

News release



Everett Public Schools

Jan. 27, 2011

For more information:

Lighthouse Cooperative, 425-903-3143

What IS the Lighthouse Cooperative?

Learn about this unique educational program on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 5:30 p.m. at Jefferson Elementary School



The Lighthouse Cooperative's one-of-a-kind collaboration of students, parents and school staff invites you to their annual open house on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the newly renovated cafeteria at Jefferson Elementary School at 2500 Cadet Way in Everett. Not only is the event an open house for interested families; it is one of the cooperative's month meetings of enrolled parents and students and staff. "Join us for one of the regular meetings we have when we talk about what students are learning, how parents are

helping and how we plan to ensure the success this program offers students," said Gina Corpening, a Lighthouse Cooperative board member.

"At the open house, those who come will have the opportunity to ask questions of parents, teachers and students," she explained. "We urge people to RSVP for this event by calling 425-903-3143 or emailing lighthousecooperative@yahoo.com by Friday, Feb. 11 so we can be sure to have materials and refreshments for all who plan to come. Or, for those who have questions before coming to the open house, please use that same phone number or email to speak with one of us. We love telling the Lighthouse story!"

Lighthouse Cooperative, within the Everett School District, takes place at Jefferson Elementary School. The kindergarten through fifth-grade learning community is supported by parents and teachers united in a common goal: *to offer students an exceptional educational experience by providing additional learning opportunities that are not usually included in a traditional classroom environment.*

In addition to following standard curriculum set forth by Everett Public Schools, parents work with teachers to lead small groups of students in specialty rotations that complement the curriculum, including cooking, foreign languages, sciences and reading.

Students also participate in *Explorations* which are held four to five times per school year, and are an opportunity for parents to share specialty projects and activities with students. *Explorations* have academic relevance and span subjects from rocket building to Chinese New Year celebrations to movie editing.

Parents attend monthly program meetings and volunteer weekly in the classroom. "Suggested parent donations of \$20 per student, per month, matching employer funds, and an annual fundraising auction help cover costs of the enrichment activities that make Lighthouse such a distinctive program," Corpening explains. Lighthouse Cooperative is now accepting applications for 2011-12 school year for students from kindergarten through grade five. Entrance to the program is granted on a lottery-based system, with priority enrollment given to families currently living within in the boundaries of Everett Public Schools.

---end---