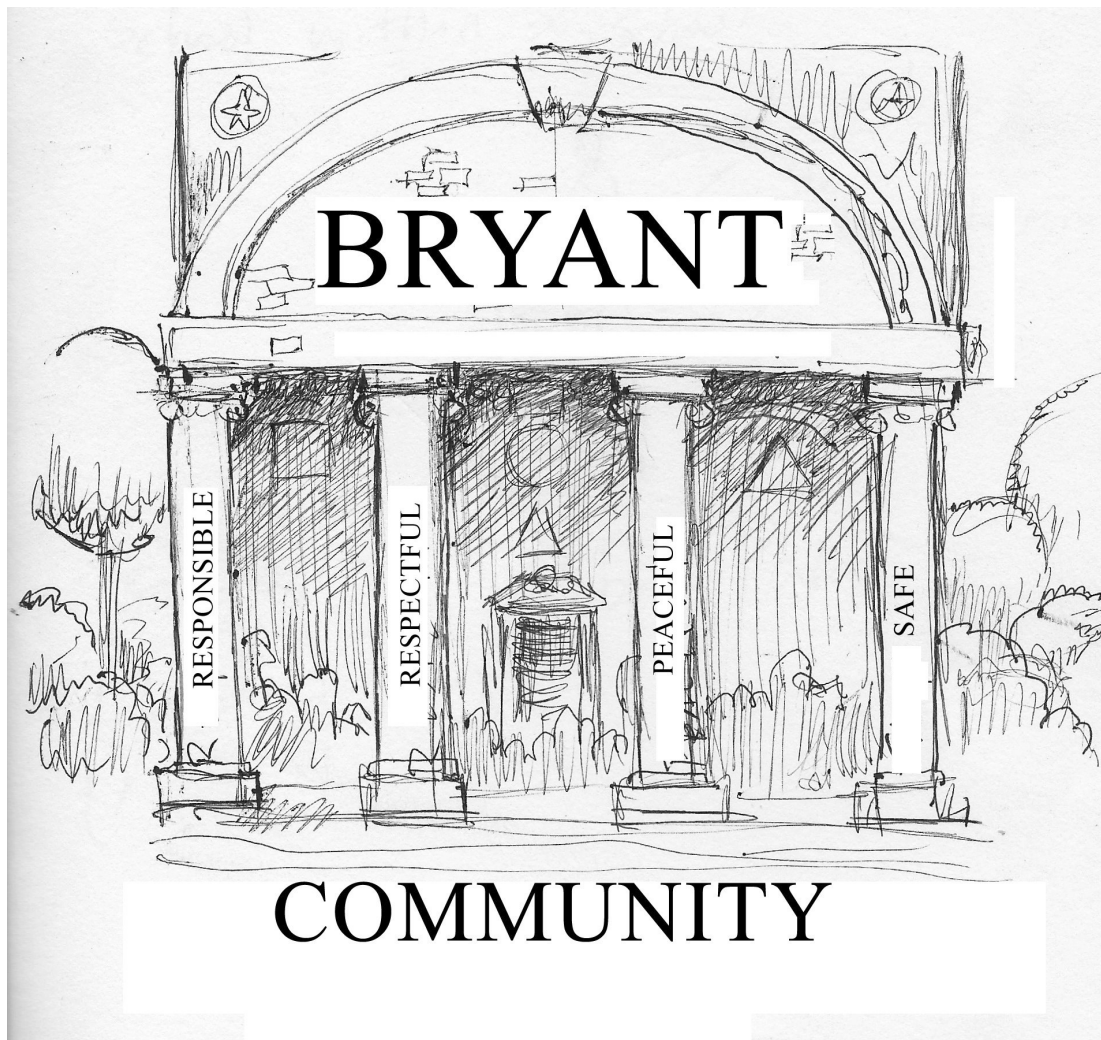


# Bryant Montessori School



**Parent and Student Handbook  
2019-2020**

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Dear Bryant Families,

Welcome to Bryant Montessori! We are excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to our continued pursuit of building community and learners that own the ability to care for themselves, each other, and this place.

The entire staff at Bryant is passionate in its belief in Montessori pedagogy, which has provided a “unity of purpose” for us in our work with children and each other. The professionalism and dedication of the faculty is extraordinary.

We teach three simple rules at Bryant. They govern all that we teach, expect and encourage in our students. The three rules are:

Care for yourself, care for each other, and care for this place

We use these rules as a guide when we teach social emotional learning and regulation. Bryant is dedicated to developing the whole child; mind, body, and soul.

Montessori classrooms are designed to facilitate independent learning and exploration. We strive to create bright, warm and inviting classes. Students are found scattered around the classroom, working alone or with one or two others. Students of differing ages are often found working together.

We are proud to be Washington’s only PK-8th grade public Montessori school and we invite you to become an active member of our community.

The Staff of Bryant Montessori School



## Bryant: A Brief History

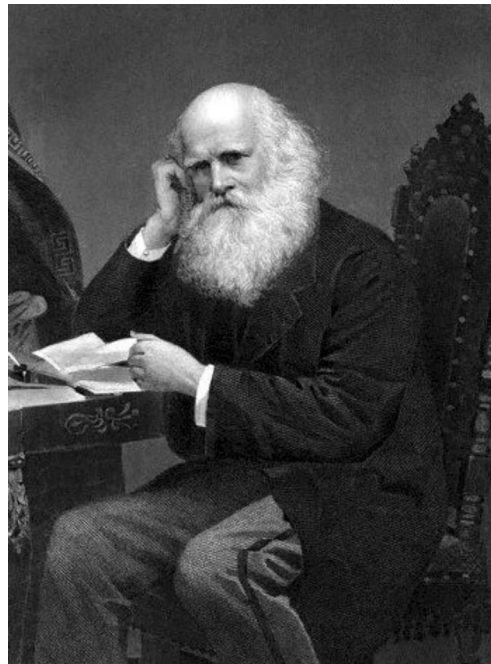
The original Bryant Elementary school was built in 1891 and named after the local journalist and poet, William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878). Finding the building falling into disrepair, the current building has been located in the Hilltop Community at South 8th and Grant since 1962. It continued to be an elementary school until 1998 when it was given a Federal Magnet Grant and began the transition to a public Montessori school.



### Thanatopsis (an excerpt)

By William Cullen Bryant

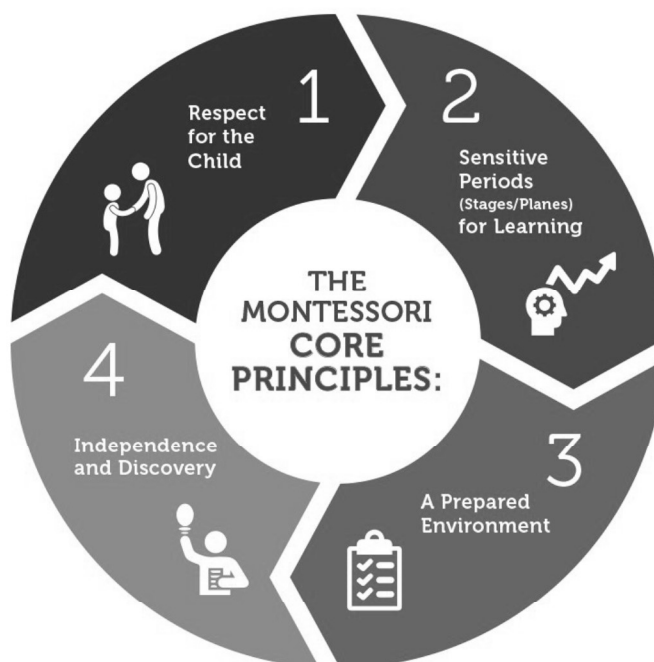
To him who in the love of Nature holds  
Communion with her visible forms, she speaks  
A various language; for his gayer hours  
She has a voice of gladness, and a smile  
And eloquence of beauty, and she glides  
Into his darker musings, with a mild  
And healing sympathy, that steals away  
Their sharpness, ere he is aware. When thoughts  
Of the last bitter hour come like a blight  
Over thy spirit, and sad images  
Of the stern agony, and shroud, and pall,  
And breathless darkness, and the narrow house,  
Make thee to shudder, and grow sick at heart;—  
Go forth, under the open sky, and list  
To Nature's teachings, while from all around—  
Earth and her waters, and the depths of air—  
Comes a still voice—



## What is Montessori Education?

Dr. Maria Montessori first designed Montessori Education over one hundred years ago in Italy. Her philosophy calls to respect every child and provide that child a well prepared learning environment to encourage intellectual, emotional, and physical development in a noncompetitive classroom where each child is allowed choice in what they work on. Classrooms are set into houses; Children's House, Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary, and Middle School. These houses are arranged based on the Planes of Development defined by Dr. Montessori.

1. **Respect the child** - A holistic approach allows each child to experience the joy of learning, allows the time to enjoy the process, and ensures the development of self-esteem. It provides the experiences from which children create their own knowledge.
2. **Planes of Development** - There are four planes. Early childhood, ages 0-6, is the 1st plane and focuses on the Individual Creation of the Person. The 2nd plane is the Construction of the Intelligence for ages 6-12. The Construction of Social Self is the 3rd plane, ages 12-18. The 4th plane, ages 18+, is Construction of Self Understanding.
3. **Prepared Environment** - The environment, or classroom, is made ready for the child. It is carefully designed to assist and encourage the natural development of the child.
4. **Independence and Discovery** - Children are guided to develop a love of learning and self-confidence. Children engage in tasks that appeal to them and have been designed so that each new step is built upon what the child has mastered.



## **Bryant Mission Statement**

To develop independent life-long learners who are compassionate, peaceful citizens and who contribute to a global community. Using the Montessori philosophy, we provide a peaceful, enriched educational environment in which each child is personally encouraged to grow up to his or her fullest potential academically, socially, and emotionally.

## **Bryant Vision Statement**

Using the Montessori philosophy, we provide a peaceful, rigorous educational environment in which each child is encouraged to grow to his or her fullest potential academically, socially and emotionally.



## **Bryant Motto**

*Care for yourself,  
Care for each other,  
and  
Care for this place.*

# Bryant Montessori.



Care for Yourself ~ Care for Each Other ~ Care for This Place

**Brave**

Following your conscience instead of the crowd.

**Empathetic**

The feeling that you understand and share another person's experiences and

**Aware**

Being mindful of yourself and the world around you.

**Responsible**

To carry out a duty or task carefully and thoroughly; to be counted on, dependable, and trusted

**Safe**

Managing strong feelings and emotions and thinking twice about the impact of your actions on others.

## General Information

### Class Configuration

As a public Montessori program, our class configurations have changed over the years in order to meet the needs of the students we serve. Starting with the 2019-2020 school year, we have broken our Middle School into two separate programs; the 6th grade Bridge Program and a 7th and 8th grade Secondary Montessori.

The 6th grade Bridge Program allows sixth graders the ability to flourish in an appropriate setting and build on their surface understanding of social situations and secondary academics. It also allows them to collaborate with Upper Elementary students, as well as the higher grade levels. Please contact the school for more information.



### **Our School Day**

**Breakfast: 8:30 AM      Outdoor Supervision Begins: 8:40 AM      School Starts: 9:00 AM**

**Dismissal: 3:40 PM**

- ♦ Students and families may line up in their class lines starting at 8:40. Middle school students gather near the mural on the portable and the basketball court. This is a time to prepare for the day, not a time to use playground equipment. Students are escorted into the building at 8:50 AM.
- ♦ Dismissal is from the playground. Any students not picked up by 3:50 will be in the main office to be checked out by their parent, guardian, or other adult with the authority to pick up.
- ♦ Students riding buses meet in the gym and are escorted to the bus zone by staff.

### **Attendance**

- ♦ The single greatest factor contributing to school success is attendance. Every day counts.
- ♦ Please call 253-571-2800 before 9:30 AM on each day that your child is absent.
- ♦ Notes signed by a parent/guardian are also accepted to excuse an absence and may be turned into the office
- ♦ We are required by law RCW28A.225.010 to report both unexcused and excused absences great than 2 in a month or 10 in a year. A conference will be scheduled to work to reduce absences.
- ♦ We encourage families to schedule vacations around our school schedule, but we realize this is not always possible. Please contact the office at least a week in advance if you have a planned absence greater than a week, so that our staff can provide homework for the time that you are absent.

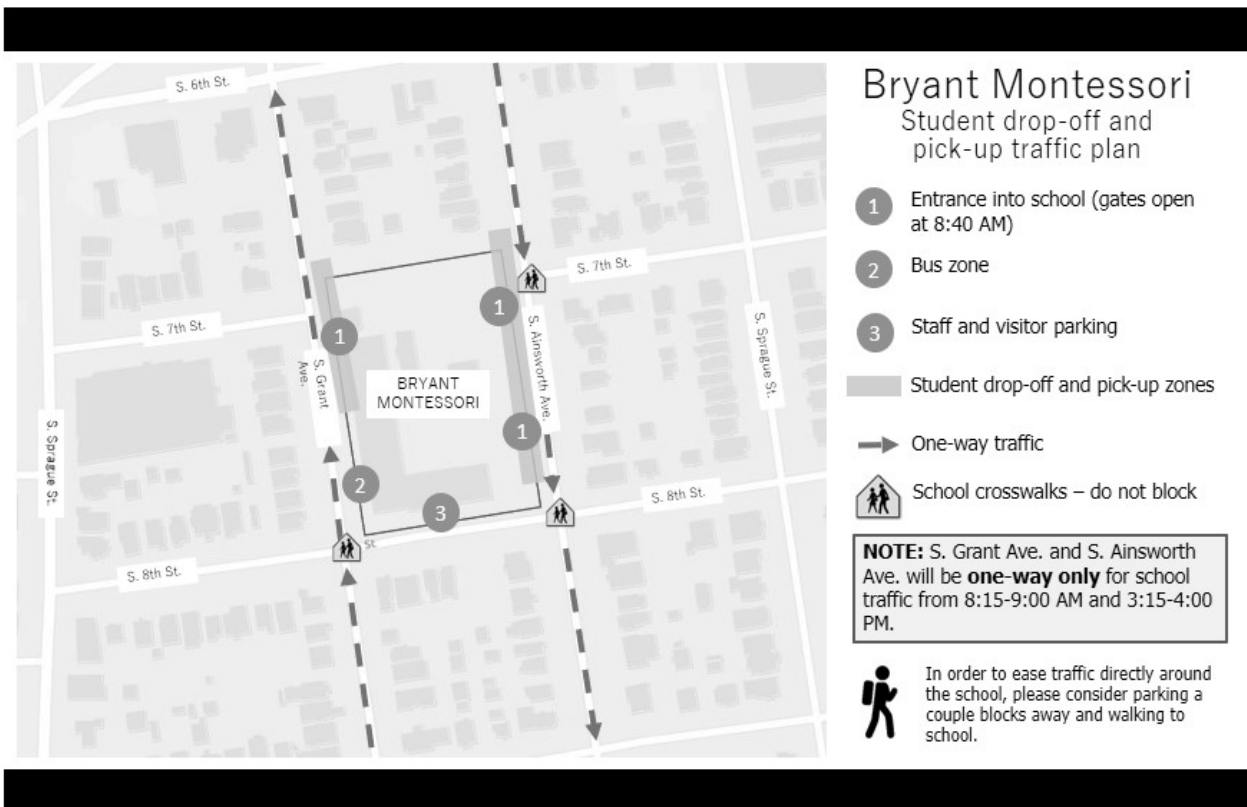
### **When You are Tardy**

- ♦ We all run late from time to time, if students arrive late to school, they must check in at the office. Students can order a hot lunch and will need a tardy slip before heading to class. Tardies may be excused for a variety of reasons. Please let the office know if the tardy needs to be excused when you drop off your child.
- ♦ If your child is late by 90 or more minutes, it will be considered a half day absence.

## Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up Traffic Plan

Student safety is one of our biggest priorities at Bryant. We have a new traffic plan to allow better traffic flow and smoother arrival and departure of our students. Please follow the traffic plan and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

*Please note that South Grant and South Ainsworth are now both one-way between 8:15-9:00 and 3:15-4:00 .*



### **Late Start Days-Second Wednesday of every month**

Supervision Begins: 11:40 AM      School Starts: 12:00 PM      Dismissal 3:40 PM

Thanks to continued support of our parent, district officials, and community partners, late start days will continue to be used by staff for professional development. Breakfast is not served on late start days, but lunch is served shortly after school starts.

Sept. 18th	Oct. 9th	Nov. 13th	Dec. 11th	Jan. 15th
Feb. 12th	March 11th	April 15th	May 13th	June 10th

### **Early Dismissal Days**

Breakfast: 8:30 AM      Supervision Begins: 8:40 AM      School Starts: 9:00 AM  
Dismissal: 12:25 PM

Early dismissal is used for conference dates and inclement weather. Conference dates are on the Bryant calendar.



### **Alternative Dismissal Plans**

A note or email to your child's teacher from the parent/guardian is required if your child will have a change to their regular dismissal routine. Please make sure you have communicated the change before the school day, or before 2 PM if possible. Teachers are busy throughout the day and often don't get to check email late in the day. Our office staff is also busy doing their job supporting Bryant staff and students and if you wait until late in the day to contact us, we are less likely to be able to get clear instructions to your child. We want to ensure the safety of all students before, during, and after school.



## Educational Information

### Field Studies

We believe that school-sponsored field studies are an integral part in educating the children we serve and give them opportunities to learn from the world around them. Each house; Children's House, Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary, and Middle School, participate in several field studies throughout the year. These partner with what your child has been learning at school and are used to enrich that learning experience. Please make sure you promptly fill out the permission slips as they come home throughout the year. *They must be returned to the office, or your child's teacher, 24 hours before the field trip.*



### Student Fees

Schools provide students with books, materials and equipment that are not included on the school supply list. Fees may be charged to students for consumable supplies, planners, materials used on projects that are taken home or field studies. Students will be charged for any property or materials that are lost, stolen or damaged. The district is authorized to withhold grades, diplomas and/or transcripts unless arrangements are made with the principal for payment. (RCW 28A.635.060; Policy 3231, 3520) Fees may be waived if you cannot afford them. Contact your school principal for more information.

## **Library**

All students enrolled in Tacoma Public Schools automatically have a Tacoma Public Library membership through the Pathways Program. Students may use their TPS student ID number as a library card at any of the 8 Tacoma Public Library locations and have access to all library services. Services such as HelpNow! - live homework help is available from 3-10 every day. Book Flix are streaming interactive books for children. There is much, much more! Visit [www.tacomalibrary.org](http://www.tacomalibrary.org). Click "View My Account" in the upper right hand corner. Enter student ID number and pin (1234) to get started.

The Bryant library is small, but mighty! Elementary students visit the library once a week for a lesson and check-out. Middle School access is dependent upon the schedule for that particular year. Please feel free to visit with your child before or after school. The library has also been the location of our Sunrise Reader's events put on by our PTO. Please watch for information to come home throughout the year.



## **Standardized Testing**

Depending on your child's age, he or she will be tested throughout the year. Kindergarteners participate in WA Kids and iReady (in the spring). Kindergarten through eighth graders will participate in iReady Reading and Math three times per year. First through third graders will participate in the Diagnostic Reading Assessment (DRA), also three times per year. Third through eighth grade students participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) in May of each year. Please contact your child's teacher to get more information about each assessment.

## **Extra Learning Activities**

- ♦ After school clubs: Peaceful Scientists, Pottery, Chess, Garden Club, etc....
- ♦ Garden Club
- ♦ Middle School Sports
- ♦ 5th Grade Band or orchestra through Jason Lee

## **Communication**

### **Thursday Folders**

- ♦ Important school information is sent home in Thursday folders for PreK-3rd grade students. Some of the information is for you to keep, such as completed student work, lunch calendars, and newsletters, while some is for you to return. This is usually labeled in the folder. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.
- ♦ Upper Elementary and Middle School students receive information in community meetings and are expected to relay this information to their families. For some, this information may be in the form of a packet.



### **Home Access Center (HAC)**

- ♦ Academic information can be accessed through HAC. This is a way to keep up to date on your child's grades and attendance. Use the web address below to create an account and find out more information.
- ♦ <https://www.tacomaschools.org/hac/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Peach Jar**

- ♦ Many school announcements and extra-curricular information is sent through electronic communication called Peach Jar. Contact the school office to find out more information.



## Phone Calls

- ♦ Students are discouraged from making phone calls during the school day. Staff members will handle any emergency calls to or from parents and guardians during the school day.
- ♦ If your child has a cell phone, please do not try and call your child during the day. This can cause a distraction during class, even if the phone is set on vibrate, and your child may be unable to stay focused during his or her learning time.



## Newsletters

- ♦ It's important to feel like you are plugged into what is going on at your child's school and in his or her class. One way we strive to keep you "in the loop" is by sending newsletters. Some teachers send weekly updates and some send monthly bulletins.
- ♦ Please make sure the school has your current email address. While some teachers send paper copy newsletters, many have gone to electronic versions to be more earth friendly and less paper reliant.

>>>> Monthly  
Newsletter



## **Family Involvement and Support**

### **Bryant Montessori Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)**

- ♦ Our PTO works to support and improve the educational environment and to provide opportunities to connect with each other as a community.
- ♦ The Bryant PTO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. It operates under its own bylaws and does not charge a membership fee. Everyone is welcome! Childcare is provided by our middle school students during the meetings.
- ♦ Your input is welcomed at monthly PTO meetings. Check the Bryant calendar for dates and follow the Bryant Montessori PTO page on Facebook.
- ♦ Follow the link to find out more about our amazing PTO.

<http://www.bryantmontessoripto.com/>



### **Volunteer!**

**Our number one priority at Bryant Montessori is the children we serve. To provide a safe and effective learning environment, we have committed to a Family Involvement Policy that provides:**

- \* **An encouraging, welcoming environment for families.**
- \* **Regular communication in person and through emails and newsletters.**
- \* **Parent teacher conferences twice a year, or as needed.**
- \* **A school website with up to date information. [www.bryantmontessori.org](http://www.bryantmontessori.org)**
- \* **Bi-yearly climate surveys to gather feedback on school issues.**
- \* **Opportunities to volunteer and observe in the classroom.**
- \* **Opportunities to support our Bryant community and families.**
- \* **Equitable access to education and enrichment through scholarships.**

## **Volunteer Signup and Opportunities**

We welcome parents and family members in our school. For safety, all volunteers must complete a yearly background check in the office. For more information including forms to complete visit <https://www.tacomaschools.org/partnerships/Pages/Volunteer.aspx>

### **Volunteer Opportunities-Classroom Based**

Classroom Partner	Read with students	Chaperone field trips
Mentoring	Making Montessori materials	Teaching enrichment lessons
Tutoring	Thursday folder helpers	

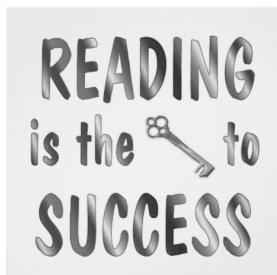
### **Volunteer Opportunities-PTO**

Popcorn Fridays	Garden work parties	Fundraising
Walk-a-Thon	Family Fun Nights	Coffee and Tissues
Sunshine Readers	Book Fairs	School Auction
Afterschool clubs		

### **Site Council Decision Making (SCDM)**

The Bryant Montessori SCDM provides a forum for decision making by staff, parents, and community members. Two parent members serve on the team. The SCDM team meetings shall be held twice each month during the school year. The scheduled meeting times and places will be determined at the beginning of the school year and posted. SCDM team does the following:

- Support Bryant Montessori's mission and vision
- Discuss and resolve pending school issues
- Enhance communication between home, school and community
- Support the implementation of our Continuous Achievement Plan (CAP)
- Serve the needs of our diverse population



## **Counselor and Family Support Liaison**

Bryant's motto, "Care for yourself, care for each other and care for this place" is not just a motto, it is a guide for how we take care of our Bryant community.

### **Counselor**

Bryant Montessori has a school counselor who collaborates with students, staff and families to improve student development and academic achievement . Reem Stewart is our counselor and can be reached at (253) 571-2832, or [rstewar1@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:rstewar1@tacoma.k12.wa.us).

Some of her responsibilities are:

- ♦ Work with ALL students to encourage a safe school climate of trust and respect
- ♦ Deliver classroom lessons that align to ASCA standards
- ♦ Facilitate small groups
- ♦ Meet individually with students to do brief, solution-focused counseling
- ♦ Help students who are struggling to make positive behavior choices
- ♦ Collaborate with parents/guardians, teachers, support staff and administration
- ♦ Maintain confidentiality of students and their families unless there is a need to know or a safety concern
- ♦ Provide education and information about students' social-emotional needs

### **Family Support Liaison (FSL)**

We have a family support liaison who provides access to resources for students and families. Jenna Buswell is our FSL and can be reached at 253-571-2842 or [jbuswel@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:jbuswel@tacoma.k12.wa.us)

Some of her responsibilities are:

- ♦ Holiday Assistance including school based food drive (meals for holidays and subsidizing gifts when available)
- ♦ Advocating and providing students with basic needs such as school supplies, clothing, shoes, etc.. when it is needed.
- ♦ Supporting families through transitions in their lives including: housing, grief, family changes, etc..
- ♦ Assisting families with accessing Free/Reduced Lunch services
- ♦ Acts as the site coordinator for federal protections for families experiencing housing instability (McKinney Vento)
- ♦ Annual Winter Warmth drive to ensure each of our students has a coat and is warm during winter months

## Student Health

We take the health and safety of your child very seriously at Bryant. Please read the information below to find out more about how we support your child's health while they are at school.

### Health Room

Our school is served by a registered nurse one and a half days per week and a part-time health room clerk.

Please contact our nurse or health clerk at 253-571-2843 if your child has a medical condition that may affect him or her at school to make sure we have a plan in place to keep him or her safe.



### Medications at School

If your child needs to take medication at school, including cough drops, you must have a doctor's order on file to disperse the medication. This includes medication that needs to be given on field trips and at camp. Please contact the nurse at the number above for more information.



### Health Screenings

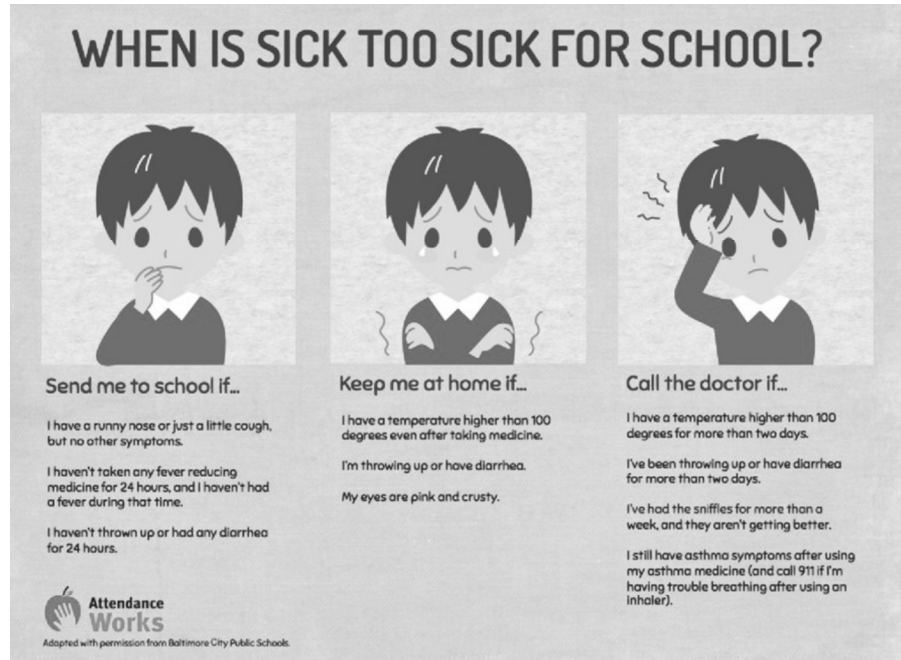
Dental health, hearing, scoliosis, and vision screening are offered to students throughout the year.

You will be notified of screenings before they happen and can opt your child out, if you choose. The nurse will contact you if there is a need for a follow-up. Please contact the nurse or office if you have questions.



## Illnesses at School

If your child feels ill, they can visit the health room or office. If necessary, the nurse or office staff will contact families if the student needs to go home. If a student is sent home for a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, they can not return to school until they have been symptom free for 24 hours. Please make sure you abide by this rule.



You will receive a letter from the nurse's office when a contagious illness has been reported in a classroom. Pink Eye and Strep Throat are two examples of illnesses that will prompt a letter home.

You will also receive a "head bump" notice and a phone call if your child hits his or her head while at school. Please look for this in your child's backpack.

## Lice

Lice is common in schools, especially with younger children. You will receive a letter home when lice has been found on a child. Please check your child thoroughly to ensure he or she does not also have lice. Also, make sure you are washing your child's coats, hats, and scarfs regularly. We share cubbies and lockers. Lice spreads through contact, it cannot jump. If a child with lice shares a locker with your child, there is a good chance it may have climbed onto your child's belongings.

## **Food at School**

### **Breakfast and Lunch**

- ◆ Breakfast is served from 8:30-8:55 AM daily (except late start Wednesdays).
- ◆ Your child is still able to get breakfast if he or she is late, but need to check in at the office before going to the cafeteria.
- ◆ Lunches are scheduled midday. Please contact your child's teacher to find out when his or her lunch is scheduled for the year. Your child may bring a home lunch or order a school lunch. There are two options each day that rotate every other week. A school lunch calendar will be sent home each month.

### **Free and Reduced Lunch Program**

Please apply at <https://www.mealappnow.com/mantac/splash.php> or pick up a form from the office.

### **Paying online**

<https://www.lunchmoneynow.com/lmntac/splash.php>



### **Snacks**

- ◆ Water bottles filled with water are always welcomed in our classrooms.
- ◆ Healthy snacks may be eaten with permission of the classroom teacher.
- ◆ Some classroom teachers organize community snacks that are shared with all their classmates.
- ◆ Gum, soda and candy should be left at home.

## Personal Items

*Our school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Students should not bring expensive items or toys to school. Any item that is a distraction in the classroom may be stored in a locker or confiscated if needed. These items will be returned to students at the end of the day.*

## Cell Phones

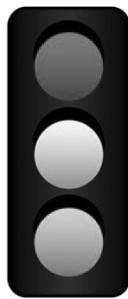
We understand this is a technological age and children have become tech savvy in a way not seen a decade ago. We know children have cell phones and will be bringing them to school, at times, and need to be taught to use them as a tool. However, we also know that cell phones can create a distraction when used improperly during class, or when they are being used for non-academic purposes.

### From the DISTRICT Parent/Student Handbook:

*Devices are to be stored out of sight when not in use: Students are not to use technology devices, including, but not limited to, cameras, cell phones, portable entertainment systems or other electronic technology devices in a manner that disrupts the educational process, invades the privacy or rights of others, or violates district and/or school rules. Any device used in such a manner may be confiscated. Inappropriate or lewd words or pictures shared or displayed via cell phone or any other electronic technology device is prohibited at school.*

We have a stoplight and check in system to safeguard against cell phone disruption during class time. Each Middle School, Upper Elementary, and Specialist classroom has a stoplight poster that tells students if phones need to be checked in (red), can be out (green), or if they need to ask to use it (yellow). If the stoplight is marked red, phones will need to be checked in at a hanging pocket organizer, facing the wall. If a child chooses not to check their phone in and it comes out during class, it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. However, if the stoplight is marked green, students can keep their phones out.

Students are allowed to be on their phones before and after school, at recess, and in the hallways.



### Ear Buds and Headphones

Similar to the cell phone policy, ear buds and headphones should be stored away from a student's ears during class when the red light is marked.

If you feel your child needs to have music on during class due to a medical condition, you can have this indicated in his or her 504 plan.

Ear buds and headphones may be used before and after school and at recess. Due to the nature of the lunchroom and the need to listen for directions from staff members, they should not be used at lunch.



### Bikes and Scooters

Skateboards, bikes and scooters are not to be ridden on school grounds, though we do encourage students to ride them to school. They should be walked to the bike rack and secured during school hours.



### Animals and Pets

Many of our students have allergies or safety concerns with animals. For this reason, animals are **not** allowed on campus. This includes animals that are carried, on leashes or in a carrier. If an animal is brought on school grounds, you will be asked to wait off campus for your child. Thank you for making our school a safe place!



## Toys

Please keep all toys and trinkets home. Anything that comes in the classroom and should not be there, will be taken away and given back at the end of the day. If the item returns again, it will be placed in the class June Box and returned at the end of the year. You may contact your child's teacher to retrieve the item if this happens.

One exception may be a sharing day. These will be communicated to you by your child's teacher.

Follow the saying, *if it's special, it stays home*.



## Lost and Found

Have you ever wondered where your child's jacket went? How about their winter scarf and gloves? Lost and Found is a great place to check if you find your child has misplaced something at school.

- ◆ To reduce the number of lost items, please label items with your child's name. This includes jackets, sweatshirts, clothing, lunchboxes, backpacks and any other item you can write his or her name.
- ◆ Items that are not claimed in a timely fashion may be donated. The office sends out notices a few weeks before a scheduled donation.
- ◆ Personal items such as keys, glasses, and phones are taken to the office.

## Dress Code

Here at Bryant, we want to strive to ensure a safe and comfortable learning environment for all children. We believe that the responsibility for the dress and grooming of a student rests primarily with the student and his or her parents or guardians and that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. We expect students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate.

School-directed changes to a student's attire or grooming should be the least restrictive and disruptive to the student's school day. Any school dress code enforcement actions should minimize the potential loss of educational time. Administration and enforcement of the dress code will be gender neutral and consistent. Children should feel safe and comfortable in whatever they choose to wear.

1. Shoes must be worn at all times. Sandals or open toed shoes are allowed as long as the shoe stays attached to the foot. Students should wear sneakers on PE days. Please contact your child's teacher to find out when PE is scheduled.
2. Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane or sexually suggestive, which bear drug, alcohol or tobacco company advertising, promotions and likenesses, or which advocate racial, ethnic or religious prejudice.
3. Hats, caps and other head coverings shall be allowed during class as long as ears and face are showing and visible. However, children may be asked to take them off if they become a distraction.
4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments and ensure chest and torso are covered. Clothing covering legs should be no shorter than the student's wrist.
5. Jackets and coats can be worn at all times.
6. Sunglasses should not be worn in the building unless for medical reasons.
7. No pajamas or slippers.

Please contact Ms. Buswell if you need clothing assistance.

(253) 571-2842



## Discipline Philosophy

One of the tenants of the Montessori Philosophy is showing each other *grace and courtesy*. The core of this belief at Bryant is that we teach each child social strategies so they can navigate friendships and social situations as they grow. It also teaches children what is considered manners and socially acceptable behavior. Some of the lessons associated with this happen as a whole group in community meetings and others happen in small groups. The ideal is that they take what they learn through the grace and courtesy lessons and apply them both at school and in other social settings.



*"If we are to teach real peace in this world... we shall have to begin with the children."*

—Mahatma Gandhi

## Expectations

We have four basic expectations of students at Bryant. They are to be safe, peaceful, respectful, and responsible. These four expectations have become a foundational part of our program and used in conjunction with our motto; *Care for yourself, care for each other, and care for this place*.

We teach lessons within our classrooms and model what these four expectations sound like and look like. When students have difficulty following these expectations, our first step is to redirect or reteach the expectations. We want every child to be successful and have a good learning experience at Bryant.

If redirection or reteaching does not work, we then call the parent and may have the counselor or Family Support Liaison meet with the child to try and get to the root of the issue.

The next step is to do a formal write up and have the child meet with the Principal or Assistant Principal. This usually also involves another phone call home.

Of course, different behaviors and actions are handled on a case by case basis. Some actions are more severe and may bypass the first couple of steps.

## **Guidelines for Behavior**

### **Voice Levels**

There are five voice levels at Bryant; 0-4.

0 is no voice and used in the hallway, some lessons, read alouds, and other situations when quiet is needed.

1 is a whisper/quiet voice and used in the same situations listed above.

2 is a small group voice.

3 is a teacher voice. Students are asked to use a level three voice when doing presentations or leading a discussion.

4 is an outdoor voice and should only be used outside or in an emergency.

### **Restroom Behavior**

Students are expected to use the restroom to go, flush, and wash. They are then taught to go back to class in a timely fashion. Our four behavior expectations still apply while students are in the restroom.

### **Hallway**

Students are expected to move through the hallway quietly and in an orderly fashion. This includes when they are by themselves coming back from the restroom, office, nurse, or other location out of their classroom. The hallway is not a place to play, run, or ride scooters.

### **Cafeteria**

The cafeteria is a place to eat and quietly talk to your friends. It is a great time to socialize and relax with your friends. It is not a place to run around or yell through the room. Our lunches are very full and children need to be able to safely eat their food.

### **Recess**

Recess is a time to play and let loose. However, students need to remain safe while doing so. There are a handful of games played at recess, such as Four Square and Kickball. If a student is observed being unsafe, with their bodies or words, they may be asked to sit out the remainder of recess for the day or the rest of the week.

### **Bus**

Students found to be unsafe and not follow the bus driver's expectations will be suspended from the bus. If the behavior continues, they may be expelled from the bus.



## **Garden Behavior**

The Bryant Montessori Garden is an outdoor classroom for exploring and experiencing the natural world through hands-on learning. It is also a place for peaceful retreat and for cultivating stewardship of self, community, and the earth. In order for the plants and animal inhabiting the garden to thrive and for students to learn from and enjoy the space – we must maintain a peaceful garden zone. We *Care for this Place* by:

- Being peaceful in the Garden
- Using walking feet
- Staying on the gravel paths
- Observing the wildlife quietly – using Level 1 or 2 voices
- Caring for the plants and animals
- Only picking with teacher permission
- Cleaning-up after ourselves
- Closing the gates
- Keeping playground games on the playground
- Using tree stumps and benches for sitting

## **Behavior at School Events**

All school expectations should be followed at school events, on or off campus.