

**Edmonds
School District**

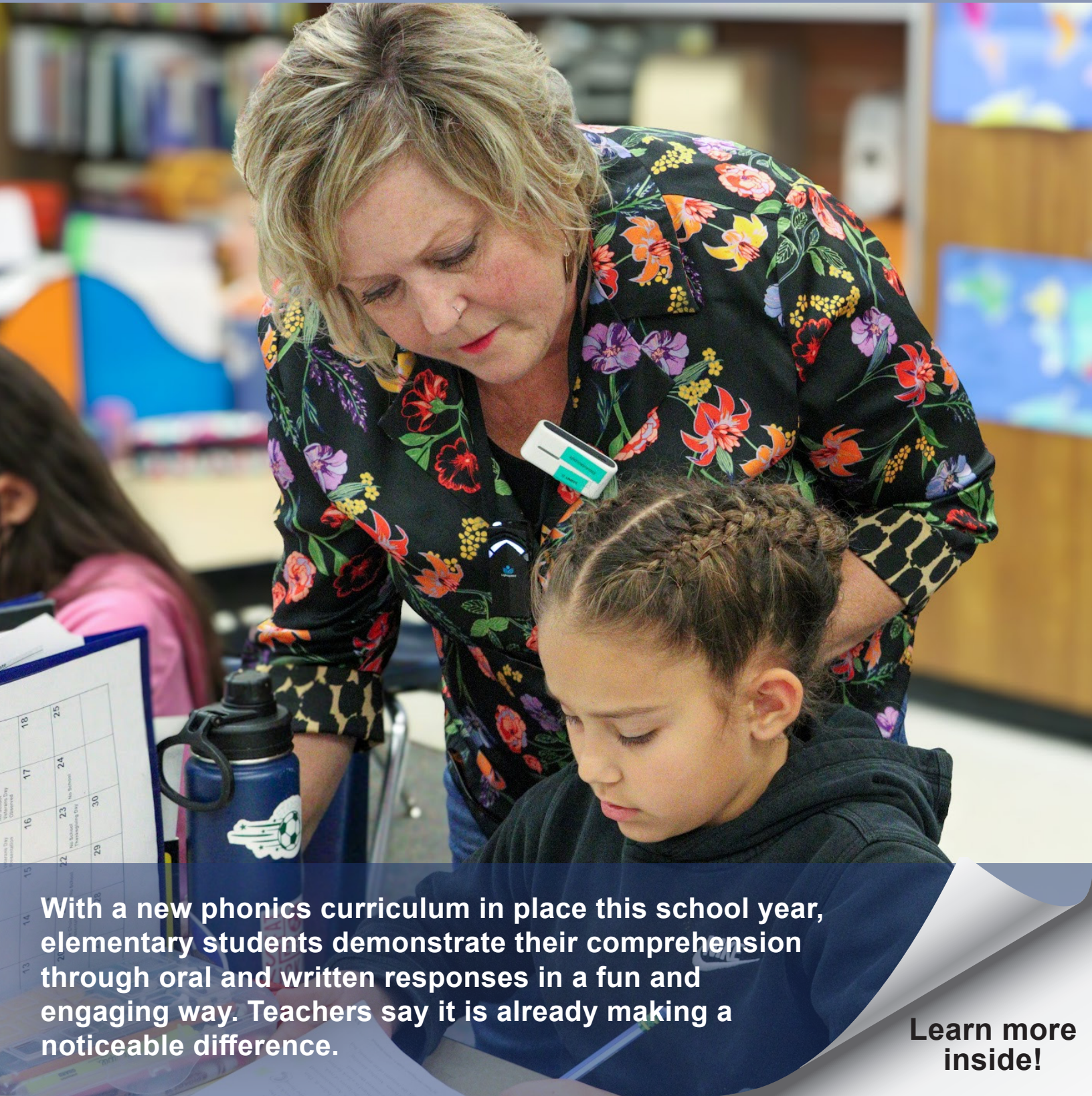
FALL 2023

www.edmonds.wednet.edu



SERVING BRIER, EDMONDS, LYNNWOOD, MOUNTLAKE TERRACE,
WOODWAY, AND PORTIONS OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY

A Renewed Focus on Literacy



With a new phonics curriculum in place this school year, elementary students demonstrate their comprehension through oral and written responses in a fun and engaging way. Teachers say it is already making a noticeable difference.

**Learn more
inside!**

NEW CURRICULUM IN ACTION

Fourth graders in Kathy Mindt's classroom hurry in from morning recess and take their seats, while a handful line up near posters hanging on a brightly colored wall. The posters outline portions of Edmonds School District's new phonics curriculum for kindergarten through 5th grade students. The curriculum focuses on phonics (letter sounds) and morphology (how words are formed from root, suffixes and prefixes).

As the students standing by the posters lead the class through consonant blends, syllable types and other methods to deconstruct words, Mrs. Mindt gets ready for the daily 30-minute phonics lesson, which is a part of the routine with the new curriculum, 95 Phonics Core Program.

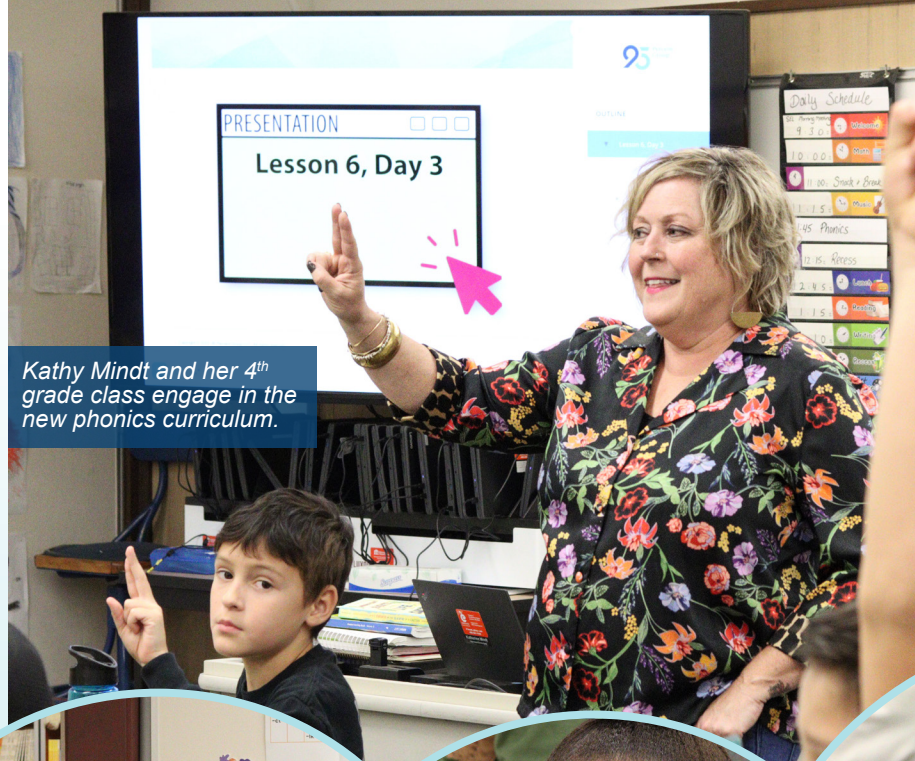
"Morphology (will) improve students' ability to read, write, and comprehend complex words. We are already seeing this when students come across words in science and social studies, and they are able to figure out the meaning of words. That part has been really exciting," said Mindt when asked what she's noticed in her classroom so far.

Down the hall in Malorie Cook's kindergarten classroom, the same curriculum is in play, geared toward the district's youngest learners.

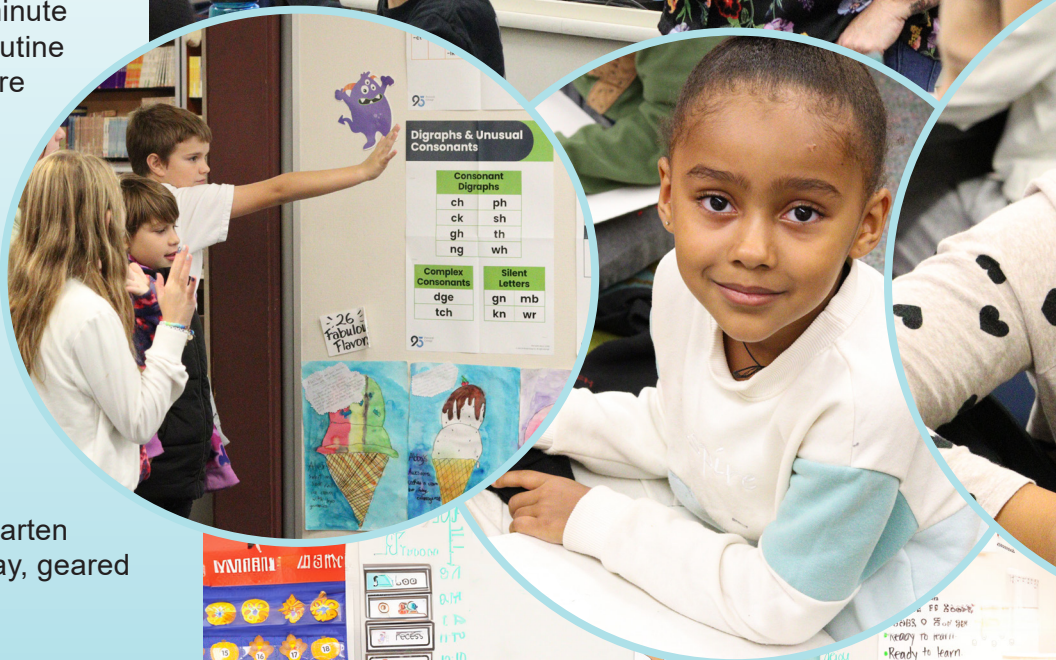
Ms. Cook's class proudly holds their whiteboards up in the air displaying the word "Cat" with a matching drawing as they smile and congratulate each other.

"In kindergarten, the new phonics curriculum starts slowly, allowing students to access the content early on, regardless of their previous academic background.

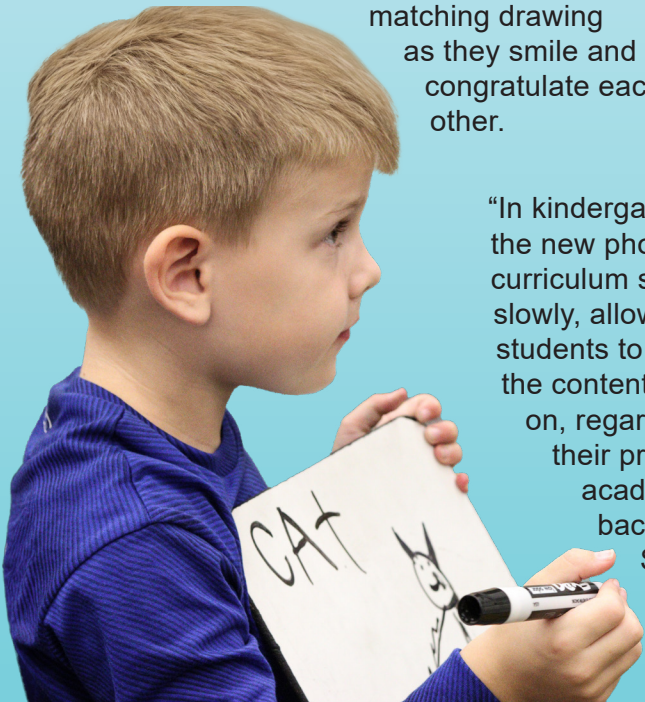
Skills are built overtime and the activities and learning themes are repeated numerous times which works to ensure that the content sticks," said Cook.



Kathy Mindt and her 4th grade class engage in the new phonics curriculum.



Malorie Cook and her kindergarten students practice spelling.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It's hard to believe we are already more than a quarter of the way through our school year! This fall I've had the opportunity to visit many of our schools and classrooms and have been to many staff meetings in order to gather feedback for my entry plan work. I've been able to see the work of teaching and learning in action in our schools and appreciate all that everyone has been doing so far to make this a wonderful year of learning and belonging for our students and families! It has been particularly exciting to see the implementation of the 95% Phonics Core Program in our classrooms and the learning that students are demonstrating after experiencing those lessons.

At their October 24 meeting, the Board of Directors approved resolutions to place measures for a school construction bond and a replacement technology/capital levy on the February 13, 2024 election ballot. We have developed a schedule of staff and community presentations where you will have the opportunity to learn more about these ballot measures. We've also posted this presentation electronically on our website where you can watch and learn more, as well as submit any questions you may have.

Community Presentation Schedule:

January 3, 5:30-6 p.m.,
Edmonds School District Office
January 11, 5:30-6 p.m.,
Mountlake Terrace Public Library
January 18, 5:30-6 p.m.,
Mountlake Terrace High School

I look forward to continuing to meet our community members, students and staff at events and in our schools as the year progresses.

With appreciation,

Superintendent Rebecca Miner

As the students stand up to put their materials away, Ms. Cook reminds her hive of eager worker bees, "We've only been in school for 38 days and you're already writing words!"

In August, 559 teachers returned to work early to attend training and prepare to launch the new 95 Phonics Core Program on the first day of the school year.

"This commitment is a testament to the critical role teachers envision the curriculum playing in meeting the needs of our students. Our teachers are working together, engaging in on-going professional learning, and are dedicated to strengthening literacy instruction. It is an exciting time for our district and I am confident we will see academic gains for our students," said Lisa Gonzalez, Executive Director of Student Learning for the Edmonds School District.

The eagerness for reading and writing goes beyond the classroom. As Mindt completed her fall conferences, parents shared their excitement for the program.

"Literacy is so important and forms the foundation for being successful. We want our students to be able to read, write, and orally communicate their understanding in every subject!"

- Kathy Mindt, 4th grade teacher

Save the date Welcome to Kindergarten Fair!

Is your child turning 5 by August 31, 2024?

If yes, please bring them and your family to the Edmonds School District's "Welcome to Kindergarten Fair!"

When: Saturday, February 3, 2024

Stop by any time between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Where: Mountlake Terrace High School, 21801 44th Avenue West

What to expect:

- Discover all our district has to offer
- Explore our different programs
- Learn about important kindergarten readiness tips
- Enroll for school on-site
- Kids can hop on a school bus!

Not sure which school your child will attend?

Find out at: bit.ly/ESDfinder



Learn more:
bit.ly/ESDKinderFair



2024 School Construction Bond & Replacement Technology/Capital Levy

Edmonds School Dist 15
20420 68th Avenue West
Lynnwood, WA 98036-7405

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LYNNWOOD, WA
PERMIT NO. 23**

**ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER**



Proposition 1: School Construction Bond

If approved, the \$594 million bond would replace four schools, build one new school, and fund capital improvements across the district.

Replace four schools

- College Place Elementary
- College Place Middle
- Oak Heights Elementary
(the bond would replace the 2021 capital levy)
- Westgate Elementary

Build a new 5th middle school



Middle school would move to a 6th, 7th, and 8th grade model across the district. This aligns with educational standards, expands academic options, and creates stronger student connections over the three years.

A new 5th middle school would be built at the former Alderwood Middle School location in Lynnwood.

This school year's 1st graders would attend middle school as 6th graders.

Fund capital improvement projects

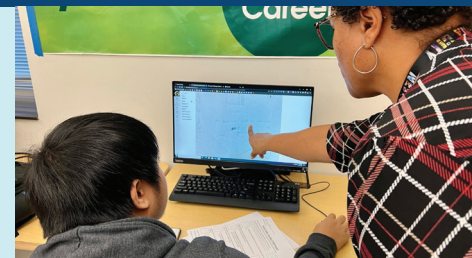
- Safety and accessibility
- Fields and tracks
- Boilers and HVAC systems
- Roofs, windows, doors, and lighting

**Special Election:
Please vote by February 13**



Proposition 2: Replacement Technology/ Capital Levy

If approved, the district would collect \$30 million a year for four years starting in 2025. The levy would include:



- **Student technology**
Maintain Chromebooks for each student
- **Professional learning**
Train staff on the latest technology in classrooms
- **Network infrastructure**
Continue reliable connectivity for learning
- **Cybersecurity**
Safeguard our digital infrastructure

Why a bond and replacement levy?

School districts rely on voter-approved bonds and levies to generate additional funding for various purposes related to education, including replacing aging school buildings and providing technology equipment for students and staff.

Financing

Voters decide on a fixed amount for both the bond and the levy, not a tax rate. Both measures are capped at the total dollar amount.

Learn more



bit.ly/2024ESDBondLevy