

NewsLinks...



A newsletter for the staff of Everett Public Schools

Sept. 11, 2014 (*NewsLinks* are [archived on DocuShare](#))

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REORGANIZATION NEWS

You may have noticed some changes within Information Systems and Technology Department. To better align services with your needs and to clarify staff roles, the department now has three service teams:

1. **Learning Management Systems Team** which reports to Associate Superintendent Dr. Joyce Stewart. This team, headed by Jo Anne Buiteweg, includes mostly the staff previously known as the “LMS team” as well as some individuals who were not. Systems support staff whose roles are closely tied with our student data systems are also now members of the LMS team.
2. **Network Operations Team** is overseen by Ken Toyn who reports to Associate Superintendent Dr. Tony Byrd. The name of the team is a good description of the critical role these staff play. The unseen infrastructure that keeps our systems humming is the responsibility of these important staff.
3. **Customer Service Team** is also overseen by Ken Toyn who reports to Dr. Byrd. Scott Jenkins is the lead director of this team that consists of the friendly help desk people, the site technicians and Beres Shorter, the district multi-media expert.

Phone numbers and email addresses for the staff remain the same. The [organizational chart](#) for the department is online.

WEBSITE STANDARDS – a reminder and resources

If you are considering a new Web page, check the [online standards](#) before you start from scratch. This similar look and feel for each page lets readers know they are on a district page.

We've come a long way, baby! Just one year ago, we launched the “new” district website. In June, nine out of 10 of you who responded to the annual staff readership survey ranked the website as “very” or “somewhat” valuable. Parents have told us

they find information more easily. More staff and more departments have set up Web pages. Last week the LMS team launched the long-awaited Curriculum Portal which is quickly accessible from the website. The website is the “frame” upon which we hang our information and the “doorway” for many who enter our schools for the first time. Thanks for helping to make it welcoming, professional and consistent!

Interested in learning more about technology?

If you have a group at your school or department who'd like to earn professional development credit while mastering the website, Chromebooks or Google Drive, contact [LauriBeth Hull](#) at 425-385-4208.

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IT'S FLU SEASON – Maintenance Department is “on it!” Please help break the chain of infection.

Cold and flu season launches simultaneously with the start of school. News reports describe increasing incidents of a more virulent virus this year that is especially dangerous for young people. **Practice these germ busting habits and remind those around you to do the same:**

1. If you don't have a tissue handy, cough into your elbow.
2. If you use a tissue, throw it away and wash your hands immediately.
3. Wash hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds. (*Hand sanitizer is not the recommended option, unless no soap and water is available.*)
4. Wash your hands before and after eating, touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
5. Don't share towels, lipstick, toys, eating and drinking items. These can be contaminated with respiratory germs.
6. Do you have a cough and fever? See your doctor!
7. Do you have a cough and fever? Use a face mask at the doctor's office.
8. Do you have a cough and fever? Stay home! Follow the doctor's prescription and get rest.

What the maintenance crew is doing to break the infection chain

1. Cleaning “high touch” areas often -- door knobs and doorway panic bars, light switches and drinking fountains
2. Cleaning office counter tops – with special attention to the attendance office counters
3. Cleaning lunch room tables
4. Staff are wearing gloves during this process and when emptying trash and they are also changing trash liners often
5. Teaching staff have Alpha HP to use to clean student desks
6. If schools have a major outbreak of flu, the custodian may forgo another cleaning project (such as vacuuming) to spend more time wiping down surfaces
7. Schools are using disinfectant products every day. Maintenance has a large-outbreak clean-up kit to send with additional custodians for a major

clean up if a school closes because of illness. *(This happens rarely; the last time in this district was in spring 2009 during the swine flu season when Jackson Elementary was closed for a few days.)*

Seriously, now! There is an unusually virulent flu strain ominously called **Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68)**. This strain is an uncommon infection first seen in California in 1962. This strain and the other 100 members of its family usually happen in the fall. Its effects vary – from mild respiratory sniffles to severe respiratory distress that can require intensive care. It likely spreads through coughs or sneezes or touching infected surfaces.

There is no vaccine for EV-D68 yet. Routinely practicing germ buster precautions is the best way to deter EV-D68 until a vaccine is developed. Detailed information about EV-D68 is on the [Centers for Disease Control](#) website.

Avoid catching the flu with a vaccination

Everett Public Schools Wellness Program is sponsoring a health fair that includes **free flu vaccines** for staff on **Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2 to 5 p.m.** at the Community Resource Center. While you're there, get a seated massage, visit with vendors from the region who can support your well-being and enter to win lots of great prizes.

Visit the [Wellness website](#) for more details and for a complete list of vaccine clinics for you AND your family scheduled throughout the district this fall.

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SCHOOL BOARD LAUNCHES TWO PUBLIC PROCESSES – See [news release](#) with full details.

1. **District Property Management Process** begins Thursday, Sept. 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Port Gardner Room of the [Community Resource Center](#). This process will establish changes to the existing district [Property Use Matrix](#). The matrix was established with the help of a community group in 2013. The matrix lists how district properties may be used in the future.
2. **Student Growth Management Process** begins Wednesday, Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at [Woodside Elementary School](#). This process will help determine solutions to overcrowding that are caused by more students enrolling in district schools.

NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT

Like knowing what's happening in the district? The [Everett Public Schools Facebook](#) page is a great way to read [Points of Pride](#), [news releases](#) and learn about [events](#) (see photos as they happen). If you have a Facebook account, please **like** our page so you can stay in the loop!

[2014.09.08 School board launches public processes to manage property and develop solutions to overcrowding](#)
[2014.09.05 Hard work pays off for late high school graduate | Herald article](#)
[2014.09.01 September's featured poet is Cascade High School teacher and coach](#)
[2014.08.14 Cascade High School freshman holds Guinness World Record](#)
[2014.08.05 Following the ROTC experience | Herald article](#)
[2014.08.05 Jack McLeod - Free author program](#)
[2014.08.04 Everett Lions honor Everett High School grad for service | Herald article](#)
[2014.07.21 Henry M Jackson's Bio-Technology team brings home awards again!](#)
[2014.07.11 50 years of free summer food programs](#)
[2014.07.09 Western Washington University 2013-14 Outstanding Graduates include two Everett alumni](#)
[2014.06.26 North Middle Schools walks the talk](#)
[2014.06.25 Henry M. Jackson High School science research student earns recognition at International Genius Olympiad](#)
[2014.06.17 Penny Creek's Sharon Park earns first place in Kidd Valley Teacher of the Year contest](#)
[2014.06.16 Whittier Elementary teacher receives Tonya Royer Outstanding Community Service Award](#)
[2014.06.16 Barney Peterson selected as district's 2014-15 Teacher of the Year](#)
[2014.06.12 Forest View Elementary School 4th Annual PTA Science Day—a Huge Success | PTSA article](#)
[2014.06.12 Henry M. Jackson High School junior receives full scholarship to attend the National PTA Youth Leadership Summit](#)

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

1. [Training for diabetes-related tasks at school](#) – Tuesday, Sept 16 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Seattle Children's Hospital is offering **FREE** training at the Community Resource Center. Contact [Kelsey Stefanik-Sidener](#) or [Jessica Jensen](#) for more information.
2. **2014 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards** – Deadline for applications is Nov. 4, 2014. All information and [applications are available online](#). Awards are given for outstanding community service and are available for students from fifth-through 12th-grade.
3. **Earn what you're worth! EAEOP members are you CEOE certified?**
 If you are interested in earning extra pay please contact [Cheri Miller-Burkhardt](#), CEOE. Your monthly stipend pay is waiting for you!
 - [NAEOP Certification program](#)
 - [NAEOP Membership](#)
 - [WAEOP Membership](#) earns 1 PSP point towards your CEOE certification

- [WAEOP Area 6 PDP The Keys to Success – Sept. 27, 2014](#) earns PSP points as well

Professional development pays off! [PSP FAQ's](#)

NAEOP | National Association of Educational Office Professionals

WAEOP | Washington Association of Educational Office Professionals

CEOE | Certified Educational Office Employee

PSP | Professional Standards Program

4. **Sally Ride Festival at UW Bothell on Saturday, Oct. 4, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** – Just for fifth- through eighth-grade girls. Register at www.SallyRideFestivals.com or call 1-800-561-5161.

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KEY DATES – [important dates and celebrations](#) you won't want to miss planning for now!

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – All policies and procedures are [available online](#).

Recent revisions include:

[1130 and 1130P Committees](#)

[1441 Audience Participation](#)

[1621 Board-Superintendent Operating Protocol](#)

[2215 and 2215P Highly Capable Programs](#)

[5251P Evaluation of the Superintendent](#)

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

Affirmative Action Office – Carol Stolz, cstolz@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106

Title IX Officer – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104

504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063

ADA Coordinator – Kristine McDowell, kmcdowell@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250

Address: 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201