

North Star News

NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2019

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3



From the Principal

Welcome to November NMS Families,

We look forward to this month each year, because it is such an important month for us to continue to build a strong relationship with our families and community. The partnership between school and home is critical for student success, and November is that time of year where we focus on how thankful we are to work in such a supportive neighborhood.

October was a full month with community events at North, but November is the time for our families to visit us for student conferencing. These sessions will team our teachers with our families, focusing on student achievement, along with successes and challenges that are present early in the year. November springs us into a good position for the rest of the year, and we look forward to welcoming all visitors this month.

The student experience is in full "school year mode" right now, with instruction at the forefront of their daily experience. Our teachers are fully immersed in their curriculum, and our afternoon clubs and support sessions are giving students a well-rounded academic and social experience. We have also recently finished our first sports season, and we are preparing for beginning season two.

November is also a time for us all to be mindful of our families and loved ones, as well as our greater community. NMS will be supporting EHS with their annual Food Drive, and giving our assistance to enhance the lives of those in need.

I hope everyone has a wonderful month!

Mitch Entler
Principal

North Middle School
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North Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences

Greetings North Middle School Families!

We look forward to the opportunity to see you during one of our conferences scheduled for the first week of November. Our staff is preparing welcoming and engaging sessions, where you will have the chance to ask questions about your student, learn about their progress in classes, and find out more about our day-to-day activities around school.

Checklist: Before the conference

- ◇ Review your child's work, grades and progress reports. (Progress reports went home with students October 25th and you can check LMS)
- ◇ Talk with your child about his or her progress in school.
- ◇ Talk with others—family members, after school staff, mentors, etc.—about your child's strengths and needs.
- ◇ Make a list of questions to ask during the conference.
- ◇ Think about ways you would like to be involved in your child's learning so that you can discuss them with the teacher.

What should you expect?

- ◇ A two-way conversation
- ◇ Emphasis on learning
- ◇ Opportunities and challenges

What should you talk to the teacher about?

- ◇ Progress
- ◇ Assignments and assessments
- ◇ Your thoughts about your child
- ◇ How to support learning at home
- ◇ What services are available at school to support your child

Mitch Entler
Principal

Krista Bjorge
Assistant Principal

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October 30-31

Boys & Girls Soccer Tryouts

November 1-8

12:20 Release

November 6-7

Parent Teacher Conferences

6th—2-6pm

7th—1:30-3:30pm &

4:30-7:30pm

November 4-6

Winter I Sports Tryouts

Volleyball

Boys Basketball

November 11

No School

November 21

Band Concert

November 25

PTA Meeting

November 27

12:20 Release

November 28-29

No School

1:35 Release

November 15

November 22

December 6

PTA Corner

November 2019 PTA Corner:

The start of Fall has been a flurry of activity similar to that of tumbling leaves! This past month we held our first PTA sponsored Movie Night, we welcomed our friends and neighbors at our Community Open House, training and creating for the PTA Reflections Art contest has begun, along with planning for our annual fundraising Auction. All of these things (and more) are able to happen thanks to our amazing volunteers and the support of our membership. It is NEVER too late to become a member and/or volunteer with PTA! Our next meeting will be on **Nov. 25th in the North Library at 7:00 PM**. We hope to see you there!

Jenny Kuehn, President

Andrea Wells-Edwards, Vice President

Jennifer Goodhart, Treasurer

Mariko Thompson, Secretary



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.

Remember to vote Nov. 5

Remember to deliver your ballot to a ballot drop box near you or put it in the mail by Nov. 5 – postage is not required for ballots.

Everett Public Schools is hiring!

Are you interested in working for the school district? Full-time, part-time and substitute positions are available. The schedule for many classified positions is the same as the student day. Training is provided, and benefits are available for many positions. We have a strong need for substitute teachers, classified staff including regular and substitute paraeducators, office staff, custodial and food service positions. Join us! <http://www.everettsd.org/jobs>



Did you miss a call from us?

If you missed a call from your school, please first check your voice mail or your email 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. If you want to change your contact information, please let the school office know.

School performance report

Our school's performance report is available online on each school's website. More information is available on the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website](#). Click on "State Report Card" and select Everett from the list of districts.

Test scores show ... our students rock!

Did you know that our student assessment scores last year outperformed the state's average assessment scores in **every subject!** Students are working hard in their learning, and staff are providing students with the targeted, coordinated supports they need to excel. We have more work to do and are going to accomplish it by focusing on reading at early levels and strong monitoring and collaboration.

FAFSA season has begun!

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is an office of the U.S. Department of Education. FAFSA coordinates with postsecondary schools and financial institutions to help students and families pay for college. Watch for FAFSA completion events happening around the district. Find more information at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Family health safety tip

Vaping has been in the news a lot this summer and fall due to many youth and young adults across the nation being hospitalized for respiratory issues, including respiratory failure. A few cases have been reported in our state. Teens may believe vaping is less harmful than smoking. Vaping devices are increasingly popular among middle and high school students and a new generation is getting addicted to nicotine. According to the Snohomish Health District's Washington Healthy Youth Survey:

11% of 8th graders, 23% of 10th graders and 31% of 12th graders currently use vapes.

Learn about the dangers of vaping as well as resources for teens to quit by visiting Snohomish Health District's webpage. The sooner one quits, the faster their body, and lungs, can rebound and repair themselves. www.snohd.org/273/Vaping-Vapor-Products

Is your family prepared?

Does your family have a plan in case of bad weather, school closure or delay? Who will pick up your student, if needed? How will you communicate if phone lines are jammed? Do you have needed emergency supplies in your car and at home?

[Snohomish County Emergency Management](#) has helpful online resources to help you create, and practice emergency response plans with your family and neighborhood.



Online safety tips

- Keep the computer in a busy area of your home.
- Use an app to keep an eye on your child's online activity on their device.
- Talking about cyberbullying; ask if someone they know has been a victim. Ask if they have been victimized.

Set up email and social media accounts with your children. Know their screen names and passwords and explain the reasons for not including any personal information in profiles.

Know who is in the "buddy lists." Get to know the cyberfriends as well as you do those who visit your home. Parents and guardians may find the following resources helpful to begin a conversation about the dangers of engaging in cyberbullying and how to stay safe online:

[Stop Bullying Now](#)

[Ms. Parry's Guide to Correct Online Etiquette](#)

[Common Sense Media](#)



Find out what Everett Public Schools students learn about digital citizenship on the district [Learning Management Services website](#).

Food and nutrition

This month, the Food and Nutrition Department brings you mushrooms grown in the PNW! Be sure to give them a try this month in our vegetable medley and on the salad bar.



Did you know that mushrooms are composed of 90% water and contain over a dozen vitamin and minerals? Find out more by checking out the Harvest of the Month flyer on our website at <https://www.everettsd.org>. Don't leave me, I'm a fungi!

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.

Report it!

3 easy ways

Text or call
855-637-2095

1350@alert1.us

<https://everett-wa.safeschoolsalert.com>

FOR
EMERGENCIES,
PLEASE CALL
911!

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.



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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 Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
- ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, rclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250