From the Principal:

Dear View Ridge Families,

Our 2019-2020 school year has launched, and it has been a wonderful start! I am honored to be starting my fourth year as principal at View Ridge. Our school is defined by our talented staff, caring students, and supportive families. We are one big family; we’re the View Ridge Vikings!

Our new Vikings this year have been welcome additions to this family as they learn the Viking way: Vikings practice perseverance, carry themselves with integrity, take responsibility for their own actions, and treat each other with respect and kindness! In addition to new students, we have amazing new staff who have joined our Viking ship! Welcome everyone!

Our school continues to keep social-emotional learning and safety as a focus, with the development our Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) work at View Ridge. In addition to our school-wide systems for expectations (our five Viking Values), acknowledgement (i.e. Viking cards, Viking Celebrations, monthly Heroes and Scholars), we are implanting Zones of Regulation. This curriculum helps educators teach students how to identify emotions in the blue zone, green zone, yellow zone, and red zone. It goes further in teaching students to develop self-regulation skills. Integrating class meetings, PBIS, and the Zones supports students in developing tools to be flexible thinkers. Please talk to your child their learning!
Another school-wide goal this year is to build our staff’s capacity to be effective teachers, collaborators, and leaders. We will be focused on **Visible Learning** strategies that include research-based practices that promote accelerated learning for students. These strategies include, but are not limited to, teachers’ collective efficacy (collaboration and shared mindset that students can achieve), student self-reported grades, goal-setting, specific and timely feedback to students to advance their learning, teacher clarity and communication to students around learning targets and success criteria (where students are going and how they’re going to get there), tiered systems for response to intervention, student self-efficacy (motivation and positive mindset towards success), and meta-cognitive strategies (thinking about our thinking processes).

A challenge, but success, this Fall has been partnering with our district to maintain small class sizes in our primary grades and do our best to limit the number of split classrooms. We experienced some changes after the start of the school year in order to have staffing and classroom assignments to keep all first, second, fourth, and fifth grade students at or below our district class size goals. We appreciate the flexibility and understanding from our teachers and families in order to make the changes necessary to create these learning environments. While we try to forecast our needs and numbers before the start of the school year, this isn’t always possible. We are appreciative to add two talented staff members as a result of this growth—Angela King who is teaching second grade in Portable 2, and Michelle Olesen who is teaching Math in Portable 1. Please join me in welcoming our newest additions to our team!

This year, View Ridge is excited to be a one-to-one school. This means each student has access to their own Chromebook while at school. Staff will continue to develop their instructional program to include authentic learning experiences. We are excited to strengthen our capacity to engage our students on digital platforms, while working with students to transfer our Viking Values to so that we continue to be great citizens in the digital world as well.

View Ridge staff appreciates the opportunity to work with each of you and your children. Thank you for partnering with our school to make View Ridge the best learning environment. I look forward to a phenomenal school year!  

Sincerely, Tina Farias, Principal

From the Assistant Principal:

I want to take a moment to introduce myself. I am Matthew Arnold, the new Assistant Principal. I am coming from San Gabriel, California. I just moved up to Washington with my wife and two boys this summer. I have enjoyed getting to know your students during the first few weeks of school and I am excited to continue to work with them over the course of the school year. I am shared with Silver Lake Elementary School, so you will not see me daily.

One of my focuses for the school year will be on student attendance. It is important for students to be at school and on time. Families are a major support in student attendance by keeping open communication with us as students are out ill, or your family is planning to be gone. Students and classes will be recognized throughout the school year for attendance and being on time to school.

Sincerely, Matthew Arnold Assistant Principal

Panorama Ed Survey:

Third fourth, and fifth grade students at View Ridge are being asked to complete a survey about their individual profiles as learners. The short survey prompts students to reflect on their own actions and thoughts as well as their general experience at our school.

The results from these surveys will be shared with pre-approved adults who work closely with your children in the school and district. These social emotional learner profiles, alongside academic and attendance information, will allow staff to provide targeted, specific interventions that will support your children in succeeding at school.

The questions that students will answer are research-backed, valid and reliable. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Principal Tina Farias at tfarias@everettsd.org
Summer Reading Challenge:

Thank you to all students and families who kept growing reading skills throughout the summer! If you have a student in kindergarten or First grade who participated in summer reading, please send your students summer reading pamphlet with recorded reading minutes to their classroom teacher. For families with students in 2-5th grade AR points were recorded digitally so reports of their points will be collected through the AR system. Once participation is calculated raffle tickets and prizes will be distributed!

THANK YOU, SUPER VIKING READERS!!!!

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<td>50% of goal met</td>
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READING RAFFLE PRIZES include: Lunch with our Principal, Ms. Farias! (4 student winners), Lunch with our Vice Principal, Mr. Arnold! (4 student winners), Librarian for the day! (2 student winners), Reading Specialist for the day (2 student winners), A book for you and a book to give (Seattle Children’s Hospital) from our October Book Fair (4 Student winners), Help clean the ocean (4 winners each removing 1lb of garbage!), Soccer balls for a village (4 winners giving 8 soccer balls)

-Greta Fleckenstein, ELA Coach

Birthday Book Club Members:

September Birthdays:
Ruby Timoll 9/16 and Keegan Haas 9/12

October Birthdays:
Avery Sharp 10/4 and Lucas Petrus 10/10

Celebrate your child’s birthday AND support the View Ridge Library!

Joining the Birthday Book Club is a great way to create a lasting memory for your family at View Ridge and endow our library with exciting new books.

Here’s how it works:

During the month of your child’s birthday (or summer half-birthday), our librarian will choose a new book that matches your child’s interests. A bookplate dedicating the book in your child’s honor will be placed inside. The book is then presented to the student in the class so that he or she can be the first to read it before it’s returned to the library collection for all to enjoy. Your child’s contribution will also be acknowledged in the school newsletter.

The Birthday Book Club donation is $15.00 per child or event. BBC donations will be accepted throughout the year, and can be also be used for graduation, memorials, teacher’s gifts, and other celebrations.

- For more information, contact: Kristie Post, Librarian – kpost@everettsd.edu
- Additional forms are available in the library
High School and Beyond Event:

If you are wondering what you can do now to help to chart the course for your child’s future, you might want to consider attending Everett High School’s (View Ridge’s feeder school) High School and Beyond event, which will be held Wednesday, October 9th. Free pizza will be served from 5:30 to 6:00 in the cafeteria, and a college and career fair will be open from 5:30 to 7:30 in the gym. There will also be a keynote speaker at 6:15, Jeff Utecht, who will talk about how to use technology to help prepare students for the future. The event is free and open to all who are interested. Hope to see you there!

-Rhonda Atregenio, School Counselor

Community:

Parking/Traffic Alert: Please remember to avoid parking in “the red zone” on Sunset Lane or too close to the stop sign. There has been traffic enforcement out and we do not want anyone to be cited!

Watch D.O.G.S.:

Dads, Uncles, Grandpas-- You are invited to join us October 10th 6:00 pm for our Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) kickoff. This program is a great way to be involved in the Viking community and provide support to all students. As a dad myself, I understand the importance of being a role model for my children. Feel free to bring your kids and enjoy a pizza dinner! I am looking forward to working with all of you to support our school and students. The monthly PTA meeting is on the same night, starting at 7pm, so we hope this date allows for greater school engagement from all members of the family!

September Philanthropy Project--Peanut Butter Drive:

September is National Hunger Action Month!! Ms. York and Ms. Albert’s classes are helping lead our 4th Annual Peanut Butter Drive to support Feeding America. Each grade has a set goal for pounds of peanut butter. Classrooms that earn an extra recess for meeting their goal. The first-place class will win a lunch and dessert party hosted by The Cheesecake Factory. Second place wins a dessert party from The Cheesecake Family. Donations of peanut or other nut butters count based on the weight. Monetary donations are counted at a currency of $2.50 = 1 pound.

Everett Public Schools and View Ridge Elementary are on Twitter:

We are excited to introduce a new way to promote the learning and community events at View Ridge. We are joining Everett Public Schools in the use of Twitter to share photos and updates of the amazing work being done here. Please follow us at https://twitter.com/EPS_VRE
New cell phone policy
The use of cell phones and personal electronic devices (PED) in the classroom can distract students from instruction, yet can be important to have accessible in case of emergency. With this in mind, the district has adopted a new personal electronic device policy 3246 and procedure 3246P which will prohibit cell phone use in the classroom while still providing emergency access for students in case of emergency.

Elementary students who choose to bring cell phones and other PEDs to school may only use them before or after the school day. During the school day, they must be powered off and stored (e.g., in the student’s backpack, locker, other district provided storage). There will be storage in the classroom so, in the event of an emergency, the cell phones will be accessible without leaving the classroom. There is an exception for students having an IEP, 504 Plan, or Individual Health Care Plan (IHP) that includes specific accommodations for assistive technology, following the process outlined in the student’s IEP, 504 Plan, or IHP.

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.

2019-20 Immunization Changes
On July 28, 2019 a new Washington State law went into effect that removes the personal and philosophical option to exempt children from the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine required for school and preschool. This law does not affect students with a religious or medical exemption. For more information please refer to Exemption to School and Child Care Immunization Requirements Quick Reference Guide.

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, child care and camp programs.

Four ways to stay in touch
At the bottom of every district 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.

Attendance procedures
We look forward to seeing your child at school every day. Regular school attendance is important, and we will work with you to ensure your child is present to benefit from an excellent education. If your child is absent, 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 after your student returns to school.
ECEAP preschool is now enrolling for 2019-20

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.

The five ECEAP sites within our schools are Garfield, Hawthorne, Lowell, Madison and Silver Lake elementary schools. Additional community locations are available. Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please call 425-385-4628.

Capital projects updates

Thank you for making so many capital projects possible through the April 2016 Capital Bond! You can follow progress on those projects online at www.everettsd.org/capitalprojects.

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.

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.

Kids in Transition program

The Kids in Transition (KIT) program supports students who qualify as homeless under the federal McKinney-Vinto 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 homeless students have school supplies and provide tutoring or help students join in extended day or summer school classes. We help students with the fees required take part in activities such as sports or clubs. KIT transports eligible students to maintain school stability, as long as the commute is feasible.

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 Amy Perusse at 425-385-4032 or aperusse@everettsd.org.

Attention volunteers

Our schools rely on volunteers to support many important activities!

- We are digital! All volunteer applications and background checks can only be processed online.
- We are focused on safety! Each applicant requires background check and safety training.

Please plan ahead so your application can be processed in time for volunteer opportunities. The new application is now available online at www.everettsd.org/volunteer.

Everett Public Schools
Safety tip line
Do you or your student have a concern about someone experiencing bullying or harassment? Or have you perhaps heard a rumor about someone bringing a weapon or drugs to school? 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. Everett Public Schools
www.everettsd.org

Access to public records (updated information)
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. Parents or guardians seeking education records may simply request those records from their individual schools, as they are entitled to such records under state and federal law and through district policy and procedure.

The district’s office of general counsel handles public records requests. Records may be requested in person, by phone or by sending an email request to publicrecords@everettsd.org. Wendy Snider is available to answer public records questions at 425-385-4188.

Delayed start or closed schools
If we have to cancel school or delay the start of school, we will use our parent communication system to call in the morning, typically around 5:45 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 https://www.everettsd.org/
- watch district Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts

Did you miss a call from us?
If you missed a call from your school, please first check your voice mail, email or mobile app 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.

Back-to-school safety reminders
It’s helpful to talk with your child from time to time about staying safe and alert, especially when traveling to and from school. Here are just a few quick reminders:
- Walk with a buddy
- Be aware of your surroundings (cell phones and ear buds put away)
- Wait with a friend or adult at bus stops
- Report anything suspicious to an adult right away
- For adults, stop for buses when they have the stop arm out

**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.

**Mapping your future**
Students K through 12 and their families are invited to the High School and Beyond family nights to:

- Enjoy free pizza
- Keynote speaker: 2020 and Beyond: Preparing for the Future in the Digital Age
- Learn about cool careers – it is never too early for elementary, middle and high school students!
- Visit the college & career fair
- Get help with financial aid and college admissions
- Get help registering for College Bound scholarships (grades 7 and 8)
- Interpreters available

**Is your contact information up-to-date at school?**
If your contact information has changed, please let your school know so we can reach you!

**Website tools for you**
The website has tools to make your life easier. Sign in with your LMS password to:

- Add your student’s school and teachers’ calendars to your calendar view
- Filter calendar items by category
- Export calendar items to your personal calendar
- Access Grades & More, lunch menus and staff contact information from the home page
- Find directions and maps to event locations listed on the calendar

**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 Balbach, bbalbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4083
- ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, rclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250