

# Our Schools

**SPRING 2018**  
**NEWSLETTER**



## FEATURE ARTICLES

- Safety and security update
- 2016 Bond and Capital Levy update
- Technology stands yoga on its head



# Safety and security update

## Additional safety and security upgrades underway

Providing a safe learning environment in our schools is of critical importance. Schools have safety plans in place and practice drills regularly. The district partners with law enforcement and local agencies to continue to strengthen its emergency response planning and conduct drills. And, thanks to voter support of the 2016 capital levy, additional safety and security upgrades are being implemented at schools across the district.



*The district partners with law enforcement and local agencies to continue to strengthen its emergency response planning and conduct drills.*

The school board approved a call for bids for the installation of a video intercom system and a card access control system at 16 school sites—10 elementary, four middle, and Jackson and Sequoia high schools. The video intercom system will be installed at the front entry of these schools to provide an additional layer of security for office staff who will be able to see those requesting access to the school. Systems were piloted at Hawthorne and Silver Firs elementary schools last fall and crews will begin work at additional schools this summer.

At Cedar Wood, Mill Creek, Penny Creek, and Silver Firs elementary schools, video intercom systems will be installed at the front entrance along with card access control systems for staff. Office interiors will be remodeled and new front entrances with secure interior vestibules and exterior fencing will be installed. Work is expected to begin this summer and be phased in over multiple years.

# Bus safety drills

Everett Public Schools uses a system called RAVE911 which alerts key staff members whenever someone in the district calls 911 from any phone.

Now, district-owned buses, those that transport special services and homeless students, are equipped with cell phones linked to RAVE911. If one of these bus drivers calls 911 from their bus cell phone from any location, transportation staff members will receive the emergency alert and the bus location, making response time and communication between agencies even quicker. The district will work with Durham Transportation, who provides transportation to all other Everett Public Schools students, to integrate RAVE911 into their emergency response procedures as well.



## Board determining next steps to address growth

Everett Public Schools continues to be the fastest growing district in Snohomish County.

Updated enrollment projections show EPS will grow by more than 1,850 students by 2027. Growth is expected in all areas of the district, particularly at elementary and high school levels in the south end of the district.

With additional growth on the horizon and the failure of the recent bond measure that would have constructed a fourth comprehensive high school and built permanent classroom space at the elementary level, the school board will be determining next steps to address current and long-term capacity needs and provide equitable learning opportunities for students across the district.

**1,850** 

ENROLLMENT WILL GROW BY MORE THAN 1,850 STUDENTS BY 2027!

**LEARN MORE**

ABOUT DISTRICT GROWTH AND NEXT STEPS BY VISITING [WWW.EVERETTSD.ORG/GROWTH](http://WWW.EVERETTSD.ORG/GROWTH).





Elementary School No. 18 rendering

## Elementary 18 breaking ground this spring

Tiger Construction, Ltd. has been selected to build Elementary No. 18. The bid includes construction of the school along with two alternates. One alternate contains a new overflow parking lot and the second alternate includes a four-classroom addition. Crews will break ground later this spring and the school will open in fall 2019.

Adjustments to elementary boundaries will be made in fall 2019 to create a service area for Elementary 18 and to balance enrollment in elementary schools in the south end of the district. Boundary revisions will impact the service areas for Cedar Wood, Forest View, Mill Creek, Penny Creek, Silver Firs, Silver Lake, and Woodside elementary schools.

The Elementary Boundary Committee hosted two open houses in February to share information about the proposed boundary process and gather community input on revisions of a draft boundary recommendation. The committee is considering all input received as it develops a recommendation for review by the superintendent this May. The superintendent will submit a final recommendation to the school board in fall 2018—a full year before the new school opens.

## North Middle School modernization begins this summer

Later this spring you will see some changes to the North Middle School campus in preparation for summer construction. Ten portables will be placed at the school to house students and staff while the school is modernized.

The modernization will construct a two-story instructional building for general education classrooms and administrative offices and renovate the gymnasium and music building. Technology infrastructure will be enhanced to accommodate increased technology and wireless capabilities for the implementation of 1:1 computing devices for students. The fields will also be updated and parking will be added.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE STATUS



### PROJECT SCHEDULE STATUS



North Middle School rendering



# Technology stands yoga on its head



Sophomore Madison Hofstaedter gripped the blue yoga mat with her toes as she carefully leaned forward, back leg extended, right arm out in front.

Warrior Two pose. Her balance improving with each attempt, her class partner snapped images of each pose with her tablet, eventually saving the photo that showed the best form. The teacher projected examples of the poses onto the gym wall with her tablet, drawing with the stylus pen on the tablet screen to show which joints to bend and how far, what muscles to flex and which to hold straight. Students tried their own poses again, now with visual pointers of how to better align their body positions, marking their own photos with where to focus their improvements.

*“The tablets...are the new all-in-one textbook for students today and so much more.”*

Does this sound like a yoga class of the future? It is actually happening right now in high schools. It is one of the many innovative ways the 1:1 technology is being used at district schools. Last fall, students at Sequoia and Everett high schools received their tablets, capable of “digital inking,” or drawing directly on to the tablet screen with a stylus pen. The tablets, with a detachable keyboard and built-in camera, follow high school students to school and home each school day, and to nearly every class. They are the new all-in-one textbook for students today and so much more.

## Beyond the mat

Outside of the classroom, students use the devices to complete and turn in their homework – a lifesaver according to Craydi Moen, a sophomore at Everett High. “Before we got the computer, I had to go to the library,” she shared. Moen, the oldest of four children, explained that getting a ride to the library to do school work in the evenings was sometimes challenging. “It was always hard to go after school because I do sports and I have to watch my siblings sometimes.” Moen’s schedule and responsibilities sometimes prevented her from getting to the library and resulted in missed or late assignments. Now, with a device assigned to her, she is able to complete and submit her assignments on time, raising her grades. This is important to Moen because she plans to become a surgeon.

The devices are also helping teachers communicate with families who speak other languages by providing a real-time audio translation feature. This can be critical when language is a barrier during a parent teacher conference about a student’s progress.



# A different angle

Sarah Joyce, the physical education teacher who teaches yoga at Everett High School, has students create gifs (animated images) to record and replay their own movements. Students track their progress throughout the semester through these gifs, photos, and data tracking programs. It puts students in the driver's seat of learning. Joyce and other teachers reported many students have been more engaged in learning since receiving the devices.

"It's been nice that the learning doesn't just stop at the end of the school day. We can continually touch base, and have conversations and resources available," observed Jennifer Pitharoulis, who teaches AP English at Everett High.

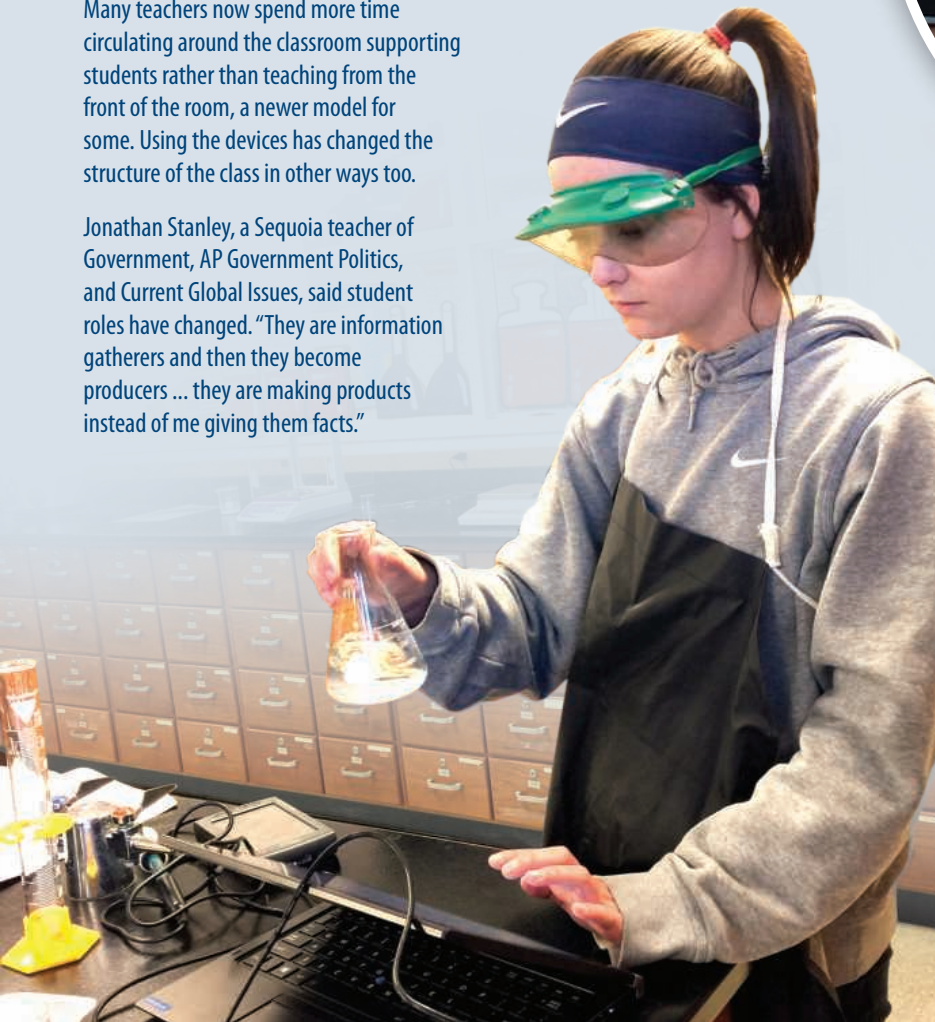
Amid beakers and Bunsen burners, Everett High AP Chemistry students use the devices in their labs, literally connecting pH and other sensors to their tablets to record data. Addie Smith, AP Chemistry teacher explained, "We're carrying a lot less around yet we're carrying so much more because the device has more in it than just textbook information. It has video resources. It has simulations that they can run on chemistry experiments through the University of Colorado's website. It offers so much more and it's so compact. I have everything in one place."

*"We're carrying a lot less around yet we're carrying so much more."*

A math class at Sequoia had students trying out trajectories as they landed planes on a virtual airstrip. In art, students can draw right onto their devices. In many classes, students use organizational applications like Microsoft OneNote to organize their assignments and often submit the finished products digitally to their teacher.

Many teachers now spend more time circulating around the classroom supporting students rather than teaching from the front of the room, a newer model for some. Using the devices has changed the structure of the class in other ways too.

Jonathan Stanley, a Sequoia teacher of Government, AP Government Politics, and Current Global Issues, said student roles have changed. "They are information gatherers and then they become producers ... they are making products instead of me giving them facts."



# Warrior pose

The infusion of technology has increased some students' engagement and ability to complete assignments on time. This has led to better grades and a better outlook for the future. Smith added, "Their jobs are going to include devices like this and to be resourceful and learn how to troubleshoot on their own and to seamlessly integrate with the companies that they work for at whatever level ... they're going to need to have this skill. And it's not taught, it's learned by doing."



# What rolls out next?

Students in Garfield, Lowell and Monroe elementary schools received Chromebooks last fall that stay at school. This fall, the rollouts will continue with Cascade and Jackson high schools, as well as Cedar Wood, Jackson, and Whittier elementary schools receiving their devices and training. Each year, several more schools will receive the technology until they are deployed districtwide in 2022. The devices and training of the first phase of deployment were paid for thanks to the voter-approved 2016 capital levy.





# Innovation Expo June 6 – save the date!

Join us for interactive booths from every school in the district at this year's Innovation Expo June 6, 5-8 pm, at Angel of the Winds (formerly Xfinity) Arena.

Each school's booth is different and showcases something the students at that school are learning. Community partners join in the fun with their own interactive booths representing innovation of regional industry.

The STEM competition gathers the best student projects from around the district and students share what they learned by doing them.

Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin will emcee the STEM competition awards ceremony and AquaSox's Webby will be a special guest. The event is free and open to all ages.



Learn more at:

[www.everettsd.org/expo](http://www.everettsd.org/expo)

## EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT ART SHOWS 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

Everett Public Schools, in partnership with the Everett Public Schools Foundation, is pleased to display the work of our student artists at our Community Resource Center. The public is invited to view the shows during regular business hours.

### 2018 SCHEDULE

<b>High School Art Show</b>	April 10 – April 26 Reception on April 26
<b>Middle School Art Show</b>	May 3 – May 18 Reception on May 14
<b>Everett Public Schools</b>	Community Resource Center 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201
<b>Elementary Art Show</b>	May 23 – June 7 Viewing only

*Celebrating 20 years of student art shows in partnership with Everett Public Schools Foundation!*

Visual Arts programs in Everett Public Schools emphasize the Four Cs of Art, while giving students the opportunity to work with a wide variety of methods and media.

- Craftsmanship**  
Developing artistic skill/control over art tools and materials through deliberation and attention to detail.
- Composition**  
Intentionally organizing art elements using the art principles to create a visually unified design.
- Communication**  
Applying art knowledge and skill to express, identify, and evaluate ideas and feelings in artwork.
- Creative Process**  
Solving problems and expressing ideas in unique and personal ways.

EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
3900 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201 • 425-385-4000 • [www.everettsd.org](http://www.everettsd.org)

## Celebrating 20 years of student art shows!

In partnership with the Everett Public Schools Foundation, we are pleased to display the work of our student artists during the 20th annual art shows.

See the art show schedule and drop by the Community Resource Center during business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) to view these students' amazing art!





# Students' expedition to surprising places

Google's Augmented Reality software help students dive deeper into learning

Lowell Elementary School students from kindergarten through fifth grade discovered virtual 3D dinosaurs, volcanoes, tornadoes, and more using the Google Augmented Reality (AR) software. They walked around, inspected, and dove inside different animals, insects, and weather patterns. The AR technology uses the classroom as a map, and virtually places 3D objects that students can explore. By the end of the day, the kids had even explored the scene of a sunken pirate ship.

Google designed this experience, called the Expeditions AR Pioneer Program, specifically for schools. "It helps kids learn the things they can't see," said fourth grader Calee, who participated in the expeditions at Lowell. Students studied different types of dinosaurs, inside the eye of a tornado, and what the layers of earth under a volcano look like.

Instructional Technology Facilitator Jennifer Chambers heard about the program at a conference she attended and submitted an application for Lowell, which is one of the district's first schools to provide 1:1 technology devices. "Technology is changing the way students learn by providing access to things we have never had access to, and in a way, we have never experienced and interacted with," said Chambers.

The district is implementing 1:1 technology for all schools over the coming years. The first phase of this implementation, including staff and student training, are funded by the voter-approved 2016 Capital Levy.

"This is bringing the learning to life," added Chambers. "It's a way for students to become more engaged, but it also enhances and deepens their learning."



## District mobile app

Download the free app for easy access to:

- Grades and test scores
- Staff directory
- Bus route information
- Checked out library items
- School and district calendars
- Communications preferences
- Attendance and class schedules
- Customized social media stream
- And much more!



For download information go to:  
[www.everettsd.org/Page/25881](http://www.everettsd.org/Page/25881)



*We're excited to put this information in the palm of your hand!*

*Don't have a student in the district? No problem. The app features many handy tools and easy-to-find resources for community members as well.*

PO BOX 2098  
Everett, WA 98213

ECRWSS Postal Customer



**Board of Directors:** (back row) Carol Andrews, Ted Wenta, (front row) Traci Mitchell, Pam LeSesne, Caroline Mason

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Caroline Mason
- Carol Andrews
- Traci Mitchell
- Pam LeSesne
- Ted Wenta

### SUPERINTENDENT

- Dr. Gary Cohn

### Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

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

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

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

**ADA Coordinator**  
Becky Clifford, rclifford@everettsd.org  
425-385-5250

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.

## How grand this new baby is!

### *Music4Life* brings a “new” baby grand piano to Everett High School

Sometimes wishes do come true! Such was the case when *Music4Life* gave music teacher Megan Vinther and her students a just-as-new Kohler & Campbell baby grand piano.

Vinther and Everett High School had long sought a baby grand to replace the one which had simply “aged out” after serving the school well for decades. *Music4Life* joined the hunt for a replacement. Co-Founder and *Music4Life* President David Endicott said, “We thought we had one or two possibilities, but those ultimately didn’t work out. Then we got ‘the call.’”

The “call” was from Kat Taylor who lives in Bothell. She asked *Music4Life* if they accepted pianos. From that point, it was music to all involved.

Not only did Taylor donate per piano, but she also paid to have it moved and to have it tuned once it acclimated to its new home – the lively Everett High band room.

While it is indeed “grand,” the newest instrument for Everett High is just one of almost 40 *Music4Life* has presented to schools in the district between Dec. 2017 and Feb. 2018. Since the beginning of the school year, the instrument donations from *Music4Life* have a market value of \$42,542.

The district began a strategic revitalization of its orchestra program in 2016. The program had been dormant for several decades. After an initial launch at three secondary schools, now strings programs are offered at ten elementary, middle and high schools.



EHS music teacher Megan Vinther sits next to piano donor Kat Taylor (far right). Taylor's serendipitous call asking *Music4Life* if they accepted pianos was the answer to the school's hopes for a replacement baby grand.

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*Our mission is to inspire, educate, and prepare each student to achieve to high standards, contribute to our community, and thrive in a global society.*