

## From the Principal *Half-Way There!*

Hello, View Ridge Families!

We had such an amazing January and are now, officially half-way through the school year. Today, we celebrated more fantastic examples of how our students go above and beyond in their academics and behaviors at our Viking Pride assembly. In January, I was so pleased to see that there were 36 family members who attended to applaud our students named Viking Heroes! Today, I was even more blown away! We had 76 guests attend to celebrate not only our Viking Heroes for last month's focus, compassion, but our student presenters who helped us learn all about our February diversity focus (Chinese) above the line behavior (kindness). This support from families makes these Viking Pride assemblies have an even greater impact on our students' development of social-emotional skills and promote a positive environment for student recognition.

We also recognized our Viking Scholars for doing their personal best on their work, our AR readers who continue to show their love of reading, and our success bringing in over 600 cans of food to support our Souper Bowl of Compassion and Caring drive! Thank you, everyone, for all that you do to make View Ridge truly the best school around! Our next assembly will be on March 3, 2017. If you have a child who will be named a Viking Hero, or be involved in our student-led presentations, we hope you accept our invitation to attend. (Thank you to Cindy and Torie in the office for inviting families on the phone beforehand)!

See > Principal, page 2

## A Word from Your PTA Presidents...

Jan. 30, 2017

Hello View Ridge Vikings,

We recently had our View Ridge Special Guest Day at View Ridge and I wanted to thank everyone who made the day such a success. We had over 400 special visitors who enjoyed classroom time and lunch. This event would not have been possible without all the volunteers and staff who helped.

The next event to appear on our very full View Ridge calendar is the annual Skate Night at the Everett Skate Deck on February 2nd from 6-8pm. I am looking forward to seeing everyone skate.

Another big event coming in February is the 1st Annual Art Walk and Auction on Thursday, February 9th, from 5-7pm. The PTA General Membership meeting will follow at 7pm. The Art Walk will feature

See > Presidents, page 2

## Upcoming Events

### Art Walk & Auction

Thursday, February 9

5:00-7:00 pm

Support the Art Docent program and come home with some original artwork!

### PTA General Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 9

7:00 pm - School Library

Stay in the know and make new friends by attending our meetings!

### Popcorn Friday

Friday, February 10

Yummy, popcorn, for everyone! Remember to bring your donation money.

### Parenting in a Digital Age

Thursday, February 16

6:30-8:00 pm

Community Resource Center

3900 Broadway

Speaker: Jeff Utecht and

Enduro Team

### Mid-Winter Break

February 20-21

No school

### Looking Ahead:

#### First Grade Musical

Thursday, March 23th

7:00-7:30 p.m.

#### Third Grade Musical

Thursday, April 27th

7:00-7:40 p.m.

#### Fifth Grade Musical

Monday, May 15th

7:00-7:45 p.m.

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### > Principal, from page 1

With the first semester coming to an end, you will soon be receiving your child's first progress report, which provides important information on your student's progress towards their grade level standards. Our teachers take care in making these reports clear, informative, strengths-based, and with targeted ideas for how parents can partner with them to support student progress and growth. I think it is very valuable to spend time going through the report with your child and celebrating the areas where child shines or has improved, and set goals and strategies for the areas that are opportunities for growth. Every single student has shown success and growth in my eyes—whether it's in their ability to be friendly and communicate respectfully, or in mastering their multiplication facts. Please help me honor these accomplishments with our students! Progress reports will be sent home on February 3, 2017. If you would like more information on Elementary Progress Reporting, please click <http://www.everettsd.org/Page/14476>. Or, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our staff here at View Ridge!

Finally, since our year is halfway through, it's a good time to stop and reflect on how we're doing as a school. Feedback for families and students impacts the decisions we make as a staff regarding practices to celebrate and continue, or areas that perhaps we need to rethink or focus more on in order to better serve our community. For the eighth year, Everett Public Schools will be administering the Educational Effectiveness Survey (EES) through the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE). This is a critical element in our ongoing efforts to engage parents, students, and staff in the school improvement planning process. The survey is based upon the nine characteristics of high performing schools. There will be several opportunities to engage families—at tables during our March PTA events (Book Exchange, March 2 and Movie Night, March 24) and during conference week. Please take some time to share your thinking by taking this survey during these events or at home (a link will be provided for you, or paper copies will be an option). Your feedback truly makes a difference!

Here's to another great month of learning and growing together!  
Tina Farias

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### > Presidents, from page 1

original works of art created by each class. This auction will help provide the art docent program with supplies. Our second fundraiser of the year will begin in mid-February. We are excited about being able to offer fabulous bags to the View Ridge community. This fundraiser is new this year and will help fund PTA projects for the second half of the school year.

The PTA continues to offer Popcorn Friday every month and another Movie Night will be coming soon. We look forward to see you at various events and would like to remind you that it is not too late to join the PTA.

Your PTA Co-Presidents,  
Marie Jackson and Amanda Cabana

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### **YEARBOOK PRE-ORDERING:**

Yearbook pre-orders are now being accepted. Please drop-off order forms in the View Ridge office or visit us online for web friendly ordering. First Yearbook Order: \$15 Additional Yearbooks: \$13

We now have the option for online ordering! 1. Go to: [www.pictavocommunity.com](http://www.pictavocommunity.com)

2. Click the blue "Shop Your School" button.

3. Select Washington/ Everett/ View Ridge Elementary in the drop-down bars. Click "Continue."

4. You will be asked to confirm your school selection. Click "Yes." (Our school number is: 65695)

5. Select "Yearbooks" from the shopping menu.

6. Click the blue "Order" button. 7. Choose "Add to cart." 8. Enter your students first and last name. Select your students teacher from the drop down menu. Click "Continue."

9. Follow the guides to complete your purchase.

Please note: The online servicer does add a small 5% administrative fee. Because of this all yearbooks ordered online will be \$13. Pre-order deadline is April 10th. A limited number of extra books will be ordered for purchase in June. To guarantee you get a yearbook pre-order is recommended.

If you have any questions, please contact either of us. Marie Jackson's email is [anatel1969@comcast.net](mailto:anatel1969@comcast.net) and Kelsey Baker's is [kcbaker4@gmail.com](mailto:kcbaker4@gmail.com).



## Art Walk and Silent Auction

**February 9th, 5-7:00 PM**

Come out and support our Art Docent Program. Art Walk displaying students' art will be on display throughout the building. Silent Auction in the cafeteria with bidding ending at 6:30. Carry home your winning piece that night. Each classroom made a collaborative piece of art for the auction and they are AMAZING! Raffle tickets given at the door for three different prizes and a live art project happening during the event. All proceeds benefit Art Docent program.

## PTA Focus Day!

Thank you to all advocates who attended, rallied, and met with their legislators during Focus Day! PTA members from all over the state met up in Olympia on January 16, 2017 for our annual legislative advocacy event! **WSPTA was a co-sponsor of Education is a Civil Right rally** on the capitol steps and Barbara Martin, WA State PTA Board President, was one of the speakers along with WA Education Association (WEA), Washington's Paramount Duty, NAACP students, teachers, and other groups. We know that the best advocacy programs are year-round. Focus Day is a day to bring WSPTA members to Olympia to sharpen the picture of how our advocacy efforts need to proceed. It's a day of training, education, meetings with legislators, and other activities that help members engage directly in the legislative process. Follow PTA's advocacy efforts through the **Grassroots Connection blog** <http://wsptagrassroots.blogspot.com>. If a bill or issue is important to you, contact our Senator or Representative and speak with one voice for our students and families!

## FITNESS CORNER

### GYMNASTICS

Your Student may have mentioned having gymnastics at school. The week of January 23-26, "Leading Edge Gymnastics" has graciously supplied us with equipment and gymnastics teachers, so students can learn more about ways their body can move. If you'd like information about gymnastics classes or Gymnastics Camp opportunities, you can find them at [www.LeadingEdge.com](http://www.LeadingEdge.com).

**Currently in Fitness:** We are continuing our Heart Unit. Ask your student how the heart moves oxygenated blood through the body, and what our body does with the carbon dioxide in our bodies.

Our next unit will center around the 5 Components of Fitness called **"Body Composition"**. Your student will be learning more about healthy eating.

### Happy Health!

Ms. Jan  
Anderson,  
NBCT Fitness  
Specialist  
View Ridge  
Elementary

**\*PARENTS: WITH IT BEING "BOOT" WEATHER, PLEASE CONSIDER HAVING STUDENTS BRING TENNIS SHOES IN THEIR BACKPACK ON FITNESS DAYS.**

I have a limited number of shoes, so students may have to sit out.

**To be ready for Fitness = tennis shoes + proper clothing.**

## Attention View Ridge Vikings!

**Your PTA has a yearbook committee that is always in need of photographs.**



Please send any school related photos (classroom, field trips, school events) to Marie Jackson or Kelsey Baker before April 1st. The sooner we have the photographs the better. Please don't wait.

## This year the Yearbook is trying something new!

We are giving **YOU** access to a site to upload your photos directly to our gallery. Below are directions on how to gain access. Thank you so much for your contributions. We would not be able to put together the yearbook without pictures from teachers and parents.

1. Go to: [www.pictavocommunity.com](http://www.pictavocommunity.com)
2. Click the green "Upload Photos" button.
3. On your first visit you will need to create an account.
4. Our school number is: 65695 (Or you can select Everett / Washington / View Ridge Elementary in the drop-down bars.)
5. Confirm that you have the correct school by clicking the blue "Yes" button.
6. Fill out the details form with your name and email address. (Don't forget to check the box for agreement to terms of the website.)
7. Click "Create."
8. You will then be sent a confirmation email for verification.
9. Once you have received the email and you can verify your address by selecting the enclosed link.
10. You are now ready to login and begin uploading photos! :)

OR you can still email photos to either of us or drop off a disk or jump drive (labeled with your student's name and class so it can be returned) in the office. *Marie's email is [anatel1969@comcast.net](mailto:anatel1969@comcast.net) and Kelsey's is [kcbaker4@gmail.com](mailto:kcbaker4@gmail.com)* If you have any questions, please contact either of us. Yearbooks will go on Sale in January.



## DISTRICT NEWS

### Parenting in a Digital Age

Everett Public Schools in partnership with Eduro Learning will be hosting a technology parent information night, "Parenting in a Digital Age," on February 16th from 6:30-8:00 pm at the CRC. It is open to all K-12 families in our district. This event will promote students' positive use of technology. It will provide parents with tools and strategies to support their child(ren) as they learn in this digital age. This information night will be facilitated by Jeff Utecht who has been working with our staff on the integration of technology into the classroom. Parents can register by going to this link:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07edpd14w79a4f70bb&llr=nrvauneab>

### Is your family vaccinated against mumps?

The number of mumps cases in Washington state is on the rise. Learn more about mumps and how you can best protect your family from this infectious disease on the Washington State Department of Health website.

If your child isn't current on their MMR immunizations, they may be excluded from school if there is a case of mumps at their school. To get the vaccine, contact your healthcare provider. Or, call the Family Health Hotline at 1-800-322-2588 to find other vaccination locations.

### Free tax preparation

United Way certified volunteers offer FREE tax preparation at several locations in Everett and throughout Snohomish County for families who made less than \$64,000 in 2016. Call 2-1-1 or visit the United Way website for more information.

### Access a teacher's website from a smartphone

Use this nifty help sheet for accessing teacher websites with a smartphone.

<http://docushare.everett.k12.wa.us/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-62557/Accessing Teacher Websites with a Smart Phone.pdf>

### Did you know?

Lots of valuable information about how our school is helping students achieve is available online. Our School Performance Report is linked directly from our school's home page. (Look under QuickLinks for a link to OSPI Washington State School Report Card.) At that site you can browse through historical performance data for more than a decade – for any school in the district or the state. By following the prompts on that OSPI website, you can also find current and historical data aggregated at the district level.

### Are you registered to vote?

Students studied Dr. King's legacy in January. Among the advice he shared with the world is the responsibility and privilege we all have to vote. Registering to vote is easy. Click the link under QuickLinks on the district website or pick up a paper registration form in your school office.

### Kindergarten registration

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, 2017?

Registration for 2017-18 is open. More information is online at [www.everettsd.org/Page/4951](http://www.everettsd.org/Page/4951)

FREE full-day kindergarten is available at all district elementary schools.

### Smarter Balanced Assessments

Because Smarter Balanced Assessments are an important topic for families, the link to everything you ever wanted to know about these tests is in the Quicklinks section on the district home page [www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org)

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#### Nondiscrimination statement

The district shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, veteran or military status, the presence of any physical, sensory or mental disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a student with a disability. Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

Affirmative Action Office – Carol Stolz, [cstolz@everettsd.org](mailto:cstolz@everettsd.org), 425-385-4106 | Title IX Officer – Randi Seaberg, [rseaberg@everettsd.org](mailto:rseaberg@everettsd.org), 425-385-4104 |

504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, [rballbach@everettsd.org](mailto:rballbach@everettsd.org), 425-385-4063 | ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford, [bclifford@everettsd.org](mailto:bclifford@everettsd.org), 425-385-5250

Address: 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201