



## Principal Update

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Monday, January 17, 2022, is a much-needed day off; however, we can't forget it is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a federal holiday. The date marks the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., born in 1929. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sought equality and human rights for African Americans, the poor, and all victims of injustice through peaceful protest. The Seattle area is rich in MLK celebrations, many virtual and outside! I've included two links with family-friendly activities. I've also included the link to The King Center. Dr. Bernice A. King keeps her father's dream alive through her work at the center. Visit the site to learn more about MLK and the lifetime of work his family has preserved.

*The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate the timeless values as well he taught us through his example — the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership. On this holiday, we commemorate the universal, unconditional love, forgiveness and nonviolence that empowered his revolutionary spirit.*

*Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. Life's most persistent and nagging question, he said, is 'what are you doing for others?'"*

An excerpt from "The Meaning of the King Holiday", by Coretta Scott King.

<https://thekingcenter.org>

<https://www.seattleschild.com/martin-luther-king-jr-day-family-friendly-events-around-seattle/>

<https://www.washington.edu/mlkweek/events/>

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### **Levy Update**

**Three measures on the February 8 ballot to support excellence for every student.** Local levies help bridge the funding gap between what the state provides our schools and what we actually need to support students. Local levies pay for staff at each school, technology for students and classrooms, help us maintain our schools and add classroom space.

Lake Washington School District is asking for three local levies on the February 8 ballot. Each measure will help support excellence for every student. Two measures renew current levies that are set to expire later this year. Propositions 1 and 2 will continue funding for school staff, programs, and opportunities for our students, like performing arts, extracurriculars and athletics. Proposition 3, our Building Excellence Construction Levy, will help us meet our current and future growth by adding classroom space across our fast-growing district. You can learn more about Propositions 1-3 [here](#).

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### **Join the district Equity Team**

Do you have ideas you would like to share about increasing equitable practices and improving student experiences and outcomes in the district? Have you not had the opportunity to have your voice heard before on these topics? Are you willing to engage in conversations about race, gender, sexual orientation, different abilities, etc.? Are you willing both to speak up and to listen? Do you represent the diversity of our district including diverse racial backgrounds, language expertise, Special Education and ELL services, diverse socio-economic backgrounds, LGBTQIA+, etc.?

We are seeking additional members for the Lake Washington School District Equity Team. We encourage all staff, family members, and community members to indicate their interest by filling out this [form](#), particularly those who may not have had the opportunity to be represented previously.

Questions? Feel free to contact Keriann Levinson in the Equity and Family Engagement department at [klevinson@lwsd.org](mailto:klevinson@lwsd.org)

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### **Attendance**

If your student will be absent, arriving late or leaving early please contact our attendance office.

The Attendance Hotline phone number is **425 936 2381**.

The Attendance email address is: [ICSAttendance@lwsd.org](mailto:ICSAttendance@lwsd.org).

**Please report current day absences prior to 9:00 am.** Please provide the date of absence, your student's full name, grade, and reason for the absence. For **Late Arrivals** – Students will need to sign in at the office for a late pass. For **Early Dismissals** – Parents should come into the office to sign out. For **Extended Absences** – Complete a [Pre-Arranged Excused Absence Form](#).

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### **COVID Safety**

Thank you for keeping your student home if they have any COVID-like symptoms. We know it's difficult given the common cold and flu have similar symptoms. It seems our processes are constantly changing as we respond to evolving guidance. If you've been involved in a quarantine process you also know things can move slowly. Please trust that we're doing everything we can to minimize any disruption to learning while also trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.

The district's [website](#) is the best place to find current information. If you don't find what you are looking for there, feel free to email [Mr. O'Donnell](#) with any questions.

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### **Parents bringing items**

There is a shelf inside the school entry for dropping off any items, such as lunches, books, or homework for your student. Please make sure that the item is labeled with your student's name and that you have informed them. Laptops must be brought into the office.

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### **School Traffic Map**

Please view the [Traffic Map](#) for student drop off and pick up.