

September 3, 2020

Hello Everett Public Schools families!

School starts September 9 (14th for Kindergarten)

There is nothing more exciting than the start of a new school year. I hope you had a refreshing break this summer. We have been working hard training and preparing for an amazing start to a school year that looks a bit different. I could not be more excited! We have less than a week to go and I hope you are feeling energized as well.

We created a little video for the start of the school year working off the theme <u>Adventure Together</u>. I hope you like it! It is a good reminder to just go all out and give our best for our students and by working together we can do this. It is available with multiple language subtitles on our website.

I also want to let you know that yesterday we launched <u>Parent University</u>. After remote learning in the spring, we heard feedback from our parents they need more support and more information during remote learning. Parent University is an on-demand resource created to help parents and guardians become full partners in their child's education. You have access to on-demand content to view at your leisure and we will continue to add content throughout the year.

Conferences

This year is going to start off with conferences to engage with families to prepare and support them for remote learning.

<u>Elementary:</u> There will be five (5) days of elementary conferencing during the first five (5) days of school – September 9 - 15. The conferences will be scheduled by your teacher and will not change your student's remote learning schedule. For Kindergarten, Family Connection meetings are scheduled on September 9, 10, 11 for all students and their families (the first day of school for kindergartners is Sept. 14).

<u>Middle and High:</u> Conferences will be on the first three (3) days of school - **September 9 – 11**. Class time will be shortened those three days by two and a half (2.5) hours to allow teachers to have non-instructional time to connect with students and parents for conferencing. Middle and high schools will communicate conference times to families prior to September 9.

Student Meals

We are pleased to share the USDA is extending their free meal waiver until December 31, 2020, which means school meals will be free for all children ages 1-18 regardless of their eligibility status. You do not even need to attend Everett Public Schools to take advantage of these meals. We listened to your feedback and understand it may be hard to pick up meals every day, so we are providing weekly meal kits, which will contain five (5) breakfasts and five (5) lunches. They are available to be picked up at different times throughout the day at 14 elementary schools and nine other community locations. We are asking for preorders this year to help plan for the number of meals. Please visit remote learning meals on our website for details.

Attendance

Whether your child is in a scheduled face-to-face instruction time with their teacher or working on a directed learning assignment on their own, being present and engaged is vital to their academic growth. Visit our Attendance Matters page for how you can support your child's attendance.

First Day of School

September 9 is the first day of school and it is going to be great! You will likely have heard from your teacher by then, but if not, as a reminder for what time your classes start, please refer to the <u>remote student schedules</u>. Because student schedules are still being finalized, you will not be able to see current information in Canvas until Tuesday, September 8. At that time, students can log in by using the Student Menu on the district website and selecting "Canvas" from the Student Tools page. Using their student ID number and their computer password they will access the Canvas Dashboard which will show their current classes and course information.

We are looking forward to a great year and appreciate your support. Thank you for supporting your child's education and for partnering with us as we Adventure Together!

Be well,

Dr. Ian B. Saltzman Superintendent