

Everett Seagull News

EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



December 2023

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4

From the Principal

Dear EHS Families,

As we step into the festive month of December, I am thrilled to extend my warmest greetings to each and every member of our incredible school community. It brings me immense pride and joy to highlight the outstanding achievements of our students and the generous spirit of giving demonstrated through our Food Drive in November. Thanks to the collective efforts of our students and community, we successfully collected an impressive 16,788 pounds of food. This generous donation will undoubtedly make a significant impact on those in our community facing food insecurity.

I am equally excited about the upcoming festivities organized by our Latinos Unidos club – the Regalo Rush. Nearly 100 families will be receiving presents, generously provided by members of our community, adding warmth and joy to the holiday season. It's heartening to witness such kindness and unity within our school.

This week marks the start of our Winter Athletics season! I encourage everyone to check the schedule and come out to support our teams. Your cheers and encouragement make a significant difference to our student-athletes.

Let us take a moment to applaud our students for their hard work, dedication, and accomplishments throughout this semester. Their commitment to academic excellence, creative pursuits, and community engagement has truly made our school a vibrant and inspiring place to be. We are proud of each student's unique contributions and look forward to witnessing their continued success.

As we approach the end of the semester, I would like to remind both students and parents to take a moment to review and reflect on academic progress. Checking students' grades and ensuring all work is complete. Now is the time to complete missing assignments and connect with staff for support. Academic Support is available every Tuesday and Wednesday from 2:10-3:30. Your support in emphasizing the importance of attending classes and complete work is key to your child's success.

Kelly Shepherd
Principal

Mission – We collectively ensure that each student learns and grows at high levels.

December 1

Winter Wonderland, 5:00 pm (in front of main building)

December 7

Winter Band/Orchestra/Choir Concert, 6:00 pm (Auditorium)

December 14

Regalo Rush Distribution

December 15

2 ½ hour Early Release Schedule (11:35am release)

December 20- January 1

Winter Break; no school



In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the collective efforts that make our school community truly exceptional. Your involvement, support, and commitment to our students' success contribute to the positive and nurturing environment that defines Everett High School.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful holiday season. We look forward to all that will be accomplished in 2024.

Kelly Shepherd

A message from PTA

EHS is a wonderful school and being a part of the PTA is a great way for parents to be a closer part of the community. The PTA is committed to helping all students and continuing in the quest to make EHS the best it can be. At our last meeting we invited Darcy Walker to present safety and security updates for the campus. These include a fence from the main building and the little theater and a new badge and locking system for campus buildings. He also shared information on the planned updates for both the cafeteria and the auditorium. Thank you, Darcy! This was a very informational presentation.



One of the most direct ways the PTA directly helps better the EHS learning environment is with our distribution of grants to classes and programs on campus. This fall the PTA funded our full budgeted amount of \$3500 to several educators and programs including, learning culture through cooking in world language classes, Fall Theatre arts enrichment, supplies and equipment for adaptive PE programs, Life Skills materials, several book grants for English classrooms and more! The PTA truly appreciate the support you give so that we can continue to help our educators go above and beyond.

Speaking of your support, mark your calendars! The EHS Auction is April 20, 2024! The committee is starting meetings. This is a huge project and it requires a village to put together to make it the incredible success that it is. Do you want to donate? Help find sponsors? Help set up? Plan decorations? There are so many roles that need to be filled. We need volunteers! We will be posting information on the FaceBook pages of the EHS PTA, each grad year class, and the EHS Auction. Start gathering those silent and live auction items! This is such a great way to support EHS teams and clubs!

The PTA also took the opportunity to THANK our staff by hosting a coffee and treats event! Our staff is so committed and supportive. We appreciate you EHS staff!

We would like to thank ALL of our volunteers and the entire Everett High community for the support they give to our PTA. We look forward to seeing you Jan 2 at 6pm for our next PTA meeting, via zoom. (Watch social media for details.) There is no December meeting.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.



The gift of attendance

Absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holidays 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.



Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as to connect with their peers and teachers. As long as your child is healthy, please encourage showing up to class when school is in session.

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.

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.



Harvest of the Month

This month, the Food and Nutrition Department brings you brussels sprouts grown in the PNW! Be sure to give them a try this month seasoned and roasted!

Did you know that brussels sprouts are packed with more vitamin C than an orange? Find out more by checking out the Harvest of the Month flyer on the district [website](#).

Sprouts of Joy!





Play and Learn

Play and Learn is a free program for children from birth through age five and their parents or caregivers to have fun playing together, creating art, listening to stories and singing songs! Sessions are held five days a week from 10:30 a.m. to noon at four locations.

[Click to learn more and see calendar.](#)



There is still time to enroll your preschooler!



There is space available in our Early Childhood Education & Assistance Program (ECEAP)! This incredible program is for 3- and 4-year-old children from families with limited income and are enrolled in our schools.

The six ECEAP sites within our school district are Cedar Wood, Hawthorne, Jackson, Lowell, Madison, and Silver Lake elementary schools. Space is limited – apply now! For an application or more information, please visit the www.everettsd.org/ECEAP or call 425-385-4628.

Transitional Kindergarten Program

Did you know Transitional Kindergarten is designed to give your child a strong start on their educational journey? EPS offers Transitional Kindergarten for children who are not currently in an early learning program and age eligible to enter kindergarten in EPS in fall 2024.

Enrollment for Transitional Kindergarten begins with the submission of an Interest Form, which is available on our [website](#). This will be followed by a screening, which is a fun and interactive assessment used to determine your child’s developmental strengths and needs. During this time, your child will engage one on one with the screening proctor for a variety of games and activities. Screening will be held in late November and early December.

For more information, visit: www.everettsd.org/TransitionalKindergarten. Deadline to submit Interest Form is December 12.

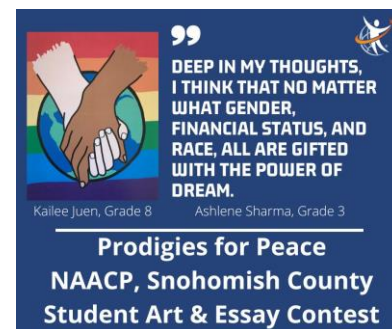




Prodigies for Peace Essay and Art Contest

Please see the Snohomish County Black Heritage Committee sponsored [23rd Annual 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Prodigies for Peace Essay and Art Contest](#). The deadline this year is December 15, 2023.

Awards will be presented at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration the weekend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



Accepting Highly Capable referrals until Dec. 15

The Highly Capable (HC) Program in Everett Public Schools is designed to meet learning needs and challenge students who have advanced thinking and academic abilities. Highly Capable classes are open to students in second, third, fourth and fifth grades. 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 seven schools in the district, based on qualified enrollment. For more information on the Highly Capable program, please visit the district website to view an informational power point and timeline: www.everettsd.org/highlycapable and [Parent/Guardian Information PowerPoint](#)

If you think your student would benefit from a challenging option like the Highly Capable Program and you would like to refer them for testing, you must complete the [Parent Referral for Testing Form](#).

The deadline to submit the referral form is Friday, December 15, 2023. If you choose to refer your student for testing, the results will be shared with you in May. If you have questions about this process, please call the Highly Capable Office at 425-385-4033.

Information regarding school closures and late starts



New resources have been added to [Parent University](#), including a video highlight information regarding school closures and late starts. [Watch the video here.](#)

If you have additional topics you would like to suggest for Parent University, please email communications@everettsd.org.



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 5:00 a.m. (or sometimes the night before if it can already be determined) with a brief message about the reason for closure or delay. We will also use local media, social 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
- 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](#) under the "Snow Routes" icon in the center of the page.

Board of Distinction

Everett Public Schools board of directors earned high honors with the designation as a *Board of Distinction 2023*. 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.



Calendar reminder

This is a friendly reminder that **Winter Break is December 18 to January 1**, with classes resuming on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

New features on the mobile app!

Registering for middle and high school sports AND school athletic schedules can now be found on the EPS App! Grab your smartphone and go to the iTunes App Store® or Google Play®, search Everett Public Schools, then select our app for free download. Game ON!

Learn more at www.everettsd.org/MobileApp



Guaranteed Admissions Program

WASHINGTON
**Guaranteed
 Admissions
 Program**

Everett Public Schools (EPS) is in its second year partnering with the Washington Guaranteed Admissions Program (WAGAP), which guarantees admission to Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, The Evergreen State College, Saint Martin's University, University of Washington Tacoma, Washington State University and Western Washington University, and its first year partnering with the Automatic Admissions Partnership, which guarantees admission to Pacific Lutheran University to help students meet their college and career goals.



To be eligible for guaranteed admissions to the eight participating institutions, students must have or be on track to earn by graduation a 3.0 GPA (3.3 for Pacific Lutheran University) and complete the college academic distribution requirement coursework.

The primary objective of this collaboration is to reach students who may have never contemplated pursuing a college education or didn't consider themselves college ready. The partnership is committed to nurturing the college and career aspirations of Washington's students. If a student dreams of earning a bachelor's degree, there is a place for them at one of the state's public baccalaureate institutions or two of the state's private universities.

In EPS, 560 seniors were identified this fall as guaranteed admission eligible (446 for Pacific Lutheran University) and received acceptance notifications. After receiving the letter, students then complete an admission application and additional requirements by the institution. The guaranteed admission program does not provide financial aid or cover the cost of college, so students will need to complete the FAFSA or WASFA and contact the financial aid office of the colleges for financial aid and scholarship information.

Meet your Regional Superintendent

Each Regional Superintendent recently recorded an introduction video for [Parent University](#). Click the link below each image to watch.

**Meet your
Regional
Superintendent**
Region 1



[Dr. Pete Mizner, Region 1](#)

**Meet your
Regional
Superintendent**
Region 2



[Dr. Cathy Woods, Region 2](#)

**Meet your
Regional
Superintendent**
Region 3




EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS®

3900 Broadway
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425-385-4000
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 and ADA Coordinator:	• Section 504 Coordinator:
• Chad Golden	• Dave Peters
• 425-385-4100	• 425-385-4063
• CGolden@everettsd.org	• DPeters@everettsd.org
• PO Box 2098	• PO Box 2098
• Everett, WA 98213	• Everett, WA 98213