

Sequoia High School Student Handbook 2023-2024



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Everett, WA 98201

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Office Hours: 7:30am – 3:30pm

Monday - Friday

[Staff Directory](#)

Everett Public Schools

The Sequoia Student Handbook includes expectations and information specific to our school. Please refer to the Everett Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities for additional information on policies and procedures related to students. The Sequoia High School Student Handbook is accessible online at <http://www.everettsd.org/domain/1564>, in print, and via a link on student issued district tablets. Print copies of the handbook are available upon request at our office.

Sequoia's Mission:

Sequoia High School is rooted in choice, equity and building relationships. We focus on individualization while holding students to high academic standards, preparing them for life as contributors to their communities.

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

Chad Golden

PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213

425-385-4100

CGolden@everettsd.org

Section 504 Coordinator

Dave Peters

PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213

425-385-4063

DPeters@everettsd.org

ADA Coordinator

Chad Golden

PO Box 2098, Everett WA 98213

425-385-4100

CGolden@everettsd.org

The Sequoia Way

	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe
Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assume best intentions Listen and respect all perspectives Include all in discussion Develop respectful relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use time wisely Take responsibility for your own actions If harm is caused, work to repair relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any concerns to a trusted adult at school immediately
Classroom (in person)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cell phones silent and away from 8:20-2:55 except transitions, lunch, breakfast Use appropriate language, tone and volume Support a positive learning culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a problem solver Be ready with organized materials Be your own advocate Be an engaged contributor to learning Be present Be true to your word 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be where you are supposed to be Be thoughtful and mindful in what you say Follow reasonable requests
Common Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language, tone and volume Address others appropriately (tone, pronoun, name, etc) Honor physical spaces and displays Be polite (please/thank you) Wear school appropriate clothing Respect the fragrance policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean up after your self Be mindful of space that you are in and expectations of the space Use vending machines during passing times, breakfast or lunch Keep moving on the stairwells Use restrooms for their designed purpose, only 1 person per stall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be where you are supposed to be Aware of others personal space Keep throughways clear Follow reasonable requests Maintain a walkable and respectful route to restrooms, elevators and classroom doors Maintain a vape, e-cigarette and smoke free campus
Cafeteria (Lunch/ Breakfast)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be inclusive & welcoming Be polite (please/thank you) Use appropriate language, tone and volume Cell phones silent and away and headphones off in line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean up after your self-including highchairs Use share bin Follow lunch line protocol including taking a complete meal Be on time to your class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be in designated areas (lunchroom, library, classroom w/ staff, 2nd floor hallway along the lockers) Wipe up spills Follow off campus lunch protocol

Campus Arrival- Departure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up after yourself • Use school appropriate language and volume • Be a good neighbor • Follow office expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive on time • Use designated entrance/exit • Follow sign-in/sign-out procedures • Visitors sign in office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aware of surroundings (cars, people, children, crosswalks) • Drive in & out at safe speeds • See something, say something
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Citizenship • Use device for intended purpose • Follow staff direction/ lesson/task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring your charged device • Hotspots for home use • Protect device from damage • Maintain updates • Return borrowed charger in same class period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use appropriately (social media) • Take care of your digital footprint • Consider where you leave your device
Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use appropriate language, tone and volume • Address others appropriately (tone, pronoun, name, etc) • Honor physical spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up after your self • Be mindful of space that you are in and expectations of the space • Follow sign-in/sign-out procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow reasonable requests <p>Updated 7/23/21</p>



Attendance

Attendance:

Sequoia High School holds high expectations for its students. In order to achieve these high standards, regular attendance is necessary. Washington State Law and Everett Public Schools Board Policy require that all students attend school and make minimum academic progress to maintain their academic standing within the school. Attending regularly positively impacts the student's ability to make monthly academic progress and stay on track to graduate. Students must make academic progress to stay enrolled or a change in program may occur.

Students are required to attend all Check and Connect and CONNECTED days. Any excused absences must be pre-approved by the school principal (or designee).

Leaving Campus during School Hours:

Students are expected to stay on campus once they arrive on campus until the end of their individualized scheduled day. Students needing to leave campus during their school day require permission from parent/guardian and checking out directly with an office staff person. **Sequoia is a closed campus and students are expected to remain on campus for lunch.**

P rearranged Absences:

Families should not schedule vacations or travel while school is in session. If a family vacation or travel must occur while school is in session, it must be prearranged prior to the absence and approved by the principal (or designee). Pursuant to item policy, the principal (or designee) may excuse up to five (5) school days for a prearranged absence per student each school year. Assignments requested for a prearranged absence will be provided to the student or parent if requested five (5) school days prior to the absence.



Academics

CONNECTED Application and Procedures:

Any student living in the Everett School District who is a high school student (grades 9–12), and will be able to complete all high school credits and requirements by the time she/he turns 21 is welcome to attend CONNECTED at Sequoia High School. Students should fill out the [pre-registration form](#) by visiting Sequoia website. Students who are currently under suspension or expulsion from another school may attend CONNECTED at Sequoia **only after the conditions for re-enter her/his home school have been met**. Every student entering Sequoia High School is required to complete a 12-day (24-hour) class, CONNECTED, prior to the term she/he enters school. (Please note: CONNECTED 1 is only 6 days.)

New students to the district should also fill our [new student enrollment forms](#) as well as complete the [pre-registration form](#) prior to the first day of CONNECTED. Students who have a 504 Plan or Individualized Education Plan should provide a copy to Sequoia if applicable. Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) are permitted to enroll at Sequoia if the school is able to meet the individual learning needs of the student. An IEP should be reviewed prior to attending CONNECTED. Students who live outside of the Everett School District boundaries must have an approved Choice Transfer prior to beginning CONNECTED. Students and families are encouraged to contact the school with any questions about the enrollment process.

Advisory:

All students are enrolled in Advisory for the entire time they are enrolled at Sequoia High School. Advisory meets Monday - Thursday and is taught by the student's academic advisor. Students are expected to attend advisory each day. Attendance will be taken daily. Advisory emphasizes goal setting, study skills, developing school success strategies and tracking academic progress. Students are expected to make up incompletes, complete homework, and/or participate in daily activities or lessons. On Mondays and Thursday's students may work with content area teachers on incompletes or current classes. On Tuesdays and Wednesday's students will engage in new lessons on post high school planning/success, emotional literacy, financial literacy, technology literacy. *Attendance is required for all students.* Students who do not attend Advisory may be placed on intervention plan and could be withdrawn from school for not making progress if they fail to comply with the terms of the intervention plan.

Check & Connect/Appointment Day:

After successful completion of CONNECTED, all students will be assigned a teacher to be their academic advisor. Students and teachers will also meet to discuss progress eight times a year on Check & Connect/Appointment Day. Check & Connect is 10am-1:00pm. Students report to their advisory classroom at 10am. Students need to arrive on time and remain in the class the required time. Students who pass all their enrolled classes will earn an early release from Check and Connect at 11:30am. All other students must remain in Check and Connect until 1:00pm. Students are required to attend Check & Connect and their individual Appointment to schedule classes and stay enrolled for the next term.

Commencement Exercises:

Students who have completed all graduation requirements will be invited to participate in the commencement ceremony. Graduates are expected to attend Graduation practice to participate in ceremony. All school and district rules apply at the practice and ceremony.

Grades:

Sequoia High School does not use conventional letter grades to assess student progress. All work must be completed at a mastery level of at least 80% in order to receive credit at the end of the class. An incomplete class will appear on a student's transcript as an "I". Incompletes that are not finished will be converted to a no credit or "NC" mark on the student's transcript. All credits that are earned will receive a "P" for passing grade. Courses where credit has not been earned will be given an "NC". A .25 credit is awarded at the end of each term for passing grades.

Homework:

The academic program at Sequoia High School is designed to include both in-school and independent work. The system was developed to allow students to meet individual needs while progressing toward graduation. Homework is required to achieve normal academic progress and stay in good standing as a student. Students should expect 3 hours of homework per week for each class in which they are enrolled. This means that a student enrolled in 5 classes can expect 15 hours of homework per week. Homework support is provided. Students should talk with their Advisory teacher about days and times for each class.

Intervention Plan:

Students enrolled at Sequoia High School progress toward graduation by working at their own pace. Students must earn .75 credits per term to remain on track to graduate at a four-year pace. This is considered normal academic progress at Sequoia High School. Students must make minimum progress each term or they will be placed on an intervention plan. Minimum progress can be defined as no less than .25 credits per term. While on an intervention plan, students must meet the requirements of the plan to make progress. Students who do not make sufficient academic progress while on an intervention for two consecutive months will be offered an alternative course of study. (WAC 392-121-182 Alternative Learning Experience Plan).

Physical Education Logs:

Students may create a fitness goal, develop plan, and track to earn PE credit. Students must document 90 hours/5400 minutes with their advisor to earn .5 credit. Students must be enrolled during the times activity hours are logged. Hours must be completed in the same academic year. Students should earn a minimum of .5 PE credit per year until the graduation requirement is met.

Retake/Re-Retake:

Students who have successfully passed CONNECTED this year but are not currently enrolled will need to participate in an intervention called Retake. Retake occurs on Check and Connect days from 10:00 – 1:00 within their advisory class. Students will complete a variety of lessons in order to complete Retake. **It is required for students to re-enroll.** Retake helps to transition students back into school by attempting to identify new strategies for success.

A student who has previously, this academic year, completed CONNECTED and Retake and wants to reenroll in school must complete Re-Retake. An application packet may be picked up from the office and must be returned 5 school days prior to the next appointment day. A student is required to meet with their counselor and administrator to create an individualized plan of success and help determine best educational opportunities.

Significant Adult Night:

Throughout the year we will host Significant Adult Nights. This gives the adults in that student's life an opportunity to become familiar with our schedule, calendar, and other program components. We encourage adults to attend and ask any questions that they may have about our program. If your student chooses to enroll in our program, future adult involvement is welcomed through our Port Gardner/Sequoia Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA).



Activities

Associated Student Body:

The Associated Student Body (ASB) is a formal organization of students that is formed with the approval of the school district Board of Directors. Vending machine revenues fund the ASB program at Sequoia High School. The organization offers students leadership opportunities. ASB meetings occur monthly. According to the ASB charter, each Advisory class will elect two representatives to attend each meeting who will serve for one school year. From this group of representatives who served the previous school year, a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Representative will be voted into office each spring to comprise the executive board. Each advisory in the fall will identify a Student Representative to attend ASB meetings and provide communication between the advisory class and the ASB.

Athletics:

All students enrolled at Sequoia High are eligible to participate in school athletics at their attendance boundary school (Cascade, Everett, or Jackson High Schools). Students must meet all WIAA eligibility requirement as well as any school district requirements for participation. Information is available on our district website at <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/199> or contact the athletic district office at the school or Sequoia High School's office.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

All students enrolled at Sequoia High School are eligible to participate in any school activities. If an activity is not offered at Sequoia High School a student may participate at their attendance boundary school (Cascade, Everett, or Jackson High Schools). Students must meet all WIAA eligibility requirement as well as any school district requirements for participation. Contact the Sequoia Office for more information.



Emergency Procedures

Each month we are required to practice emergency procedures including lockdown, earthquake, and evacuation/fire drills for the continued safety of our students. It is important we practice each situation as though it is a real emergency so that we are prepared to respond appropriately. In any emergency, it is critical to follow the directions of school staff or emergency responders.

Cell Phone/Social Media:

During an emergency, students and staff are asked to not use cell phones or other social media unless directed with a factual message. We request this to ensure accurate information is released and that any response by first responders are not compromised.

Earthquake:

In the event of an earthquake, *Stop, Drop and Cover*. Go to the safest place- desk, doorway, and cabinet etc. and wait for the all clear from Principal (or designee) or First Responders. Do not exit the building until the earth has stopped moving and it has been determined it is clear to exit to the safest place which might include the Sequoia Field, Doyle Park, field behind school on Norton or other safe location.

Fire Alarm:

When the fire alarm goes off, evaluate the situation, and immediately exit the buildings if you believe the situation is a potential fire. Note a fire alarm may ring in an earthquake or other situations where it would not appropriate to evacuate for your safety. Walk away from the building to either the North or South side of the Sequoia building as indicated on the evacuation maps in each classroom. If your designated route is barricaded or unsafe; follow the closest alternative route. Enter soccer field in front of Sequoia and line up by teacher in designated area. If the alarm occurs during passing time or lunch; proceed to the previous class

period teacher. If you are not assigned to a teacher during that period; report to the office area at the south end of the lines. Please stay in your assigned line as each person will need to be accounted for. In the event that we need to evacuate to a secondary location, please follow the directions of staff or first responders.

Intruder:

In the event of an active-violent intruder inside the campus; Run, Hide, Fight. If you are inside the building and you can *RUN* away. If you are outside the building; stay outside and move away from the building and call 911. If you cannot safely leave the area, *HIDE*, secure classrooms, block the door with furniture, move away from windows and doors and call 911. Do not open door unless a confirmed rescuer. If there are no other options *FIGHT*, take actions against the intruder.

Lockdown:

In the event of a lockdown, the doors will be locked, and students will be secured in the building away from windows and doors. If a fire alarm goes off during a lock down, unless you see or smell fire, you would not exit the building unless directed by school staff or law enforcement. No one will be allowed to enter the buildings. If you are just arriving on campus, for your safety, please return to your vehicle or another safe location. Please do not try and enter a building. Whether a drill or real incident you will find that the door is locked, and you will not be allowed access. In a drill situation, it typically lasts from 3-7 minutes. Doors will be opened immediately at the end of the drill.

Student Release:

In any emergency situation, students must wait to be released and signed out to a family member or significant adult or approved by Principal (or designee). Please do not leave campus without following the sign out process as we will need to ensure the safety of all students. In an emergency we will only release students to those people listed as your emergency contacts. It is recommended that you check to ensure that information is accurate.



Services

Breakfast and Lunch:

Breakfast and lunch will be available to all students at no cost due to our participation in the federally funded Community Eligibility Provision. As part of the enrollment packet, students and families must complete the Family Income Survey. The Family Income Survey will help maintain funding for other programs that rely on free and reduced information. The information collected in the survey is 100% confidential and will not be used for any other purpose. Sequoia students will not need to fill out a Free/Reduced lunch form.

Career Center:

The Career Center is located in the library. The library is open Monday through Friday 8:30am-2pm to contact the Career Specialist or schedule an appointment. Students are encouraged to login to [Naviance](#) to access transcripts and other resources for college and career readiness. Contact the Career Specialists about jobs, colleges, scholarships, financial aid, Sno-Isle, and more.

Child Care Center:

Children of a currently enrolled students in good standing may attend the full-licensed daycare. The daycare center accepts children from one month to 24 months old. Application packets are available from the Daycare either in person or by calling 425-385-5120. Prior to bringing a child to the daycare they must be enrolled in the program.

Health Room/Vision Screening:

Upon request, Snellen screening (E chart) is available in the Health Room for any difficulty with distance vision.

Library:

Students and classes are encouraged to use the library. The library is open from 8:30am-2pm every day. The library is open during lunch for students to check out books and work quietly. Students using the library during their scheduled class periods, need permission from the teacher of the scheduled class that period.

Picture Day:

School pictures will be scheduled annually. Each student will have their picture taken. No hats or head coverings, except for medical or religious reasons, will be allowed in school pictures. Students will have an option to purchase pictures on Picture Day. Students will receive a Student ID card.

Transportation:

ORCA cards are available for students who live within the Everett School District service area and live more than one mile from the school. ORCA cards are distributed in the office during CONNECTED, passing time, lunch, and at the end of the day. Students will be assigned an ORCA card for the time they attend Sequoia High School. Students must return ORCA passes and cards when they leave Sequoia. If the ORCA pass or card is not returned with- in 24 hours of withdraw from Sequoia or lost, students will be assessed a \$6.00 fine and card deactivated. The ORCA pass may be used to provide transportation to and from school, work or other outside activities the student is involved in while enrolled at Sequoia High School. Students attending Sequoia on a choice transfer are not eligible for ORCA passes or cards.



Technology

Personal Electronic Devices:

High school students who choose to bring cell phones and other PEDs to school may only use their cell phones and other PEDs during transition periods, at lunch and before/after the school day. The Sequoia School Day is 8:20am-2:55pm. Students are expected to silence their cell phones and other PEDs before entering a classroom or other learning environments such as the library.

Technology/Tablets:

Each enrolled student will be provided a district issued tablet. The student is responsible for the security and care of the device. The student must return the device if they withdraw from school or they will be assigned a fine for the cost of the device. Please refer to the [Technology Handbook for Students and Parents](#) for detailed information about technology.

What if I forgot to bring the laptop to school?

If a student forgets to bring their laptop to school, the student may miss out on laptop-related instructional activities that day. Please help us help your student bring their charged laptop to/from school daily! Each school has a very small number of "loaner" devices. Priority for these loaners goes to students who experience equipment issues outside of their control. *Students that do not bring their laptop to school will be considered unprepared for class and may have to make adjustments during the lesson in order to participate. For example, they may need to hand write a response that will need to be submitted electronically at a later time. Makeup work may result from these necessary adjustments.*

What if my laptop is lost or stolen?

If a student's laptop is lost or stolen it is important to immediately (the next school day) report the loss or theft to the principal (or designee). If the device is stolen, please submit a police report and bring the case number when reporting to the office.



Fragrances

Fragrance Free Environment:

All members of our school community are asked to refrain from spraying or wearing fragrant perfumes, lotions, or other items with a scent due to chemical sensitivity. Fragrances are not permitted, to meet health needs of our learning community members.