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# ACADEMICS OFFICE October 2022

Last school year Everett Public Schools identified and served over 1300 McKinney-Vento students. Currently we have 212 Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and close to 50 Foster Youth within our district.

The FRC has mainly been serving EPS students experiencing homelessness. As winter approaches, there will be an even greater need to connect these families with food, warm clothing and housing services. More than ever, the FRC needs your support to ensure the basic needs of all students are met. There are many ways you can help, especially during the holidays. Please consider donating by using one of the QR codes below, making a donation through this link, or by purchasing a gift card for the Holiday Gift Card Drive for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth through Social Connections (coming soon!).

## Help fill the Family Resource Center (FRC) with items to meet some of these students' most basic needs.



Scan or <u>click to</u> <u>purchase specific</u> items for the FRC



Scan or <u>click to make a</u> <u>monetary donation</u> (scroll to Everett School District Office)

#### **Follow Us On Twitter**

@DrShelleyBoten

@EPS Academics

@EPS CteChoice

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@EPS P5Instruct

#### A Message from

#### Dr. Shelley Boten CAO



It feels like Autumn has officially arrived in Washington, and as the leaves are starting to change, our entire district is digging in deep to make some great changes for our students! It has been incredible to get into classrooms to see great instruction happening for our students!

Many of our school teams are meeting regularly to analyze student data; whether it's iReady, an end of unit assessment, a common formative or other student performance data from the classrooms, it all helps us to inform the next steps for our students. The Academics Team has been hard at work in supporting teams with curriculum-based assessments, soliciting feedback from teachers on end-of-unit assessments in Performance Matters, and refining those assessments to make them more accessible and efficient for students and staff! We are grateful to have a great team helping us to make these tests better! Progress monitoring of our student performance data is critical, because it helps teachers to monitor and adjust their teaching. When the A Team engages in progress monitoring, we are looking at systemic data to help identify gaps in content, standards or skills so we can better develop resources, supplemental content and interventions to help close gaps in our system. This works best when we have teacher-practitioners sharing their feedback with us to help improve the tools we are using to collect that data. A *huge thank you to the Curriculum Assessment Review Team who met on Tuesday, 9/27 who gave us some great, actionable feedback to make the next unit assessments better for our kids!* 

If you're interested in joining this team or sharing feedback with our content facilitators, please reach out to your building principal. We would love your feedback, too!

It has been fabulous visiting classrooms and seeing amazing teaching underway! We are fortunate to have incredible staff focused on helping each student in Everett Public Schools demonstrate mastery and experience success.

Thank you for all that you do to make Everett Public Schools the best district in the state of Washington!



#### **Staff Art Show**

All staff entry forms, and artwork are due to the CRC by October 21. Please drop them off at the front desk or send them to Tami Coffman in the Academics Office. To enter artwork for the show, staff must:

- Limit entries to two pieces of artwork per person.
- Submit the Office 365 entry form.
- Print and attach the Art Label Form to the back of the artwork with removable tape.
- Prepare the artwork to hang or for display before submitting the artwork. Because our hanging system involves applying clips to the top of each artwork, be sure that your artwork will not be damaged by the clips by:
  - Matting drawings, paintings, photographs and other art
  - Providing a wire for hanging on the back of any framed art

## Transitional Kindergarten, January – June 2023

Everett Public Schools is offering Transitional Kindergarten (TK) for children who are not currently in an early learning program and are scheduled to enter kindergarten in the fall of 2023. The program focused on the basic academic, social, and self-help skills to jumpstart qualifying students toward success in school.

Students will be screened and may qualify based on need.

To be eligible for screening, children must:

- be five year old by August 31, 2023
- live within the boundaries of Everett Public Schools
- not be currently enrolled in an early learning program
- demonstrate academic and/or social-emotional needs

Requests for screening will be open in November. Families interested in Transitional Kindergarten should visit our website and submit the Interest Form by **Friday, December 16, 2022** 

Transitional Kindergarten begins in late January 2023 and will run through the last day of school. School locations will be determined in December, based on space availability and enrollment.

#### It's FAFSA Season!

One of the biggest barriers to students achieving their college and career goals is money. Applying for financial aid allows students to get help to pay for their postsecondary education and training.

You apply each year when the new application opens each October 1<sup>st</sup> prior to when you plan to start your post-secondary program. For seniors in the class of 2023, they can apply for financial aid starting this Saturday, October 1, 2022 and they will fill out the 2023-2024 financial aid application. The sooner students complete their financial aid application the better!

For more information on the different financial aid applications and how to apply please visit our district website financial aid and scholarships page. Students and families can get help completing their financial aid application at our upcoming district High School & Beyond Events.

- Cascade HS on 10/5 from 6-8pm
- Henry M. Jackson HS on 10/18 from 5:30-7:30pm
- Everett HS on 10/27 from 9am-12:30pm

Students and families can also reach out to their school counselor and/or their College and Career Specialist for help completing the financial aid applications.

Additional questions about financial aid? Feel free to contact Sarah Pewitt, EPS High School & Beyond Facilitator at <a href="mailto:naviance@everettsd.org">naviance@everettsd.org</a>



My name is Dr. Catherine Matthews, and I am the Director of Assessment and Research. This is my 18th year in the district! I started as the Principal of Everett High School in the fall of 2005 and moved to the central office in 2011, first as the Director of District Improvement and On Time Graduation and then as the Director of Assessment and Research.

#### Assessment & Research

In our department, our goal is to support school leaders and their staffs so that they have the tools and information to best serve our students. For students, assessments provide timely, constructive, and substantive feedback so that they can monitor their learning and further develop their knowledge, skills, and learning strategies. Assessment also provides cohort-based and individual-level learning insights for educators to adjust instructional practices to meet the learning needs of students in the moment and in the long term. We believe all students can learn to high standards when provided high-quality instruction and a variety of ways to demonstrate their learning over time. We believe positive teacher-student relationships are key to student learning and growth. We believe assessment is an integral element of teaching and learning and not solely for the purpose of assigning a grade. We believe assessment is a collaborative process both among educators and between educators and students.

The priority outcomes that most relate to our work are:

- Ensure 3rd grade literacy
- Increase science achievement
- Reduce gaps in achievement among student groups
- Ensure students are prepared to succeed in college and career

We are most excited about helping administrators to deeply understand how to use Performance Matters for progress monitoring student learning and how the use of online assessments and student item analysis can guide their instruction and interventions to improve student learning.

#### When should you call me or my team?

- Analyze student data and strategizing next steps for school improvement? Call Catherine
- Administrator professional learning in Performance Matters progress monitoring platform or i-Ready? Call Catherine
- Analyze school data? Call Catherine
- Assistance with the district, state, or national assessments? Call Quiana
- Troubleshoot Performance Matters? Call Annalise or Catherine
- Troubleshoot i-Ready? Call Colleen or Catherine
- Research approval process? Call Colleen or Catherine

## ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH



https://www.everettsd.org/assessment - Assessment@everettsd.org - 425-385-4055

October							
Elementary	Middle	High					
WA-AIM Training (various)  i-Ready Math Diagnostic (9/7-10/7)  i-Ready Reading Diagnostic with Oral Reading Fluency (9/7-10/14)  WaKIDS (9/7-10/31)	WA-AIM Training (various) WLA: 10/17-28 i-Ready Diagnostics (9/7-10/14) WLA proctor training 10/13	WA-AIM Training (various) WLA: 10/17-28 PSAT materials arrive 10/5 (labels 10/7) School-led PSAT trainings PSAT: 10/12 WLA proctor training 10/13					
Coming in November							
SBA interims open	SBA interims open	PSAT School Day scores available     SBA interims open					

#### Share the News About Play and Learn!

Play and Learn is a free early learning program offered by EPS for children from birth through age five and their parents or caregivers. It is designed to support families playing together with high quality learning materials, creating art, listening to stories, singing songs and connecting with other children and families. This year the program is expanding to five days a week at four different locations throughout the district! All sessions are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. No reservations are required. The second week of each month we offer duallanguage English and Spanish circle times at all locations! Please see location information below. For more information or questions, email hcooley@everettsd.org

- Monday: Everett Public Library, Evergreen Branch, 9512 Evergreen Way, Everett
- Tuesday and Wednesday: Mill Creek City Hall North, Community Rooms, 15720 Main St., Mill Creek
- Thursday, Sequoia High School Gym, 3516 Rucker Ave, Everett
- Friday, Everett Public Library, Main Branch, Auditorium, 2702 Hoyt Ave., Everett

## Brief Notes and Reminders:

- Paper SBA family reports (Individual Score Reports) are expected to arrive in district in mid-late October. Watch for a memo in *Communications to Principals* later this month with instructions on distribution and family communications.
- Middle school i-Ready diagnostics are due on October 14, not October 7 as some documentation has indicated. Instructions and supports for middle schools can be found <a href="https://example.com/here.com/heready-to-ports-for-middle-ready-t
- Interim Smarter Balanced Assessments will open for use in mid-late November. Updated staff training will be made available as soon as possible.

#### **PSAT:**

- Success Coordinators must notify office staff that secure PSAT materials will begin to arrive on October 4, with the bulk arriving on October 6-7. These materials must be immediately secured in the appropriate storage location.
- Office support is assigned for Monday, October 10. Please make sure the front desk is aware they are coming and that you have a location ready to prepare your materials.

### October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Principal Appreciation Month  Disability History & Awareness Month  Cyber Security Awareness Month  LGBQT+ History Month  Bullying Prevention Month  ADHD Awareness Month  Filipino American Heritage Month						
2	3	4	5	6	<b>7</b> LIF	8
9	Indigenous Peoples' Day	11	School Day PSAT (grade 10 & 11 only)	13	14 No School Teacher work Day	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Staff Artwork & Forms Due LIF	<b>22</b> ACT
23	24	25 School Board Meeting	26	27	Early Release (ES/MS only 2 1/2 hours) Conference Prep	29
30	Early Release (ES/MS only 2 1/2 hours) ES/MS Parent Conferences					

FAFSA season begins October 1, 2022 and ends June 30, 2023

#### October is Principal Appreciation Month

Principals are among the hardest working, yet often least recognized individuals in education. Principals set the academic tone for their schools, and it is their vision, dedication, and determination that provide the mobilizing force for achieving student success. Send a card, a shoutout on Twitter or a quick email, take a moment to thank one or more of our dedicated Principals for the wonderful job they do to support our kids and facilitate learning.