From the Principal

Dear EHS Community,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! This is the School of Champions and the Home of the Seagulls. September typically brings excitement and anticipation for students. What will my teachers be like? Will I make new friends? Will I like my classes? Will I make good grades? Will I belong? Will I be successful? EHS staff is here to work hard to make the answers to these questions a resounding YES! We want you to feel important at EHS, because you ARE important at EHS.

We know that starting the year in distance learning adds to the feelings of anticipation, along with feelings of anxiety. We are forging new ground here, but I know our school community can do it together! To this end, the first three days of school are reduced days, with time built into these days for parents AND students to meet and confer with your teachers right away. They can explain how their classes will work, what you can expect, and how you can have access to the support you need. If you ever feel that you are not getting the support you need, the best place to start is with your teacher--often they can totally help solve your problems--we’ve got some pretty amazing teachers here! We also have counselors, Student Support Specialists, Success Coordinators, Drug and Alcohol counseling and Gear Up paraeducators, positions designed solely to ensure student success. We are eager to work with you to make sure you have what you need.

Technology is vital during distance learning. You must have that EHS device--home devices will not work on our network. Please click here for assistance with devices. We are committed to getting you what you need. Oh—don’t forget to start your school device and allow system updates to finish before the first day of school. Otherwise, you might miss your first class.

Speaking of classes, you might be asking--but how do I actually GO to class? You will need to check your Canvas page for information such as Zoom links. Click here to visit our Back to School At-A-Glance document on our website. This document will give you some other important information as well.
EHS has a rich history of over 100 years of being at the heart of Everett. The amazing community history, coupled with the incredible diversity and future leaders we now have, make this a very special place. I look forward to leading our school community on our continuous quest for **excellence, equity** and above all, **learning**! Remember, we are Everett!

Yours in education,

Amanda M. Overly
Principal
aoverly@everettsd.org

**Adventure Together**

Our theme to kick off the school year is **Adventure Together**. We chose “Adventure” because this school year is kicking off remotely, but not like it was in the spring. This year will look and feel much different and will be a new, exciting and challenging adventure for students, teachers and families. And, “Together” because we are all in this together. Although this start to school will feel different to everyone, we encourage taking on this challenge with courage, knowing we will all learn and grow as we navigate new and unexpected situations. We are here for every student, every family, every teacher, every staff member. We are a team! Let’s Adventure Together!

**Parent University**

Starting September 2, Everett Public Schools will have a Parent University available 24/7 online and mobile, for you to access important resources to help support your student’s remote learning. You can find details on how to access and log in to Canvas, how to view your student’s schedule, where to get meals, and much more. Resources will continue to be added throughout the year. You will find Parent University, and all other information related to remote learning, at [www.everettsd.org/COVID2020-21](http://www.everettsd.org/COVID2020-21)

**Learning model status**

Everett Public Schools will begin the 2020-21 school year with 100% remote learning using our staged approach to reopening. As the numbers of positive COVID-19 cases and deaths continue to rise across our state and in our region, it has become clear at this time that our more robust remote learning model will be the safest way to form the foundation for student learning this fall.
Staged reentry to schools will be determined by the impacts of a changing COVID-19 pandemic, available resources, direction from Snohomish Health District, OSPI and our Governor. Having the flexibility and agility to move to different models will enable Everett Public Schools to provide the best education possible in whatever scenario presents itself.

The current status is 100% remote learning. Visit the learning model status webpage to get to know the five stages.

**Attendance procedures**

We look forward to teaching your child every day. Regular attendance is important, and we will work with you to ensure your child is engaged in learning to benefit from an excellent education. If your child will miss remote learning, please email the school at their attendance email address, which you can find on the school website.

If email is not possible, and even if you leave a message with the school attendance line, please send a written note to the school office within 30 days. Teachers will use digital Gradebook attendance to log student attendance daily. K-5 students will have attendance taken daily at the beginning of the day during their morning meeting. Grades 6-12 will have attendance taken in every class period.

**2020-21 Immunization Changes**

The way schools collect immunization records and comply with immunization rules has changed for the 2020-21 school year. As of August 1, 2020, a change in state immunization rules has affected three areas of immunization compliance:

- The definition of "conditional status" has been clarified. **Students must turn in their immunization paperwork on or before the first day of in-person learning.**
- All new immunization records from students need to be medically verified.
- The Tdap vaccine requirement for 6th through 12th graders has been changed to a 7th through 12th grade requirement.

A medically verified record includes one or more of the following and can be submitted by email to EPS.BuildingRN.MailList@everettsd.org:

- A Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) printed from the Immunization Information System
- A physical copy of the CIS with a healthcare provider signature
- A physical copy of the CIS accompanying medical immunization records from a healthcare provider verified and signed by school staff
- A CIS printed from your MyIR account.

**Access your family’s immunization information**

To access your family's immunization information from the Washington State registry visit, sign up for MyIR to view, download and print your student's immunization records securely online. Once you register, you can access the records
anytime you need them. You can print your child’s Certificate of Immunization Status for school, childcare and camp programs.

**Ways to stay in touch**

On the communications department webpage, you can sign up for InTouch announcements and school board meeting agendas highlights delivered to your email box twice monthly. You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

![Social Media Icons](image)

**Mobile app**

Families can [download the district mobile app](#) to easily access student information, grades, attendance, lunch balances, borrowed library books, calendars and more! Translate notifications and app functions into the language you prefer.

**Social & emotional health**

The outbreak of COVID-19 may be stressful for people and communities. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children.

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. The emotional impact of an emergency on a person can depend on the person’s characteristics and experiences, the social and economic circumstances of the person and their community, and the availability of local resources. People can become more distressed if they see repeated images or hear repeated reports about the outbreak in the media.

Children react, in part, on what they see from the adults around them. When parents and caregivers deal with the COVID-19 calmly and confidently, they can provide the best support for their children. Parents can be more reassuring to others around them, especially children, if they are better prepared. Please visit the district’s [social & emotional health webpage](#) for more information.
ECEAP preschool is now enrolling for 2020-21

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 includes family support and health and nutrition services. It is funded in partnership with Snohomish County Human Services and Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families. ECEAP will be providing remote preschool services this fall including virtual circle times and small groups, video libraries of fun, engaging activities, and learning materials for home-based activities. Additionally, ECEAP will support parents as their child’s first and most important teacher through regular parent-teacher check-ins, family support coaching, resources, and online family support groups and informational classes.

The ECEAP preschool program is located at Cedar Wood (new for 2020-21), Garfield, Hawthorne, Lowell, Madison and Silver Lake elementary schools. ECEAP will be providing remote preschool services this fall including virtual circle times and small groups, video libraries of fun, engaging activities, and learning materials for home-based activities. Additionally, ECEAP will support parents as their child’s first and most important teacher through regular parent-teacher check-ins, family support coaching, resources, and online family support groups and informational classes. Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please call 425-385-4628, email eceap@everettsd.org or visit our website.

Kids in Transition program

Kids in Transition (KIT) program supports students who qualify as homeless under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Act. Students without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence may qualify. The KIT program works to eliminate barriers to students’ academic success and extra-curricular involvement. We ensure students experiencing homelessness have access to free school meals, school supplies, and uniforms. KIT can help students access extended day or summer school classes and provide access to tutoring when needed. The KIT Program can also cover fees required to take part in activities such as school-sponsored sports, clubs, and required class fees. KIT transports eligible students to maintain school stability, as long as the commute is in the best interest of the student. Last year, Everett Public Schools served over 1,100 homeless students at some time during the school year. For more information, visit the KIT website or contact the KIT Program at 425-385-4032.
Backpacks for students in need

Do you know a family who might be in need this year? Stuff the Bus for Kids ensures each child in Everett Public Schools starts the school year prepared to learn. The EPS Foundation will deliver over 1,900 backpacks, filled with school supplies, and make them available to any Everett Public School student who may need extra assistance.

Students in need of a backpack, please reach out to your school to receive your supplies. Backboards will be available for pick up at each school beginning August 31, the week before school.

Student opportunities and activities eflyers

We use Peachjar to email approved flyers from community organizations to parents and guardians. Schools also post those flyers on their websites. Look for the Peachjar button in the Quicklinks section of your school home page to see those flyers. You can also register there to have those flyers delivered to your email address if you aren’t already receiving them.

Safety tip line

Do you or your student have a concern about someone experiencing bullying or harassment? Report it! You can talk directly with your school’s office or you can call, text or email your concern.

If there is reason for concern about safety on a designated walkway to school, call 9-1-1 immediately for authorized, quick help. We have strong partnerships with local law enforcement who share our interest in safe schools and neighborhoods. Student safety is a priority for all of us. Working together, we can help make our neighborhoods and schools nurturing places for students to safely learn and grow.

Access to public records

District records are public records. Parents and other citizens have the right to ask to view or have copies of records defined as “public” under state and federal laws. These include parents’ and legal guardians’ student’s records and records about discipline of school employees.

The district’s general counsel office handles public records requests. Request records by writing to that office at PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213, sending an email request to publicrecords@everettsd.org, or calling 425-385-4150.
Your student’s records are confidential

Everett Public Schools is serious about protecting student records and privacy. The district uses multiple security measures to safeguard student transcripts and other education-related records. Only those teachers, administrators and other staff members who work directly with students (and have an educational need to know) have access to individual student records. Staff members are required to maintain confidentiality of all information in a student’s records.

Register to vote!

It’s easy! You can register online at http://bit.ly/VoteRegistration or stop by your school office to pick up paper registration materials.