

# ENVIRONMENTAL & ADVENTURE SCHOOL

## Parent Handbook

8040 NE 132<sup>nd</sup> St. (Pod 5)  
Kirkland, WA 98034  
(425) 936-2355

School Hours:  
7:50 am - 2:25 pm (M, Tu, Th, F)  
7:50 am - 12:40 pm (Wednesday)

Office Hours: 7:30 am - 3:00 pm



# Staff Contact Information

## Administration and Office Staff

Kristian Dahl	Principal	kdahl@lwsd.org
Holly Knowles	Associate Principal	hknowles@lwsd.org
Marie Andrada	Lead Teacher	mandrada@lwsd.org
Colleen McLaughlin	Office Manager	cmclaughlin@lwsd.org
Laura Bartoletti	Program Coordinator - volunteers, expeditions, community stewardship	lbartoletti@lwsd.org
Amy Lofquist	Electives Coordinator	amlofquist@lwsd.org
Kirstin Doughty	Counselor	kdoughty@lwsd.org

## Teaching Staff

Marie Jo Andrada	Language Arts, <i>Lead Teacher</i>	mandrada@lwsd.org
Ashley Holck	Environmental Science, Math	acholck@lwsd.org
Cristina Kollinger-Collesei	Spanish 2 (8 <sup>th</sup> grade)	ckollingercollesei@lwsd.org
Brandon Miller	Physical Science, Math, PE	branmiller@lwsd.org
Michelle Minato	Social Studies, Math	mminato@lwsd.org
Audrey Montanez	Spanish 1 (7 <sup>th</sup> grade)	amontanez@lwsd.org
Marcus Rose	STEAM, Exploratory Adventure Ed (6 <sup>th</sup> gr)	mrose@lwsd.org
Kevin Hill	Special Ed	kehill@lwsd.org

See EAS website for Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) contact information.

# Attendance

- Students are required to attend their scheduled classes each day unless they are properly excused.
- Absence from school due to illness or other justifiable reasons will be excused provided that a parent notifies the office by phone or email when the student is absent.
- Pre-arranged absences for time out of school require parent permission and the student is responsible for getting assignments from all teachers prior to absence. Pre-arranged absence forms are available in the office. Student grades may be negatively impacted when missing school for a prearranged absence even if missed assignments are turned in.
- Excessive absence and/or late arrivals to school (tardies), whether excused or unexcused, are a disruption to the learning environment and will be dealt with accordingly.
- **Please try to schedule personal appointments (e.g. doctor, dentist, etc.) outside of school hours so that students do not miss class time.**

## **Students who are absent due to extended family vacations**

- If missing two or more consecutive school days - student must complete and submit the EAS Pre-Arranged Absence Form no less than one week in advance of planned absence.
- Student will meet with each teacher for assignments to be completed while absent. Student will be expected to turn in these assignments on the day they return to school or on the specific due date established with each teacher. Students will be graded on these assignments and receive a "0" if the assignment is missing.
- Teachers will not hold makeup classes or set up labs or projects for missed class work. As such, student grades may be impacted due to missing in-class learning and activities.
- **EAS strongly recommends that parents avoid taking students out of school for family vacations at times other than LWSD holidays. Overall class grades may be negatively impacted as a result of extended absences.**

## **Late Arrival to School**

- Parents must notify the office if their student will be arriving late to school.
- Students arriving late to school must check-in at the office to obtain an Admit Slip before going to class.

## **Early Dismissal from School**

- Parents must notify the office in advance if their student will be leaving school early.
- Parents must sign out their student before the student is permitted to leave.

### **Attendance Contact Information**

A **parent** must contact the office by phone or email if their child will be absent, late, or leaving early.

Phone: 425-936-2355      Email: [EASoffice@lwsd.org](mailto:EASoffice@lwsd.org)

# EAS Communication Process

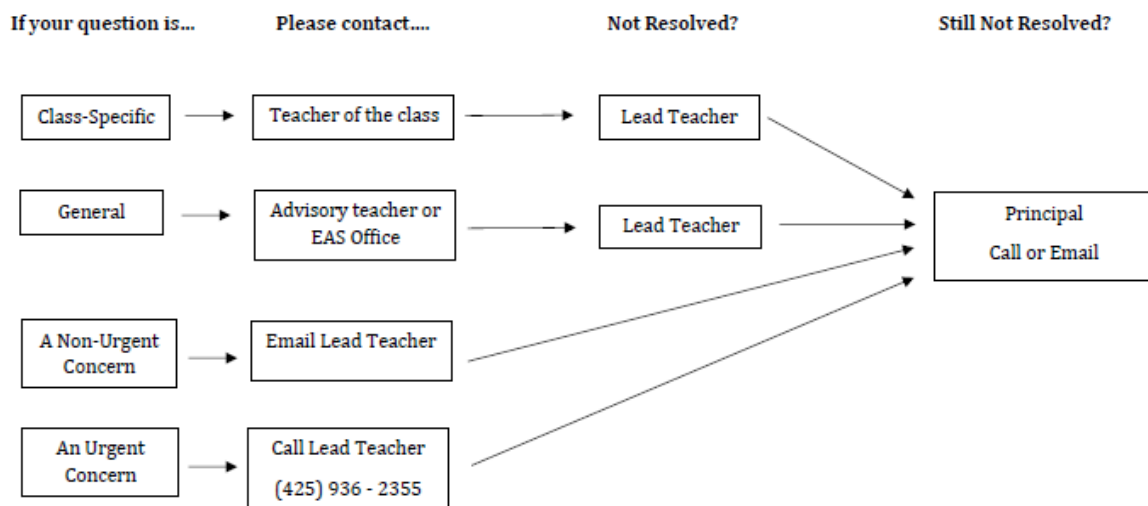
Communication and trust are the foundation of a successful school. At EAS, staff, parents, and students work hard to maintain a positive communication process so that we can discuss ideas and address issues and concerns in an open and timely manner. It is imperative that we are respectful toward all members of our school community as we work together on behalf of all EAS students.

This process is designed to ensure a consistent avenue of communication for all members of the EAS community. All EAS parents and students have direct access to the teachers and EAS administrative staff. **Concerns are communicated directly to the appropriate person and information is clarified at its source.**

When parents have a question or concern about their child’s academic progress or social adjustment to school, the first step is to email or call the teacher(s) involved. A follow up to this initial contact may be a conference that includes parents, teachers, and the student.

Conferences with teachers can be initiated by parents, students, or teachers. Our goal is that every conference has a positive outcome for the student involved. Conferences can be arranged by contacting the EAS Office Manager. Unless otherwise arranged, students are expected to be involved teacher conferences with parents.

## EAS COMMUNICATION PROCESS FLOWCHART



Staff contact information can be found on the [Staff Directory](#) page of the EAS website.

# Curriculum Overview

## School-wide Theme:

Interdependent Relationships - People and Environments

LWSD Level 3 (Grades 6 - 8)

Standards outlined in the LWSD Curriculum Framework for Level 3 are met in a three-year cycling of connected themes.

### Curriculum Themes:

Year A - Where Have the Salmon Gone	Year B - Becoming "US"	Year C - Boundaries and Horizons
Pacific Northwest Origins	Becoming Myself; Becoming America	Exploring Boundaries
Pacific Northwest Developments	Becoming U.S.	Changing Boundaries
Pacific Northwest Futures	Regions of the U.S.	New Horizons

### Subject Areas:

#### **Integrated Studies: Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, STEAM**

Subject material taught in Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and STEAM are integrated around common themes. The blocks of time dedicated to these classes are referred to as **Integrated Studies** blocks. Students are divided into four multi-grade groups that rotate through **Integrated Studies** classes. Integrated studies themes spiral over three years.

In Integrated Studies classes, students apply skills and concepts from all subject areas while investigating local and global issues. They use communication, publishing, and presentation technologies to access, process, and share information. Students further expand their learning through focused, hands-on application of integrated studies concepts in STEAM.

#### **Math**

Students work according to ability in math classes that combine development of basic skills with an emphasis on application of math concepts and skills. Levels include 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math (Pre-Alg I), 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math (Pre-Alg II), Algebra I, and Geometry.

#### **Exploratory Adventure Ed (6<sup>th</sup> grade)**

Hands-on, team focused class that prepares incoming students for the EAS middle school experience. Time-management, organization, greenhouse maintenance, packing/unpacking expedition gear, special topic units (e.g., Planners, Ukelele, World Language Exploration, Design, etc.)

#### **Spanish**

Spanish Level 1 (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) and Spanish Level 2 (8<sup>th</sup> Grade) are aligned with the LWSD curriculum and are high school level courses.

# Curriculum Overview (cont.)

## **Health/Fitness**

Students participate in fitness classes learning sports and fitness skills. Fitness is also a component of our expeditions, as well as a choice in some Wednesday Electives. Health instruction over the three years occurs in science classes, on expeditions, and in our annual 3-day Health Fair at EAS.

## **Technology**

Technology plays an integral role in learning at EAS. Students make use of district provided laptops, flash drives and cloud storage in all classes on a daily basis. They become proficient in the use of word-processing and spreadsheet software, lab probeware and online data bases. Digital cameras and presentation software are used to generate work products. Both teachers and students extensively use Microsoft Teams, OneNote, and LWSD email to extend learning beyond the classroom walls.

## Beyond the Classroom:

### **Community Stewardship Projects**

All EAS students participate in three blocks of **Community Stewardship Projects (CSP)** during the school year. A variety of projects provides students with opportunities for active involvement in both environmental and social stewardship in their community. CSPs involve both hands-on learning and extensive research. Following each session, CSP groups present what they have learned and accomplished to the rest of the school. By the end of their 8th grade year, students have completed over 140 hours of community stewardship. Partnerships with individuals and community organizations provide EAS students, staff and parents with expertise, training and support for various projects. CSP also provides EAS students many opportunities to teach and guide others, as well as opportunities to work in partnership with adult mentors and community organizers. Both environmental and social program opportunities are offered each stewardship session.

### **Outdoor Adventure Education**

All EAS students participate in three Adventure Education weeks each school year:

1. **Fall Camp** - The whole school spends a week at Fall Camp in Western Washington in early September, on an outdoor adventure and community- building excursion.
2. **April Adventures (also known as Spring Trips)** - In the Spring, students participate in one of a variety of smaller group expeditions, each led by an EAS teacher, focusing on environmental, historical, and cultural experiences.
3. **End of Year Camp** - In early June, the entire school participates in a week of tent camping, boating, hiking and outdoor adventuring at one of the waterside state parks in Western Washington.

## Curriculum Overview (cont.)

### **Wednesday Electives**

Students have the unique opportunity to participate in a variety of elective classes on Wednesday afternoons. Wednesday Electives are coordinated by EAS teaching staff in partnership with parent and community volunteers. Wednesday electives include offerings in the areas of Technology, Performing Arts, Sports & Fitness, Arts/Crafts, Cooking, and Hobbies. Classes take place both on and off campus, chaperoned by parents. Class facilitators are highly qualified and experienced in their specific disciplines.

### **Annual Health Fair**

The EAS Health Fair is an enriching 3-day conference and is one of the ways district and state Health Curriculum guidelines are met. The Fair includes keynote speakers addressing current health topics and concerns of middle school students. Students attend both required and elective sessions that focus on aspects of physical, social, and emotional well-being. The Fair draws upon expertise in our larger community and gives students the opportunity to learn about and discuss relevant concepts and issues.

### **Citizenship and Leadership Development**

Students develop confidence and skills to work effectively as leaders, mentors, team members, and public speakers through challenging activities and projects incorporated into all subjects. Additionally, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are given the opportunity to apply for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Team, and take on extra leadership responsibilities.

### **Clans / Advisory**

Students are divided into five Advisory classrooms, also known as Clans. Clans serve as "home rooms" where attendance is taken and students participate in a variety of organizational and community building activities throughout the year. Good-spirited clan competition becomes part of the school year fun. The Clan groups each have a designated "totem". The clan totems are Bears, Orcas, Osprey, Ravens and Wolves. Students remain in the same Clan throughout their three years at EAS. Clan teachers serve as Advisors for their students.

## Grading

### **Standards Based Grading and Grade Expectations**

EAS uses the state's 4-point scoring model where a "3" indicates "at standard". To score a "3" a student must show proficiency in performing a skill or demonstrate a significant grasp of knowledge. A "3" correlates with an 80% or B when using traditional scoring guides. All EAS students are expected to achieve a 3.0 or higher in all of their classes. Student participation on EAS excursions is dependent upon their academic performance at a 3.0 or showing active and significant progress toward a 3.0 in all classes.

# EAS Student and Parent / Family Agreements

Acceptance at EAS requires initial commitment and yearly fulfillment of the following student and parent / family agreements:

## **Student Agreement**

- I will apply myself to my studies in all of my classes and take any necessary steps to improve my skills and study habits. I understand that participation on EAS learning excursions requires a 3.0 (B) grade average (or showing active progress towards a 3.0) in all classes, consistent attendance, and appropriate behavior.

## **Parent/Family Agreement**

- We understand that the cost of EAS excursions and special programs requires financial support in addition to grants and funding obtained by EAS staff. We recognize the requested donation (average range \$350-\$500 per year) provides necessary funding in support of these programs and we understand the necessity of the 25 hour per year volunteer commitment. Should the requested donation present a hardship, we understand that financial assistance is available through the EAS Parent Teacher Organization (“EAS PTO”).
- We will support our child’s academic learning in all classes, provide structure and assistance at home, and work with the teachers as needed to address areas for improvement.
- We understand that the three yearly excursions, Camp Hamilton, April Adventures (Spring Trips), and Bowman Bay, are important components of the school’s integrated curriculum and attendance is not “optional”. All of these excursions have specific learning components that directly connect to district and state learning objectives. Students are assessed on their expeditionary learnings and these grades are included in all core classes (LA/SS/Science/STEM/Art).
- We understand that IEP services are provided to EAS students in accordance with district policies through the campus special education department. These specialized services are subject to interruptions as a result of the differences between the EAS and Finn Hill daily schedules and our three weeklong excursions each year.

# Homework Policy

- Teachers will communicate homework expectations and grading system at the beginning of each year.
- Guided practice will be provided in class.
- Students will maintain an organized notebook and carry it to and from school.
- Satisfactory completion of homework is the student's responsibility.
- Teachers may assign homework over the weekend. Assignments will not be due the first day of school following a holiday weekend.
- Following an excused absence, student and teacher will determine due dates for make-up work. It is the student's responsibility to collect make-up work.
- Following an absence due to illness, a student has the number of days to make up work and tests equal to the number of days missed.
- When a student is absent, he/she should contact a homework buddy and/or check Canvas / OneNote for their class assignments.
- In the case of a pre-arranged, non-illness absence, the student works with teachers in advance of absence to plan make up work and due dates.
- Teachers will inform the parent(s) with a mid-term Progress Report when a student is in danger of receiving a failing grade for their trimester grade.
- Parents can assist students by monitoring binder organization, reviewing student planners and checking Skyward Gradebook for posted assignments.

# Dress Code

The purpose of the school dress code is to help students avoid wearing inappropriate clothing during the school day or any other school related functions. For example:

- Hats/hoods are not to be worn on campus during school hours or other indoor school activities.
- Shirts, blouses, and tops are not to show the midriff (stomach area). Students must be able to move their arms freely without showing their stomach area.
- Shirts should cover the imaginary line from armpits to the top of pants. Strapless or tube tops are not allowed.
- Bottoms (pants, shorts, skirts) must cover to mid-thigh. Bottoms must also be worn at the waist (no showing undergarments).
- Students are required to change clothes for PE.
- Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
- Appropriate footwear should be worn during Community Stewardship and all outdoor activities.
- Clothing that promotes alcohol, drugs, tobacco, racism or sexism, profanity, offensive logos, sexual connotations, firearms, and gang-related material is not permitted.
- No sunglasses are to be worn indoors.
- Heelys (shoes with wheels in the heels) are not allowed.

Students not in compliance with these Dress Code guidelines will be asked to change into appropriate clothing before returning to class. Based on these guidelines, staff will use their discretion to decide on the appropriateness of students' dress. If a student continues to wear inappropriate clothing to school, further consequences may be applied.

# Behavioral Expectations

We believe that student development occurs best within an atmosphere of mutual respect, and therefore any behavior that undermines this respect will not be allowed. Teachers, administrators, and staff will not tolerate any behavior that materially interferes with or is detrimental to the orderly operation of school, school-sponsored activities or any other aspect of the educational process. School jurisdiction and authority include students' conduct to and from school, at school, at bus stops, on busses, and at any school sponsored activity. Also included in the school's jurisdiction is any off-campus student activity which school authorities have reason to believe will interfere with the work of the school or impinge on the rights of other students or staff at school. Such acts, including but not limited to those listed on the following page, shall be subject to discipline, including possible

suspension and/or exclusion from school, and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. Possession of any weapon or replica of a weapon, drugs or alcohol, will result in immediate expulsion.

## Discipline

### **Consequences for Rules Violations**

A progressive discipline approach attempts to relate the imposed disciplinary action or intervention to the severity of the offense and the number of times that offense or accumulated offenses have occurred. Students who violate a rule the first time face disciplinary action commensurate to the violation and a first occurrence. Second violations will result in more severe disciplinary action. Repeated violations may result in severe disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion. At each intervention step, the intent is to assist the student in identifying the problem, understanding what new behavior is necessary, and encouraging the student to accept accountability for his/her actions.

**Teacher-assigned detention:** Student is detained by teacher for up to 60 minutes before/after school. Twenty-four hours' notice, verbal or written, must be given. Student and parents are responsible for transportation.

**School cleanup:** Student is required to pick up trays, wash tables, stack chairs, or pick up litter for the final 15 minutes of a lunch period.

**Restitution:** Damaged or stolen property is replaced or repaired. May be accomplished by dollar payment or student labor.

**Confiscation:** Items considered inappropriate for school, i.e., tobacco, lighter, matches, radios, cap and water pistols, laser pointers, skateboards, knives, noise makers, etc., will be taken away with appropriate consequences.

**Removal of privileges:** Student activities and other school-related privileges are removed; including technology access, dances, sports activities, assemblies, or day activities, etc.

**Class suspension:** Student is removed for one or more days from specified class(es).

**Short-term suspension (STS):** Administered by the lead teacher or building principal, students are removed from school for one to ten (1-10) days. Parents/guardians are contacted and the student is sent home. Formal notification is in writing. This suspension is subject to the building-level appeal process.

**Long-term suspension (LTS):** Administered by the lead teacher or building principal, students are removed from school for eleven (11) or more school days. This suspension is subject to the district-level appeal process. Formal notification is made in writing.

**Emergency expulsion:** Student is removed from school when he/she is considered a danger to himself/herself or others, or is considered an on-going disruption to the teaching/learning process. Formal notification is made in writing. The expulsion is subject to the district-level appeal process.

**Expulsion:** Student is removed from school for an indefinite period of time. Expulsion is subject to district-level appeal.

OFFENSE	CONSEQUENCE / DISCIPLINE
<p><b>Accomplices</b> Aiding and abetting in a wrong doing, i.e. inciting, taunting. Encouraging or planning a wrong doing.</p>	Lunch Time Detention
<p><b>Disrespect</b> Any behavior considered rude, defiant and /or insulting, directed toward a student, staff member, substitute, visitor or parent.</p>	Lunch Time Detention, Suspension, Letter of apology
<p><b>Inappropriate Language</b> Swearing and inappropriate gestures.</p>	Lunch Time Detention, Suspension
<p><b>Incendiary Devices</b> Possession and/or use of any object explosive in nature or that can be ignited (i.e. caps, smoke bombs, firecrackers, matches, lighters, etc.). This also includes stink bombs.</p>	Confiscation, Suspension, Expulsion, Police report
<p><b>Nuisance Items</b> Any item that is disruptive to the school atmosphere which has no bearing on your education is not allowed in classes, including, but not limited to cell phones, iPods, (or any music playing device) laser pointers, skateboards, and roller shoes.</p>	Confiscation, Lunch Time Detention, Suspension
<p><b>Personal Displays of Affection (PDA)</b> Inappropriate touching and/or actions which distract from the school environment including, but not limited to, kissing, prolonged hugging and sitting on laps.</p>	Lunch Time Detention
<p><b>Roughhousing/Play Fighting</b> Students engaging in play fighting, wrestling, or any other behavior that is unsafe.</p>	Lunch Time Detention, Suspension
<p><b>Spitting</b> Any/all spitting on any persons or their belongings or any part of our school.</p>	Lunch Time Detention, Suspension
<p><b>Tardy</b> Student not in his/her seat and prepared for class at the scheduled start of class, including Advisory classroom.</p>	Lunch Time Detention

**SCHOOL RULES APPLY DURING SCHOOL HOURS AND ALSO INCLUDE ANY ON OR OFF CAMPUS SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES (e.g., CAMPS, TRIPS, STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS, ELECTIVES, STUDENT SOCIALS, ETC.)**

# Student Illness & Health Concerns

District nurses are assigned to multiple schools and are not assigned to a specific campus. If a student feels ill during the school day, the teacher may give permission for the student to go to the office. Office staff will take the student's temperature. If the student's temperature is 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher or the student is vomiting, the parent will be called to arrange transportation home. If a student does not have a temperature but feels seriously ill, the parent will also be called to arrange transportation home. Parents should inform the school on the Nurse Alert form if their child has a serious/life threatening health condition. Some examples of life threatening health conditions are diabetes, seizures, severe allergies, asthma and/or cardiac conditions. This list is not all inclusive.

## Medication

The Lake Washington School District's medication policy states that medication will be administered between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM daily. Medications that are given three times a day (e.g., antibiotics) should be given at home in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Students may not medicate themselves unless a health care provider, parent, and school district nurse have given approval. This must be documented on the student's medication order. Should medication need to be administered at school or during an EAS excursion, parent's must have their child's health care provider sign the LWSD medication authorization form (Authorization for Administration of Medication found on the Forms page of the EAS website), provide a separate prescription pharmacy bottle labeled by the pharmacist (handwritten labels will not be accepted), and bring the pharmacy bottle with the exact amount of medication needed for the designated time period (no more than amount necessary for the excursion - or - no more than one month at a time for medication administered at school) to school. **The LWSD medication form is required for all prescription and over-the-counter medications (e.g., non-prescription allergy medication, ibuprofen, Dramamine, etc).** Prior to each school excursion, our district nurse reviews all student medications and forms.

### Medication for Camps & Excursions

We strongly prefer that ONLY MEDICALLY NECESSARY medications be provided for your student for EAS camps and excursions. This is due to both camp facilities and packing space limitations. Medications sent "just in case" are rarely taken or requested by students and take up valuable space in camp packing. Furthermore, even "just in case" medications, such as non-prescription pain relievers, require a LWSD medication form completed by your student's health care provider.

### Epi-Pens and Inhalers

Students needing Epi-Pens and/or Inhalers should have their health care provider's authorization to SELF-CARRY these items at camp. This is so that your student will always have these medically necessary items with them, regardless of where they may be during a camp outing. All EAS staff are First Aid trained and can administer epi-pens as necessary, yet it's challenging in a camp environment to ensure that the staff with your student at any given time will have the student epi-pens in their pack. By having your student self-carry these items in their own day-pack, we can be certain that it will be with them if needed.

# Student Transportation

EAS serves students who live throughout Lake Washington School District. It is each family's own responsibility to arrange their student's daily transportation to/from school. Following are the current options.

## Transportation Options

- **EAS Shuttle Bus** - currently the district offers shuttle bus service to EAS students for an annual fee. The EAS shuttle primarily serves students living on the eastside of the district. Parents must register their student for EAS shuttle service directly through the district. The current shuttle schedule is posted on the EAS website.
- **Finn Hill School Bus** - Students who reside within the Finn Hill Middle School attendance boundaries may ride the Finn Hill bus that serves their neighborhood. No registration is required.
- **Family Carpools** - many EAS families choose to carpool with other families living in their area. Families can use the map posted in the EAS office or digital map in conjunction with the published student directory to make carpool arrangements amongst themselves.
- **Public Transportation** - Starting September 1, 2022, riders 18 and younger can take transit for free thanks to Move Ahead Washington, a statewide transportation funding package.

While parents are responsible for arranging their student's daily transportation to/from school, transportation for EAS camp excursions and trips, Wednesday Electives, and Community Stewardship Projects is coordinated by school staff.

## Bus Guidelines

The bus stop and school buses are viewed as an extension of the classroom. Students on our school buses are expected to act in such a fashion that their behavior will reflect favorably on the individual student and on the school, will show consideration for fellow students, and will create a harmonious atmosphere. To accomplish this, all students must recognize their individual responsibilities and obligations and discharge them in accordance with the school regulations.

- The driver is in full charge of the bus and responsible for the enforcement of rules of conduct.
- Be courteous, use no profane language-spoken, written, or gestured.
- Students must ride their regularly assigned buses at all times unless written permission has been granted by a school administrator.
- Each student may be assigned a seat in which they must be seated at all times.
- Food or beverages must not be consumed on the bus except by permission of the driver.
- Smoking, lighting of matches or throwing objects are strictly prohibited on the bus.

- Windows may be opened to the "red line," however, the driver may require the windows to be closed at his/her discretion.
- No student shall at any time extend any part of his/her body out of the window of a bus.
- Objects that are dangerous or that may cause injury to another person are strictly prohibited from being brought on the school bus. The determination of "dangerous" is at the discretion of the driver.
- Animals or insects are prohibited from being transported on the bus.
- Skateboards are not to be brought onto the bus.
- Belongings of students must be kept out of the aisle. Only band instruments approved by the driver may be transported on the bus.
- No student shall sit in the driver's seat or be immediately to the right or left of the driver at any time.
- Students must be seated and remain seated while the bus is starting, stopping or in motion.
- Students must enter and leave the bus in an orderly manner.
- Students must cross the road only in front of the bus and only with the consent of the driver.

## EAS Parking and Bus Loop

The EAS bus loop is for buses and parent pick-up and drop-off only. At no time should parents stop cars in front of the school bus longer than necessary to drop off students. If the bus pulls in behind you at pick-up time, continue through the loop and come around behind the bus. Please do not block any bus in the bus loop.

Short term parking (less than 5-10 minutes) is permitted in the EAS bus loop during Wednesday Electives carpool loading and unloading only. For Wednesday Electives pickup, carpool drivers may leave the car in the bus loop long enough to enter the building and gather their designated carpool group. When doing so, please pull as far forward and as close to the curb as possible.

The EAS bus loop may also be used for excursion loading and unloading. Specifics will be communicated to drivers when necessary.

Parking on the EAS side of the combined EAS/Finn Hill campus is very limited. Parents can park along the street on 84<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE when needing to leave their cars for an extended time period (longer than 5-10 minutes).

# School Communication

EAS uses a variety of tools to communicate with families of our enrolled students:

- **EAS Website**
- **EAS News Bulletin\*** - delivered 2x/week (Tuesday and Friday) via Parent Square
- **Parent/Family Access** - volunteer application, student grades, lunch account, certain district forms
- **Summer Mailing** - permission forms, volunteer driver authorization form, school picture info, etc.
- **Direct email** - staff contact info in this handbook and on EAS website

\* The majority of our regular communication comes in the form of the **EAS News Bulletin** which is posted to Parent Square and delivered by email to all EAS families every Tuesday and Friday throughout the school year. The EAS News Bulletin is your source for EAS-specific volunteer opportunities, action items (e.g., permission forms, Wednesday Electives registration), event notifications, and other important information specific to our school.

# Parent Involvement

**Parent volunteers are essential for the success of EAS programs!** School staff and the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) coordinate committees and individual parents to support and assist in facilitating a wide range of school projects and activities. Volunteer opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- Driving and chaperoning students on field study days and adventure learning excursions
- Driving and chaperoning students for Wednesday Electives
- Facilitating special school projects and enrichment activities
- Assisting with administrative tasks in support of the school

All EAS families are asked to make an annual volunteer commitment to the school.

# Volunteer Hours

**Each family is responsible for recording and electronically reporting their volunteer service hours to EAS.** Families can use the Volunteer Hours Tracking Log (found on the next page) to manually track their volunteer time throughout the year. Periodically throughout the year, you will be reminded to electronically submit your volunteer hours. Electronic submissions are done through a "Submit Volunteer Hours" link posted on the school website. This is the only method we use to track each family's volunteer time throughout the year.

