



SCHOOL NEWS

Washington Elementary School

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Web page:
<http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/wash/>

Washington Elementary's Word of the Month "Respect"

- Talk to adults in a positive way
- Wait your turn in line
- Take time to understand someone who is different
- Use kind words and actions and talk positively about self and others
- Graciously accept 'NO' for an answer

Upcoming Events

September

- 24 PTA School Carnival 5:30-8:30
25 **NO SCHOOL**-Waiver Day
28 Jump Rope for Washington event

October

- 2 All school assembly
6 Bus evacuation drill
7 Walk to School day
8 Student of month luncheon
Progress reports go home
9 In-Service Day **NO SCHOOL**
13 PTA Meeting

NO SCHOOL TOMORROW
Waiver Day

Mission Statement: The community of Washington Elementary is dedicated to providing a supportive, challenging environment where all students work towards reaching their full potential. A strong emphasis is placed on high academic standards, independent thinking, and responsible behavior.

From the Desk of Principal Thomas

I have received many questions from students and parents regarding emergency plans and the Green River and Howard Hanson Dam and want to give you an update. As you may know, the Army Corps of Engineers has notified the City of Auburn of a situation at the Howard Hanson Dam which may require the release of more water than usual during extreme rain events. As a result of this increased water release, parts of Auburn are at a higher risk of flooding. The general location of this higher risk is confined to the area of Auburn north of 22nd Street NE and those areas immediately bordering the Green River and Mill Creek.

It is important to note that the Army Corps of Engineers assures us that there is no risk of the dam failing. Additional information can be found on the City of Auburn Emergency Preparedness web site at the following link: http://www.auburnwa.gov/Emergency/disaster/Green_River_and_Howard_Hanson_Dam_Information.asp. or the Auburn School district Web site at <http://auburn.wednet.edu/> Washington Elementary is not in the projected flood area, but having said that, the Auburn School District is developing a variety of plans based on possible scenarios. Washington Elementary could possibly be used as an evacuation center in the case of an emergency. For more information you may choose to attend one of the two community forums scheduled for 10:00 am on October 17th and 2:00 PM October 24th at the Auburn High School Performing Arts Center (PAC). Please take a minute to review the Flood Safety, planning, and response flyer on the back of this news letter. This was prepared by King County and is a valuable resource.

Pauline Thomas
Principal

VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

Reminder: We have voter registration pamphlets in the office that you can pick up to register to vote. If you would like to fill them out at school, we will mail them in for you.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be absent from school due to illness, vacation etc, please call the office or leave a message at 253-931-4988. We have an answering machine that will take your message prior to office times. Washington State Law requires us to inform you after your child has one unexcused absence during the month and schedule a conference with you after a second unexcused absence.

EARLY ARRIVALS

Just a reminder that school starts at 8:40. Children should not arrive and be on school grounds before 8:25. Our crossing guards go out at 8:20. Doors open for classrooms and breakfast at 8:25. There is no outside supervision until 8:25.

SIGN-IN

For your safety and safety of your children, if you are visiting or volunteering during school hours, we ask that you sign in at the front office. If we have to evacuate the building, due to an emergency, we will know to look for you, in addition to our students and staff.

PICTURE DAY

Today was individual picture day. If your child missed this, retakes will be October 22. Envelopes will be available in the office.

TOYS AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

While on school property or while attending school sponsored or school related activities, students may possess personal telecommunication/electronic devices, including but not limited to PDA's, MP3 players and cellular phones, provided that the use of such devices do not pose a threat to academic integrity, disrupt the learning environment or violate the privacy rights or safety of others. Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning the appropriate use of telecommunication or other electronic devices, as appropriate for grade level.

No toys are to be brought from home for recess purposes. Washington is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken toys.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

By Bonnie Cannon



I have begun visiting classrooms and teaching lessons focused on using Kelso's Choices to solve small problems. Kelso's Choices is a school-wide curriculum that teaches students to resolve conflicts using a variety of non-violent strategies. The strategies, referred to as Kelso's Choices, are: Ignore, Walk Away, Talk it Out, Go to Another Game, Share and Take Turns, Make A Deal, Tell them to Stop, Wait and Cool Off, and Apologize. Students are encouraged to try at least two of these Choices before asking an adult for help. I believe that this program will help students to develop effective problem solving skills that they can use again and again. It encourages them to deal with conflict in a positive manner and to make appropriate decisions. The classroom teachers and playground supervisors are encouraging and reinforcing the uses of these choices at school. Your reinforcement of the program at home will help your child to develop these important life skills faster and more permanently. If you have any questions, concerns or would like more detailed information about this program, please call me at 253-931-4988 or email me at bcannon@auburn.wednet.edu. Thanks for your support!

REMINDER

Carnival

Tonight is PTA's school carnival. The time is 5:30 to 8:30 in the school's gym and outside area. Ticket cost is \$.25 with booths ranging from one to four tickets. Hope to see you there.

Jump Rope for Washington

Monday is our Jump Rope for Washington. The event will take place at 1:40. Remember to turn in your donations on this day.