

Our Schools

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER



FEATURE ARTICLES

- Construction updates
- 1:1 technology for students continues to roll out
- What did you do this summer?



Superintendent message

We have officially kicked off the 2019-20 school year, and I cannot wait to see what possibilities and opportunities this year has in store for our students.

One way I keep in touch with what is going on day-to-day in our classrooms is to be present. Every day I am in the schools, and I have visited every one of our 28 schools since we kicked off the year on September 4. I look forward to working with teachers, administrators and staff this year to create more supportive and safe environments for all our students to grow and thrive.

I also have been spending time in the community. In addition to many one-on-one meetings, in August I held a listening tour where I heard from many families and community members on the things they love about the district, but also areas needing some improvement. The input from those community meetings will be shared with my cabinet and the school board and will become part of our annual operating plan.

Recently, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) released the 2018-19 statewide assessment scores. I am so proud of our students who, once again, academically outperformed the state average and demonstrated year-over-year improvement in most categories. You can find detailed data at <http://bit.ly/WaStateReportCardOSPI>.

And, thanks to our hardworking educators, success is within reach for all of our students with an increased emphasis on reading at early levels, strong monitoring and collaboration and core focus on climate, culture, systems and instruction.

We are committed to ensuring all Everett Public Schools students feel welcomed and respected at school, and have the same opportunities as every student in the district. This summer, we hired an equity and access coordinator who will lead the work ensuring fairness, equal opportunity, social justice and respect for human dignity for each member of our school community.

Thank you for your support of Everett Public Schools. It is going to be a great year!



Dr. Ian B. Saltzman
Superintendent



Family health safety tip

Vaping has been in the news a lot this summer due to many youth and young adults across the nation being hospitalized for respiratory issues, including respiratory failure. A few cases have been reported in our state. Teens may believe vaping is less harmful than smoking. Vaping devices are increasingly popular among middle and high school students and a new generation is getting addicted to nicotine. According to the Snohomish Health District's Washington Healthy Youth Survey:

11% of 8th graders, 23% of 10th graders and 31% of 12th graders currently use vapes.



Learn about the dangers of vaping as well as resources for teens to quit by visiting Snohomish Health District's webpage. The sooner one quits, the faster their body, and lungs, can rebound and repair themselves.

www.snohd.org/273/Vaping-Vapor-Products



Family weather safety tip



Does your family have a plan in case of bad weather, school closure or delay? Who will pick up your student, if needed? How will your student communicate with you if phone lines are jammed? Do you have needed emergency supplies in your car and at home?

Snohomish County Emergency Management has helpful online resources to help you create, practice and communicate emergency response plans with your family and neighborhood.

www.snohomishcountywa.gov/622/Preparedness



School closure and delay resources

- ◆ **FlashAlert.net** You can subscribe to receive notices at the same time those notices are sent to media outlets, or you can bookmark this site to check for a listing of regional school emergency schedule information.
- ◆ **Media news reports** (Media get information from FlashAlert)
- ◆ **Everett Public Schools website** www.everettsd.org
- ◆ **Mass communication system** message to school families typically beginning at 5:45 a.m.
- ◆ **Everett Public Schools social media** Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages.



"No announcement" means schools have normal schedules. More resources are available at www.everettsd.org/safety.

If there is reason for concern about safety on a designated walkway to school, call 9-1-1 immediately for authorized, quick help. We have strong partnerships with local law enforcement who share our interest in safe schools and neighborhoods.

Student safety is a priority for all of us. Working together, we can help make our neighborhoods and schools nurturing places for students to safely learn and grow.

Further safety and security projects

Keeping students and staff safe is a priority for the school district and we continue to make safety and security improvements funded by the 2016 capital bond. This summer, the district built on the improvements made last year which included the installation of visitor video intercom systems with many projects fostering a safe and nurturing learning environment.

Completed summer projects include:

- ✓ **New security fencing** was installed at Lowell, Emerson, Madison and Jackson elementary schools to better secure the school perimeters.
- ✓ **Interior vestibules** were created at eight schools through the construction of new walls and doors at strategic locations within the existing interior space, adding an additional level of security. The office manager or other staff member remotely unlocks the new vestibule doors, allowing visitors entry into the school. As visitors enter the school, they are channeled into the office where they receive a visitor badge to enter the school. The eight schools receiving new secure vestibules are Emerson, Garfield, Hawthorne, Whittier, Jefferson, Lowell, Silver Lake elementary schools and Jackson High School.
- ✓ **New security doors** were added at the main hallways to increase security by creating a locked separation between the public spaces and the private classroom wings of the following schools: Emerson, Hawthorne, Jefferson and Whittier elementary schools.

Have a safety concern related to schools? Report it!

- Bullying
- Intimidation
- Harassment
- Weapons
- Drugs
- Other

3 easy ways:



Text or call
855-637-2095



Email
1350@alert1.us



Web
<http://everett-wa.safeschoolsalert.com>

Thank you for supporting
the 2016 Bond and
these vital safety and
security projects!

North Stars shine bright in modernized school

Thanks to voters who approved a bond to fund school facilities projects in April 2016, North Middle School opened its doors this fall and welcomed students, staff and the community into a new 21st century learning space designed to promote collaboration.

The new building can accommodate approximately 825 students in the two-story, 123,000 square foot facility which includes 30 classrooms, an administrative office, library, gymnasium, auxiliary gymnasium, music area, cafeteria and kitchen. Of the 123,000 square feet, approximately 29,000 square feet was existing renovated space. Outdoor improvements include a new main parking lot with an improved drop-off lane, new perimeter fencing and upgrade of the track and field to synthetic surfaces, which are actively being installed with a construction completion date expected in January of 2020. The school design promotes safety and security for students and staff and includes a new video intercom system, secure interior vestibule and security doors.



“Our students are excited with the possibilities at their fingertips in our new learning spaces, and our staff is already coming up with fun activities and lessons to keep our students engaged,” North Middle School Principal Mitch Entler shared.

Some of the key characteristics of the new school include space for teamwork, natural daylight, technology upgrades to enhance the student experience and a welcoming atmosphere providing equal opportunities for all students and families to be successful. The school environment has been named the “3rd teacher” by architects and scientists because the learning environment plays such a significant role in student education and academic performance. North Middle School now has a state-of-the-art building to accompany its already stellar students, teachers and staff.

Woodside Elementary modernization project update

Another project our community will benefit from due to voters approving the bond in April 2016 is the modernization and addition to Woodside Elementary. Over the next two school years, students will attend classes while the contractor completely modernizes three classroom buildings, the gymnasium/cafeteria building, constructs a new two-story building housing the office and library, as well as demolishing the existing administration/library building.



The school opened this fall with a slight alteration to the parking lot rerouting the traffic loop a bit away from the construction of the new building. Also, two new portables were installed over the summer to house students during construction, and fencing placed to define and separate the construction areas from student areas.



North Middle School

Celebrating Everett Public Schools' newest addition, Tambark Creek Elementary

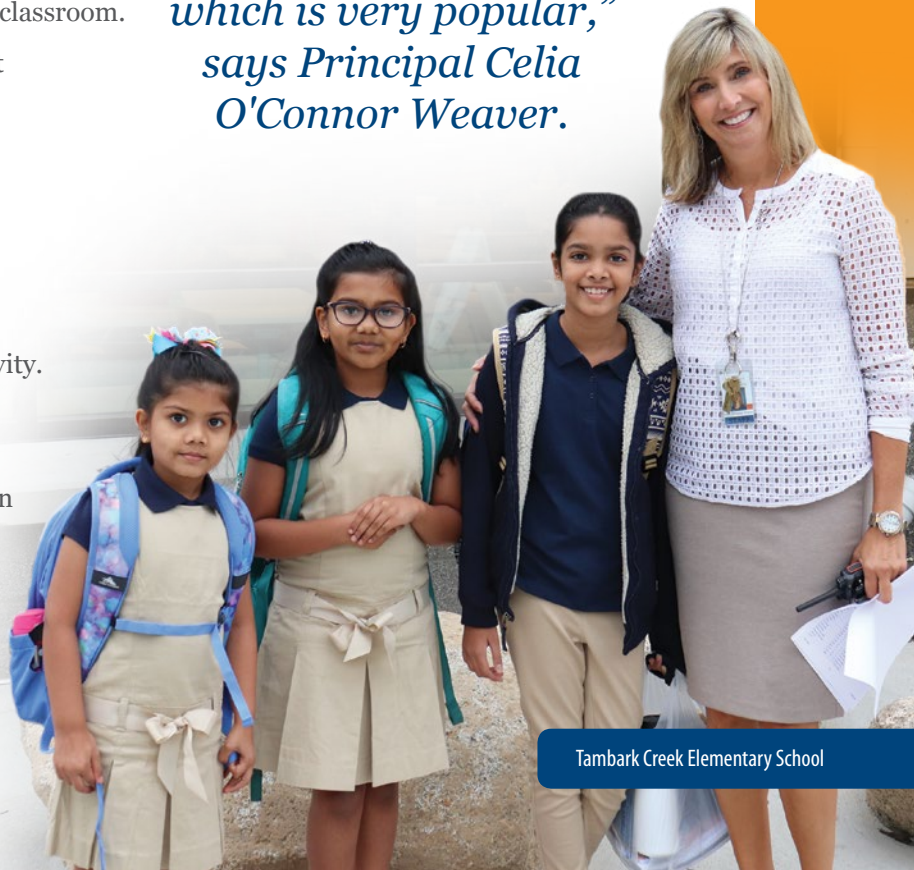
Everett Public Schools celebrated the opening of Tambark Creek Elementary on September 4 when over 600 students were welcomed into their brand-new school. Tambark Creek was built to reduce overcrowding in the fast-growing south end of the district.

Design aspects of the building were guided by eight principals which included:

- Natural light supports learning and wellness.
- Access to nature extends learning beyond the classroom.
- Learning environments are flexible and adjust to meet various needs and learning styles.
- The school community is accessible, inclusive and welcoming to all.
- Care is taken in creating spaces that inspire.
- The school atmosphere supports community partnerships and collaboration.
- Visibility and transparency promote connectivity.
- The school and its culture foster a safe and secure learning community.

A natural protected wetland featured prominently on the site and the school building is situated to have a strong physical and visual connection with the wetland to take advantage of outdoor learning opportunities and to support the school's STEM curriculum. The surrounding geography inspired the name of the school, Tambark Creek itself and Tambark Creek County Park.

"As the outdoor learning space is completed, Tambark Creek's teachers are learning how to use their classroom technology (interactive smart boards) and students are loving the big toy structure, which is very popular," says Principal Celia O'Connor Weaver.



1:1 technology for students continues to roll out

The district is committed to providing students with the highest quality education and one way to enrich student learning is through technology. Everett Public Schools is halfway through the six year roll out of its Integrated Technology Plan. All high schools, eleven elementary schools, and Evergreen, Eisenhower and Heatherwood middle schools have gone 1:1. This year, teachers at North Middle School, Gateway Middle School and Penny Creek, Madison and Woodside elementary schools will go through three days of training in preparation for going 1:1 during the 2020-21 school year.

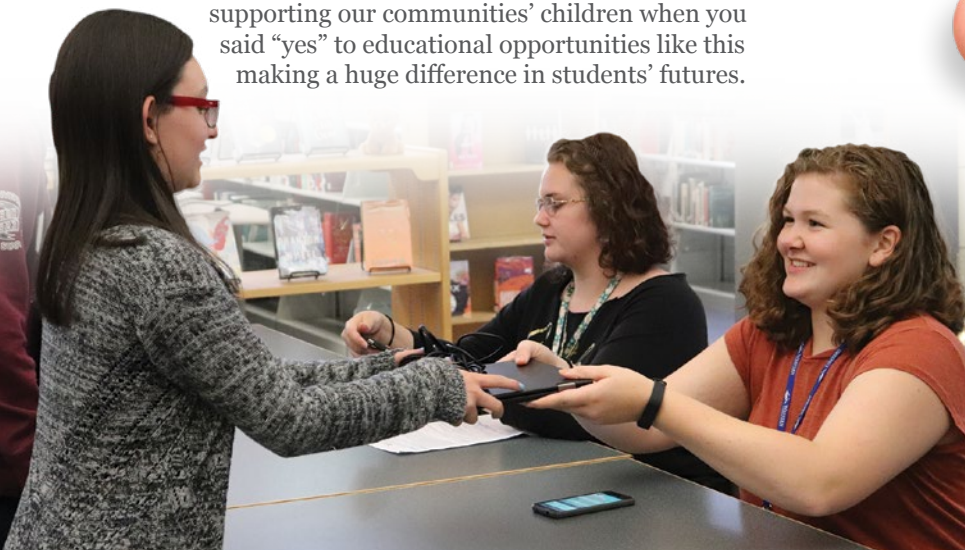


Principal Dave Peters and the District's Chief Information Officer Brian Beckley, getting ready for student computer check out at Jackson High School.

High school students have received digital inking PC tablets that go to and from school each day. Students who attend a 1:1 middle school have a Chromebook assigned to them for school and home access while elementary students at a 1:1 school have access to a dedicated Chromebook each day that stays at school. We are well on our way to ensuring every student has equitable access to a learning device. Access to digital content, expert voice and interactive learning platforms help teachers transform and personalize learning for every student in Everett Public Schools.

In addition to providing equitable access to a learning device, students who take devices home and do not have access to the Internet at home can apply to receive a free wireless Internet hotspot while enrolled in school. For more information and to determine eligibility, high school and middle school families should complete the consent form (www.everettsd.org/Page/23802) and return to their school's main office.

We are so grateful to those who established this vision many years ago and for helping make the dream a reality by supporting our communities' children when you said "yes" to educational opportunities like this making a huge difference in students' futures.



District mobile app

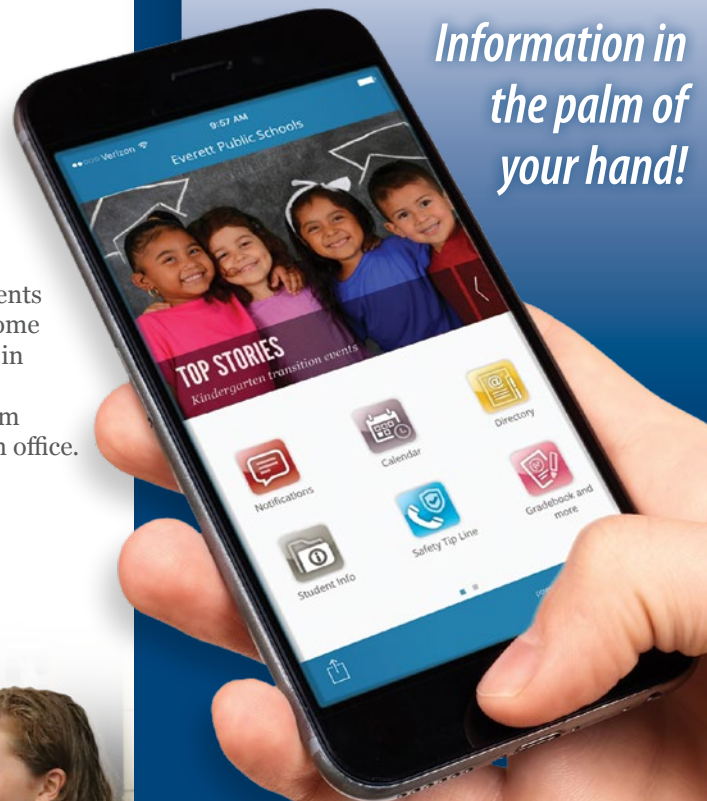
Download the free app for easy access in your language to:

- 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



For download information go to:

www.everettsd.org/Page/4744



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.

What did you do this summer?"



A typical question asked when school starts each fall is "what did you do this summer?"

Some people share family vacations or days at the beach or bike rides. For 50 Everett Public Schools students, representing all four high schools, their summer consisted of 90 hours gaining valuable insights and experience into various careers through Everett Career Link.

Everett Career Link is a new and innovative high school internship program formed through an Everett Public Schools partnership with the City of Everett. This unique partnership offers our students the opportunity to "learn before they earn" by showing what it is like to work in a specific job environment, and provides high school credit to students. This program not only benefits students, but also benefits local employers and gives them an opportunity to invest in the youth of Everett.

Juli Mothersbaugh, a senior at Jackson High School, had an internship with the City of Everett Police Department where she did everything from learning the process to become a police officer, to going on ride-alongs, to networking with various professionals in the field. She also created community learning materials, wrote her own police report and coached at police-run summer camps such as Badges for Baseball.

"The experience was eye-opening. I gained my first true workplace experience, which going forward will strengthen my confidence and professionalism in job settings," stated Juli.

"Moreover, my perspective on the role of law enforcement in my community was hugely expanded, and I have a greater understanding of the different jobs under the umbrella of 'criminal justice.' I am now interested in pursuing a career as a crime analyst, a job which I didn't even know existed before my internship!"

Lieutenant Bruce Bosman was Juli's summer supervisor and said they benefited from having an intern this summer. In addition to Juli learning and experiencing new things, "her help with our youth camps increased the quality of the experience for the kids in the program, and the riot special project provided a training product that increased team member communication and performance."

Juli thinks any student interested in becoming an intern should go for it because "there are few experiences that prepare you for professional settings better than an internship," and it really becomes what you make of it. She adds her appreciation for local employers who committed to help make these experiences possible for Everett School District students. Lt. Bosman adds, "I learned the future is in good hands with young adults such as Juli."



As part of Juli's internship, she also had the opportunity to meet Representative John Lovick.



Involvement opportunities

Research shows when families are engaged in their school, students are more successful. Students with involved parents are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and pass their classes,
- Attend school regularly and have better social skills,
- Go on to postsecondary education

At Everett Public Schools, there are many ways to become involved in your child's school as well as in the school district. Attending events at the school, including conferences, family nights, concerts and assemblies when possible as well as chaperoning field trips are all great ways to show interest in your child's education.

Volunteering at the school is another way to get involved. Establishing relationships with teachers and staff is beneficial and you are likely to meet other parents and expand your network of community support. There are also opportunities to be a part of a district Advisory Committee, the PTA or a school committee. Visit your student's school website and everettsd.org for information.



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Board of Directors: (back row) Pam LeSesne, Traci Mitchell,
(front row) Caroline Mason, Jamyang Dorjee Nhangkar, Carol Andrews

Board of Directors

- Carol Andrews
- Caroline Mason
- Traci Mitchell
- Pam LeSesne
- Jamyang Dorjee Nhangkar

Superintendent

- Dr. Ian B. Saltzman

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:**

Mary O'Brien

425-385-4106

MO'brien@everettsd.org

PO Box 2098

Everett WA 98213

Section 504 Coordinator:

Becky Ballbach

425-385-4063

RBallbach@everettsd.org

PO Box 2098

Everett WA 98213

ADA Coordinator:

Randi Seaberg

425-385-4104

RSeaberg@everettsd.org

PO Box 2098

Everett WA 98213

Follow district leaders on social media



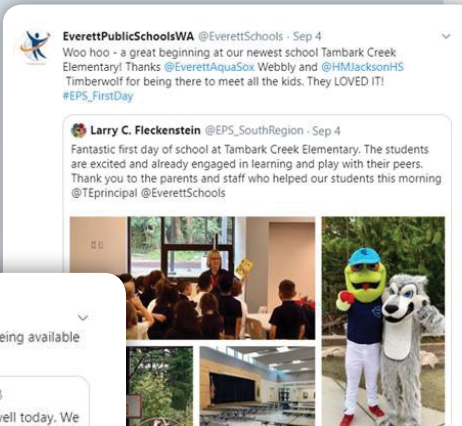
See what's happening in YOUR school and in the district. Go to <https://twitter.com/search-home> to search for your principal, school, district leaders and more.

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#EPS_OurStudentsRock

#EPS_OurStaffRocks

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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.

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