

# Kemore Elementary Paw Prints

OCTOBER 2021

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Kenmore Cub Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you entering the groove of a regular school year. Albeit, it is a challenging time more than ever, we are back in business and by no means is this normal. The layers of work that go into ensuring we stay safe and in school is more important than ever.

I had a day of disillusionment recently, when I realized how I was trying to grapple with understanding all the protocols surrounding COVID. Not a single day in my preparation to become a principal was allotted to leading during a global pandemic. I am an educator and had to remind myself of this and give myself grace for not having all the answers. I am thankful I have tools and training that keep the thoughts that can paralyze one, in check. Thanks for allowing me this space to be vulnerable and thank you to my partner, Mrs. Cano, for rolling with the punches and supporting us with all things COVID.

Nonetheless, September was a great month, I have learned to lean into these challenges and learn a little more about our fabulous Kenmore community. I met with families, spent time troubleshooting recess (this is a living project I am committed to transforming), led meetings, reworked our dismissal plan (another work in progress) and met fabulous Cubs. Oh yes, there were tons of pesky messages from us as well.

A few reminders as we ease into October:

**Please keep your student home if they show any of the following symptoms:**

- Fever or chills • Muscle pain or body aches • Headache
- Cough • Sore throat • Congestion or runny nose • Diarrhea • Fatigue • New loss of taste or smell • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Nausea or vomiting

- Most importantly, we will be tracking absences with the need or not to show proof of a negative test result.
- Please partner with us in reminding your students about the importance of keeping their hands to themselves. Mrs. Cano and I have had the opportunity to spend some time at

recess and find ourselves along with many staff repeating the same message. Please, and thank you!

[October is National Bullying Prevention Month](#) - We know we have much work to do at Kenmore Elementary with how recess works. In the weeks ahead we will incorporate more specific guidance and Social Emotional support to our students during recess in partnership with the YMCA. As I've mentioned above, this is an ongoing project with the intent to transform our recess experience at Kenmore. Students in all grades will have access to this opportunity with the intent to provide leadership opportunities

The **Smarter Balanced (SBA)** assessments are back. OSPI postponed the Smarter Balanced (SBA) until the fall of 2021. Please take a moment to read about these assessments and see the testing schedule.

Finally, our campus is going through a few upgrades. First is the fencing project that was approved by the 2018 bond. A message was sent out in August in regard to the project. Materials have been ordered and we are anticipating a start date in the weeks/months ahead.

The long awaited installation of security cameras began two weeks ago, we are excited to see this work being done. This was slated to happen prior to the pandemic and we look forward to its positive impacts, i.e. decreasing the vandalism, mischief, and increasing overall security at Kenmore.

Lastly, I failed to mention the following celebrations in our September newsletter, we would like to acknowledge and celebrate:

[National Hispanic Heritage Month](#) **September 15 - October 15**

**Mooncake Festival - September 21** (Mooncakes are available at local Asian Markets and Costco-if you are not too late. One of my favorite treats as a child!

Let's make it a great month!

Geetha  
Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES

Tues, Oct 5th - Vision & Hearing Screening

Tues, Oct 5th - KE Choir, 3:45-4:30pm, Music Room

Tues, Oct 5th - Cross Country Meet @ Kenmore Elementary, 4:45pm

Tues, Oct 5th - PTA Meeting, 6:30-7:30pm, Activity Room

**Wed, Oct 6th - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

Tues, Oct 12th - KE Choir, 3:45-4:30pm, Music Room

Tues, Oct 12th - Cross Country Meet @ Arrowhead Elementary, 4:45pm

**Wed, Oct 12th - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

Tues, Oct 19th - KE Choir, 3:45-4:30pm, Music Room

Tues, Oct 19th - Cross Country Meet @ Shelton View Elementary, 4:45pm

**Wed, Oct 20th - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

Tues, Oct 26th - KE Choir 3:45-4:30pm, Music Room

Tues, Oct 26th - Cross Country Finals @ Lockwood/KMS, 5:00pm

**Wed, Oct 27th - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

## OFFICE REMINDERS

### Daily School Schedule

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9:10am – 3:40pm

Early Release Wednesday: 9:10am – 2:10pm

### No student drop off before 8:50am

There is no supervision on campus until 8:50am.

### 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 office. 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 their daily routine. If you forgot to send a note, please call the office as early in the day as possible.

**\*Change of plans must be reported to the office before 3:00pm\***

### 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 office to sign your child out and have them called to come to the office 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 office.

### Dismissal

The school day ends at 3:40pm, and 2:10pm 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 3:55pm will be brought into the office for office staff to call parents and then emergency contacts to ensure someone is coming for pick up.

## 2021-22 ANNUAL STATE ASSESSMENTS

To fulfil the state assessment requirement for the spring of 2021, OSPI postponed the Smarter Balanced (SBA)/Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) until fall of 2021. Because fall of 2021 testing is a postponement of the spring 2021 testing window, students will be assessed at the grade level they were enrolled in last spring. OPSI has worked with the Smarter Balanced Consortium and WCAS to reduce the amount of testing time by 20 to 30%. Time spent testing this fall is estimated by the state at 75-minutes for English/Language Arts, 60-minutes for math, and 45-minutes for science.

These assessments are used for state and federal accountability as well as an option for high school students to meet their Graduation Pathways requirement. The English/Language Arts (ELA) and math Smarter Balanced Assessments are administered in grades 3 through 8 and 10, while the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) is administered in grades 5, 8, and 11. The following chart details the state testing by grade level for the 2021-22 school year, including the fall testing due to last spring's postponement.

Grade Level	Fall 2021 Testing	Spring 2022 Testing
Grade 3	None	Grade 3 ELA & Math SBA
Grade 4	Grade 3 ELA & Math SBA	Grade 4 ELA & Math SBA
Grade 5	Grade 4 ELA & Math SBA	Grade 5 ELA & Math SBA / Grade 5 WCAS
Grade 6	Grade 5 ELA & Math SBA / Grade 5 WCAS	Grade 6 ELA & Math SBA
Grade 7	Grade 6 ELA & Math SBA	Grade 7 ELA & Math SBA
Grade 8	Grade 7 ELA & Math SBA	Grade 8 ELA & Math SBA / Grade 8 WCAS
Grade 9	Grade 8 ELA & Math SBA / Grade 8 WCAS	None
Grade 10	None	Grade 10 ELA & Math SBA
Grade 11	Grade 10 ELA & Math SBA	Grade 11 WCAS / SBA Grad Pathway Option
Grade 12	Grade 11 WCAS / SBA Grad Pathway Option	SBA Grad Pathway Option

#### 4th Grade Testing Schedule:

- October 11th-ELA Test
- October 12th-Math Test
- October 13th & 14th-Test Make-Ups (as needed)

#### 5th Grade Testing Schedule:

- October 5th-ELA Test
- October 7th-Math Test
- October 6th, 11th, & 12th-Test Make-Ups (as needed)

As we want each student to perform at their best, we encourage students to get good sleep and nutrition during these times. It is also important for families to minimize student absences during the testing schedule.

If you have any questions about your child's fall assessments or schedules please feel free to contact Emily Grossman at [egrossman@nsd.org](mailto:egrossman@nsd.org) or 425-408-4869.



## TECHNOLOGY DEVICES

Please be sure to charge your devices in the evening and bring them back to school with you each day. These devices are used during the school day for both assignments and the state assessments.

## 3 LAYER MASKS FOR SINGING IN MUSIC

The district has asked that all students wear a 3 layer mask when singing in music during this pandemic time. We have been discussing this in music classes and providing masks to those who don't have, or don't know if they have a 3 layer mask. Please have a conversation with your student about their mask and whether it is 3 layer or not. For kindergarten students, we realize this might not always be communicated correctly, so we will provide a 3 layer mask for each kindergarten student when singing. The masks that we give out are good for one da

## CHOIR AT KENMORE ELEMENTARY

Choir is off to a wonderful start here on Tuesdays after school! Ms. Linda Hamilton (choir director at Kenmore Middle School) is leading the choir this year. There is still room for your 3rd, 4th or 5th grade to join. Students come to the music room when dismissed after school on Tuesdays and stay until 4:30. Students need transportation home and can be met outside the gym after choir. To sign up - email Jeanne Sandusky, Music Specialist ([jsandusky@nsd.org](mailto:jsandusky@nsd.org))

## CROSS COUNTRY

It is not too late to sign up for the 2021 Cross Country season. Registration and the Athletic Emergency form needs to be turned in by October 4th.

The meets will start at 4:45 and usually end within an hour. Students **NEED** to go home or to their designated dismissal place and then meet at the host school by 4:30 p.m. so we can stretch and take care of some nuts and bolts. The running order is 3rd grade girls than boys, 4th grade girls than boys and so on. Students are allowed to leave after their race but are welcome to stay and cheer on their team.

Our Cross Country meets are as follows:

### DATE HOME (location) ADDRESS

10/5th at Kenmore 19121 71st Avenue NE Kenmore, WA 98028

10/12th at Arrowhead 6725 NE Arrowhead Dr. Kenmore, WA 98028

10/19th at Shelton View 23400 5th Avenue W, Bothell, WA 98021

10/26th at Lockwood \*5PM\* 24118 Lockwood Road, Bothell, WA 98021

We will be passing out a Kenmore Cross Country shirt that will be used during the meets and returned at the end of the season. Please have them wear clothes and shoes that are appropriate

run in. Depending on the weather (rainy or cold), they might want a change of clothes. There will be no water stations so please have them pack a water bottle with their name and school on it. I am also including the simplified version of the **COVID-19 sports guidelines** we will follow. **You can find them on the back of this letter.** If you would like the full report, please visit the URL below from the Washington Department of Health website:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-201-SportsFitnessGuidance.pdf>

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out by emailing me at [sfrisch@nsd.org](mailto:sfrisch@nsd.org) or call (425) 408-4815

We are looking forward to a great season!

Sincerely,

Sean Frisch and Trulie Honegger

**See the full version from the Washington Department of Health**

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-201-SportsFitnessGuidance.pdf>

**Elementary Sports Covid-19 Guidelines**

- All outdoor and indoor sports spectators are **required** to follow the governor's "Spectator Events Guidance"
- All athletes (vaccinated or not) are **not** required to wear face covering while engaged in outdoor training or competitions
- **NSD: During the school day**, all individuals **must** wear face coverings even when engaged in outdoor training or competitions
- **Before or after school**, athletes are **not** required to wear face covering while engaged in outdoor training or competitions
- Vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals should wear face covering outdoors in crowded public setting
- All youth athletes should resume wearing face covering when not actively training or competing
- No hand-shakes or high-fives
- No team huddles
- No provided communal hydration station
- Outline field of play where spectators may watch
  - Family members are encouraged to drive and sit together
  - Groups of riders that include more than one household are encouraged to wear a mask when riding in the same car

Students should **not** participate if they:

- Show symptoms of Covid-19
- Have tested positive in the last 10 days or are awaiting test results
- Have been told by a public health or medical professional to self-monitor, self-isolate, or self-quarantine because of concerns about Covid-19 infection in the past 14 days

\*Athletes, other sport participants and staff should notify their Covid-19 Coordinator if they have Covid-19 and participated in sports while contagious.

## 5TH GRADE SAFETY PATROL

The 5th Grade Safety Patrol has begun! Our amazing patrollers are at their posts before and after school to help students, families, cars and buses, move safely on and off campus! Thank you for your encouraging words to them and your observance of their directions to cross safely. They are making a difference! We still need a few more patrollers to apply. If interested, have your 5th grader see Mrs. Sandusky for an application or send an email.

([jsandusky@nsd.org](mailto:jsandusky@nsd.org))

## HIGHLY CAPABLE

The Accelerated Models and Programs Department is beginning our 2021-22 eligibility process for highly capable designations to begin in the 2022-23 school year.

All students in grades K, 1, and 5 will take the NNAT3 screener in their classroom with their teacher. Kindergarten students will complete this before winter break while grades 1 and 5 will have until October 15 to complete this screener. Students new to Northshore will also take the screener.

Students in grades 2,3,4,6, and 7 will have the option to take the screener if they are referred for highly capable services. If you are interested in referring a student, please click this link:

<https://www.nsd.org/schools/programs-services/highly-capable-services/eligibility/referral>

You should expect the results of the screener to be mailed to you by the middle of November unless you have a kindergarten student. (They will be mailed in January.)

For additional information about our eligibility process, please visit the highly capable services page on the nsd.org website.

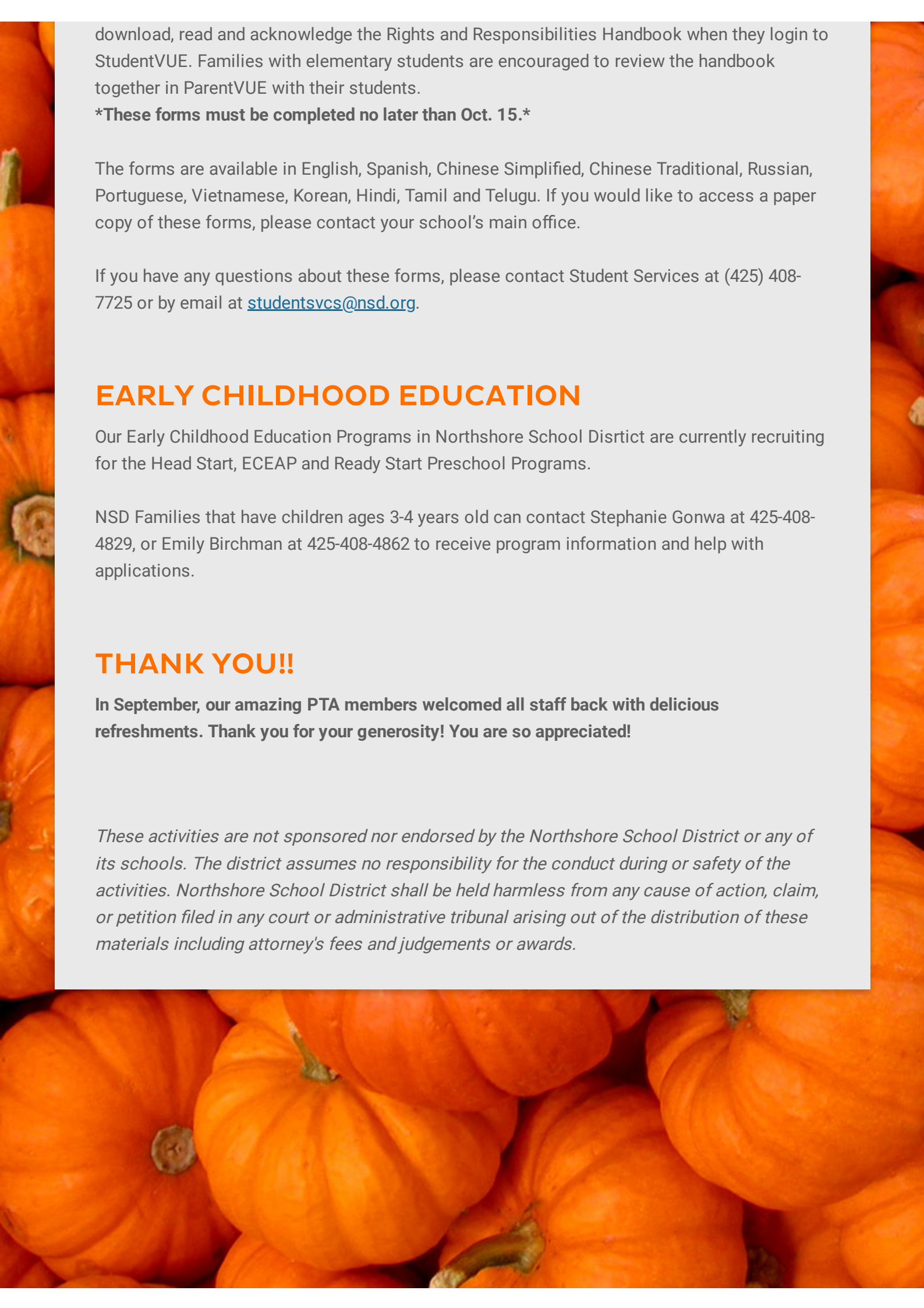
Thank you,  
Accelerated Models and Programs Department

## ANNUAL REQUIRED FORMS

Annually the District provides parents/guardians with notification of forms that must be acknowledged, including:

- WA State Attendance Letter
- Rights and Responsibilities Handbook
- Weapons Letter
- Student Housing Questionnaire
- Permission to Withhold Student Directory Information

We ask that you [login to ParentVUE](#) today to view these forms. If you have never logged into ParentVUE, you will find instructions on how to do so when you click the link above. Please know that when you next login to ParentVUE, you will be prompted to download, read, and take action for each of the forms listed above. Additionally, secondary students will be prompted to

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of several bright orange pumpkins. The pumpkins are piled together, with their stems and ridges clearly visible. The lighting is warm, highlighting the texture of the pumpkin skin.

download, read and acknowledge the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook when they login to StudentVUE. Families with elementary students are encouraged to review the handbook together in ParentVUE with their students.

**\*These forms must be completed no later than Oct. 15.\***

The forms are available in English, Spanish, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional, Russian, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Korean, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu. If you would like to access a paper copy of these forms, please contact your school's main office.

If you have any questions about these forms, please contact Student Services at (425) 408-7725 or by email at [studentsvcs@nsd.org](mailto:studentsvcs@nsd.org).

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Our Early Childhood Education Programs in Northshore School District are currently recruiting for the Head Start, ECEAP and Ready Start Preschool Programs.

NSD Families that have children ages 3-4 years old can contact Stephanie Gonwa at 425-408-4829, or Emily Birchman at 425-408-4862 to receive program information and help with applications.

## THANK YOU!!

**In September, our amazing PTA members welcomed all staff back with delicious refreshments. Thank you for your generosity! You are so appreciated!**

*These activities are not sponsored nor endorsed by the Northshore School District or any of its schools. The district assumes no responsibility for the conduct during or safety of the activities. Northshore School District shall be held harmless from any cause of action, claim, or petition filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials including attorney's fees and judgements or awards.*