

## News release August 23, 2022

## Transitional Days into Kindergarten Supports Student Success

78% of Everett Public School's kindergarteners are scheduled to attend Everett Ready



Everett Ready students get a feel for what kindergarten will be like in a few weeks.

In Everett Public Schools, kindergarten starts with Everett Ready. Everett Ready is a transition program offered in August for all students entering kindergarten in September. It provides an opportunity for students to become familiar with the school campus, the staff and their kindergarten peers. The program supports positive, consistent experiences for all children and families with time and space to learn school routines and practices before the older students arrive.

Taking place this year August 22 – 26 for three hours a day in the morning, it is held at each elementary school so students can learn the routines and practices at their new school campus. The program is free for all students, thanks largely to the Everett Public Schools Foundation.

This year, 1,105 of the 1,415 students registered for kindergarten in Everett Public Schools are enrolled in Everett Ready, that is up from fewer than 60 kids when the program started in 2016 and was only held on two campuses. Everett Ready is a result of some cross-district coalition work designed to build program alignment across the region, initially funded by the Gates Foundation.

Anne Arnold, Director of P-5 Instruction and Early Learning Programs states, "Everett Ready provides a safe, engaging start to kindergarten for every student in Everett Public Schools and launches our young students on a trajectory of educational success. The program also provides parents an opportunity to meet with school leaders to ask questions and get information about transportation, school meals, schedules and how to best support their student's learning."

## **Everett Ready Summary**

- offers a safe environment before the start of school and the arrival of students in grades 1-5
- offers a welcoming introduction to elementary school for families and students, relieving many first-day anxieties
- provides school staff with critical information about student's strengths and learning needs, allowing planning for individualized instruction

- gives families an opportunity to meet staff, discuss kindergarten readiness and receive educational support around helping their students become school-ready
- o provides an opportunity to connect students with necessary district resources
- provides an opportunity to begin collecting student data around kindergarten readiness.

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## For more information:

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