

May 2019



Auburn School District #408

Pioneer Elementary

Message From Mr. Mac, Pioneer Principal

Welcome to the month of May! It is hard to believe, but there are less than 40 days left in our school year. Although the weather is getting nicer and the sun is out longer, we recognize there is much work to be done.

This month all students will participate in important spring assessments. These assessments give students an opportunity to show what they have learned and how they are progressing in school. Teachers use the data from these assessments to guide their instruction and support students' academic needs.

As we prepare for spring assessments, parents can support their children in the following ways:

- Ensuring your child has at least 10 hours of sleep each night
- Making sure your child is at school and on time each day
- Telling your child you believe in him/her
- Encouraging your child to do his/her best

Paul McKenzie - Principal



Important Schedule Information

School Make-up Days:

Because of school cancellations due to snowy weather this winter, the Auburn School District will be making up school days.

- *May 28 Full School Day P-12 (using built-in school closure day)*
- *May 29 Full School Day P-12 (using built-in school closure day)*
- *June 20 Full School Day for grades P-12 (Last day of ECE)*
- *June 21 Full School Day for grades K-12*
- *June 24 ELEMENTARY: Early release (8:40-1:10) for grades K-5 (Last day of elementary - Lunch is served on this day)*
- *June 24 SECONDARY: Full school day for grades 6-12*
- *June 25 SECONDARY: Early release for grades 6-12 (Last day of secondary)*

We DO NOT have school on the following days:

- Monday, May 6 Waiver Day/Teacher Training
- Monday, May 27 Memorial Day

Late Start/PLC Mondays & Schedule for June:

- Our final late start Monday of the year is Monday, May 20.
- During the entire month of June, every school day starts at the regular time of 8:40 am.

Principal:

Paul McKenzie "Mr. Mac"

pmckenzie@auburn.wednet.edu

Assistant Principal:

Rachel Collins

rcollins@auburn.wednet.edu

Office Manager:

Patty Ankerfelt

pankerfelt@auburn.wednet.edu

Office Assistant:

Karin Ode

kode@auburn.wednet.edu

Pioneer Elementary School

2301 M St SE

Auburn, WA 98002

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UPCOMING DATES:

- **Monday, May 6:** No School - Waiver Day
- **Week of May 6 to 10:** Teacher Appreciation Week
- **Wednesday, May 8:** Before and After School/Daycare Parent Forum - 6:30 pm
- **Monday, May 13:** PLC Late Start - 9:30 am start time
- **Monday, May 20:** PLC Late Start - 9:30 am start time
- **Monday, May 27:** No School - Memorial Day



Lost and Found

Is your child missing a jacket? Is their favorite sweater not in the closet? Can you only find one glove? Come look in our Lost and Found box! It's getting quite full and we have many items of clothing that need to be returned to their owners! At the end of the school year, all unclaimed items will be donated. Thank you!



Camp Auburn for 5th Grade

Each year we take our fifth graders, along with 5th grade teachers and high school students (who serve as counselors), to Camp Auburn located in nearby Ravensdale, Washington. Camp Auburn provides a valuable educational experience and is certainly a highlight of our year!

While at camp, students learn about the environment through a variety of fun and engaging science activities. They observe Northwest flora and fauna in their natural setting, learn survival skills such as shelter-building, and practice knot-tying and rope-making. Students and staff enjoy singing and socializing around a campfire, and grow in their appreciation for the importance of nature.

Camp Auburn is also an opportunity for students to build positive relationships and grow in their leadership skills. Under the guidance of our staff members, high school students work as camp counselors with the 5th grade students. Staff and camp counselors continually stay with the 5th grade students throughout the week and work with them on applying the skills they have learned in class. They also make the camp a lot of fun for the young campers!

Camp Auburn has literally been a pioneer in environmental studies for it is the oldest, consecutively run outdoor recreation program in the nation! The four days at camp are often one of the most memorable school experiences for students!

Packets went home with 5th grade students a few weeks ago. Camp Auburn permission slips are due May 8. If paying by check, money is due by May 24. If paying by cash or card, money is due May 31.

If you are interested in contributing a monetary gift to reduce the Camp Auburn registration fee for our 5th grade students please contact Mrs. Patty Ankerfelt, Office Manager at Pioneer Elementary, at (253) 931-4986 or pankerfelt@auburn.wednet.edu.

If you have questions about Camp Auburn, please contact Ms. Melyssa McLaughlin, 5th grade teacher at Pioneer Elementary, at mmclaughlin@auburn.wednet.edu.



philipmorrin.info

Counselor's Corner

Social-Emotional Learning: Pt. 4 Relationship Skills

What are relationship skills?

Communicate clearly
Listen well
Cooperate with others
Resist inappropriate social pressure
Resolve conflict
Seek and offer help



You can help your child build relationship skills by...

Cooking With Your Child

Ask your child to help make dinner by following your directions, one at a time. Make sure to say “please” and “thank you” and acknowledge their efforts. This will not only help them learn about the art of listening, but it also teaches them about the importance of being polite to others.

Talk With Your Child About His/Her Day and Interests

Don't be satisfied with one-word answers. Parents have a lot on their plate but children need practice in expressing themselves clearly and completely.

Help Your Child Find Solutions to Problems S/he May Be Experiencing

Ask questions about what your child thinks s/he should do in any situation, and what the consequences of their solution will be. It is a good idea to start helping your child build this essential skill when they are young and problems are less serious.

Talk to Your Child About Friendships

Ask your children who their friends are and the qualities they look for in a friend. Make sure to ask about qualities they don't like and what makes a good friend.

Being a Good Example

Think about how you interact with your family and friends, and how you make and keep friends. Is your behavior setting a good example for your child?

Janice McIntyre - School Counselor

Pioneer Elementary in the News



Last month Q13 FOX reporter Alexandra Lewis highlighted Pioneer Elementary through two different news segments.

- Ms. Priscilla Torres, one of our English Learner (EL) paraeducators, was interviewed about the ways Pioneer is working with our EL students. Ms. Torres also spoke about her journey from student to paraeducator, and her plans to become a teacher. Great job Ms. Torres and students!
- Mr. Mac, Pioneer Elementary Principal, was interviewed regarding the importance of building relationships to improve student achievement and connect with the school community.
- You can see highlights of these news features on our Pioneer Elementary Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/asdpioneer/>!

The Importance of Being Present

Your child's daily, on-time attendance is critical to their success in school. And while some challenges to your child's school attendance are unavoidable, it's important to understand the impact of each absence.

1. When your child is not in class, they are missing out on critical learning. This puts them at risk of falling behind and not graduating from high school.
2. Even as few as two absences in a month, they are excused or unexcused, can make a big difference, from Kindergarten through their senior year.

What can you do to help?

1. Make showing up to school every day an expectation.
2. Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
3. Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick.
4. Encourage meaningful school activities like clubs and sports.

Reach out to us at school if we can be of any assistance. We care about you and your child!

Rachel Collins - Assistant Principal

Kindergarten Registration

On Tuesday, April 23rd Pioneer Elementary hosted a Kindergarten Orientation for all families of incoming kindergarten students. At this event Pioneer Elementary staff shared school information to help families and students be better prepared for kindergarten in September 2019.

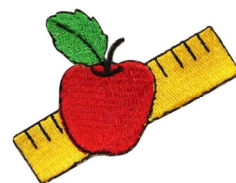


If you have a child who turns 5 years old between 9/1/2013 – 8/31/2014, now is the time to register him/her for Kindergarten. Or, if you have a friend whose child will be entering kindergarten next year please encourage them to register for kindergarten today.

Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10)

From Mr. Mac and Mrs. Collins:

Teacher Appreciation Week is the week of May 6-10. We encourage you and your child to take a moment to express appreciation to your child's teacher, or any of our support staff (ex: para-educators, office-custodial-kitchen staff), during this week. Pioneer Elementary has a caring and dedicated staff, and they love working with your children!



Safety

Spring is a good time to revisit safety reminders here at school. Please take a moment to read through these reminders and discuss them with your child. Thank you in advance for ensuring you and your child follow these expectations so we work together to keep everyone safe at Pioneer Elementary.



- Pedestrians and Crosswalks
 - Students and parents must cross the street at crosswalks only and use the assistance of our crossing guards. Jaywalking or not following directions from crossing guards presents a risk for pedestrians to be hit by a vehicle.
- Pedestrians and Sidewalks
 - Parents and students should walk on sidewalks, or on the gravel path along the K Street fence. Please avoid walking behind parked vehicles, as drivers do not always see pedestrians when they back out of parking spots.
 - Parents - Remember that keeping a close eye on your children is helpful
- Pedestrians and the Parking Lot
 - When crossing from the school to the church parking lot, students and families must walk where a crossing guard is stationed. Please do not cross the parking lot in other areas, as this presents safety issues between vehicles and pedestrians.
- Unloading and Loading into Vehicles
 - Parents must unload and load children into vehicles in designated parking areas only. Unloading or loading people in the street presents a safety concern which could lead to a car accident or a pedestrian being hit by another vehicle.
- Vehicles and Parking
 - Thank you for your patience during arrival and dismissal time, as many vehicles use the church parking lot (south of the school) and the gravel area along the K Street fence.
 - Please do not park in the grass or driveways of homes on the west side of K Street. Instead, look for an open parking space open along the K Street fence.
- Bikes and Students
 - Please remind your child that any student riding a bike to school must wear a helmet.

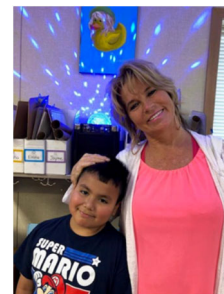
HEALTH ROOM HEADLINES -

In November, our students entered a Happy Hands contest sponsored by SC Johnson. Students had to design a hand soap/sanitizer dispenser that promoted healthy handwashing. More than 100 students participated. After competing with thousands of other students across the country, 3 Pioneer students made it into the finals. Voting was opened to the public nationwide for the month of February. It was recently announced that one of our students was the **GRAND PRIZE WINNER!**

CONGRATULATIONS to Joel Garcia-Nunez in Mrs. Luschei's 2nd grade class. We are so excited to see Joel's design displayed throughout our school when we get the new dispensers.

We also want to commend our other 2 finalists for a job well done: Jose Avalos-Gaeta in Ms. Doughton's 3rd grade class and Carmen Avalos-Gaeta in Mrs. Rowe's 5th grade class. We are proud of all 3 of our students that made it into the finals. Way to go Patriots!

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



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.



Dear Pioneer Elementary Families:

I would like to share some exciting news with you. We understand the importance of before- and after-school programs for some families. Beginning in the fall, Right At School's high-quality, more affordable, flexible program will be available for before and after school childcare right here at (School Name).

Right At School offers engaging curriculum to help spark the joy of learning. Students will have a healthy snack, engage in dynamic fitness activities, student-driven projects, team building, leadership development and have the opportunity to complete homework.

The Right At School program will be available every day school is in session, with drop-off beginning at 6:30 a.m. and after school until 6 p.m. Right At School also will provide coverage during student holidays and throughout the summer, if parents choose these options. A 10% sibling discount and 25% discount for free and reduced lunch families will be offered. In addition, flexible one, two, three, four and five day options are available, along with a "drop in" rate.

All families are invited to find out more at a Parent Forum hosted by Right At School:

DATE: May 8, 2019

TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Pioneer Elementary, 2301 M ST SE, Auburn, 98002

Childcare will be provided at the Parent Forum by Right At School.

For more information about Right At School, and a fee schedule visit: www.rightatschool.com, or call 1-855-287-2466. Registration for the 2019–20 school year is now open!

I encourage you to visit Right At School's website, www.rightatschool.com or call 1-855-287-2466 for more information about their organization and curriculum. We look forward to enhancing the educational experience of our students through this partnership.

Sincerely,

Paul McKenzie "Mr. Mac"

Principal, Pioneer Elementary



**Before and After
School Programs**