

OUR SCHOOLS



FALL/WINTER 2024 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



**KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT
STARTS MARCH 3, 2025**



IN THIS
ISSUE

YOUR TAX DOLLARS MAKE
A DIFFERENCE IN THE
LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS

EVERETT READY: A
STRONG START FOR
KINDERGARTENERS

BRIDGING THE
COMMUNICATION GAP
FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

FOLLOW US @



www.everettsd.org

SUPERINTENDENT MESSAGE

Dear Everett Public Schools community,

As we continue the 2024-2025 school year, I am proud to share our students continue to demonstrate strong academic performance, consistently surpassing the state average.

The release of the state's 2024 Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) results reflect our commitment to excellence. These assessments covered students in grades 3 through 8 and grades 10 and 11 during the 2023-24 school year. The results highlight the dedication of our students, families, and staff who work to support student success.

A key part of our ongoing commitment to student growth and achievement is our use of Instructional Reviews at each of our schools. These reviews are essential for ensuring each school progresses toward its goals and provides equitable, high-quality learning experiences for all students. By focusing on equity, capacity, and support, these reviews allow us to celebrate successes and identify areas for growth. Through data-driven analysis and collaborative discussions, we strengthen instructional leadership, align effective teaching practices, and build a cohesive approach across schools.

To learn more about the purpose and impact of Instructional Reviews, please scan the QR code to watch our latest Parent University video, which provides further insights into this process.



In this publication, you will also find an article on Early Learning, which is foundational to achieving our district's goals. Our investment in Early Learning helps set students on the right path from the start.

Thank you for your support and partnership.

Be safe and be well,

Dr. Ian B. Saltzman



EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMPARED TO WA STATE

GRADE	ELA	MATH	SCIENCE
3	+ 16.6%	+ 14.4%	
4	+ 15.7%	+ 15.6%	
5	+ 17.3%	+ 17.6%	+ 15.8%
6	+ 12.0%	+ 10.7%	
7	+ 11.3%	+ 11.3%	
8	+ 11.9%	+ 11.6%	+ 11.4%
HIGH SCHOOL	+ 3.8%	+ 5.8%	+ 7.3%

Table shows how EPS scored in relation to WA State in standardized testing (Fall 2024)

EVERETT READY: A STRONG START FOR KINDERGARTENERS

Everett Public Schools is committed to preparing our youngest learners for a successful academic journey. One way we do this is through our *Everett Ready* program. It is designed for incoming kindergarteners to provide a smooth transition into the school environment.

This school year, 80 percent of incoming kindergarteners participated in the *Everett Ready* program, underscoring its importance and popularity among families in our community. *Everett Ready* takes place each August for students about to start kindergarten. The half-day format over four days allows students to become familiar with the school campus, meet staff, and connect with their kindergarten peers. It also provides staff with information on students' strengths and needs.



Crissie Scott, a kindergarten teacher at View Ridge Elementary, highlights that one of the program's many benefits is its ability to ease the anxieties of children and their caregivers as they face a big transition.

"Having a gradual, gentle beginning to the start of the school year allows the children to feel more comfortable with their school and the adults in the building and helps them build confidence. They get to know peers and start making friendships, which adds to their excitement for the first day of school." — Crissie Scott, kindergarten teacher

Additionally, *Everett Ready* allows students and families to connect with necessary district resources before school starts.

Learn more about *Everett Ready* by scanning the QR code.



BRIDGING THE COMMUNICATION GAP FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Imagine walking into a school where you do not understand the language. You are surrounded by unfamiliar words, feeling isolated, and unsure how to connect. This experience is a reality for many of our students and their families. However, thanks to new digital tools, Everett Public Schools is bridging the communication gap and creating a welcoming environment for all.

With the addition of Instant Language Assistant (ILA) devices in our school offices and the launch of ParentSquare, our newly adopted communication platform, we are transforming how our school community connects.

ILA devices are helping to break down communication barriers by providing real-time translation during important interactions. Office staff use these devices to communicate with multilingual families, whether answering questions, scheduling meetings, or discussing student progress.



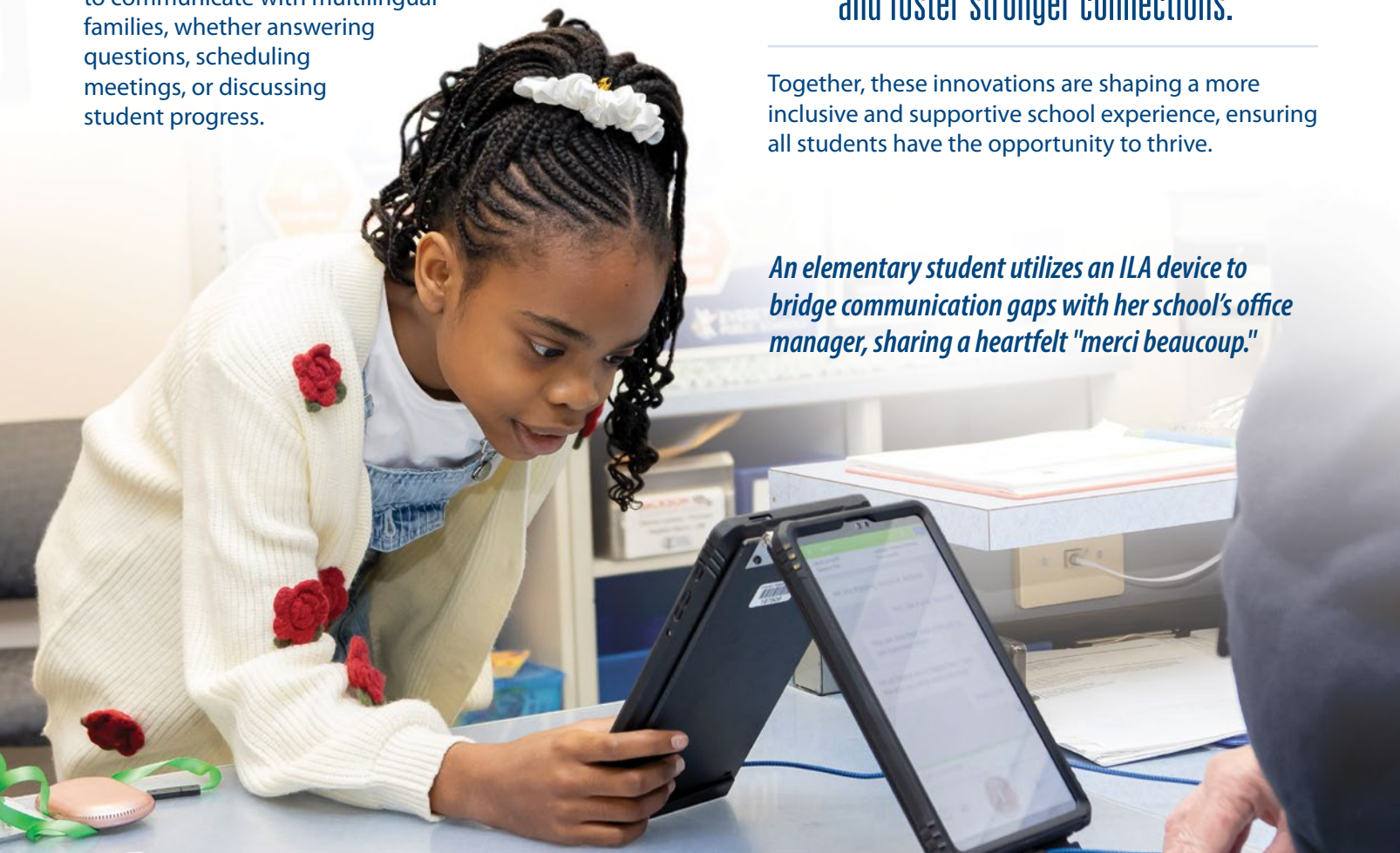
This technology ensures that families can engage fully with the school, regardless of their home language. Using ILA devices, our school staff can provide personalized, accurate communication.

In addition to ILA devices, ParentSquare offers a platform where families can receive school updates and information in their home language. Whether it is school announcements, event notifications, or messages from teachers, ParentSquare ensures that no one is left out due to language differences, helping build a stronger partnership between home and school.

"These tools have truly changed how we engage with our students and their families," said Darren Larama, principal of Jackson Elementary School. "Seeing a parent understand and participate in conversations about their student's education, thanks to these devices, is incredible. We are not just communicating; we create trust and foster stronger connections."

Together, these innovations are shaping a more inclusive and supportive school experience, ensuring all students have the opportunity to thrive.

An elementary student utilizes an ILA device to bridge communication gaps with her school's office manager, sharing a heartfelt "merci beaucoup."



OUR DISTRICT

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction 2023-24

20,437 STUDENT ENROLLMENT

GRADUATION RATES 

95.2% **95.8%**

2024 FOUR-YEAR

2023 FIVE-YEAR

6.2%

STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

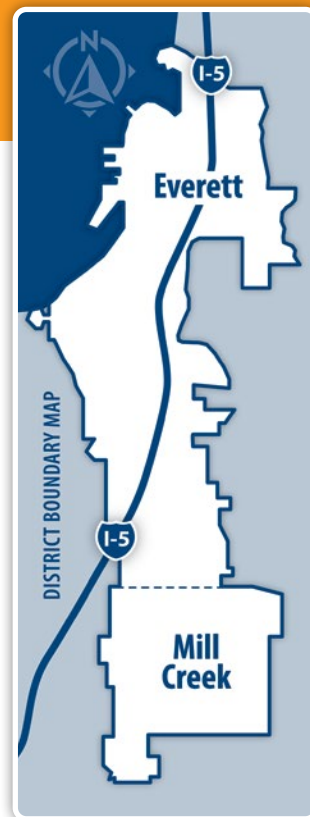


15%

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES RECEIVING SUPPORTS



White	41.3%
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s)	21.3%
Asian	20.9%
Two or more races	9.4%
Black/African American	4.9%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1.7%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.5%



19.1%

MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS

16,000

DAILY BUS RIDERS



44.5%

STUDENTS RECEIVING FREE AND REDUCED-PRICED MEALS



14,700

MEALS SERVED DAILY



HOW OUR DISTRICT IS FUNDED

(General Fund)

74% **State Funding**
These funds are dependent on student enrollment & other factors.



16% **Local Taxes**
These funds are from the voter-approved Educational Programs & Operations Levy, covering what the state does not fund for our district.



6% **Federally Funded**
These funds can only be spent within specific federal programs such as Special Education.



4% **Other Sources**
These funds come from sources such as grants, donations, and interest income.



THANK YOU, VOTERS!

YOUR TAX DOLLARS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS EVERY DAY

Thanks to the community's voter-approved 2022 Capital Levy, Everett Public Schools is making significant progress in enhancing our schools and creating better learning environments for our students. Here is an update on some of the exciting projects:

New School Buildings

Madison Elementary: Initial planning and educational specifications for the new school will begin in early 2025, with design work starting in May and finishing by fall 2026. Construction is set to begin in spring 2027, wrapping up by spring 2029. The new building will be constructed on the existing playfield, and once complete, the current building will be removed to make way for new playfields and site improvements.

Jackson Elementary: Construction on the new school is set to begin this upcoming spring of 2025. The building is designed as a two-story, 60,000-square-foot learning space and is expected to be completed in 2027.

Modernization Project

Everett High School Auditorium: Planned updates include renovations of the 25,000-square-foot classroom spaces and 16,600-square-foot cafeteria and kitchen. Upgrades will cover seismic and mechanical improvements, a new elevator and stair system, and a new roof. Planning will begin in 2025, with construction starting in summer 2027 and finishing within a year.



These images show the renderings for the new Jackson Elementary School. Students will start classes in the new building in the fall of 2026, with project completion in the summer of 2027.





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

PO BOX 2098
Everett, WA 98213



Why are you receiving this newsletter? Many residents within the school district do not have school-age children in Everett Public Schools. The purpose of Our Schools, therefore, is to let those members of the community know about the programs and activities taking place in the district. This mailing publication is not mailed using an address list. Instead, to greatly reduce the cost of postage, we use a bulk mailing process that has it delivered to every residential customer on each letter carrier's route.

NOW HIRING SCHOOL BUS AND VAN DRIVERS!

Join our team and help make a difference in the lives of students every day! Competitive pay, great benefits, and a supportive team await. Apply today!



JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

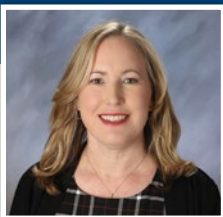


See what's happening in our schools and the district. Scan the QR code to see our Social Media Directory.



SCHOOL BOARD

We are proud to announce the Everett Public Schools Board has been awarded the prestigious designation of "Board of Distinction" again this year. This honor recognizes the board's exceptional commitment to advancing educational opportunities and supporting the success of all students in our district.



TRACI MITCHELL

DIRECTOR POSITION 4
President



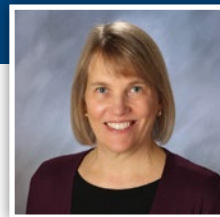
JEN HIRMAN

DIRECTOR POSITION 2
Vice President & Legislative Representative



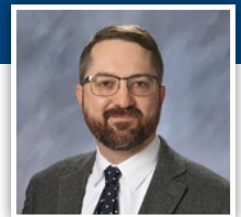
CHARLES ADKINS

DIRECTOR POSITION 5
Parliamentarian



CAROLINE MASON

DIRECTOR POSITION 3



ROMAN REWOLINSKI

DIRECTOR POSITION 1

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 and ADA Coordinator**, Chad Golden, 425-385-4100, CGolden@everettsd.org; **Section 504 Coordinator**, Dave Peters, 425-385-4063, DPeters@everettsd.org; **Gender-Inclusive Schools Coordinator**, Joi Odom Grant, 425-385-4137, JGrant@everettsd.org.