turns and helps others.		
10 My child adjusts to new situations and/or people.		
11 My child plays cooperatively with others.		
12 My child can comfort others.		
13 My child has the opportunity to play regularly with the same friends his/her age.		
Physical	Yes, my child can do this	Yes, my child can do this
1 My child can run, jump and gallop.		
2 My child can stand on one foot.		
3 My child can throw and catch a large ball.		
4 My child can kick a ball.		
5 My child can cut using scissors.		
6 My child can hold and use a pencil.		
7 My child can buckle, zip, snap, and button.		
Language	Yes, my child can do this	Yes, my child can do this
1 My child can use words to express his/her thoughts and needs.		
2 My child can name and describe familiar things in his/her world.		
3 My child uses new words everyday.		
4 My child speaks clearly and is understood by most people.		
5 My child can speak in 4-6 word sentences.		
6 My child can talk about things that happened in the past, with details.		
7 My child can have a conversation on one topic with another person, taking turns talking.		

Created January 2014

Parents and families have a very important role as their child's first teacher.

These guidelines, available in multiple languages, highlight some of the skills that will help your child prepare for kindergarten.

[www.everettsd.org/kindergarten](http://www.everettsd.org/kindergarten)

# Summer Activity Kit



- Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines
- Summer Bucket list to support Kindergarten readiness
- “Kindergarten Here I Come” book
- Bookmark (reading and math strategies)



Summer Bucket List to support kindergarten readiness	
<p>Parents and families have a very important role in their child's first teacher. Children learn in different ways and at different rates. They come to school with varying skills. The activities for below support some fun ways to work with your child this summer to help them be more ready for school. They can complete the bucket for more than one! Hope this helps!</p>	
<p><b>Social/Emotional</b></p>	
1	Play Simon Says Outside. Give two kids of directions each turn (sit, stand, hop, skip, jump, etc.)
2	Follow directions and get ready for bed (brush teeth, clean, wash, read bedtime story, go to bed)
3	Emotion game. Act out different emotions and see if your family can guess how they feel (happy, sad, angry, etc.)
4	Find a spot in your house that is safe when you get frightened or sad. What will you do there to help you feel better?
5	Being dressed and ready for a trip to the park or to school
6	Tell a family member all the things you can do for yourself (get a snack, brush your teeth, get dressed)
7	Be a helpful act of kindness. How did it make you feel?
8	Clean your room or play area
9	Do a chore to help your family at home
10	Take or bring to school good you have made
11	Draw a picture with a friend or sibling
12	Put and carry out a basket full of toys
13	Practice writing simple words
<p><b>Physical</b></p>	
1	Play or outside family game
2	Use sidewalk chalk to create a line obstacle course. One straight, curly and zig zag lines to follow over the sidewalk
3	Play a game with a ball where you need to throw, catch and kick the ball
4	Play catch with a friend or family member. How many times can you catch the ball in a row without dropping it?
5	Use magazines, newspaper or junk mail to cut out pictures you like. Cut out the pictures and glue them to make a collage
6	Use sidewalk chalk to draw your favorite things
7	Practice skip, jump, and balance as you are ready for kindergarten
<p><b>Language</b></p>	
1	Act out your favorite story
2	Play I Spy. Bring a nature walk with an adult. Ask them to describe it. (color, size, shape, etc.)
3	Talk about the weather. How many words can you use to describe it? (sunny, hot, windy, etc.)
4	Draw a picture of your favorite animal. Tell a family member or friend how you like it about your animal.
5	Put a family member that does not live with you and tell them about your kindergarten summer bucket list
6	Ask a family member to tell you a story about what they were a kindergarten
7	Tell a family member a story about something funny that happened to you



# Getting Ready for Kindergarten



- Plan to attend **Everett Ready**
  - Monday, August 18 to Thursday, August 21
  - [www.everettsd.org/everettready](http://www.everettsd.org/everettready)
- Develop a home and bedtime routine
- Help your child learn their personal information (first and last name)
- Get supplies ready and labeled
- Visit the school playground over the summer
- Practice drop off and pick up procedures



If you have concerns about your child's development or readiness for kindergarten, please contact:

- Principal Elizabeth Kelley, 425-385-5300
- Special Services, 425-385-5250





## STAY CONNECTED



**ParentSquare** keeps you updated through an app, text, email, and voice messages. You will receive an email in August from ParentSquare to activate your account. We encourage you to also download the app. This is the best way to stay engaged with your student's teacher and school. This is how you will receive emergency messages, absences, school and district information, and more.



**Social media** is a great way to keep informed about school and district events and happenings. The district and schools have various social media accounts. Visit our social media directory on the website to find the ones you want to follow. (Departments/Communication/Social Media Directory)





Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP) is a FREE preschool program serving 3 and 4 year old students and located at seven locations across EPS: Cedar Wood, Jackson, Hawthorne, Lowell, Madison, Silver Lake and Silver Firs Elementary Schools.



ECEAP supports student learning and the whole family through these services:

- Preschool education
- Family services
- Health & nutrition services

[www.everettsd.org/eceap](http://www.everettsd.org/eceap)





**Play and Learn** is a school-year program for children birth through 5 years and their parents or caregivers. Together they engage in play-based learning that enhances brain development and supports school readiness.

Play and learn is currently serving families Monday through Friday from 10:30 to 12:00 at Mill Creek City Hall North, Evergreen Branch of the Everett Public Library, Sequoia High School Gym and Lively Environmental Center.

Visit website [www.everettsd.org/playandlearn](http://www.everettsd.org/playandlearn) for more information.





# THANK YOU!

