

Pioneer Elementary

March 2019



Message From Mr. Mac, Pioneer Principal

February's snowy weather was a good reminder on the importance of staying up to date with district and school communication. Here are a few ways you can stay informed:

- **FLASH ALERT** (sign up for Flash Alert messages by visiting <http://flashalert.net/id/auburnsd>)
 - This allows you to sign up for email and text messaging alerts.
- **Sign up for Text Message:** Text Y to 67587 to opt in for text messages
- **Auburn School District website** (www.auburn.wednet.edu)
- **Auburn School District Facebook page** (www.facebook.com/auburnschools)
- **Pioneer Elementary Facebook page** (www.facebook.com/asdpioneer)
- **Pioneer Elementary website** (www.auburn.wednet.edu/pioneer)
- **Auburn School District Twitter** (www.twitter.com/auburnsd)

If your phone number or email address has changed, contact the school office today so we can ensure you receive important communication from us.

Paul McKenzie - Principal

Principal:

Paul McKenzie "Mr. Mac"
pmckenzie@auburn.wednet.edu

Assistant Principal:

Rachel Collins
rcollins@auburn.wednet.edu

Office Manager:

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Pioneer Elementary School

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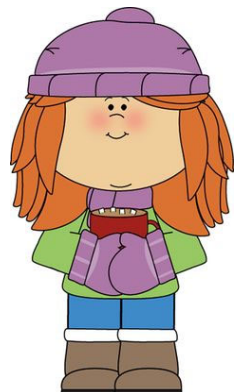


Pioneer Elementary is on Facebook!

Check out our new Facebook page at [asdpioneer](https://www.facebook.com/asdpioneer). This is a fun way to stay informed on happenings at Pioneer Elementary and see examples of student learning in action!

Cold Weather at Recess

During the winter months we need help from parents to make sure children are dressed warmly for cold temperatures. When students come to school in shorts and t-shirts or thin sweatshirts, it causes them to be uncomfortably cold during recess. Please make sure your child wears warm clothing and a jacket with a hood to school. Unless the weather is too extreme, students will be outside at recess which provides them time to exercise and socialize. Thank you for your help in this matter.



UPCOMING DATES

- **Monday, March 4:** PLC Late Start - 9:40 am start time
- **Monday, March 11:** No School - Waiver Day
- **March 11 to 22:** Food Drive Challenge
- **Monday, March 18:** PLC Late Start - 9:40 am start time
- **Saturday, March 23:** Career Fair - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (Auburn High School - Commons)
- **Monday, March 25:** PLC Late Start - 9:40 am start time
- **Friday, March 29:** Title Reading Night - 6:00 pm



Reducing Tardies – Every Minute Counts!

We believe students do their best when they are in class on time and ready to learn. This creates routines and minimizes loss of instructional time. Students who arrive late even 10 minutes a day are missing crucial instruction. Punctuality is an important contributor to learning as well as a necessary job skill.

For safety reasons, students who arrive after school has begun at 8:40 (or 9:40 on PLC Mondays) must sign in and enter at the office to receive an admittance pass to class. Parents must accompany their child to the office or provide a note stating the reason for being tardy.

Here's how you can help:

1. Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
2. Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
3. Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.

School hours:

8:20 – Kitchen doors open for breakfast (9:20 on PLC Mondays)
8:30 – Classroom doors open (9:30 on PLC Mondays)
8:40 – Last bell rings and class begins (9:40 on PLC Mondays)

Change of Date - Title Reading Night

The date for "Title Reading Night" has been changed to Friday, March 29, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. This event is for Pioneer Elementary students and their families. The night will include reading activities and tips for parents on how to support their children's literacy. Food and bottled water will be provided. Students may only attend if supervised by a parent/guardian. We hope you will join us!



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR!

If you have a child who turns 5 years old by 9/1/2018 and 8/31/2019, now is the time to register him/her for Kindergarten! Or, if you have a friend whose child will be entering Kindergarten next year, please encourage them to register. Stop by the office for a registration packet today! Please keep in mind the following documents are required for registration:

- Birth date must be 9/1/2013 to 8/31/2014
- Original birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Proof of address



Pioneer Elementary PTA

Membership is now open for Pioneer's newly formed Parent Teacher Association (PTA). The cost is \$10.00/person and is due by March 3rd. We would love for you to join! PTA supports student learning, family engagement and partnership between school and home. Membership forms are located in the office.

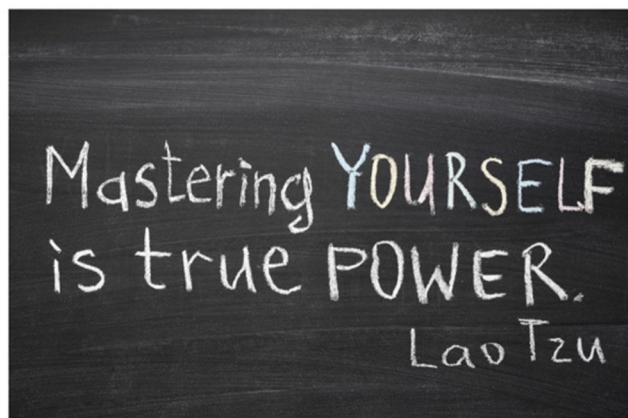
Counselor's Corner

What is Self-awareness? (Social-Emotional Learning Part 2)

Self-awareness is the ability to accurately recognize one's own emotions, thoughts, and values and how they influence behavior.

You can help your child by...

Identifying emotions: Humans experience 27 distinct emotions that can be broken down to just 4: happiness, sadness, anger and fear. Helping your child name the emotion can help her tame it!



Accurate self-perception: Self-perception is simply being aware of who you are, what you are like, and of what you are capable. The development of a positive self-concept at an early age empowers a child to feel competent, try new things, and strive for success. Visit <http://calm4kids.org/10-ways-to-nurture-your-childs-self-concept/> for a list of 10 important things you can do to support your child's self-perception.

Recognizing strengths: Everyone has strengths and weaknesses, so help your child leverage their strengths and reframe weaknesses as areas that need growth! Mistakes are learning opportunities. Explain to your children that trying hard things is what helps us grow, and you cannot be perfect when you try something hard!

Self-confidence: Kids need to feel success. I am not talking about giving everyone a trophy - give kids choices! Giving choices (within a reasonable set of options) makes them feel empowered. Do not do everything for them. Be patient and let them work things out for themselves. It might be messy and it might not be the way you would do it but, as long as it is done safely, the more they meet new challenges, the more competent and confident they will feel.

Self-efficacy: This is the belief that we are capable of performing a task, learning a new skill, or managing a situation. It is about learning how to persevere when one does not succeed at first. Praise your child's effort, not ability – and be specific. For example, "You did well because you tried three times to finish your math homework without giving up." And remember, mistakes are learning opportunities – not evidence we are incapable!

Janice McIntyre - School Counselor

Auburn School District Career Fair -

Would you or someone you know like to work in the Auburn School District? If so, please join us for the Auburn School District Career Fair 9 a.m. to noon, March 23 in the Commons at Auburn High School, 711 East Main Street, Auburn.

The district is hiring teachers for the current and 19-20 school years. In addition to teachers, all departments from the school district will be represented. Child nutrition, bus drivers, para educators, substitutes and custodial staff will be on hand to answer questions and discuss working in the ASD. Attendees will be able to apply on-line at the fair. We want to hire, so selected candidates will be interviewed at the fair.

Everyone interested in learning about job opportunities in the district should attend.

For more information, please contact the Human Resources department at 253-931-4916 or humanresources@auburn.wednet.edu.

HEALTH ROOM HEADLINES -

Free Vaccination Clinic!

While supplies last! Public Health - Seattle & King County is holding a free vaccination clinic.

Date: Tuesday, March 5th

Time: 2:15 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Federal Way High School - 30611 15th Ave, S., Federal Way.

Who: All students who are in Kindergarten to 12th grade (up to age 18) can catch up on vaccines:

- Measles (MMR)
- Varicella (chicken pox)
- Hepatitis B
- Polio
- DTaP
- Tdap



Vaccinations keep kids healthy, strong and ready to learn. No appointment necessary! More information is available at kingcounty.gov/vaccineclinic.

Kelly Benshoof, RN, MSN, School Nurse and Trinity Tenorio-Guzman, Health Tech

Pioneer Elementary and Community Quilt Project

Last month, City of Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus gave her State of the City speech which included “common threads” as a theme. As part of that theme, ASB students from Pioneer Elementary created quilt squares to illustrate the idea of many separate pieces coming together as one. The program is focused on celebrating the diversity of our city as well as the common elements that draw us together as a community. This quilt will soon be on display at City Hall!

Here is a picture of a few of the quilt squares that our students created. We encourage you to stop by City Hall to see this special project for yourself!



Janice McIntyre, MSW - Counselor and ASB Coordinator, Pioneer Elementary

Mid-Year Information

We have passed the halfway point in our school year, and students recently completed their mid-year benchmark assessments in reading and math. These assessments show us the progress our students have made thus far this year, and they provide teachers with valuable data which informs their daily instruction. Report cards will be sent home on Friday, March 15th.

Why Regular Attendance Matters?

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success - both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your child get better grades, develop healthy life habits, avoid dangerous behavior and have a better chance of graduating from high school.

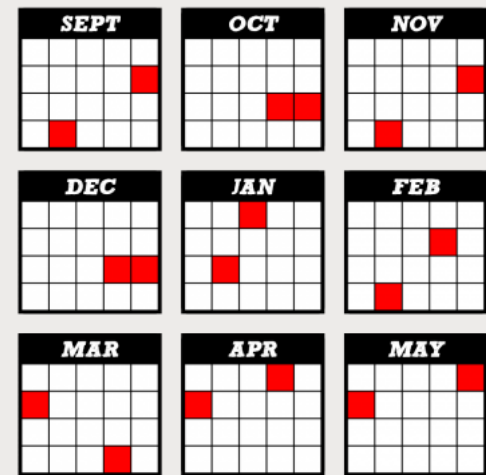
For example, young elementary students who miss an average of just two school days per month often have difficulty keeping up with peers academically and tend to fall behind in reading. But when students are able to read on grade level by the end of third grade, which is when kids transition from *learning to read* to *reading to learn*, they are three to four times more likely to graduate high school and attend college, post-graduate, or professional development classes than their peers who struggle with reading.

Rachel Collins - Assistant Principal

2 Absences Per Month

x 9 Months of School

**= Less Likely to Graduate
from High School**



Artists Among Us

Three Pioneer Elementary students (Joel – 2nd grade, Jose – 3rd grade, Carmen – 5th grade) were recently named as finalists in a nationwide SC Johnson Professional Happy Hands dispenser design contest. This contest promotes the importance of handwashing at schools by encouraging K-12 students to use their creative skills and imagination to design a custom soap/sanitizer dispenser. The Auburn Reporter newspaper also recognized our students by writing an article about this special accomplishment.



Our students are competing for the top prize: a \$300 gift card, a \$750 school donation and up to 500 dispensers featuring their winning design for use at their school. The winner is selected based on the number of online votes, which ended on February 28. Regardless of whether our students win this contest, we are proud of them. Great job Joel, Jose and Carmen! For more information, visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/asdpioneer/>, which includes a link to the Auburn Reporter article.

Mission Statement

At Pioneer we dedicate ourselves to students and their families, to inspire and empower children to achieve their greatest academic and social potential.