

Our Schools

SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER



FEATURE ARTICLES

- Superintendent search
- Students build bridges through language
- Budget update





A thank you!

Everett Public Schools says, “thank you” and “bon voyage” to two long-time district leaders: Superintendent Dr. Gary Cohn and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Joyce Stewart.

Dr. Cohn is retiring after 39 years in education, the last 10 of which were with the district. He leaves a legacy of student achievement through improving graduation rates, developing new community partnerships, building the district brand, and closing the achievement gap often caused by poverty.

Dr. Stewart is also retiring after 39 years in education, 20 of which have been with Everett Public Schools. She supervised schools, lead teacher and principal professional development, on-time graduation, and college and career readiness. She is well known throughout the district for previous positions as principal at Evergreen Middle School and Madison Elementary School.

These two individuals dedicated their lives to bettering education. The district is better because of their commitment, forward thinking, and passion for helping students. They will be missed.



*Dr. Joyce Stewart
(left) and Dr. Gary
Cohn (far right)*

Superintendent search

The school board hired Ray and Associates as the search firm to guide the work of finding the right candidates for the district’s new superintendent. The leadership profile for the new superintendent, created from the result of over 40 focus groups and 700 online surveys, was created. Thank you to everyone who took the time to give feedback on the qualities needed in our new superintendent. That profile was used to recruit applicants nationwide, and the board is now selecting semi-finalists and finalists by the end of May. You have the opportunity for a meet and greet with the finalists on Wednesday, May 29, at the Community Resource Center. Visit www.everettsd.org for more information.

MEET & GREET 

MAY 29

**Community
Resource Center**
3900 Broadway, Everett
5:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Music4Life

Do you have musical instruments to share? Music4Life is a nonprofit that acquires “lovingly used” musical instruments, repairs them and provides them to participating public school districts for use by students who need them. Everett Public Schools partners with Music4Life with the goal of making our band, strings, and orchestra programs accessible to children whose families cannot afford instruments.

Check your basement and attic to see if you have a buried musical treasure that can be repurposed to enhance a student’s experience in our school district.

Learn more about Music4Life and how to donate instruments at www.music4life.org. Be sure to let them know you are supporting Everett Public Schools’ music program. Thank you!

For questions related to the Music4Life program in Everett Public Schools, please contact Georgia Lindquist, Director of Humanities and Literacy, at glindquist@everettsd.org.

Everett Career Link

Everett Career Link is a partnership between the city of Everett and Everett Public Schools offering youth internship opportunities. Students can earn work experience, academic credit and may earn a stipend through an internship.

This initial year of this partnership, about 80 students are being placed in internships in fields such as medical, communications, business services and manufacturing. Their “matches” with local internship opportunities will be confirmed this month during school receptions.

“This jobs partnership will open doors for employers to host interns, will provide tremendously improved opportunities for our students to get real-world career experiences while earning high school credits, and will aid our region’s economic health for years to come,” said Superintendent Gary Cohn.



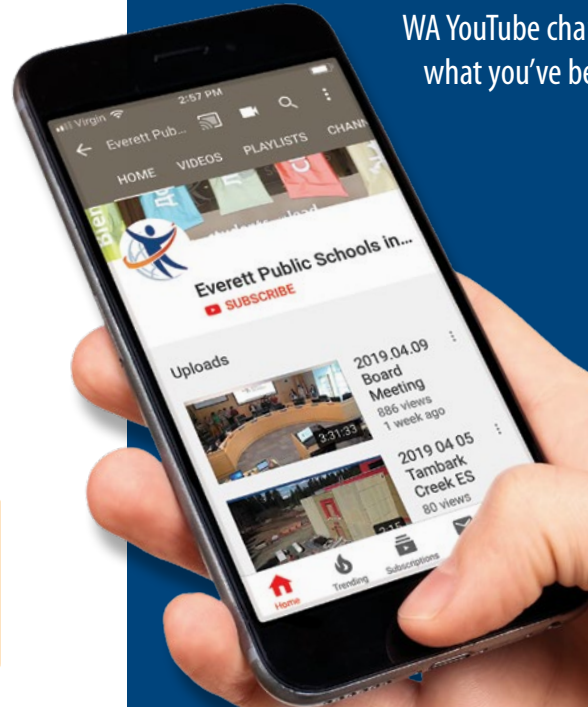
Learn more at the district’s Internships and Youth Apprenticeships webpage at <http://bit.ly/2ZLdMKT>



Do you YouTube?



Did you know Everett Public Schools has a YouTube channel where we post board meeting videos, reading videos, school community videos and more? Subscribe to the Everett Public Schools WA YouTube channel to see what you’ve been missing.



at Everett Memorial Stadium

As part of the district’s contract with the AquaSox, amended in July 2017, the team was allowed to sell naming rights for the baseball field at Memorial Stadium. In March, the team and district solidified a deal with Funko, Inc. (“Funko”) in Everett to name the field Funko Field at Everett Memorial Stadium. As part of the agreement, Funko will add a 15-foot figurine to right field and the company’s branding will be added to the field, outfield wall, foul poles, and promotional materials.





Tambark Creek Elementary School

Tambark Creek Elementary is scheduled to open by fall 2019. Located at 4419 180th St. SE, just east of Sunset Rd., the school will be the learning home for 550 students in grades K-5.

Ms. Celia O'Connor-Weaver, currently the principal at Hawthorne Elementary School, will be the principal of the new elementary school. Approximately 60 faculty and staff will join her to support student learning and many have already been hired. The school will have 30 classrooms, an administrative office, library, gymnasium, a cafeteria, kitchen, covered play area and playfields. The site also has a protected wetlands area, which will be used for outdoor learning.

Roofing is complete. Exterior siding and windows are being installed. Interior sheetrock is nearly complete. Paint and tackable wall panels are being installed in the classroom wings along with cabinets and shelving. Plumbing, electrical and mechanical work is also nearly complete. Neighbors may have noticed the private road installation from 180th to 174th St.



Scheduled to open **fall 2019**

North Middle School

Elevator and window installations are complete. Electrical and mechanical rough-ins are nearing completion. Even while sheetrock installation and taping continue, interior painting has begun. Wood siding and data cabling continue. Brick and metal siding are complete in the courtyard and continue in other areas. The reconstruction is on track to finish by this fall with parking lots and playfields to finish next school year.



Scheduled completion **fall 2019**

Woodside Elementary School

Plans have been submitted for the building permits and the state electrical review. With construction documents finalized and county conditional use permits requested, the construction bid was posted May 1. The Woodside renovation is scheduled to be completed fall of 2020.



Scheduled completion **fall 2020**

Follow the progress of all capital projects at www.everettsd.org/capitalprojects

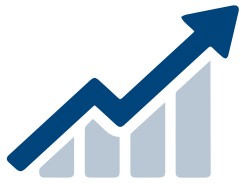


Growth

Student enrollment in the district continues to increase, making classroom and school space a continual challenge. Projections reveal further growth throughout the district. The district works with a consultant to provide timely and specific projections to help prepare for future growth. Student enrollment drives 60 percent of the funding the district receives from the state, so accurate data is critical in planning for space and budget.

Current projections show high school enrollment exceeding districtwide permanent capacity by 2022, and elementary school enrollment exceeding districtwide permanent capacity by 1,800 students by 2028.

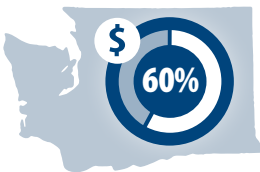
As the district continues to respond to higher and higher enrollment, a committee made of staff and community members developed recommendations for adjusted elementary school boundaries. The board approved those boundary changes, which will go into effect this fall. The new elementary school, Tambark Creek, will help offset some of the neighboring elementary school's crowded hallways, but will open its doors to already at-capacity classrooms, leaving little room for the growing number of students in the coming years.



By 2022, high school enrollment will exceed district capacity

1,800

By 2028, elementary school enrollment will exceed capacity by 1,800 students



Student enrollment drives 60% of funding from the state

The High School Growth Mitigation Planning Committee has been working on a similar recommendation for the superintendent to review and present to the board on May 21. If approved, those recommendations will go into effect fall of 2020.

A Capital Bond Planning Committee, also made of staff, students and community members, is busy reviewing data, considering increasing enrollment and what that means for student needs in the very near future.

To learn more about these committees and see their materials, minutes and recommendations, visit www.everettsd.org and click on the Community tab.

We're hiring!

If you've ever wanted to help in a classroom or lend your talents at a school, apply to be a classroom paraeducator, a food and nutrition employee, or a school office professional! Everett Public Schools is hiring both substitute and regular positions, full- and part-time.

Beginning rates are:

- Paraeducator: \$16.52/hr
- Office Personnel: \$15.79/hr
- Food & Nutrition: \$14.24/hr
- Substitute Teacher: \$165/day

Look for the Employment icon on www.everettsd.org to apply.



Jackson High turns 25!

When Jackson High School (JHS) opened its doors 25 years ago, it was a spacious, modern school for its new students.

Originally built in 1994 for 1,500 students, there were only 9th and 10th grade students attending, allowing plenty of room for 660 students and almost 75 staff members. At that time, enrollment was low and the construction boom was just beginning.

"This year we are beginning a new set of traditions. Not just in sports teams, mascots and dances, but the traditions that will make the students at JHS better prepared for college and the real world," wrote Kristina Fudge in the opening page of the 1994-95 yearbook (<http://bit.ly/JHS1994-95Yearbook>).

Those values and commitments continue today, but the way students learn has definitely changed. "Ever since our school opened in 1994, it has been our mission to prepare students for their futures," shared current principal Dave Peters. "Of course, the 'future' for students has significantly changed in the last quarter century. Today we are preparing students to hold jobs that may not yet exist, using technologies that haven't been invented, and to solve problems that we don't know are problems yet."

Ever since our school opened in 1994, it has been our mission to prepare students for their futures.

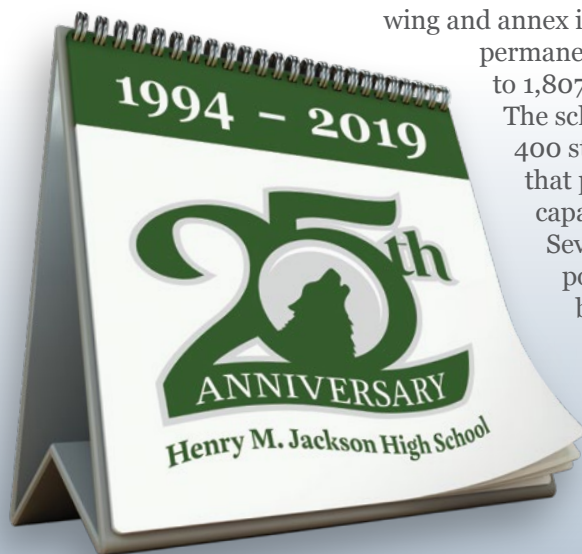
Original staff members Carol Barnes, David Hutt, Laura Nelson, Kirk Nicholson, Stephanie (Andrews) Powell, Kaye Peterson and Joel Vincent have dedicated their careers to the students at JHS; 25 years later, they're still there! Monica (Lochrie) Andersen graduated from Jackson and is now teaching Nutrition and Independent Living at the school.

There are now over 2,200 students and almost 190 staff members at JHS. An additional wing and annex increased the

permanent capacity to 1,807 students.

The school is nearly 400 students over that permanent capacity.

Seventeen portables have been added to help offset the student enrollment growth.



Cynthia Gaub Pacific Region Art Educator of the Year

Each year the National Art Education Association (NAEA) celebrates outstanding art educators in all divisions and regions, and from each state and province in the national awards program. Winners are recognized at the national conventions.

This year Cynthia Gaub, a teacher at North Middle School, was honored as Pacific Region Middle School Art Educator of the Year.



Working at North since 2004, she says this about the importance of visual arts. "I believe visual arts can provide students with an important outlet.

"Teaching in an urban, high poverty school, I offer differentiated learning through the use of 'Teaching for Artistic Behavior' pedagogy. Presenting at conventions has given me the opportunity to share my 'Around the Room' technique for skill building in a choice setting. I share through my blog, arts education magazines, and by contributing to books, including Studio Habits and Engaging Learners."

Having recently finished serving as a co-president for the Washington State chapter of the association, she is looking forward to new opportunities within the organization. Cynthia was honored at several ceremonies at the Boston-held convention in March and will be recognized by the Everett Public Schools Board of Directors in May.

"It is an honor to be recognized by my peers for the work that I have done with my students."

Cascade students form Multilingual Ambassadors Squad

Speaking languages from all over the world, students build bridges

When Spanish teacher Jessica Montalvo-Lopez thought about the many families at Cascade High School who needed help communicating with school staff or students, she realized she couldn't do it alone.

"I have seen many times the difficulty of school communications with parents and students who are not native English speakers. I was one of them 20 years ago. I was able to help sometimes when one of the languages I speak was needed, but there are many other languages that are spoken in today's multicultural society that I cannot help the school with."

Montalvo-Lopez brainstormed ways to help and eventually struck upon a win-win solution. "I was talking with my husband about how important it is for my students to do service hours and how Cascade High School based this year's educational work on 'building bridges.' I developed this language and cultural service opportunity for students to meet both needs."

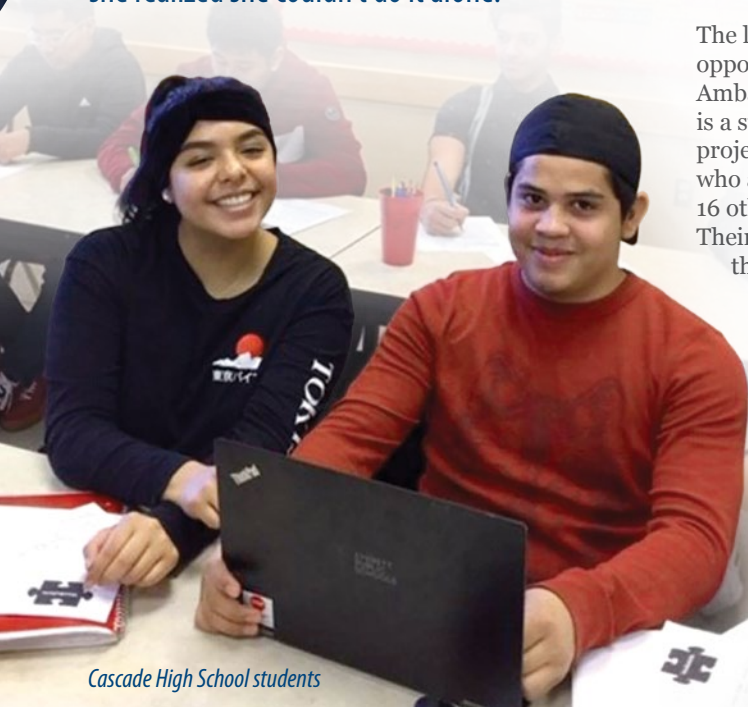
The language and cultural service opportunity is called the Multilingual Ambassadors Squad (MAS). It is a student volunteer-led pilot project. Currently, 63 students who are bilingual in English and 16 other languages participate. Their assignments vary. One of the MAS members recently translated an elementary school advertisement for multicultural night into Ukrainian; another led a high school campus tour with a new family. "For our students, it is a

unique and exciting opportunity designed to promote cultural pride and increase the academic excellence of their fellow students," shared Montalvo-Lopez.

Sophomore student Esther Martinez translates for Russian speakers as part of MAS. She shared, "Multilingual Squad has helped me realize how important other cultures are and how important it is to show who you are and where you came from. I am so happy to be part of this new group and am so excited to see how each and every one of us who translate can help others who need it. My mother is from Russia and my father is from El Salvador. I am so proud of my heritage."

Freshman Sofiya Kochubey explained, "I am honored to be able to use my Ukrainian speaking skills to help those who don't speak English and be part of the Multilingual Ambassadors Squad at CHS. Assisting people with translation is something I find pleasure in and I hope I can continue using my translation skills throughout my life."

Leading this effort, but giving students the credit, is Montalvo-Lopez, a native of Peru. She has taught for 20 years and this is her second year at Cascade High School. She added she hopes this effort will also "help non-English speaking families feel a deeper sense of respect and connection to the Cascade High School community."



Cascade High School students

Innovation Expo

Students and families will enjoy seeing and interacting at booths from schools from across the district at this year's Innovation Expo on June 5, 5-8 p.m., at Angel of the Winds Arena. School booths showcase something innovative the students are learning, and community booths join the fun with interactive booths of their own. With a focus on career connected learning, the displays introduce students and their families to contemporary and innovative careers.

The STEM competition is a favorite part of the event for many students and families. Come see the best student projects from around the district and hear what the students learned by completing their projects.





NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT NO. 1

PO BOX 2098
Everett, WA 98213



Board of Directors: (back row) Pam LeSesne, Traci Mitchell,
(front row) Caroline Mason, Jamyang Dorjee Nhangkar, Carol Andrews

Board of Directors

- Carol Andrews
- Caroline Mason
- Traci Mitchell
- Pam LeSesne
- Jamyang Dorjee Nhangkar

Superintendent

- Dr. Gary Cohn

Nondiscrimination statement

Everett 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:

**Title IX/Civil Rights
Compliance Officer:**

Mary O'Brien
425-385-4106
MO'brien@everettsd.org
PO Box 2098
Everett WA 98213

Section 504 Coordinator:

Becky Ballbach
425-385-4063
RBallbach@everettsd.org
PO Box 2098
Everett WA 98213

ADA Coordinator:

Randi Seaberg
425-385-4104
RSeaberg@everettsd.org
PO Box 2098
Everett WA 98213

Budget update

Last fall the district communicated concerns over potential budget challenges this year, noting that although legislators provided increased funding for school employees' compensation as a result of the McCleary decision, they also reduced the amount school districts could collect through a local operating levy. This reduction, along with the inadequate funding for special education and other factors, if not addressed in the 2019 legislative session, would result in a significant shortfall in the district's 2019-20 budget. Many other Washington school districts voiced this concern as well.

Uncertain as to how the legislature would respond this year, the school district implemented several cost-saving measures over the winter and carefully protected the budgetary reserves. As the legislature provided some additional funding for special education, as well as allowed the district to access the voter-approved levy amounts beginning in calendar year 2020, the 2019-20 budget forecast is now much improved.

The district will assess the implications of all legislative actions on this and future year budgets, but immediate concerns have been greatly mitigated. The overall implications for the 2019-20 budget will be seen when the annual operating budget is presented to the board in July.

Kindergarten registration

Do you have a child who will be
5 years old by Aug. 31, 2019?
Registration is happening now at
all 17 district elementary schools.



Which school will your kindergartner attend? To find out, click on School and Route Finder under the Parents tab, or call the district transportation department at 425-385-4144.

FOLLOW US @



Our mission is to inspire, educate, and prepare each student to achieve to high standards, contribute to our community, and thrive in a global society.