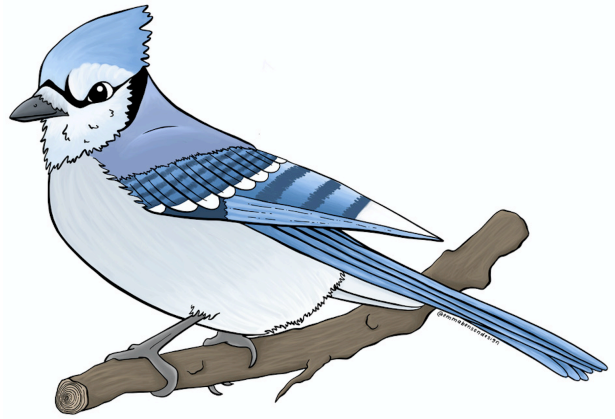


Brookside Elementary Principal's Message

11/19/19



Greetings Brookside Families,

A Big Retirement Is Coming!!!

Although this has been known to staff for some time, I have some news to formally share with our full community. Corliss Liekkio will be retiring at Winter Break. Mrs. Liekkio has been a core member of the Brookside team since 2007, but she's been working in Shoreline Public Schools since 1988. In that time, she has worn many hats including being our beloved registrar, as well as a crossing guard, food truck driver, school bus driver, classroom paraeducator, lunchroom supervisor, recess supervisor, and tennis coach! This is happy news for the Liekkio family and means lots more time with grandchildren, while it is also a big change for our school. We are working out the best methods for retirement well wishing from our community and will notify you as plans come together.

Family Engineering Night - Wednesday, January 22, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Our third annual Family Engineering Night (FEN) is now rescheduled to January. This quickly became one of my favorite school events. It is a time for families to come together at Brookside in the evening to have fun conducting investigations on different scientific principles. Since the core idea is to have families working together, we will accept NO volunteers from our PTA community for this event. I look forward to seeing you there! ☺

Highly Capable Full Battery Testing (Second Grade Only)

Our second grade students were screened for HiCap services in October. The HiCap program office is reaching out to families of children who qualify for the full battery assessment. **Testing will happen at Brookside on 12/9/19 during the school day.**

Highly Capable Testing Registration Now Open (Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, & 6)

Are you interested in having your child in one of these grades assessed for highly capable services for next year? Registration is now open for any student not previously screened or tested during the 2019-2020 school year. **Registration will close on 12/20/19 at 4pm;** no late registrations will be accepted. If you have questions, please contact the HiCap program office at 206-393-4771. **Testing will happen at Brookside on 1/21/20 during the school day.** For more information or to register on-line see the link below: www.shorelineschools.org/Domain/90.

Please note: All Shoreline Kindergarten and 2nd grade students are screened for highly capable program eligibility in the fall. These students DO NOT need to register for testing.

School Improvement Plan Community Meeting December 11 at 7:00 p.m.

The School Improvement Plan (or SIP) is a document schools draft each year that details goals for our work as a staff.

Our SIP involves several goals:

- **Mathematics Instruction:** Shoreline adopted a new math curriculum (Bridges) and we are spending a good deal of our professional development for teachers working with these new materials and building our practices around focusing on deeper conceptual understanding and engaging students in *academic discourse* around mathematics. That is a fancy way of saying we are pushing kids to deeply understand what is happening when they divide 32 by 24, and be able to discuss this with their teacher and classmates. Education research points to these skills as core to developing our kids into the mathematicians and scientists of the future.
- **Achievement Gap:** as you've seen from the Principal's Message on 9/10, our students generally do well on state tests. However, we will be working on closing racial/ethnic achievement gaps among our students. This is tied into our work with mathematics.
- **PBIS Development:** PBIS is Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports; it is a suite of research-based school-wide and student-focused interventions to maintain a positive climate at school. We are continuing this work and will be focusing on further developing our work on recess and unstructured times.
- **Teams & Intervention Work:** we have several teams working hard toward different purposes (for instance, the PBIS focuses on bulletin above, our Instructional Leadership Team is working on our math implementation and how this will relate to closing achievement gaps). Our SIP notes our focus to further develop these systems for the benefit of our students.
- **Communication:** as you can see, there is a lot going on in elementary school today! We are committed to enhancing communication on the great work being done at Brookside and have a SIP goal related to this as well.

Thank you for your ongoing support to our school and students,
Principal John Simard