

Skyline Elementary Newsletter



December 2024

A note from our Principal

Hello Skyline families,

Happy December! We experienced our first frosty morning today, which signals that more colder weather is likely on the way during the next couple of months. In the event that we need to delay or cancel school, we will send out information via Parent Square, so if you haven't signed up yet, you can do so by downloading the Parent Square app on your phone:

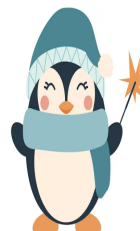
ParentSquare makes it easy to register for ParentSquare from the app. Follow the steps below:

1. *Open the ParentSquare App.*
2. *Enter your email or cell phone number.*
3. *Tap Continue.*

Note: If your email or phone number is not recognized by ParentSquare, you can "Request Access" or call your school office and ask them to update your contact information.

As we work to constantly improve as a school, we have a School Improvement Plan that helps to guide our work each year. This year, we are working to align our SIP plan with our FSD Strategic Plan, which sets our district's priorities and areas of emphasis through 2030. Skyline's two overall goals for this school year are 1. to continue to cultivate a **Culture of Safety and Belonging** at our school, and 2. Continue to improve **Early Learning** educational outcomes for all students in our School. I will share our draft School Improvement Plan in future communication.

Obadiah DeWeber, Skyline Principal



A message from our Dean

As we move into the colder months of the year, we know that can bring a lot of fun and joy: holidays, snowy days, mugs of hot chocolate, wrapping up in a cozy blanket. Unfortunately, it also brings some not so fun things: colds, flu, sniffles, coughs. When kids are sick and unable to come to school, it can make keeping up with learning a challenge. When your child is healthy, we want to maximize their learning potential by having them here at school. Here are some ways you can help with your child's attendance:

- Come to school on time, every day.
- Do not take extra "personal" days.
- Plan vacations outside of school time (ideally, over a long weekend, during winter break, during spring break, or during summer break).
- Encourage lots of handwashing, especially as soon as your child comes home from school.
- Schedule well-child visits on off-days or early release days when students are not in school.
- Have a back-up plan in place for when kids miss the bus.

As always, please call or email the office when your child is going to be absent from school. This ensures that their absence will be excused and helps us with attendance tracking. (Note: For absences to be excused, we do need to hear from parents within 48 hours of the absence.) Thank you for all you do to support us here at school. We appreciate you!

Karen Teshera, Dean of Students



PTO News

Did you know there are two easy ways that you can support the PTO simply by doing your regular shopping?!

If you are a Fred Meyer shopper, simply log into your Fred Meyer account, and under "Account," choose "Community Rewards." Enter Skyline PTO as your organization, and we'll receive contributions every time you use your loyalty card, with no cost to you!

Secondly, if you are doing some holiday shopping, head over to Launching Success, a fantastic locally-owned toy store located at 1707 N State Street in Bellingham. During the week of December 8-14 they will donate 10% of your purchase to the Skyline PTO! They even have late hours just for Ferndale schools on Thursday, Dec 12 from 6-7:30pm. Simply mention the Skyline PTO at check out.

And speaking of local shopping, don't miss our next family night: **Kids Winter Market on Friday, December 6 from 7:00-8:00pm in the gym!** For more information about this student-led craft fair, visit www.skylinepto.org.

Sara McFarlane
Skyline PTO Co-President

Counselors' Corner

December Greetings!

As we make our way through the holiday season, it's not uncommon to feel stressed or overwhelmed by the many commitments and expectations this time of year holds. When we feel intense emotions they often trickle down to our kids as well. That's why this can be a great time of year to model and practice coping skills which can help our children learn how to handle big feelings. It takes time and practice to figure out which coping skills are most effective for each individual, but a few ideas to try include: taking deep breaths, going for a walk, listening to music, drawing, journaling, or spending time with a pet. Regularly modeling how to cope during stressful situations can help your child learn valuable self-regulation skills that will serve them well as they grow.

Warmest wishes to you and your family for a joyful and relaxing December!

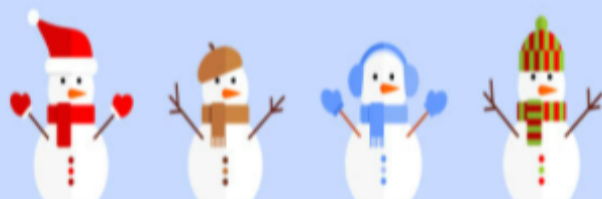


Important Dates

December 18 - Early Release

December 23 - January 3 No school, Winter Break

We can't wait to see you back at school on January 6th!



Information from our School Nurse

A reminder about immunizations: If your student is missing immunizations, make sure you are in contact with your healthcare provider to get your student up to date as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact the main office if you have questions about what immunizations your student is missing, we are happy to help you. Skyline office # 360 383 9450

Let's work together to stay healthy this winter season.

Sincerely,
Your School Nurse