

First Creek Middle School



Our First Creek Why:

Empowering a Community of Learning and Opportunities.

Our First Creek Motto:

Always on time, on track, and on a mission to academic excellence.

This planner belongs to:

2026-2027

SCHOOL INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE:

Main Office	253 571 2700
Office Coordinator – Samuel Hernandez	253 571 2707
Attendance – Lucinda Torres-Staats	253 571 2700
Enrollment – Jennine Jones-Trachier	253 571 2712
Principal – Montell Carter	253 571 2700
Assistant Principal – Travis Davio	253 571 2702
Athletic Director—Darcel Carter	253 571 2721

HEALTH ROOM:

Nurse: Debbie Sullivan	253 571 2716
LPN: Alison Arglen	253 571 2714

COUNSELORS:

Emily White: Last Names A – L

Adam Sanders: Last Names M – Z

TEACHERS:

Teachers are available to speak with parents by telephone between 7:00 am and 7:35 am and from 2:15 pm to 2:30 pm. Teachers are available for conferencing by appointment. Please call 253 571 2700 if you need to speak to a First Creek teacher or staff member.

SCHOOL HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: Breakfast at 7:15 AM – 7:35 AM. Classes start at 7:40 AM.

Wednesday: Breakfast at 8:15 AM – 8:35 AM. Classes start at 8:40 AM.

School ends at 2:10 PM every day. Students must leave campus at that time unless they are involved in athletics or other school-sponsored or community partner-sponsored activities under supervision.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES:

In the event of severe weather, school may be closed or school starting time may be changed. Announcements will be made over several tv stations, social media and on the district website.

Please listen carefully for announcements regarding “Tacoma School District # 10.”

www.tacomaschools.org

2026 - 2027 Middle School Sports Seasons

The Tacoma Public Schools All-City League includes teams from all 10 comprehensive middle schools. Student-athletes have the ability participate in 11 different sports.

<u>Session 1</u> Sept. 14-Oct 29	<u>Session 2</u> 11/4-1/7/27	<u>Session 3</u> 2/8-4/1/27	<u>Session 4</u> 4/14-6/5/27
Boys Basketball Girls Soccer Baseball	Volleyball Boys Soccer	Girls Basketball Football Cross Country	Wrestling Fast Pitch Track and Field

Tacoma Public Schools is introducing a “pay to participate” model to support the long-term sustainability of high school and middle school athletic programs, while ensuring access for every student, regardless of financial circumstances.

Students participating in school-sponsored middle and high school sports will be asked to contribute an athletic participation fee per sport season through a tiered structure.

- Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch:
 - Fee is \$0
- All other students:
 - Middle school fee: \$50 per season

Fees will support the rising costs of uniforms and equipment, transportation to and from matches, coaching salaries and officiating costs.

No student will be turned away due to financial hardship. Under state law, students who qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program will automatically have athletic participation and ASB fees waived. Families who need assistance can speak directly to their school’s front office staff.

To support families with multiple student-athletes, Tacoma is offering a Family Plan, which caps a family’s total contribution at \$400.

The Rules of Good SPORTSMANSHIP

Play by the rules.

Always play fair.

Encourage teammates.

Respect your opponents.

Accept official rulings.

Learn from your mistakes.

Be a team player.

Don't make excuses.

Lose with dignity.

Win with class.

Tacoma Public Schools
2026-27 School Year Student Calendar

1st – 4th Non-school days
7th Labor Day
8th Non-school day

9th First student day

14th Kindergarten start date

16th Late starts begin

16 student days

SEPTEMBER 26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		N	N	N	N	5
6	H	N	SS	10	11	12
13	KS	15	LS	17	18	19
20	21	22	LS	24	25	26
27	28	29	LS			

OCTOBER 26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	LS	8	9	10
11	N	13	LS	15	16	17
18	19	*20	LS	E	E	24
25	26	27	LS	29	30	31

12th Waiver Day (no school)

20th Elementary conferences
*Early release grades K-5

21st Late-start school day, no
early release

22nd – 23rd All grades conferences
Early release grades K-12

21 student days

11th Veterans' Day

25th – 27th
Thanksgiving break

17 student days

NOVEMBER 26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	LS	5	6	7
8	9	10	H	12	13	14
15	16	17	LS	19	20	21
22	23	24	H	H	H	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	LS	3	4	5
6	7	8	LS	10	11	12
13	14	15	LS	17	18	19
20	N	N	N	N	H	26
27	N	N	N	N		

Dec 21 – Jan 1 Winter break/
no school

14 student days

1st New Year's Day

4th School resumes

18th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

19 student days

JANUARY 27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					H	2
3	4	5	LS	7	8	9
10	11	12	LS	14	15	16
17	H	19	LS	21	22	23
24	25	26	LS	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY 27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	N	2	LS	4	5	6
7	8	9	LS	11	S	13
14	H	N	LS	18	19	20
21	22	23	LS	25	26	27
28						

1st Semester break/no school

2nd Second semester begins

12th Snow make-up day

15th Presidents' Day

16th Waiver day (no school)

16 student days

11th – 12th All grades conferences
Early release for all
students

23 student days

MARCH 27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	LS	4	5	6
7	8	9	LS	E	E	13
14	15	16	LS	18	19	20
21	22	23	LS	25	26	27
28	29	30	LS			

APRIL 27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	N	N	N	N	N	10
11	12	13	LS	15	16	17
18	19	20	LS	22	23	24
25	26	27	LS	29	30	

5th – 9th Spring break

17 student days

28th Snow make-up day

31st Memorial Day

19 student days

MAY 27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	LS	6	7	8
9	10	11	LS	13	14	15
16	17	18	LS	20	21	22
23	24	25	LS	27	S	29
30	H					

JUNE 27						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	LS	3	4	5
6	7	8	LS	10	11	12
13	14	15	LS	17	H	19
20	21	22	E	S	S	26
27	28	29	30			

18th Juneteenth, observed

23rd Last day of school/
early release

24th, 25th Snow make-up days, if
needed

16 student days

N = Non-School Day H = Holiday (no school) SS = School Starts KS = Kindergarten Start Date
LS = Late Start Day E = Early Release S = Snow Make-Up Day



2026-2027 First Creek Bell Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

1st Lunch

1 st Period	7:40 AM – 8:37 AM
2 nd period	8:40 AM – 9:37 AM
3 rd period	9:40 AM – 10:37 AM
Lunch 1	10:40 AM – 11:10 AM
4 th period	11:13 AM – 12:10 PM
5 th period	12:13 PM – 1:10 PM
6 th period	1:13 PM – 2:10 PM

2nd Lunch

1 st Period	7:40 AM – 8:37 AM
2 nd period	8:40 AM – 9:37 AM
3 rd period	9:40 AM – 10:37 AM
4 th period	10:40 AM – 11:37 AM
Lunch 2	11:40 AM – 12:10 PM
5 th period	12:13 PM – 1:10 PM
6 th period	1:13 PM – 2:10 PM

Wednesday Late-Start

1st lunch

1 st period	8:40 AM – 10:02 AM
2 nd period	10:05 AM – 10:45 AM
3 rd period	10:48 AM – 11:28 AM
Lunch 1	11:31 AM – 12:01 PM
4 th period	12:04 PM – 12:44 PM
5 th period	12:47 PM – 1:27 PM
6 th period	1:30 PM – 2:10 PM

2nd Lunch

1 st period	8:40 AM – 10:02 AM
2 nd period	10:05 AM – 10:45 AM
3 rd period	10:48 AM – 11:28 AM
4 th period	11:31 AM – 12:11 PM
Lunch 2	12:14 PM – 12:44 PM
5 th period	12:47 PM – 1:27 PM
6 th period	1:30 PM – 2:10 PM

First Creek Dress Code

ALL CLOTHING: No exposed skin from collar bones to three inches above the knees and no see-through material. No bandana patterned clothing.

1. TOPS:

- First Creek Eagle Top – purchased at First Creek Middle School *** required for all students***
- The dress code consists of a First Creek approved hoodie or T-shirt.
- Uniforms MUST ALWAYS be visible and not covered up by outside layers.
- You must be identifiable as a First Creek student by your uniform.
- Uniforms must be worn appropriately, as intended to wear (not around your waist or neck).

2. BOTTOMS:

- All pants should be worn at the waistline.
- Shorts, dresses, and skirts should be no higher than 3 inches above the knee.
- No tears, holes, or cuts higher than 3 inches above the knee unless solid leggings are worn underneath.

3. FOOTWEAR:

- Must have toe covering and back/heel straps and soles.
- No flip flops, sandals, slides, or slippers.
- No heels taller than 2 inches.

4. ACCESSORIES:

- No hoods or hats/caps to be worn in the building.
- The following items are not allowed at school:
 - Bandanas, Do-rags, Spikes, Sunglasses, Stuffed Animals, Furry Accessories
- Clothing items can never promote or reference the following:
 - Alcohol, Bigotry, Drugs, Gangs, Racism, Sexual Content, Suicide, Tobacco, Vandalism, Violence

5. PE GEAR:

- Students must wear athletic shoes in PE class.
- If weather permits, PE will be outside. Please bring a coat.

Dress Code

The purpose of the First Creek dress code is to promote school identity, safety, and a positive learning environment. Students are expected to remain in dress code throughout the school day, including arrival and departure. Students not in compliance may be asked to make adjustments or have appropriate items brought to school by a parent or guardian.

We will have **Free Dress Days**. Students are required to dress appropriately and according to the guidelines set forth by staff and administration. Questions regarding this attire must be clarified beforehand. *** Please notify the office or counselors if you are having difficulty fulfilling the dress code expectations.**



First Creek Student Cell Phone Policy

All First Creek classrooms, passing periods and lunches will be cell phone, Bluetooth, and headphone free. As a result, students must keep cell phones off or in silent mode in their backpacks.

Below are the expectations for First Creek students regarding cell phone use:

- Cell phones may be used on school grounds before and after school only.
- Cell phone use is prohibited inside the school unless the student visits the office and gets permission to make a phone call to a guardian.
- **During the instructional day, cell phones must remain in the student's backpack.**
- The use of non-Bluetooth headphones is permitted in the classroom for academic purposes only and will be instructed by the teacher.
- Wireless earbuds and headphones are not allowed.
- Students will be subject to corrective action if cell phone or headphones are used during the school day.
 - Students who have a cell phone visible will have it confiscated and sent to the office.
 - First Offense – Phone returned to student at the end of the day
 - Second Offense – Phone returned to student at the end of the day and parent/guardians will be notified
 - Third Offense – Parent/Guardian will be required to pick up the phone from the office and student may be required to check phone in at the beginning of each school day.
- The school and its staff are not responsible for any damage or theft of a student's cell phone or headphones.
- During any safety drills or emergencies, cell phone use is prohibited to ensure safety. Communication regarding school emergencies will come from administration.

A constant school-wide policy to prohibit cell phone use during the day will support student success, promote a bully free environment, nurture positive social emotional growth, and increase academic engagement. The intent is to support students in their academic success, removing major temptations and distractions and promoting face to face interactions and connections.

How to be a Successful Eagle

The Eagle Way:

Empowering a Community of Learning and Opportunities.

TPS Land Acknowledgment:

We gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Twulshootseed language.

Rights of Eagle Learners:

1. The right to say what makes sense to you.
2. The right to make mistakes.
3. The right to revise your thinking.
4. The right to share unfinished thinking and not be judged.
5. The right to be confused.

Hall Passes:

- Students **MUST** have a pass when leaving class.
- If students are in the halls without a pass, it is assumed they are not where they are supposed to be.
- ONE PASS PER CLASS AT A TIME, unless it is an emergency or a different situation.
- Students should not be gone more than 5 minutes from class.

Let's Keep it REAL – learning and engagement starts and finishes with every Eagle, every period, every day.

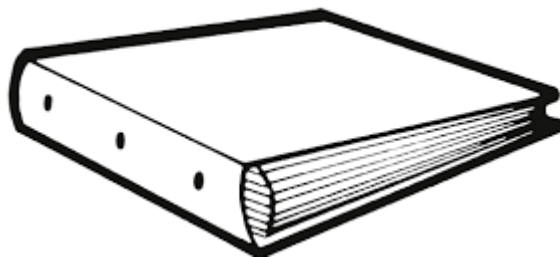
15/15

No hall passes the first and last 15 minutes of class.

Daily Materials and Habits for Success

Bring all materials and supplies to class. This includes the following:

- Laptop, fully charged
- Charger for Laptop
- Binder w/ planner, pencil pouch & dividers
- Notebooks for all classes
- Pencils and/or pens
- Highlighters
- Colored pencils
- Textbook or consumable



All students need to carry a backpack or bag with their school and personal things.

Turn in Assignments on time.

Ask for help.

First Creek Tardy Policy

Students are expected to be in their classrooms and ready to learn when the bell rings. Students who violate this expectation will be subject to disciplinary action as follows:

- Students who are tardy without an excused pass to 2 classes in a single day will be assigned a lunch detention.
- Students who are tardy without an excused pass to 3 classes in one week will be assigned lunch detention.
- Students who are tardy 5 times a week will receive a phone call home. If the problem persists, students will be required to have a parent/guardian conference with an administrator.

CODE OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT
NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS
REQUIRED BY FEDERAL DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS
AND COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1989

All information and details can be found using the following link:

www.tacomaschools.org/about/district-handbook

[First Creek Middle School - First Creek Middle School \(tacomaschools.org\)](http://www.tacomaschools.org)

TPS Nondiscrimination Statement

Tacoma Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Civil Rights Coordinator: Renee Trueblood 253-571-1252, civilrights@tacoma.k12.wa.us

Title IX Coordinator: Wayne Greer 253-571-1191, wgreer@tacoma.k12.wa.us

504 Coordinator: Elise Friedrich-Nielsen 253-571-1065, efriedr@tacoma.k12.wa.us

Tacoma Public Schools Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1357 Tacoma, WA 98401-1357