

## From the Principal

Hello, View Ridge Families!

We have started our second semester strong!! We have a lot of time for learning and fun during our second half of the school year. Thank you for all that each of you do to help our students grow into well-rounded citizens. We are so lucky to have such dedicated families and volunteers at our school. I was so inspired by the participation and support at our first Annual Art Walk last month. The community truly came together to celebrate the talent and creativity our students possess, and this couldn't have been done without all of the parents who volunteer in classes, served as art docents, or support their child's creativity at home. I know I've said this before, but seriously—I have the best job ever because I get to spend it with so many amazing students, families, and staff. View Ridge rocks!

During February we concentrated on the Viking Above the Line (ATL) character trait of kindness; and we will be honoring more student scholars and heroes at our Viking Pride Assembly this Friday. 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)! This support from families makes these Viking Pride assemblies even more AWESOME and MEANINGFUL. If you cannot attend, please help us by making this important honor a BIG DEAL with your family at home. Our students are working so hard to continually improve in not only areas of academics, but in the behaviors that promote success!

We have a lot of great things to look forward to and celebrate in March—Dr. Seuss' birthday, our Book Exchange, another great PTA Movie Night event, and Parent-teacher conferences and Spring Book Fair. Each of these

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## A Word from Your PTA Presidents...

Feb. 28, 2017

Hello View Ridge Vikings,

I cannot believe another month has passed, February just flew by. We had a full month of activities. The annual Skate Night at the Everett Skate Deck on February 2nd was a huge success. We had a large turnout of View Ridge families and everyone enjoyed the evening. Also in February, the 4th grade classes organized a soup can drive and the entire school donated over 600 canned goods for the Souper Bowl.

Another huge success was the 1st Annual Art Walk and Auction on February 9th. The Art Walk featured original works of art created by each class and raised over \$3,000 for art supplies for the entire school. Ms. Post and Mrs. George's classes will receive additional art funding because their class paintings each sold for \$250. We owe a huge thank you to Art Docent chairs, Julie Stillwell and Becky Wright. Our second fundraiser of the year kicked off in February and will be ending next week. We are excited about being able to offer fabulous bags to the View Ridge community. This fund-

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## Upcoming Events

### Dr. Seuss Day

Thursday, March 2

Celebrate all things Seussian!

### Book Exchange

Thursday, March 2

6-7pm - School Cafeteria

Bring your old, unwanted books and exchange them for new ones!

### PTA Meeting

Thursday, March 9

Find out what's happening at your school!

### Popcorn Friday

Friday, March 17

Fresh hot popcorn, for all!

### Green Day

Friday, March 17

Show your school spirit dressed in green!

### First Grade Musical

Thursday, March 23

7:00-7:30 p.m.

### Family Movie Night

Friday, March 24

School Cafeteria - Doors open at 6 p.m., Movie begins at 7 p.m. Bring friends & family for a fun, free outing!

### Book Fair

March 27-31 - Library

Open before and after school during conference week.

### Spring Conferences

March 24-31

1:00 Early release

### Looking Ahead:

#### 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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events will be an opportunity for families to share their feedback for our school and our district. 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 for you to participate—at tables during our March events. 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!

Students will earn a raffle ticket for a \$25 Book Fair gift card if their parent completes a survey. If you prefer to take it at home, please click the following link: <https://www.research.net/r/eps-parent-2017>. If you do it this way, just cut out this article and write your child's name on it, to turn in to their teacher before March 24th for a raffle ticket. If you prefer a paper copy, please inform your child's teacher and then follow the same protocol so we can ensure your child gets their raffle ticket. Surveys are anonymous, so there's no way to tell if you have turned one in without this communication. Thank you!

Here's to another great month of learning and growing together—and having fun in the process!

Tina Farias

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raiser is new this year and will help fund PTA projects for the second half of the school year.

Home run for Reading will begin in March. We hope all students will participate this year. One of the prizes is tickets to the Aquasox game in June. Also, the book exchange will be held on March 2nd. Please bring any children's books in exchange for tickets before the evening of March 2nd. Volunteers will be collecting books before and after school.

The PTA continues to offer Popcorn Friday every month and another Movie Night will be coming soon. The general PTA meeting is March 9th with socializing at 6:30pm and meeting beginning at 7pm. We look forward to seeing 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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### Hit a Home Run in Reading!

The Aquasox and View Ridge are partnering again this year to encourage reading with the "Hit a Home Run in Reading" program. Students will track their reading and earn prizes, provided by the Aquasox, for 4 weeks. Reading goals are set by the

student's teacher. The program will run from March 6th through March 31st. The final prize is a free ticket to an Aquasox game that the school will attend as a group on June 16th!

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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).

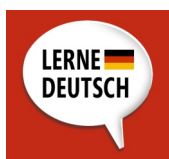


## S'more Fun with Books!

The "Happy Camper" Book Fair will be open before and after school during conference week, March 27th-31st. This is the primary fundraiser for our library, so please come! An online sign up genius form will be made soon for those of you who would like to volunteer to work at the bookfair. Please look for a flyer with more information to come home the week before the book fair. Thank you!

## After School Activities

View Ridge PTA is excited to offer **Bricks4kidz, German language classes, and speed explosion running club** this spring! Spring session will begin the week of April 17th and run for 6 weeks. Registration will begin soon, so be on the lookout for your forms today!



We are actively looking for parent helpers for each program next session. Program days will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Please contact Andraya Hallgren with any questions at: andrayaleann@msn.com or 425-330-8277.

## 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.



## FITNESS CORNER

September and October, we worked on our Fitness assessments of Pacer running, Push-ups, Sit-ups and Sit-n-Reach. We learned

about the 5 Components of Fitness and why they are important for taking care of our bodies. We set jump rope goals and tried to meet and beat them.

We recently completed a unit on Heart Health, and hockey skills. Currently, we are working on nutrition. Please help your child to read labels, and remember that the first ingredient is also the highest amount in the food. You'll notice the amount of sugar in our food.

During February, we entered our Dance unit. We have been working on rhythmic combinations, and 4/5th grade had jazzercise time with Laurie Sweet from "Mukilteo Jazzercise". Fun was had by "most". 😊

March is Sit-up month with assessment during the week of conferences. Practice, practice, practice!!!

**Please remember proper shoes and clothing!**



**JAZZERCISE!**

## Happy Health!

Ms. Jan Anderson, NBCT  
Fitness Specialist  
View Ridge Elementary



## I'm Just a Bill: Breakfast After the Bell

By Megan Dunn, PTA Regional Legislative Coordinator and View Ridge Legislative Committee

During the legislative session in Olympia this year, there are a number of bills that are supported by the PTA. Here's how PTA is involved in trying to pass a bill this year that would provide breakfast 'after the bell' for hungry kids. Hungry kids struggle to learn, and for too many of them, meals at school are their only opportunity to eat each day.

At our October 2016 PTA legislative assembly, the membership voted to support legislation instituting a "Breakfast After the Bell" program in high needs schools and initiate policies at the district level that encourage early adoption of "Breakfast After the Bell" programs. PTA and our members have been actively involved in trying to pass this legislation to combat problems with problems of hunger and poor nutrition.

With support from 34 co-signers, including the 38th Legislative District Representatives Sells and Robinson, HB 1508 was introduced this year to institute Breakfast After the Bell programs. HB 1508 would create a mandate for schools that have 70 percent eligibility for Free and Reduced Price meals to offer a Breakfast after the Bell (BAB) program. The bill would include grants for schools that are affected, and would make time eating count as instructional hours if instruction is occurring. It would also seek to eliminate school lunch co-pays.

### How a Bill Becomes a Law

1. Bill is submitted or 'dropped' in the bill hopper.
2. Bill is assigned a committee and, if approved by the Chair, the bill will receive a public hearing.
3. Bill has a public hearing where stakeholders testify in favor or against.
4. A decision is made to pass the bill, amend the bill to address concerns or technical fixes, or to not pass the bill.
5. If the committee votes on the bill, a majority voting in favor will send the bill to a fiscal committee or the Rules committee for further consideration.
6. If the bill is brought to the floor for action, a majority vote will send it to the opposite chamber.
7. Once a bill passes one chamber, it starts the process over again: a hearing, a committee vote and full chamber approval.
8. Sometimes bills with similar topics are introduced in both the House and Senate. This often increases their chance for passage.
9. If a bill is changed in the opposite chamber, it needs to return to the original chamber for approval. If the original chamber doesn't agree with the changes, it can demand the opposite chamber withdraw its amendments.
10. Bills where there is no agreement or larger, more complex bills, can go to what's called a "conference committee". When a bill comes out of a conference committee, the only way to vote is yes or no on the conference consensus bill.
11. When a bill passes both the House and Senate, it gets sent to the Governor's desk to be signed; most bills become effective 90 days after the end of the regular session.

### PTA Involvement in HB 1508

Marie Sullivan, WSPTA Legislative Consultant, has been working with stakeholders and legislators to support a bill that would meet the needs of the PTA legislative position. PTA members from View Ridge Elementary met with Representatives Sells and Robinson and thanked them for their support in co-sponsoring the bill at PTA Focus Day in January. PTA parent Michael Steffen testified before the House Education Committee in favor of HB 1508. Steffen is legislative chair for the Marvista Elementary PTSA in the Highline School District. Northshore parent Corina Pfeil, parent member from Inglemoor High PTSA, testified in favor of the bill this on February 22nd at another hearing. This was Corina's first time testifying in Olympia!

Because it has a fiscal impact due to the elimination of lunch co-pays, SHB 1508 was heard February 8th in the House Appropriations Committee. If it makes it through the fiscal committee and to the floor for a vote, it then must go through the same process in the Senate. With all the steps involved, it's easy to see why only about 10% of the bills introduced are passed into law.

You can get involved in local policy advocacy-meet your representatives, attend town halls or testify! Contact your legislator, track bills and keep in touch with PTA to advocate for the whole child. Legislators need to hear from parents, grand parents, teachers and kids about the important issues facing Washington students: Social and Emotional Learning, Ample Funding Basic Education, Closing the Opportunity Gap, Standards for Para-educators, and Breakfast after the Bell. Look up your Representative and bill information here: <http://leg.wa.gov/>

## DISTRICT NEWS



### Capital bond and levy project updates are now online

Watch the progress of projects authorized by voters in the 2016 election and in prior years. Project descriptions, photos and updates are on the district website at [www.everettsd.org/bondandlevy](http://www.everettsd.org/bondandlevy).

**We're growing.** 1,500 more students projected in coming years—more than 800 at high school level.

### ThoughtExchange

Emails will go to each guardian after March 1 asking for thoughts about enrollment growth in Everett Public Schools. What should the district consider as it plans for continued growth? Didn't get an email? You can self-register at [http://bit.ly/EPS\\_Texchange](http://bit.ly/EPS_Texchange). Join the conversation at any time!

### Board special meeting - March 30 from 6-7:30 p.m.

Henry M. Jackson High School, 1508 136th St. SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012

Join Us!

1. **Learn** more about the district's tremendous high school enrollment growth issues and possible solutions to address growth over time.
2. **Speak** with a board member. Sign up during the event.
3. **Hear** what board members heard from community members about enrollment growth.

### Important dates

- Daylight Saving Time begins March 12.
- Elementary school students will be released 2.5 hours earlier than normal March 24-31 for parent conferences.
- March 24 is a full day for middle and high schools.
- Spring Break is April 3-7.

### FREE learning tools for your entire family

Did you know that with your parent LMS user name and password, you have access to a powerful resource provided also to students and staff with their district log ins? Atomic Learning is a key partner in our dedication to providing the highest quality technology training resources available.

Our subscription to Atomic Learning includes:

- The Microsoft® Office Suite
- Adobe Suite
- Google Drive/apps/doc/form
- Internet Safety
- Career Skills training for personal career advancement
- Completing a FAFSA training for college planning
- Access for staff, students and their families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- More than 50,000 step-by-step technology tutorials.

Go to <http://www.atomiclearning.com/login/everettsd> and log in with your district username and password. Need a login and password? Contact [LMS@everettsd.org](mailto:LMS@everettsd.org).

### Access your 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](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?

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.

### 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