

Whittier Wildcat News

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



June 2023

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10

From the Principal

Welcome to June and our final three weeks of the school year! I would first like to thank all families for your incredible partnership throughout the entire 2022-23 school year. Your support has been so important for the success of our students returning to a full in-person learning structure, so thank you for your commitment to ensure that your child attends school and is ready to learn every day! Our students have shown great determination, perseverance, grit, and a powerful growth mindset to keep pushing themselves to learn and improve. And they have shown great character in demonstrating ***“The Whittier Way” to Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Your Best.*** Thank you again for your amazing support. Let's finish strong in the month of June as we conclude the school year!

The Whittier Multi-Cultural Festival & Celebration of Learning is coming soon! This important school event will take place next Thursday, June 8th from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. It will be an opportunity to celebrate student learning with a cultural perspective tied to student work and student-led presentations in classrooms (1st -4th grades). The core component for this event will be the student-led classroom presentations, but we will have student cultural dance & musical performances in the cafeteria and cultural arts & crafts booths in the gym as well. There will also be several food truck vendors at Whittier to allow families to purchase meals (\$6-\$10 price range) and eat in the cafeteria during the performances in the cafeteria. The event structure will be broken into two 1-hour sessions. Here is the event schedule:

- Families with last names A-L: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Families with last names M-Z: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The month of June will be a busy period at Whittier so here are some of the important school-wide events to put on your calendars for the final three weeks of the school year:

- APEX Fun Run Fundraiser and Leadership Program Kick-off: June 5
- Whittier Cultural Festival: Tuesday, June 8 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- APEX Fun Run Day: Wednesday, June 14
- Kindergarten Celebration of Learning: Thursday, June 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Whittier
- 5th Grade Bridging Ceremony: Tuesday, June 20, at 6:30 p.m. at Whittier
- Whittier Field Day: Wednesday, June 21
- Last Day of School: Thursday, June 22 (12:20 p.m. Dismissal)

Everett Public Schools will not be providing summer school for elementary students this summer. However, they will be offering families a wide range of summer learning activities to help keep students engaged in summer learning, including access to iReady. Please visit the EPS [“Wild About Learning”](#) Summer Learning Opportunities page to learn about the summer learning options.

Thank you for your incredible partnership in supporting Whittier throughout the 2022-23 school year. It has been a great learning journey this year for our students and families, and we could not have done it without your support to ensure that our students have successful learning experiences every day. Have a great end to the school year and a wonderful summer!

-Tony Wentworth, Principal

Tony Wentworth

Principal
Whittier Elementary School
916 Oakes Avenue,
Everett, WA 98201
www.everettsd.org/whittier

June 2

LIF Day – 1:35 pm dismissal

June 5

APEX Fun Run Fundraiser begins

June 8

Whittier Multi-Cultural Festival
5:30-7:30 PM in Cafeteria

June 9

Reduced Student Day-
12:20 dismissal

June 14

APEX Fun Run in morning

June 15

Kindergarten Celebration of
Learning 6:30-7:30 PM in Cafeteria

June 16

LIF Day – 1:35 pm dismissal

June 20

Fifth Grade Bridging Ceremony
6:30-7:45 PM in Cafeteria

June 21

Whittier Field Day

June 22

Last Day of School- 12:20 PM
dismissal



AP Corner

I want to give a huge shout out and thank you to our Natural Leaders Parents, in particular **Suzet Tave**, **Erika Alfaro**, and **Kim Rios** and our Natural Leaders Whittier teachers, **Elisabeth Hull** and **Carrie Franco** for dedicating themselves to this leadership group and helping to organize our Noche en Español, The Natural Leaders Family Fun Night and Potluck, and our upcoming Multicultural Festival on June 8th! Thank you so much for your wisdom and leadership as we work to make Whittier a more equitable and welcoming place for all!

Our Natural Leaders parent leadership group is focused on giving a voice to our multicultural families here at Whittier and ensuring equity and access for all students. Please join us next year as we continue on our path to equity!

-Allison MacGregor Fornes, Assistant Principal



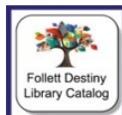
Whittier Library

June 2023 Library News

Dear Whittier Families,

Our spring book fair and art walk was a success last month! The book fair is our main source of funding for new library books. I have enjoyed purchasing lots of books from our student wish list and other engaging options for students to check out. Thank you!

This summer the Whittier library will not have open hours for check out. Students reading chapter books can ask me to borrow a book for the summer from some options that are not in the library catalog system. Students can also log into our Destiny Discover catalog over the summer to enjoy electronic book options and the SORA app. Have them access from my library website. Click on the Destiny tree icon, click login, click blue bar and enter student username and password.



[districtid at apps.everettsd.org](https://apps.everettsd.org)

Or use your Follett account:

Mrs. Heininger
Whittier Librarian
sheininger@everettsd.org
(425) 385-4308

Check out our district learning opportunities this summer! New activities will be available each week. I encourage families to also visit the Everett Public Library in person or online for a variety of options including their reading incentive program.

<https://www.epls.org/417/Summer-Reading>



Last day for check out is Friday, June 2nd.



- Students are encouraged to keep their library books longer so they can finish reading.
- Please help your student look for missing books to avoid unnecessary fines!
- Reach out to Mrs. Heininger for ways to replace lost books. We want students to have a fresh start next fall!



Whittier PTA



Hello, Wildcats,

We are closing the school year with a bang! Our first event in June is the **Multi-Cultural Family Fun Night** on June 8th. Thank you to our Natural Leaders and student presenters for planning this.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year, the Apex Fun-Run, kicks off the week of June 5th. We love the Apex company for the hours and hours of time they spend with your students over the course of 2 weeks, teaching them helpful character traits. The fundraiser supports the PTA general fund which goes towards many incredible Whittier programs like uniform assistance, classroom supplies, teacher grants, field trip and assembly funding and all of our fun after school events. The Apex event closes

with the student fun run on June 14th. Look out for the chance to volunteer that day.

Thank you to Erin Sylvester, Tiffany Nash and the many volunteers that made our Book Fair and Art Walk such a fun and successful event in May. Every student had their art represented thanks to the efforts of our incredible volunteer art docents. The book fair sold 843 books, raising about \$2300 for our Whittier library.

We would love to invite you and your students to our last PTA meeting of the school year on Monday, June 12th at Legion Memorial Park from 6-7:30pm. We will have snacks and drinks to share and just enjoy each other's company and watching our kids play on the playground.

The final event of the school year is Field Day on June 21st. It is a day of fun where every grade gets time outside to play games, get their face painted and enjoy some treats. To pull this off, we need **A LOT** of volunteers. Because it's during the school day, you must be a district approved volunteer. Sign up here to get that process started: <https://www.everettsd.org/domain/1452>

The end of this school year also closes out my time as your PTA president. It has been an absolute honor to serve our teachers, students, and families alongside you all. I am so grateful for this Whittier community. After 7 years, this is also the end of my family's time at Whittier Elementary. My children and I have been so blessed to thrive here and make wonderful memories thanks to our administration, teachers, and families. I wish you the very, very best as we tell our graduating 5th graders: Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat!

In community,
Sareh Hunt
Whittier PTA President

Whittier Watch D.O.G.S.



Are you a dad or father figure looking for a way to make a meaningful impact in your child's life? Look no further than the Watch D.O.G.S. program at Whittier Elementary School - it is the most wonderful thing you can do for your child!

As a Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer, you will have the opportunity to be a positive male role model for your child and their peers, create a safer school environment, and assist teachers in the classroom. Imagine the look on your child's face as they see you at school, playing games with them during

recess, and helping out in the classroom.

Your involvement as a Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer will not only create lasting memories for you and your child but also have a significant impact on their education and well-being. Studies have shown that children who have positive male role models in their lives are more likely to have higher self-esteem, better academic outcomes, and improved social skills.

So, why wait? Sign up today for a day with Watch D.O.G.S. at Whittier Elementary School and give your child the gift of a lifetime - a positive male role model who cares about their education and safety. Scan the QR code for more info!





Information from Nurse Shannon

Do you know children in our area who are:

- Hungry? Homeless? Vulnerable? Hurting? Under-resourced? Receiving inadequate health care?

If the answer is “no,” I’d be completely shocked. Sadly, the children living within our school district and within Snohomish County as a whole are severely impacted by all of these societal issues. The good news? There are resources available for these kiddos within nearly a mile of our school!

Bethany Compassion Center is located at 1421 Broadway, and their mission is to SERVE. “**The Bethany Compassion Center** exists to minister to the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of people throughout our community by bringing hope to the vulnerable and care to the marginalized.”

Some of the statistics Bethany shared recently were staggering:

- 1 in 6 Washington kids live in a household that struggles putting enough food on the table
- Snohomish County identified 1,184 people experiencing homelessness in 2022, the highest count in 10 years
- The number of single parents struggling to pay for food and housing utilities has doubled since 2019
- More than one half million people in Washington State do not have access to adequate health, dental, or counseling care
- An estimated 59,484 residents in Snohomish County are living below the federal poverty line, making less than \$24,860 per year.

How is the **Bethany Compassion Center** helping meet these needs?

- Weekend food bags for Everett School District students
- Emergency food pantry
- Manna Project (NEW!!) – Every family moving into the new Madrona Square apartments (helping 67 local families transitioning from homelessness) will receive a generous bag of groceries delivered to their door upon moving in and at least quarterly, with the goal of being able to increase the frequency to monthly.
- Teen Challenge Partnership: Helping teens recover from drug and/or alcohol addiction
- Coats and toiletries accessible to those in need
- A laundry program
- Snacks 4 Kids: Providing healthy snacks to single-parent families
- Hand in Hand Partnership: Supporting kids in emergency foster care
 - Cancer Care Program
- ESL Classes & Career Success Workshops (helping people develop resumes and interviewing skills)
- Rent & Utility assistance
- Holiday Outreach Programs such as Christmas, Thanksgiving, and Easter with gifts and food

And, beginning *June 22*– through a partnership with **Lahai Health**, a local faith-based organization, there will be a WEEKLY mobile medical clinic present at Bethany Compassion Center. This mobile clinic will provide FREE health care services and will be available to the uninsured.

SAVE THE DATE!!!! On **August 12, 2023**, Bethany Compassion Center will be hosting the SUMMER BASH again this year. This program helps provide resources to local families with school supplies, groceries, and more! In years past, there have been backpacks handed out, a free lunch, bouncy houses, and even coupons for free back-to-school haircuts!

If your family or a family you know needs help please reach out to Bethany Compassion Center at 425-512-9696, or, by completing a form here: <https://forms.fellowshipone.com/?formId=2eff7d3f-edfb-4495-bbe2-d89bce866c96>

In addition, we have many other incredible organizations and services locally:

- 1) **Hand in Hand** serves children and *families* in crisis through outreach and foster *support* services for foster *families*
- 2) **Cocoon House** helps to empower young people & families to break the cycle of homelessness through outreach, housing, and prevention.
- 3) **Housing Hope** helps to promote and provide affordable housing and tailored services to reduce homelessness and poverty for residents of Snohomish County and Camano Island.
- 4) **Boys & Girls Club** – Helps to provide more affordable, safe childcare, activities, programs & even meals to its members.
- 5) **Clothes for Kids** – Provides students and their families the opportunity to choose a personalized wardrobe at NO cost.
- 6) **Operation School Bell** – Provides new school clothes to children in need
- 7) **Dawson Place** – Provides a safe place for children that are victims of abuse to receive the help they need for recovery. Compassionate care, advocates, medical/mental health professionals, professional law enforcement support & more!
- 8) **Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County** provides emergency shelter & comprehensive, confidential services to all victims of domestic abuse.

As always, please don’t hesitate to contact your school nurse, Shannon Leach, for any concerns, needs, or advice! sleach@everettsd.org



Summer learning activities

Everett Public Schools looks forward to another successful year of summer learning. This year's theme is "Wild About Learning." Please check out the [Summer Opportunities](#) website for the following activities:

- Engage in each week's new science, math, reading and writing activities
- Read good books
- Participate in community library programs
- Access iReady for reading and math digital lessons
- Track your participation so next fall you can tell your teacher about your summer learning

Summer meals

Every summer when school ends, millions of children and teens are at risk of going hungry without access to the free or reduced-price meals they receive in school. The USDA's **Summer Food Service Program** (SFSP) provides free healthy meals to children and teens in communities with high rates of poverty. For more than 30-years, Everett Public Schools (EPS) Food & Nutrition Professionals have been serving summer meals to all children up to 18-years old. This year EPS will be partnering with a variety of new community organizations to offer free meals from July 5 – August 18. Check in with our [website](#) regularly to find out which parks, libraries, community centers will be providing complimentary meals all summer long.

Stay connected over the summer

We invite all Everett Public Schools families, students, friends, and community members to follow our social media sites including YouTube. On our main district [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages, you will find emergency district communications, photos, videos, event postings, content highlighting students and staff and accomplishments.

Visit our social media directory at www.everettsd.org/socialmediadirectory to follow 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!

When does school end this year?

The last day of school this year is Thursday, June 22, and will be early release for all students. June 16 is the last day of school for seniors.

Graduation dates

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming high school graduations in June. Ceremony details will be shared soon from individual schools.



- Sequoia High School, June 15, 6 p.m. at Civic Auditorium
- Jackson High School, June 17 at 11 a.m. at The Angel of the Winds Arena
- Everett High School, June 17 at 3 p.m. at The Angel of the Winds Arena
- Cascade High School, June 17 at 7 p.m. at The Angel of the Winds Arena

Preliminary scores release

Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) preliminary scores will be coming soon and will be available in the online Home Access Center (HAC). These scores will be released by grade level once 95% of the grade level's results are in, to ensure scores are accurate and stable. Families will also receive a hard copy in the fall. Go to www.everettsd.org/SBAinformation to learn more.



- **How do I get the test scores?**

Under Quick Links, click [How to view SBA scores for instructions](#). If you do not have a HAC account or have questions, contact LMS@everettsd.org.

- **Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science scores**

These assessments are scored over the summer and will be available in the fall.

Music4Life

The Music4Life Everett Booster Club, which supports Everett School District's ongoing commitment to instrumental music across the district. These instruments are donated to Music4Life, refurbished by our repair partners and then distributed throughout the district wherever there's a need. If you have an instrument you'd like to donate, contact info@Music4Life.org or go to www.Music4Life.org to learn how to make a tax-deductible donation to support music programs in Everett Public Schools.

Stuff the Bus is coming!



With the support of our generous community, the Everett Public Schools Foundation is hosting its 14th annual Stuff the Bus for Kids school supply drive. This year the need is greater than ever. We need your help to deliver over **2,900 backpacks** to Everett Public Schools students and families this fall. Look for collection bins at local businesses during August and look for big yellow Durham school buses parked outside Fred Meyer in Mill Creek and QFC on Evergreen Way Aug. 11-13. For questions, please contact Kirsten Hansen at khansen@everettsd.org.

Vaccinations for next year

Now is the time to plan for the vaccinations your child may need before they return next fall. We encourage you to obtain these vaccinations as soon as possible and provide documentation to your child's school health room staff. Providing this information before the new school year will help you avoid getting calls and letters as well as the potential exclusion from school in the fall. As a reminder, students entering 7th grade usually require a Tdap booster before they can start school. More information can be found on the district's [immunizations webpage](#).

School supply lists



Looking to get a jump start on next year's school supplies this summer? You can find the school supply list on our website under the *Our Schools* tab around the last week of school.

Kindergarten registration is open

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2023? Registration is open. You can complete enrollment forms for kindergarten [online](#)! A [step-by-step parent walkthrough video](#) is also available as a resource.

Family Resource Center

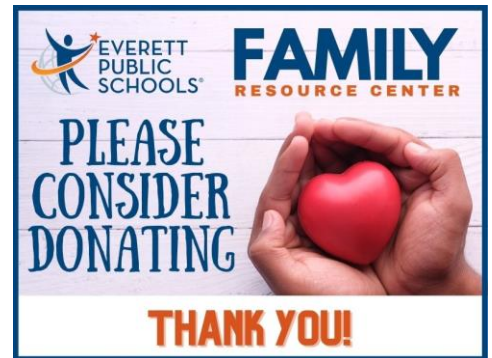
Everett School District's [Family Resource Center](#) (FRC), which is part of our Categorical Kids in Transition (KIT) Program, is celebrating the completion of its' first full school year in operation. The FRC mainly serves EPS families experiencing homelessness or housing instability, supporting them while they navigate the various social service programs in the community.

The FRC serves as a hub for a limited supply of donated basic needs items and provides a welcoming space for our students and families to receive support, have some basic needs met and connect to school and community resources. Families are identified and referred to the FRC by KIT building point people located in each school throughout the district.

Since its' inception, FRC staff has built valuable partnerships with many community agencies, which has helped to better serve Everett Public Schools' families. As of mid-May, the FRC has connected almost 200 families to community resources, 60 families specifically to housing services, supplied over 100 families with basic needs items (including clothing, hygiene items and diapers) and distributed over 1,000 pounds of food.

Please consider donating to help keep the shelves of the EPS Family Resource Center filled.

- View and purchase from the [list of needs](#)
- Donations ordered online can be shipped to: Family Resource Center c/o Hawthorne Elementary, 1110 Poplar St., Everett 98201
- Monetary donations can be made online at [Everett Public Schools \(intouchrecepting.com\)](#) select "Everett School District Office" under School and for now the activity auto populates with Family Resource Center





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:**

• Kevin Allen
• 425-385-4100
• KAllen@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

ADA Coordinator:

Randi Seaberg
425-385-4104
RSeaberg@everettsd.org
PO Box 2098
Everett, WA 98213