

View Ridge Viking News

VIEW RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



September 2023

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

From the Principal:

Dear View Ridge Families,

Are you ready?! Set?! Here we go!!!! Our 2023-2024 school year is here, and I am so pleased to welcome all of our Vikings! I am honored to be starting my eighth year as principal at View Ridge and to work alongside such talented staff, caring students, and supportive families. This year, we are excited to welcome more students with our [boundary change](#) to include a new housing development (Four Corners) and a few existing homes. Currently, no families have moved into the new development, but we do expect families to move in later this fall and have students enroll at View Ridge (Current enrollment at View Ridge from Four Corners- 0 students). We are one big (growing) family: we're the View Ridge Vikings!

This year, our school is focused on embracing growth by cultivating a supportive culture of inclusion, unity, and growth mindset. We strive to bridge educational gaps through target and aligned instruction and assessment. In addition, we have an important goal to elevate student engagement and achievement by making learning tangible and relevant for all students. Our theme for the year is *Navigating Together: Building Safe Harbors*. So, let's work together to embody our goals of unity, engagement, and achievement this school year!

Our new Vikings this year are welcome additions to this community 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 September, our school and our district are focused on the value of RESPECT. Please make sure to look over our [family handbook](#) on our school website for valuable information and expectations to support students' success. In addition to new students, we have amazing new staff who have joined our Viking ship! Welcome everyone!

September is also National Hunger Action Month, so for our philanthropy focus, we will be supporting local food banks through the Feeding America organization. Donations of new, unopened peanut butter will be accepted through the end of September. Monetary donations are also accepted. The class that brings in the most donations will win a lunch and dessert party catered by The Cheesecake Factory, and our second-place class will earn a dessert party.

Our school continues to keep social-emotional learning (SEL) and safety as a focus with our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) 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. Both **Second Step** (or core curriculum

Tina Wood, Principal
View Ridge Elementary School
202 Alder St.,
Everett, WA 98203
www.everettsd.org/viewridge

2023-2024 Student Calendar

September 5

- Back to School Night 4:30-6:30

September 6

- First Day of School for 1-5th grade!

September 8

- Learning Improvement Friday

September 9

- Beginning of Year Assembly

September 11

- First Day of School for Kindergarten

September 15

- Learning Improvement Friday

September 19

- Taproot Anti-Bullying Assembly

September 22

- Learning Improvement Friday

September 29

- Learning Improvement Friday



for SEL) and **RULER** (our SEL Framework) support social-emotional learning and emotional regulation skills. RULER stands for R=Recognize Emotions, U= Understand emotions, L= Label emotions accurately, E = Express emotions accurately, and R = Regulate emotions effectively. A goal for our students this year is to learn more about the RULER program and tools, such as the Classroom Charter and the Mood Meter. Integrating class meetings, PBIS, emotional regulation, and restorative practices supports students in developing tools to be flexible thinkers and provide whole-student learning. Please talk to your child about their learning!

View Ridge staff appreciate the opportunity to partner with each of you and to support your child's learning and growth. I look forward to an amazing school year!

--Ms. Tina Wood Principal Kwood1@everettsd.org

From the Assistant Principal

Dear Vikings,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health and high spirits. As the summer days gradually give way to the excitement of a new school year, I am honored to extend a warm welcome back to the View Ridge community. I am equally thrilled to introduce myself as the new Assistant Principal and share in the anticipation of a rewarding year ahead. Having spent nearly 10 years in the field of education, my passion for creating supportive and enriching learning environments has only deepened. I believe that a collaborative partnership between home and school is essential in shaping the educational journey of our students. With this in mind, I am eager to work alongside you, our dedicated educators, and our incredible students to foster an environment where each child's potential can flourish.

As your Assistant Principal, my commitment lies in building strong relationships with our families. I encourage you to reach out with your thoughts, questions, and ideas. Your insights are invaluable as we work together to provide an outstanding educational experience for every child at View Ridge.

Throughout this school year, I will be dedicated to supporting our amazing teachers and staff as they provide engaging and innovative learning opportunities. Our shared goal is to nurture not only academic growth but also the social and emotional development of each student.

Please feel free to contact me at slee@everettsd.org whenever you have a need or a suggestion. I am here to listen and collaborate with you as we guide our students toward success. As we embark on this new chapter together, I am genuinely excited to meet you all. Whether you are returning families or new members of our community, your presence enriches the fabric of View Ridge Elementary. Wishing you a fantastic start to the school year and looking forward to a year of growth, learning, and accomplishment.

Warm regards, Ms. Amy Soeun Lee, Assistant Principal

From the Viking Staff:

PE Corner with Mr. Wheeler and Ms. King

Welcome to the start of a new school year! We hope this letter finds you well and filled with excitement for the upcoming academic journey. As the Physical Education teachers here at View Ridge Elementary, team PE (Ms. King and Mr. Wheeler) are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with your children and help them develop a lifelong love for physical fitness and well-being.



We strongly encourage your child to come to PE class prepared and dressed appropriately. They should wear comfortable clothing and supportive shoes that allow for safe movement.

An aspect of our PE program is the emphasis on character development and good sportsmanship. We will be focusing on our Viking values of **respect**, teamwork, **perseverance**, and **responsibility**. Through cooperative games, team challenges, and discussions, we will encourage your child to demonstrate and practice these essential life skills both inside and outside the gym. We believe that open communication between home and school is crucial for your child's success. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or feedback you may have throughout the year. We will also be sending monthly updates on the activities and skills covered in class in our Vikings Newsletter so that you can engage in meaningful conversations with your child about their physical education experiences.

Stay tuned for our exciting new bike safety curriculum (grades 3-5) that we will be rolling out in partnership with Cascade bicycle club in late October. We also look forward to kicking off our Fall Running Club beginning in October.

Let's have a fantastic year! Torrey Wheeler (twheeler@everettsd.org) Angela King (aking4@everettsd.org)

Library News with Ms. Peterson:



Welcome Back Families! It is going to be an awesome year! New books are abound in the View Ridge Library. There is nothing like the smell and feel of a new book and watching the excitement on a child's face. Help supply new books by purchasing a book for your child's birthday or ½ birthday.

The Birthday Book Club is a fun way to create a lasting memory for your family at View Ridge and endow our library with exciting new books. A Bright Orange BBC form is in your child's orientation forms packet. During the month of your child's birthday (or summer half-birthday), I 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 presented to the student in class so that he or she can be the first to read it before it is returned to the library collection for all to enjoy. Your child's contribution will also be acknowledged in the monthly school newsletter.



Shelf Elf applications will be offered to students in grades 3-5. Being a Shelf Elf is a big commitment like a job. Organizational skills are critical. If you are detail oriented, this may be a volunteer opportunity for you. A Shelf Elf possesses and demonstrates daily our Viking Values of Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Kindness, and Perseverance. Shelf Elves are needed before and after school. With your teacher's permission you can volunteer during your lunch recess too. The job responsibility is correctly re shelving books, so they can be easily found and rechecked out and keeping the library operating to its fullest potential.

Please tell me why you would like to be a Shelf Elf on the back and have your parents and teacher sign off. Last year's Shelf Elves need to re-apply. Applications are due by September 21st. The 2023-2024 Shelf Elves will be posted on the library door on the 25th. An orientation invitation will be sent to your teacher.

Thank you for showing an interest in being a Shelf Elf. Let me know if you have any questions.



Scholastic Book Fair Save the Dates: Nov. 10th- Nov. 17th, during conference week. More details to come.



Counselor's Corner with Mrs. Atrengenio

The 23-24 school year is almost upon us, let's get it started! There are a few tips I have learned over the years to make the transition back go a bit more smoothly. You might want to consider trying one or more if your child is feeling stress, reluctance, or worry around starting the new year.

- 1) Set aside some one-on-one time to truly hear how they are feeling and reassure them that whatever emotions they have are fine. When we listen without judgement students can feel how they feel, then move through the feeling without being stuck. You can then ask them how they would like to feel, and what could get them there.
- 2) Set a nighttime routine and stick to it as best you can. After some initial possible push back, kids will thrive having predictability in the evening.
- 3) Have them start a journal to jot down what happened and how they felt during the day. This quiet activity will help them become more reflective and see how their thoughts and feelings change throughout the year.
- 4) Build in down time after school or in the evening for the first few weeks. Their learning curve will be steep at school during this time and having down time (with the family if possible) will give them the reset they need to be ready for the next day.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like additional ideas or have any other concerns that I may be able to support. This year is going to be AWESOME!! Rhonda Atrengenio (ratrengenio@everettsd.org).

View Ridge Attendance Corner:

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 student is absent or tardy from school, please email every day the attendance office at vreattendance@everettsd.org or call at 425-385-5405 to let us know the reason for the absence or tardy.



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.

Community:

Everett Public Schools and View Ridge Elementary are on Twitter:

Please follow us at https://twitter.com/EPS_VRE to see photos and updates of the amazing work being done here!





2023-24 Student Art Calendar

The 2023-24 student art calendar is available online in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to download and printed at home. They will not be printed and distributed at the schools this year.



School meals for 2023-24



This school year, our school still qualifies as a [CEP school](#).

Families in our school get breakfast and lunches free, regardless of free and reduced lunch qualifications. Families at these schools **will fill out a household income report**, which will be emailed directly to you, in place of the free and reduced lunch application. This report is important to provide students access to free waivers and other services.

We are so excited to be able to use this program to offer free meals to the students in our district who may need some extra support and to all of our students, no matter where they learn, we will continue to offer nutritious and delicious meals that include seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables, scratch-made whole grain foods and lean proteins, with vegetarian and gluten free options too. There has never been a better time to eat school meals. We look forward to serving you soon.

EPS Appreciation Night with the Everett AquaSox!



Have fun kicking off the new school year as the Everett AquaSox take on the Eugene Emeralds at Funko Field on Saturday, Sep 9 at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are only \$8 and the AquaSox will donate \$2 per ticket to the Everett Public Schools Foundation.

Tickets must be purchased online to be discounted to \$8. Game day will be regular price of \$15 per ticket. Click <https://fevogn.com/event/Everettschool4> to purchase tickets and share with family and friends, the more the merrier.

Join us for some great family entertainment including Baseball Bingo! Play ball!

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.



World Language Assessments



Can your middle or high school student speak, read, write and understand a world language? Students in grades 7-12 can earn high school credit and special recognition through the World Language Assessment. Registration is open September 6 through October 31. **Register in your school office today!**

There will be only one window in the 2023-24 school year. Dates vary by school. *Scan QR code to learn more.*



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.

SBA scores released

Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) student scores are available for families & students in the Home Access Center (HAC). Families will also receive a hard copy in September.

Go to www.everettsd.org/SBAinformation to find tools for parents to understand those SBA scores.

How do I get the test scores? Under Quick Links, click How to view SBA scores for instructions. If you don't have a HAC account or have questions, contact

LMS@everettsd.org.

Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science scores will be released in September. They will be put in HAC as soon as they arrive, and Individual Student Score Reports will be sent home through the normal school channels.



Mark your calendar for upcoming fall flu clinics

Everett Public Schools will host two flu clinics this fall at the Community Resource Center located at 3900 Broadway on:

- Wednesday, September 20 from 3 to 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 24 from 2 to 6 p.m.

Please watch the district social media and website announcements for information regarding appointment times, insurance information, eligibility, etc.

Ways to stay connected

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

Visit our social media directory at www.everettsd.org/socialmediadirectory to follow along with school pages, district pages, teachers, clubs, student groups, and more. Stay connected with us to learn the latest news! We can't wait to see you there!



Everett Public Schools believes communication with parents and the community is very important. One resources available for families is our “Stay Connected” chart, which will show you the different ways you can regularly keep informed. Visit the communications overview page on the district’s website at www.everettsd.org/communications to download your copy.



Please also make sure your student’s school has your updated contact information so the district can communicate effectively with you.

Have you downloaded our mobile app?

News and information about our schools are as close as your smartphone. Download and log into the district app to access your student’s info quickly and easily. See top stories, Parent University, Canvas, books checked out from the library, and find the staff directory, school websites, calendars and more.

Available for Apple and Android devices and can be downloaded in 3 easy steps:

1. On your smartphone, go to the iTunes App Store® or Google Play®
2. Search **Everett Public Schools**
3. Then select our app for free download



Once you’ve downloaded the app, log in to “student info” with your LMS password to see student-specific information for each of your children. Read content in one of many languages available in the settings.

Harvest of the Month

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 cabbage patch soup or kale Caesar salad! 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 the district [website](#). Don’t kale my vibe!

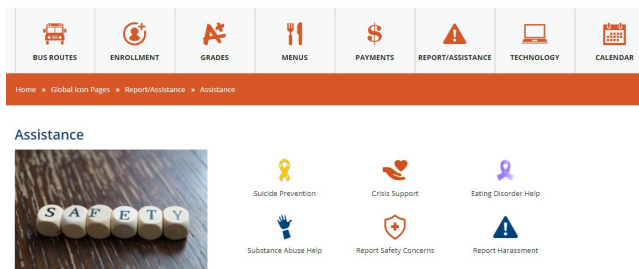


Accompanying kale this month are stone fruits, which can be found in the Garden Spot and include nectarines, peaches, apricots, plums and more! They have a thin skin and a “stone” in the center, called the pit or seed. Stone fruits can boost immunity, promote healthy nerves, muscles, bones and teeth.

Assistance icon on website

The district’s main webpage has an icon, “report/assistance,” with resources and assistance for students and families on:

- Suicide Prevention
- Crisis Support
- Eating Disorder Help
- Substance Abuse Help
- Report Safety Concerns
- Report Harassment
- Substance Abuse Trends
- Overdose Symptoms and Prevention





- Safe Storage of Medication
- Safe Storage of Firearms

ECEAP preschool accepting applications for 2023-24

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 provides family support and health and nutrition services. It is funded by the Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families.

The six ECEAP sites within our school district are Cedar Wood, Hawthorne, Jackson, Lowell, Madison, and Silver Lake elementary schools. We have both school-day classroom schedules and half-day (a.m. and p.m.) classroom schedules, depending on the school location. Space is limited – apply early! For an application or more information, please visit the [district ECEAP website](#) or call 425-385-4628.



Kids in Transition program



Kids in Transition (KIT) program supports students who qualify for two federal programs which provide support for children and youth whose housing is highly mobile: those who meet the more inclusive definition of homeless under the federal [McKinney-Vento Homeless Act](#) and those who are eligible for [Foster Care Education support](#). Students who are in foster care placement (where a child welfare agency has placement, care and authority) or those who are without a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence may qualify for this additional support. The KIT program works to eliminate barriers to students' academic success and extra-curricular involvement. We ensure

eligible students have access to free school meals, school supplies and uniforms. KIT may help students access extended day or summer school classes or coordinate access to additional academic support or tutoring when needed. The KIT Program may also cover, or coordinate waivers for, fees required to take part in activities such as school-sponsored sports, clubs, and required class fees. KIT can also help set up transportation for eligible students to maintain school stability, as long as the commute is feasible and in the best interest of the student. We also partner with the Family Resource Center and other community agencies to connect families and students to resources as needed.

Last year, Everett Public Schools served over 1,350 students through our KIT support at some time during the school year. For more information, visit www.everettsd.org/KIT to learn who your school's KIT support staff is; or contact the KIT Office at 425-385-4032.

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.





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. In August, the EPS Foundation delivered over 3,000 backpacks, filled with school supplies, and are making 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. Backpacks are available for pick up at each school.

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.

3 easy ways

Text or call

 855-637-2095

 1350@alert1.us

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

FOR
EMERGENCIES,
PLEASE CALL
911!

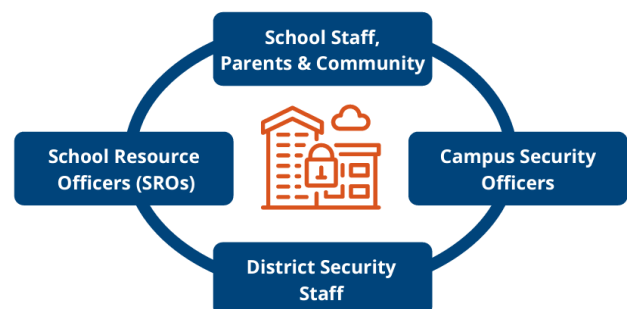
School safety begins with teamwork

Everett Public Schools recognizes that schools should be a place where our students, staff and community feel safe. Teamwork makes this possible. We employ security staff and school resource officers (SROs) who work collaboratively with our school communities to ensure safety and security across the district. Safety and security staff work to build healthy, positive relationships with our students, staff and community to ensure a safe school environment for learning.

Campus Security Officers (CSOs) perform checks of campuses during school hours to prevent unauthorized access, deter illegal activity, assist with investigations, assist with student supervision and share information with staff and students concerning safety measures

School Resource Officers (SROs) are police officers that serve secondary school campuses while schools are in session and partner with principals to improve safety by identifying, investigating, deterring and responding to incidents that present a significant threat to safety and security.

District Security Staff perform checks of campuses after hours and on weekends to prevent unauthorized access, ensure campuses are secure, deter illegal activity and respond to alarm notifications.





For more information, visit www.everettsd.org/safety.

Access to public records

The district's records may be requested by the public, and many records are fully or partially available for public viewing. As our business is most often about students, families, and staff, some of the information contained in certain records may be protected under federal and state privacy laws.

For additional information related to district [public records policy](#) and [procedures](#), including how to make a public records request, please visit our district public records webpage at <https://www.everettsd.org/publicrecords>.

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. To view or request copies of your own student's records, please [contact the office of the school your student attends](#).

Register to vote!

Registering to vote is easy. Visit the [Snohomish County webpage](#) for details on the three ways you can register to vote or update your registration or scan the QR code. Students who are 16 & 17 years old can now pre-register to vote.

You can sign up today, it's easy! Scan this QR code:



Job opportunities!

Everett Public Schools is hiring many positions. Please share with friends and family who may be interested in joining our team. Visit www.everettsd.org/jobs for jobs posted and how to apply.



3900 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201
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:

• Chad Golden
• 425-385-4100
• CGolden@everettsd.org
• PO Box 2098
• Everett, WA 98213

• Section 504 Coordinator:

• Dave Peters
• 425-385-4063
• DPeters@everettsd.org
• PO Box 2098
• Everett, WA 98213