

Kenmore Elementary Paw Prints

December 2019

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to December!

It's a lovely time of the year, especially at school. We are fresh off of conferences and appreciate the partnership that continues to develop between student, teacher and family. While some teachers met with families in September, the focus was more on beginning the partnership. Now, as a result of conferences, my hope is continued reciprocity between teachers and families to collaborate around goals, needs, progress and successes. Teachers have come to know students much better as people and learners, which only enhances their rapport, increases expectations and supports students in cultivating resiliency and taking risks.

In the fall, some families shared their thoughts to inform the school-to-home partnership, based on 1) our strategic action plan in math and prosocial skill development, and 2) in response to our district-wide parent input survey. While this may be long, I wanted to model transparency and enclose below a synthesis of the responses in both goal areas so that families can see similarities and differences in the feedback. While administration has already begun to take into account and act on the data, our next steps are to look at the responses as a leadership team to inform our decisions and actions as a school team, and discuss this in greater depth with PTA and other interested parents/guardians.

Community Partnership Survey Synthesis

Goal 2: Prosocial Skills & Resiliency

Supporting Students with Social Emotional Skills

Helpful at School...

- o Communication with families
- o Counselors teaching lessons
- o Social Skills curriculum
- o Teachers support problem-solving
- o Positive Discipline and shared language

Helpful at Home...

- o Talking things out
- o Talking about real life situations
- o Modeling healthy relationships
- o Discussing and naming emotions

- o Reading books and listening to songs
- o Movies and TV shows
- o Play acting/role playing and play
- o Giving choices
- o Teaching coping skills
- o Preparing ahead of time
- o Learning from peers
- o Walking through steps
- o Being patient!

Important Considerations to Promote Respect and Resilience

- Trust and believe in students
- Create a bond with each child
- Make students feel safe
- Know it looks different for every family
- Meet students where they are
- Celebrate small victories
- Let students know strengths and growth areas
- Take care in communicating mistakes
- Teach rules and what is expected
- Teach staff what resilience looks like out the outside and inside
- Teach staff about introverted and extroverted learners
- Transparency

Growing Our Partnership

- Positive reinforcement
- Continue introducing tools
- Communicate Tell us your focus so we can reinforce it at home
- Follow up with parents after incidences to compare home to school response
- Communicate with parents about: goals, curriculum, lessons/instruction, concerns, celebrations, challenges, successes, changes in behavior and how kids are doing
- Giving teachers the opportunity to have conferences at the beginning of the year
- Collaboration on goals between school and home
- Fighting for elementary counselors
- Promote positive parenting
- Increase supervision

Goal 3: MATH

Supporting Students to Develop Math Skills

- Helpful at School & Home....
- o Seeing and saying numbers
- o Games and play
- o Repetition
- o Using Manipulatives
- o Hands on learning
- o Physical motions
- o Make it fun
- o Make it relevant and useful
- o Real-world math
- o Ongoing practice
- o Understanding patterns
- o Worksheets & Homework
- o Integrating math in all subjects

o Patience

Important Considerations for Math

- Supporting every child at their level
- Spend time on vocabulary
- Talk about the utility of math
- Provide hands-on opportunities, continuous practice
- Only send work students can do on their own
- Give advance notice or real time notice of topics being taught
- Joy! Let students love math and have fun
- Give encouragement and address frustration at new skills
- Clear and ongoing communication home

Growing our Partnership

- Communicate how the lesson is taught and how to keep conversations going at home
- Continue sending instruction sheet on new math topics introduced for parent learning and guidance
- Ask me if I feel my child is being challenged or needs support
- Share goals for improvement, processes and tips
- Provide ideas for and send games home, not more worksheets
- Offer access to math practice portals
- Offer ways to practice math in creative ways, home projects, applied math
- Offer harder work
- Not sure

Thank you for your partnership! As always, we commit to continued efforts to create positive experiences and increase positive learning outcomes for each Kenmore Cub.

Mrs. Riley

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 3 - PTA Meeting, 7:00pm, library

Dec 4 - Early Release, 2:05pm

Dec 10 - Winter Multicultural Concert, 6:30pm, gym

Dec 11 - Early Release, 2:05pm

Dec 12 - Popcorn Thursday

Dec 13 - Spirit Day: Comfy Day!

Dec 18 - Early Release, 2:05pm

Dec 20 - Recognition Assembly, 2:55pm, gym

Dec 23 - Jan 3 - WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL

Jan 6 - Welcome back to school!

SCHOOL OFFICE REMINDERS

Daily School Schedule

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9:05am – 3:35pm

Early Release Wednesday: 9:05am – 2:05pm

No student drop off before 8:45am

There is no supervision on campus until 8:45am.

After 8:45am student may be dropped off for breakfast or morning recess.

Attendance

Washington State Law requires parents/guardians to inform the school of student absences. Please report your child's absence/tardy including the reason before 10:00am by leaving a message on the school attendance phone line at 425-408-4810. Student absences need to be reported in writing, by phone, or in person to the school once. In addition, absences not excused within two days of the absence are considered unexcused absences.

Change in After School Plans

Without a note, your child will not be able to make a change from his/her daily routine. If you forgot to send a note, please call the once as early in the day as possible. Calling late in the day is disruptive to the classroom since it requires the once to interrupt during learning time.

Early Student Pick Up

Your child's participation in the entire school day is important to their growth and success. Please do not pick your child up early unless absolutely necessary. Please do your best to schedule routine medical and dental appointments before or after school. In the event that you do need to pick your child up early, please notify the teacher in writing ahead of time. When picking up the child, please come to the main once to sign your child out and have them called to come to the once to meet you. Only adults on your child's emergency contact list may pick up your child in your absence. Be sure to bring photo ID with you to the once.

Dismissal

The school day ends at 3:35pm, and 2:05pm on Early Release Wednesdays. Please arrive on time to pick your child up at the end of the day. Students who have not be picked up by 3:50pm will be brought into the once for once staff to call parents and then emergency contacts to ensure someone is coming for pick up.

BUS PASSES

The Transportation Department allows 2 passes per bus, per day. Please send bus pass requests to the office in writing first thing in the morning on the day the pass is needed.

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING

Thank you for sending your children to school with proper outdoor attire. Students need to stay dry and warm so that they can return from recess and quickly concentrate on learning. In addition, in the event of an unplanned emergency drill, students may have to stand outside for a lengthy amount of time. It is important that they are always prepared for such situations.

WINTER MULTICULTURAL CONCERT

Tuesday, December 10th at 6:30pm.

The fourth graders will be featured in a Winter Multicultural concert in the gym! The 5th grade ensemble will also be performing some special songs! It will be a great night of music and dancing! See you then!

FROM THE COUNSELORS

Happy December everyone! Here is an update on the school counselor program at Kenmore Elementary.

We, Ms. Nunes and Mr. Taylor, have been working on increasing student access to school counselors per Goal 2 of the School Action Plan. At the beginning of the year, we focused our work on teaching classroom lessons on conflict resolution and bully prevention to every student. The students were all taught the 3 R's (Recognize, Report, Refuse) of bully prevention.

We have finished our classroom lessons. We are now turning our attention to targeted interventions. The interventions consist of mentorship, running small groups and individual counseling. Please contact us if you have any questions about these targeted interventions! Thanks!

Samantha Nunes

snunes@nsd.org

Every Tues and Thurs

425.408.4816

Grades K-2

Adam Taylor

ataylor@nsd.org

Every Mon, Tues and every other Wed

425.408.4826

Grades 3-5

THANK YOU!!

On Thursday, November 7th, our PTA provided a delicious variety of soups, stews, salads and sweet treats for Kenmore Staff. Thank you so much, the food was delicious and our staff felt so appreciated!!

Our Book Fair was a huge success!

Thank you to all our Book Fair volunteers: Cathy Sherlock, Jessie Lewis, Erin Quinn, Elisabeth Lepine, Patty Brown, Jen Pierson, Kate Kolesar, Stephanie Hawthorne, Barbara Shea, Kira Dorrian, Charel Elvig, Kori Dunaway, Stacey Bernethy, Tiah Sees, Tracy Silva, Mandy Aley, and Liz Abersold! We couldn't have done it without you.

CLOSURES AND DELAYS

Emergency and weather-related problems can alter school schedules and affect bus transportation for students.

The district uses an automated message system to quickly send alerts to families. In the event of a school or district emergency, the district will contact families and staff using one or more of the following options: phone call, text message, email and/or push notification. In addition, the district will provide emergency information via web postings, recorded information lines and social media postings. Early morning notifications will be sent as early as 6 a.m., if possible.

If no schedule changes are posted, schools and buses are operating on normal schedules.

Notifications will only work if your contact information is current in the student records system. Please update your contact information annually with your student's school. You may also download our

mobile app. Instructions are available on our [mobile app page](#).

FIND OUT IMMEDIATELY

Here are ways to find out if schools will be delayed or closed:

- local radio and television stations provide district/school information on a continuing basis beginning around 5 a.m. Since conditions vary from one district to another, it is very important to listen for mention of **Northshore School District #417**.
- FlashAlert.net - a self subscription to the Puget Sound Emergency Message System
- Our District Home Page
- Northshore School District Information Line (425) 408-6001 (a recorded message line)
- Your school's main phone number, when the voicemail service answers, press option "9"
- Our [mobile app](#)

EMERGENCY/INCLEMENT WEATHER MAKE UP DAYS

If emergency/inclement weather school closures occur, make-up days will be added to the end of the school year.

Northshore School District prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, sex, marital status, genetic information, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or 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, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification, in all its employment procedures, training, programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged unlawful discrimination: Doug Hale, Human Resources Director, 3330 Monte Villa Parkway, Bothell, WA 98021, (425) 408-7606.



