

Thorndyke Happenings

Volume 3, Issue 2

January 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Thorndyke Families,

Happy New Year! As we enter 2022, we face many challenges but I have noticed our community is approaching each demand with compassion and understanding for the human spirit. For this, I am grateful as it is the only way for us to navigate through the ups and downs of a pandemic. Please continue to take care of yourself and others.

PIVOT REMOTE LEARNING

Due to the increased number of positive COVID cases in our district and lack of coverage due to the number of staff absences, we have pivoted to remote learning until February 1st. Click on the link below for remote schedules by grade level.

[TSD Elementary Remote Learning Schedule January 2022](#)

If you need any help with anything related to remote learning and are unable to reach your child's teacher, please contact the Thorndyke office @ 206-901-7600.

SMILE MOBILE

The SmileMobile is coming to Thorndyke February 7-11, 2022. **Call 888-286-9105 to schedule your dental appointment.** The dental team will see babies, children, youth, and pregnant/postpartum adults on Apple Health and uninsured. following services are available

- Dental examination
- Oral health education
- Fluoride varnish
- Sealants
- Simple extraction
- Temporary filling
- X-Rays

Due to COVID-19, any cleanings or other services that generate aerosols, will not be performed.

TOYS & GAMES

Please tell your students to leave their **POKEMON CARDS, TOYS** and **OTHER GAMES** at home. Too many classroom, arrival, lunchroom, and playground problems are occurring related to Pokemon

card exchanges and other toys and games. If a student is caught with such items, the teacher will choose to take it away and might not return it to the students until the end of the day. If the same student brings Pokemon cards again, parent's will be called to ensure the expectations are understood. If the situation persists, then this might lead to a potential write up. Please explain and reinforce these expectations at home as we will also reinforce them at school.

TUKWILA CITY COUNCIL

We want to congratulate Mohamed Abdi who has recently been elected to the Tukwila City Council Num. 7 Position. Mohamed Abdi attended Thorndyke Elementary during his childhood and has since been fighting to make a change in his community. He envisions an accessible Tukwila for everyone regardless of race or socioeconomic background. Mohamed currently attends University of Washington and pushes to lead his community through equity and inclusion.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

The virtue of the month for January is **COURAGEOUS**. This kid is brave! He/she is always willing to step up to the plate, try new things, and keep a positive attitude while doing it. Please encourage and practice **COURAGEOUS** behavior at home. A video announcing the students of the month will be available for student viewing the morning of Friday, January 28th.

PANDEMIC & QUARANTINE UPDATE

Per the King County Department of Health, CDC, and TSD COVID team, there are new quarantine protocols. The quarantine requirements are different for the Omicron variant. When an individual is deemed to be in "close contact" with an individual who tested positive, they were 3 feet or closer to this individual for a period of at least 15 minutes in a 24hr period. This means they are considered to have been in close contact and required to quarantine for at least 5 days. If a student or staff member was deemed to have close contact with an infected individual he/she must wait to receive a negative test result from a test taken no sooner than day 5 post-exposure and provide the negative test documentation to the school before returning.

If an individual who is in close contact chooses not to test or does not get tested, he/she must **quarantine for 10 days**.

In summary, the individual deemed in close contact may return to school so long as they are asymptomatic and have tested negative for COVID after five days from exposure or quarantined for 10 days. Symptoms may include: fever (100.4°F and above), cough, sore throat, runny nose, headache, nausea/vomiting, and diarrhea. Individuals with any of these symptoms should remain in quarantine until the symptoms have been resolved.

One other change since the last newsletter is that siblings no longer are required to quarantine when a sibling's class is in quarantine.

During the quarantine, impacted students will pivot to remote learning, be provided a Chromebook, and free meal service. Families of students in quarantine will be contacted by Thorndyke's office staff as soon as the Chromebooks have **arrived at Thorndyke** and are ready for pickup.

Both the education and health of students, staff, and families are top priorities for us. For the safety of our students, the Tukwila School District is following the most current Washington and King County Department of Health guidance on COVID-19 exposures and working to help your student stay engaged in learning.

UPDATED ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PLAN

As I shared in the previous newsletter, The City of Tukwila, Tukwila School District and Thorndyke Elementary have been working together to tackle the challenges regarding student pick-up and drop-off at Thorndyke. It is extremely important that we follow the procedure outlined so we can keep Thorndyke open.

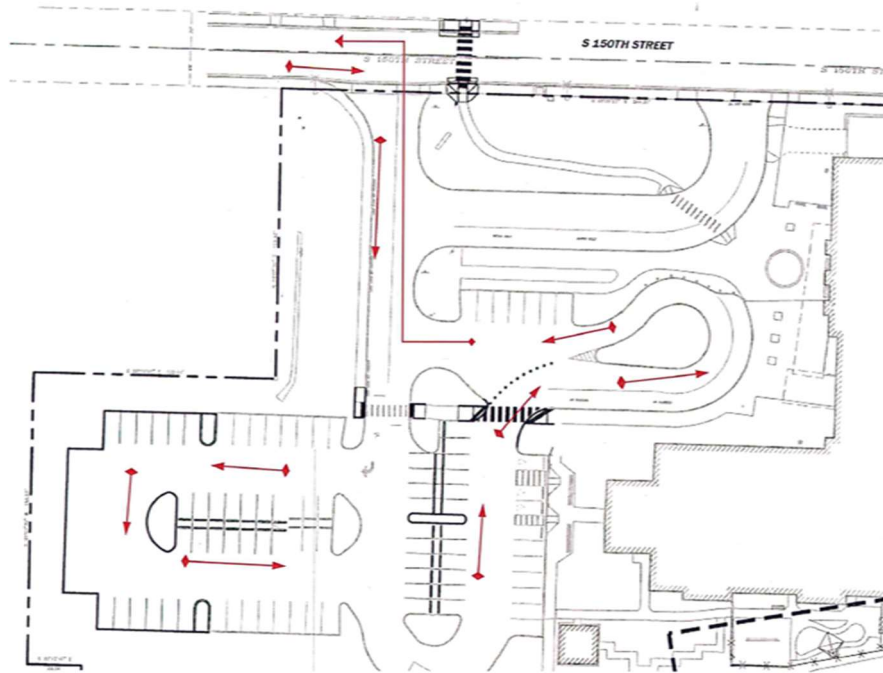
The Tukwila Police Department has informed school administration that staff can take photos of the license plates of cars parked illegally on 150th Street. Please be aware if you park illegally, we may take a photo of your license plate, send it to the Tukwila Police Department and you may be issued a ticket for illegal parking. If you want to avoid this, please follow cue through the parking lot.

Also, it's really helpful when parents put the sign with their child's name and teacher on their dashboard or passenger window when they come to pick kids up. This way the staff members who work in the horseshoe shuttling students to cars can see which student(s) to shuttle more quickly.

In order to reduce the pick-up wait time, we encourage anyone who is within walking distance to walk to drop off and pick up their child(ren). Also, I will be working with the PTA to encourage **WALKING SCHOOL BUSES**. These are very effective as neighboring parents can share the responsibility in getting students to and from school. Walking and being out in the fresh air is also a healthy choice!

Here is the plan:

- Please follow the layout and traffic flow pattern through the parking lot as indicated by the red arrows in the diagram below.
- There is **NO PARKING** in the designated drop-off area, Bus Zone or on S. 150th Street.
- Parents need to follow the line of cars. Stay in your car and teachers will bring your child to you. If you choose to park, you will need to get back into the line of traffic.
- **If you are picking up a child who attends Thorndyke's Head Start or K-5 grade program, please do not arrive prior to 2:50. Our pick up line will only be for our Voices of Tomorrow families from 2:15-2:45 . When parents come too early, it causes an overflow onto 150th street and there is no legal parking there.**
- Please do not let your car idle while waiting.
- The Tukwila Police Department has initiated enhanced enforcement in the area and will be ticketing illegal parking and speeding.
- If you park in the lot and walk to pick up your child, please stand back from the entrance/exit and location where students line up by grade level/class under the awning to wait for their ride. We are teaching students to stand in a line where their grade level and class is expected to be so we can find students in an expeditious manner.
- If you are in the pickup line blocking parked cars, please accommodate the parents/guardians who need to get out of their parking spot and get in the line to exit.



FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

Due to the public health emergency, USDA has given schools the flexibility to operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) in school year 2021-2022. **School/School Districts operating SSO will offer meals each school day at no charge to all students.** In anticipation of a return to normal child nutrition program operations and the potential expansion of P-EBT into the school year 21-22, we are encouraging families to complete and submit an application for free or reduced price meals. Lunch forms may be turned in to the main office.

STUDENT MESSAGES

If plans change and you must get a message to your student before dismissal, please call the office **BEFORE 3:00 PM**. Requests received after 3:00 p.m. will not be guaranteed.

JOIN THORNDYKE PTA!

More than 30 years of research has proven that children do better when their parents are involved. In school grades are higher, test scores rise, self-esteem grows, and schools improve.

Powerful outcomes result from your active involvement in your child's education. You know the benefits and want to make a difference, but how can you be more actively involved? It's simple – Join the Parent Teacher Association.

For 5 cents a day, you can become a PTA member, joining nearly 6 million other people who share your interest in issues affecting children. Everyone – parents, educators, students and other citizens active in their schools and communities are invited to join our not-for-profit organization. **Attached is our membership form. For \$10 per person, you can support teachers with their classroom needs, field trips for students and other fun school events!**

BOX TOP ALERT! Did you know that you don't need to clip any box tops anymore? There is a new app that you can download from Google Play or Apple App stores. It allows you to scan your

grocery receipt and it gives the money from the box tops to our school! Please download the app today OR you may bring in your receipts so you can start helping your student's school raise money for special events...like field trips!



Mark Your Calendar

»» UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Jan 31	NO SCHOOL (TEACHER INSERVICE DAY)
Feb 7-11	SMILE PARTNERS
Feb 9	EARLY RELEASE @ 2:10 P.M.
Feb 16	EARLY RELEASE @ 2:10 P.M.
Feb 21	NO SCHOOL (PRESIDENTS DAY)
Feb 22	NO SCHOOL (MID-WINTER BREAK)
Feb 23	NO SCHOOL (SNOW MAKE-UP DAY)

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the district calendar.



helping
children
to succeed

THORNDYKE IS A TITLE 1 SCHOOL

Thorndyke Elementary School receives federal money to fund a School-wide Title 1 program. Title 1 programs are intended to help ensure that all children have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and assessments. The program focuses on promoting reform in high-poverty schools (those with 40% or more students from low-income families) and ensures student access to scientifically-based instructional strategies and challenging academic content. Thorndyke uses most of Title 1 funds to pay for important staff members, including highly qualified Instructional Assistants and our Literacy and Math Interventionists. Funds are also reserved for professional development for teachers that is designed to raise the achievement of low-achieving students by improving instruction throughout the entire school. If you have any questions about our Title 1 programs, please feel free to speak with Ms. Thomas @ 206-901-7605.

The Tukwila School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, color, national origin, or disability. This holds true for all district students, employees, and district employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's title IX/RCW 28A.640 officer and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator located at 4640 S 144th

Street, WA 98168: Aaron Draganov Title IX/RCW28A.640 Officer (206.901.8005) and Jennifer Jones, Section 504/ADA Coordinator (206.901.8035)
Thorndyke Elementary is a Schoolwide Title I School.