



THE CUB NEWS

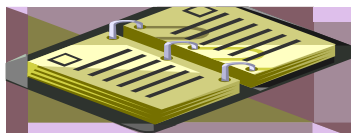
A PUBLICATION OF STEVENS CREEK ELEMENTARY

SEPTEMBER 2026



Stevens Creek Events at a Glance

9/2/26: 1st day for grades 1-5
9/4/26: Early Release @ 2:05pm
9/8/26: 1st day for Kindergarten
9/10/26: PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
9/11/26: Early Release @ 2:05pm
9/16/26: Spirit Wear Orders Due
9/18/26: Early Release @ 2:05pm
9/22/26: Sahara Pizza Night
9/25/26: Early Release @ 2:05pm
10/2/26: Early Release @ 2:05pm



Stevens Creek Contacts

Main Office

425-335-1690

Attendance Line

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Stevens Creek PTA

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Principal's Message

Stevens Creek Families:

Welcome back, Cub families, as we begin the 2026–27 school year together! There is an incredible energy at Stevens Creek right now, and our team is excited about what lies ahead for our Cubs. Every new school year brings new faces, new opportunities, new challenges, and new possibilities- and we are ready to make this a meaningful and successful year for every student who walks through our doors.

We begin this year with some wonderful momentum. For the third consecutive school year, Stevens Creek was recognized by our state for student performance and achievement in literacy and mathematics. That accomplishment reflects the hard work of our students, the dedication of our staff, and the partnership of our families. We are proud of that success- but we also know success is not a finish line. There is always more to learn, improve, and do for kids.

That is what I appreciate most about our team at STC. We celebrate what is going well while continually asking ourselves, “Who needs us to do something differently? Who needs an extra push, a different approach, or a little more support?” At Stevens Creek, we believe every Cub deserves to be seen, heard, and valued, with high expectations, engaging instruction, meaningful challenge, and the support needed to thrive.

And that work begins with getting to know our kids.

September is about more than establishing routines. It is about learning who our students are- what motivates them, what challenges them, what they are passionate about, where they come from, and what makes them uniquely them. At the same time, we are learning about them as students: their strengths, their current skills, and where they are ready to grow.

As part of that process, students will complete classroom-based assessments, in addition to i-Ready diagnostic assessments in mathematics and literacy early in the school year. These assessments help our teachers understand what each student knows today so we can be intentional about what comes next. Our goal is not simply to collect scores; our goal is to understand our students well enough to teach them well. Throughout the year, we will use this information to monitor growth, provide additional support when needed, and extend learning when students are ready for more.

Just as importantly, we are helping our Cubs grow as people. Building friendships, navigating conflict, finding one's voice, developing confidence, managing emotions, and learning how to contribute to a community are all important parts of growing up. We want every student to know: I belong here. My voice matters. I am valued. I can grow.

That work begins in September, but it continues all year long.

So, here we go! A new year. New opportunities to learn, grow, stretch ourselves, and make a difference.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us each day and for partnering with us in this important work. We are excited to make the 2026–27 school year our most successful year yet—not simply because of what our students accomplish, but because of who they become along the way.

Matt Pewitt
Stevens Creek Principal

Weekly Folders & SeeSaw

At Stevens Creek we send home school/PTA information in a weekly folder & through email via Blackboard Communication. The information that is sent home with students on Thursdays will be in a "Blue Cub Folder" provided by the school. You may also receive communication from your child's teacher through SeeSaw or a daily classroom folder. If for any reason you are not receiving your weekly, blue Cub folder, please contact your child's teacher and/or the office, 425-335-1690. If you have questions regarding SeeSaw, please email your child's teacher.



Stevens Creek Picture Day Wednesday, October 7th

Dorian Studio will be here to take individual student pictures on October 7th. ALL students will have their picture taken for official enrollment documentation. Picture order forms will be sent home with students on Thursday, October 1st. The purchase of picture packets is optional. If you would like to order individual student pictures, complete the order form and return it to school with your student on Picture Day, October 7th. Please do not return these order forms prior to our picture day as we do not have a secure place to hold them. You may also order pictures on-line w/ Dorian Studio. This information will be included on the order form we send home October 1st.

Students who may be absent on this day will have the opportunity to have their picture taken on our "re-take" day, November 18th.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the office.



Sahara Pizza Night Coming to Stevens Creek

Stevens Creek has once again partnered with Sahara Pizza in Lake Stevens for a monthly pizza night. For every pizza order placed, Stevens Creek ASB will receive a \$5.00 donation. The two classes with the most orders on our pizza night will receive a pizza party compliments of Sahara Pizza. The donations we receive from Sahara Pizza will be used for House Activities and support ASB activities such as assemblies & field trips. Our first Sahara Pizza night is September 22nd. Look for the Sahara Pizza flyer to come home in your child's Thursday folder the Thursday before this night. Be sure you use this flyer with the teacher name noted and provide it to Sahara Pizza. Don't worry if the flyer gets misplaced, you can write down Stevens Creek and the teacher on a piece of paper or give this information when placing an order over the phone.



Stevens Creek Cubs Handbook

The Stevens Creek Cubs Handbook has been updated and will be available soon on the Stevens Creek homepage under the "Our School" tab. This handbook is a collection of the most important procedures, routines and expectations we have established which are intended to improve your child's and family's experience at Stevens Creek. Hard copies of the handbook are always available in the office.

We thank you in advance for discussing and supporting these common procedures and for helping your child understand what is expected at Stevens Creek.



Stevens Creek PTA

PTA Board 2023-2024

Open-President
Toni Plemel-VP
Stephanie Declercq-Secretary
Leah Keys & Ashley Brach: Co-Treasurers

The PTA is excited for another year @ Stevens Creek. Be sure to check your child's weekly Thursday folder, the STC PTA Facebook page, STC Instagram and emails for important information about our PTA. Our first meeting is September 10th @ 6:30pm in the STC Cafeteria. Typically our meetings will be on the 1st Wednesday of the month, however, due to some scheduling issues, we are having our first meeting on Thursday the 10th.

Our PTA is ready to start another year, plan some fantastic events and support Stevens Creek in so many ways. We encourage you to attend a meeting, see how you can be involved and hear about our organization. Here are some important upcoming events:

- September 10th PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- October 7th PTA Bingo Night @ 6-7:30pm
- October 7th PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- October 23rd Trunk or Treat Event @ 6-7:30pm
- October 26th-November 6th APEX Fundraiser
- November 4th PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
- November 5th APEX Fun Run (during school recess times)



Volunteers Welcome in our Schools

We love our volunteers!! They are valued partners in education of Lake Stevens' students. If you are interested in volunteering or visiting our school during the school day please review the information below.

Fill out the LSSD Volunteer Form: Visit the LSSD website, www.lkstevens.wetnet.edu, find the Community tab, then select Volunteer Program. You will then select the link "Complete an online volunteer application to get started". Be sure to submit at the end. You should receive an email from the district once this has been processed. Then you are ready to volunteer.

Look for volunteer opportunities to come from the school or PTA via email. We will soon be sharing a Sign-up Genius for our Tuesday/Thursday Cruisin Cubs Running Club & Library volunteers. Watch your email for these opportunities. Classroom teachers will be connecting with families regarding volunteering through their classroom SeeSaw.



School Attendance

Attendance continues to be a major focus for us, as we want to see our students attend each day for that consistency and scaffolding of learning that is essential for success! Thank you for continuing to make this an emphasis for your family to be here on time, each day of school. We appreciate it, and it really does help us grow our Cubs in so many ways!

A few attendance reminders & updated District policies:

- If your student cannot attend school due to illness, appointment, etc., please call email our Attendance Secretary, Pam Murkerson (pamela_murkerson@lkstevens.wednet.edu) or call our Attendance line, 425-335-1691.
- Our school hours are 9:15am-3:30pm Monday thru Thursday and 9:15am-2:05pm on Fridays.
- Our buses arrive and the drop-off gate opens at 9am
- Breakfast service begins at 9am in the cafeteria.
- The first bell rings @ 9:10am.
- The start of school bell rings @ 9:15am
- At the Elementary level the student day is divided into three periods; Period 1 is 9:15-11:20am, Period 2 is 11:21am-1:24pm & Period 3 is 1:25-3:30pm Monday thru Thursday AND for Friday Period 1 is 9:15-10:50am, Period 2 is 10:51am-12:29pm & Period 3 is 12:30-2:05pm. When a student is absent for the whole day their absence will show as 3 periods (period 1, 2 & 3), however, this is technically just 1 day absent. This is often confusing to families as they see this as 3 absences.
- Students who are absent for 2 or more periods (either Period 1 & 2 or Period 2 & 3) will also be considered a full day absence.
- If a student arrives 15 minutes or less late in the morning (between 9:15-9:30am) they will be marked T (tardy)
- Students who depart 15 minutes or less early in the afternoon (between 3-3:15pm or 1:50-2:05pm on Friday) they will be marked D (early departure).
- Attendance letters will be generated when a student has 7 full day absences.
- Attendance incident letters will also be generated when a student has 15 or more absences. A TR (truancy) disciplinary code may be generated in Skyward and an Elementary Attendance Contract may be put in place.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding attendance and the policies/procedures, please reach out to Pam Murkerson our Attendance Secretary.



DROPPING-OFF AND PICKING-UP STUDENTS

This year may present some challenges during our drop-off and pick-up times. Construction of Elementary #8, across the street from STC, is in full swing. The construction team is aware of our school start and end times and will do their best to avoid congestion during these times. However, this may not always be possible. We encourage families, who are able, to please use our LSSD School Buses for transporting your child to and from school. We ask that you review our drop-off and pick-up procedures below.

When heading up the hill toward Stevens Creek Elementary, please do not take the first right. This is the bus loop and staff parking only. Please proceed up to the top of the hill to the front of the school and take the next right into the parent/visitor parking lot and the drop-off loop surrounding it.

At times, especially in the afternoon the parent loop may fill up. You will notice a pull-off lane on 29th St., to the right, most of the way up the hill to Stevens Creek. This is a "ferry lane" where vehicles must wait to turn right into the drop-off loop. It's essential that we keep our two-way road leading up to Stevens Creek and the Early Learning Center clear so buses and other vehicles can still access our campuses. **DO NOT exit your vehicle while waiting in this lane.**

Parents are asked to drop off their child in the loop that is located in front of the school. The drop-off loop surrounds the parking lot, and has two lanes. The left lane is a departure lane, while the right lane (closest to the curb) is for drop-off only. If parents or visitors are planning to park and exit their vehicles, the interior parking lot is the only place to do so. **DO NOT** exit your vehicle in the parent-drop off loop.

In order to make the drop-off/pick-up area as safe and efficient as possible, we ask you to adhere to the following:

In the AM, please pull up as far as you can in the loop using the right hand drop-off lane. Say your good-byes before you stop, make sure your child has his/her backpack and items ready to grab, and pull up to the curb to let him/her out on the right side of the vehicle only, onto the sidewalk. We do not want students out in the middle of the left lane. Students should NEVER exit the vehicle on the left side, as vehicles will be pulling out and using the left lane to exit the loop. Please do no park in any red-curbed areas.

In the PM, the first vehicle in the loop needs to pull all the way to the front of the drop-off lane, up against the curb. Subsequent vehicles can pull in right behind against the curb. Please avoid signaling your child to come out to your vehicle unless you are against the curb. **NEVER** ask your child to get into your car if you are in the left exit lane in the loop. Please do not park in any red-curbed areas. And...thanks in advance for your patience! Remember, our goal is to get everyone on their way in the safest and most efficient way possible.

Staff will be in the loop to support you and your child, but it's important that we are all on the same page to ensure that our students stay safe.

On-time pick-up and drop-off: Although we understand issues come up from time to time, frequent late drop-offs or pick ups will be referred to school administration and a meeting will be requested to create a plan for on-time pick-up/drop-off.

In cooperation with our transportation department & our neighbor above, the Early Learning Center, please note the procedures for drop-off and pick-up that affect the Early Learning Center.

The Early Learning Center parking area IS NOT open for dropping off or picking up our STC students. This will be enforced with transportation & other district staff monitoring their entrance before & after school. Buses and ELC staff will be the only vehicles allowed in the ELC parking lot. We will not be sending students up the stairs between STC and the ELC to meet parents who have not followed these procedures.

Why? Transportation needed us to make this change because the ELC parking lot is also our bus loop entrance to the back of our school. Buses have struggled to access this entrance because of vehicles parked or waiting for STC students in their parking lot or entrance. It delays our students getting home, and puts buses further off schedule for later pick up/drop offs.

Once again this year we are asking all STC families to use our waiting "ferry lane" (in the loop surrounding our parking lot & on 29th Street) per our procedures listed above. If you are coming from Soper Hill Road, please drive down to Lake Drive (@ the bottom of the hill), use the roundabout, and come back up to enter the ferry lane. Please **DO NOT** make a left turn into our parking lot during arrival and dismissal.

Do Not exit your vehicle, nor park in this area (loop & "ferry lane") for any amount of time. This will hold up the line, and create real issues for other families trying to drop off or pick up their kiddos.

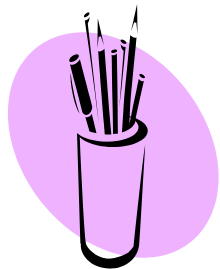
If you must park, there may be a few limited parking spots in the upper STC lot. Please only park in a marked parking stall.

Because parking is limited, we are really encouraging families to use our pick up/drop off "ferry lane" at all times rather than park. In addition, we are encouraging families to have their your child take the school bus if this is an option available to you, this reduces the number of vehicles we have at arrival/dismissal times.

Acknowledging that the parking lot is a busy and full place during arrival and departure times, we ask that you bring your patience and model civility for our students, fellow STC families and staff each day. We are a team, and we can do this together to ensure the safety of our students at arrival and departure each day.

Thank you for partnering with us to make this one more way the school year will be the best one yet for our learning community. We appreciate your attention to this matter. It will take everyone adhering to these procedures and patience as we navigate the drop-off and pick up this school year.

As always, please contact the office if you have any questions.



September 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 Open House 3:45-5:15pm Spirit Wear Sale Begins	2 1st Day of School 	3	4 Early Release @ 2:05pm	5
6	7 No School-Labor Day	8 Kindergarten 1st Day 	9	10 PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm	11 Early Release @ 2:05pm	12
13	14	15	16 Spirit Wear Order Due	17	18 Early Release @ 2:05PM	19
20	21	22 Sahara Pizza Night 	23	24	25 Early Release @ 2:05PM	26
27	28	29 	30	1	2 Early Release @ 2:05PM	3