

# Eisenhower Patriot News

EISENHOWER MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2019

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

## From the Principal

Dear Families,

This is the point in the year when the newness has completely worn off for the sixth graders, the angst is gone, and they are full-fledged middle school students now. The seventh graders have been through it all before and are familiar with the ebb and flow of the school year at Eisenhower. The eighth graders are enjoying being the senior members of the student body but beginning to look toward high school.

While all of our students have settled in, we are about to enter one of the more energized and emotional times of the year. The energy level in a school between Thanksgiving and Winter Break is often at the highest level of the year, only closely followed by the energy heading into summer break.

There is a lot of energy for many students based on the excitement that the holidays represent for them and the change of venue for two full weeks. There is also a fair amount of angst and dread for many students as the two-week break is an absence from the consistency and predictability of school, and this does not represent an exciting time for them.

While we always want parents and guardians to be in contact with us, it is this time of year that we ask them to be extra vigilant in letting us know about circumstances that are impacting their student, and ways that we can provide any additional support. If your student shares information about another student who may be struggling, please let us know that as well.

Our counselors can be reached by phone, simply contact the main office at (425) 385-7500 and they will put you through to our counselors. Or, if you prefer you can reach them via email. The sixth-grade counselor is Morgan Wolff: [mwolff@everettsd.org](mailto:mwolff@everettsd.org). The seventh-grade counselor is Jana Eggers: [jeggers@everettsd.org](mailto:jeggers@everettsd.org). The eighth-grade counselor is Linda Jones: [ljones@everettsd.org](mailto:ljones@everettsd.org).

As always, thank you for sharing your children with us. The energy they provide, the challenges they present, and the growth they exhibit throughout their time with us, provides us with the greatest joy of all.

Respectfully,  
Kevin

**Kevin Allen**  
Principal

Eisenhower Middle School  
10200 25th Ave. SE,  
Everett, WA 98208  
[www.everettsd.org/eisenhower](http://www.everettsd.org/eisenhower)

**Dec. 6**

Learning Improvement Friday

**Dec. 13**

Learning Improvement Friday

**Dec. 20**

Learning Improvement Friday

**Dec. 23-Jan. 3**

Winter Break – School closed



Thank you to our Volunteer Crossing guards that are here every morning and afternoon to help keep our kids safe in the parking lot.

Please remember to respect these volunteer parents and follow their directions in the parking lot.

If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Karen Maguigad at [KMaguigad@everettsd.org](mailto:KMaguigad@everettsd.org)

Follow us on Twitter at:  
[@EPS\\_EisenhowerMS](https://twitter.com/EPS_EisenhowerMS)

Robotics Competition will be at Cascade on Dec 14<sup>th</sup> from 8am-5pm. Come and watch the robots compete after 1pm!

Eisenhower Middle School PTSA is hosting a cookie exchange for the staff meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for families to bring in cookies (1-2 dozen per family, or more if you would like!) on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Cookies can be dropped off in the office any time before school or during the school day and can be homemade or store bought. If you are interested in donating cookies or have any questions, please email Jennifer Neeleman at [jneeleman@expresslaw.com](mailto:jneeleman@expresslaw.com)

We have lots of sports going on right now! You can keep up to date with their schedules through the Wesco Athletics website:  
<http://www.wescoathletics.com/index.php?id=0.1008.10537.0.300>

The next season is Winter II which includes girl's basketball that starts on January 13<sup>th</sup> and wrestling that starts on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure you have filled out the online paperwork through Rank one sport:  
<https://everettschools.rankonesport.com/New/NewInstructionsPage.aspx>  
and that your student has a current physical on file with the school prior to the start date.  
\*Wrestling is open to boys and girls, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders can participate, but not compete.

Transportation is not provided for athletics.



## 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 to too much lost learning time and 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.



## Graduation rates jump to 95.9%

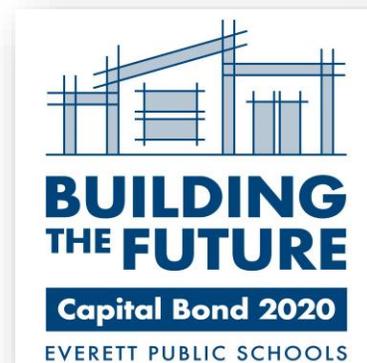
Our graduation rate jumped even higher for the 12th year in a row. Now 95.9 percent of our students graduate on time, the highest rate on record. The increase in graduation rates can be attributed to the strategically aligned work of district and school staff. It is a focus for everyone, no matter their role in our school district, to ensure each one of our students graduates ready for college and career.

## Bond 2020

The Everett School District's board of directors on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, approved placing a \$317.4 million capital bond on the April 28, 2020 ballot to fund STEM career-connected learning pathways for students, ensure equitable access and opportunities for all students, increase safety and security and ensure students have enough room to learn by adding [21st century learning](#) classroom space.

### The 2020 capital projects bond prepares our students for the future by:

- **Giving our students facilities and tools necessary for STEM career pathways**
  - The bond funds modernization and upgrades to high school classrooms to support the Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) career pathway programs and new science standards.
- **Increasing safety and security for students and schools**
  - Secure locks and keying systems will be added districtwide.
  - Access control systems at two high schools
  - Upgrades to fire alarm systems, security systems and fencing
- **Ensuring students have enough room to learn by adding 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom space, modernizing and repairing building systems**
  - Adds new elementary school classrooms throughout the district to reduce overcrowding, keep class sizes low and keep more kids at their neighborhood schools
  - Repairs aging school systems in our schools like HVAC, roofing and flooring replacements, that extends the longevity of schools
- **Providing equitable access and opportunities for students** by funding capital projects at all schools throughout our district, while reducing the overall school district tax rate



More information is available on the [Capital Bond 2020](#) district webpage.



## 2020 Census

The 2020 Census is closer than you think! Here is a quick refresher of what it is and why it is essential that everyone is counted.

- **Everyone counts.** The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.
- **It's about fair representation.** Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.
- **It's in the constitution.** The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.
- **It's about \$675 billion.** The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on census data. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.
- **It's about redistricting.** After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.
- **Taking part is your civic duty.** Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say, "I COUNT!"

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail or by phone. Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

**Look for your invitation to respond starting in mid-March.**



## 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](#).

## New Transitional Kindergarten Program

Everett Public Schools is offering a **Transitional Kindergarten** program this winter for children scheduled to enter kindergarten in the upcoming fall. The program will focus on basic academic, social and self-help skills to jumpstart qualifying students toward success in school. Students will be screened in early January and may qualify based on ability and/or need. This program is located at several of the elementary schools in our district; sites will be determined based on enrollment. The anticipated start date is January 28, 2020.

**Transitional Kindergarten** will run through the last day of school, which is currently June 15, 2020.



To qualify for screening, children must:

- be 5 years old by August 31, 2020
- live within the boundaries of Everett Public Schools
- not be currently enrolled in an early learning program
- demonstrate academic and/or social-emotional needs

If you are interested and believe your child qualifies for this program, please visit our website at <https://www.everettsd.org/earlylearning> and submit the **Transitional Kindergarten** form by December 6, 2019. For assistance, contact Helen Cooley at 425-385-4088 or Early Learning at 425-385-4024.



## 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.

## 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 <https://www.everettsd.org/>
- watch district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts

## Accepting Highly Capable nominations until Dec. 18

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 on February 1, 2020.



## Food and Nutrition

This month, the Food and Nutrition Department brings you kale grown in the PNW! Be sure to give it a try this month in our Kale Caesar salad and on the salad bar!

Did you know that just one serving of kale has more vitamin C than an orange? Find out more by checking out the Harvest of the Month flyer on our website at <https://www.everettsd.org>. It's not easy being green! Don't kale my vibe!



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.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

- Title IX Officer/Civil Rights Compliance Officer – Mary O'Brien, [MO'Brien@everettsd.org](mailto:MO'Brien@everettsd.org), 425-385-4106, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, [rballbach@everettsd.org](mailto:rballbach@everettsd.org), 425-385-4063, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- ADA Coordinator – Randi Seaberg, [rseaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:rseaberg@everettsd.org), 425-385-4104, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213