

Stevens Speak

★ THE STEVENS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER ★

UPCOMING EVENTS



**January 27 -
Jump-a-Thon**

**February 1 - Day
Between semesters
No School**

**February 20 - 24 -
No School-Mid
Winter Break**

**1242 18th Ave E
Seattle, WA 98112**

Jan 25, 2017

From The Principal

I first introduced the concept of MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) as the comprehensive framework for teaching all our students in the October 19th Stevens Speak. In addition to the three horizontal Tiers described in that piece, I would like to now introduce the image of a vertical line dividing the triangle into a left and right side. The left side of that triangle refers to all of the academic programming that we provide here at school. The right side of the triangle refers to all of the behavioral aspects of our instructional program.

We often speak of this right side of the triangle as our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). You will notice the first thing listed on your students' progress reports are a group of six items labeled "Learning Behaviors." These Learning Behaviors, sometimes called "21st Century Skills" or "Executive Functions" have a profound impact on your child's success in all areas of school and in life. Our six core learning behaviors are:

1. Works independently and uses time effectively
2. Organizes self and materials
3. Cooperates with others
4. Perseveres when faced with new and challenging tasks
5. Respects others rights and property
6. Practices self-control

Our RULER program is the core of this work. Three Stevens Speak columns have already been devoted to talking more in depth about this program, and there will be two more coming up in February and April. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the program if you have not already done so. We believe that it is something you can use at home as well. We also use our Constellations Groups, Stevens Stars Pledge, assemblies, class meetings, and schoolwide/classroom expectations to help students develop and grow in these areas. Our school counselor, Ms. Betz, is also central to our PBIS program.

Just as a student may need tutoring, extra support, or specially designed instruction in reading or math, a student may need extra support in developing their learning behaviors. Sometimes this support comes from the classroom teacher. Often times the counselor is involved. When students engage in repeated behavior that disrupts their learning or that of others, or behaviors that are unsafe; I will get involved. Our goal is to provide the additional support that our students need to work independently, organize themselves, self-regulate, solve problems, persevere, respect others in effective and appropriate ways.

Sometimes students have social or emotional challenges in life that impact their learning. Grief and loss along with friendship skills are typical areas additional support can be helpful. Our counselor provides referrals, conducts groups, and works with students individually to help strengthen the skills they need to get through life's challenges so they can focus on their academic learning.

We are still a school that recognizes and emphasizes the core academic skills; but we also embrace the importance of teaching the whole child through science, civics and the arts. At the same time, the foundational skills and supports emphasized in PBIS are vital to our students as well. We thank you for your partnership in this vital work. We appreciate your trust and confidence. These are amazing kids; and they are our future.

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Office Depot Give 5% Back To Your School!

Simply make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide your school ID , 70107303, at checkout and Stevens will receive 5% back in credits for **FREE** supplies!
It's a small act that can make a huge difference.

SPECIAL EDUCATION/504 FAMILY NIGHT!

Stevens Elementary Library -- Tuesday, Jan. 31, 6:30-8:00 pm

Join us for open discussion, support, advocacy, friendship, and snacks!

As parents of children with a variety of special needs or challenges, we face our own unique perspective, struggles, joys, and fears, both in and out of school. It's often hard to know where to turn for understanding, resources, and support.

We invite you to come and share your thoughts and ideas about how we can build community, share resources, integrate our smaller community into the larger Stevens community, and support each other and our children.

Light snacks provided. Contact Larisa Moore with questions (raincitykitty@hotmail.com or 206-719-6838)

Much appreciation to the Stevens Elementary School PTA for the help and support for this parent-led event!

Seattle Housing Authority Choice Voucher lottery information

On Monday, Feb. 6, 2017, Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) will open a lottery for 3,500 places on a new waitlist for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, formerly known as Section 8. These vouchers provide rental assistance for people with low incomes to rent homes owned by landlords in the private market. Before registration opens, we would appreciate your help in spreading the word to your networks.

Registration for the lottery will be available online only, and will be open from 8 a.m. on February 6, 2017, until 5 p.m. on February 24, 2017, Pacific Time.

Registration is open to adults 18 years old or older or emancipated minors, no matter where they currently live, however successful voucher applicants will initially be required to use the voucher within the city of Seattle for a minimum of one year. Registration and eligibility information can be found on the SHA website

seattlehousing.org/waitlist/

If you have questions, please contact Kathlyn Paananen, kkpaananen@seattleschools.org

Reporting an Absence

All absences need to be reported to the school office, even if the teacher has been notified. Please call 252-3400 or email stevens.attendance@seattleschools.org.

If your child is out sick we need to hear from you each day.



Sign up for Kindergarten

Come join us at the Rainier Beach Community Center at 8825 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118 on **Jan. 25 from 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. (Tonight)** to register your children for the 2017-18 school year. Staff from the Seattle Public Schools Enrollment and Early Learning offices will be available to enroll your students and answer any questions you may have about the upcoming school year.

Please be sure to bring the following documents with you to register:

1. Two proofs of address – must be dated within 8 weeks from current date
2. Child's Birth certificate or Passport
3. Immunization records
4. Photo ID for parent or guardian who registers the child

Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

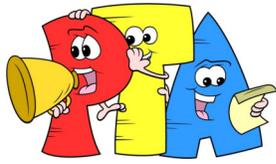
For students and members of the public, the following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Office of Student Civil Rights, (206) 252-0306, or oscr@seattleschools.org, or by mail at Seattle Public Schools, MS 32-149, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1166. In that department:

• For sex discrimination concerns, including sexual harassment, contact: Title IX Grievance Coordinator, (206) 252-0367, or Title.IX@seattleschools.org

• For disability discrimination concerns contact: ADA/Section 504 Grievance Coordinator, (206) 252-0178, or accessibility@seattleschools.org

For employee questions about or requests for disability related accommodations and/or complaints of alleged discrimination, including sexual harassment, contact: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Seattle Public Schools, Mailstop 33-157, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1166, (206) 252-0024, or hreec@seattleschools.org.

From the



Important Dates:

Jump-a-thon: Friday, 1/27, 8:45-10:30am

Stevens School Tour: Feb 2, 9:30am

SCHOOL TOUR FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES

Following Tuesday's successful tour, a second one is scheduled for **Thurs, Feb 2nd, 9:30-10:30am.**

Know of incoming families curious about Stevens? Invite them to [register for tour](#) online.

THANK YOU to everyone who was able to attend Tuesday's PTA General Meeting. Mark your calendars NOW for the March 28th meeting. We want to hear from YOU on topics/concerns/ideas/how you want to get involved: info@stevenspta.org

JOIN THE PTA BOARD

Wondering where to put your energy for helping your community? Please consider taking on a leadership position and joining the Stevens PTA board. No experience necessary, only your dedication to improving our school! Positions can be tailored to your busy schedule. To learn more about the responsibilities involved, and share YOUR PASSION and INTERESTS, please contact one of our current Board members: info@stevenspta.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Open Positions for 2017-2018: Co-President, Treasurer, Communications, Fundraising, Annual Fund, Auction, Tutu's Pantry, Jump-a-thon

Jump-a-thon



THIS Friday!

Students AND TEACHERS have been practicing and are excited for the Jump-a-thon this Friday, January 27, 8:45-10:30am in the school gym. All are welcome to come watch the fun!

THIS YEAR many of our TEACHERS are joining the playful competition. Kick in an extra \$5 or \$10 to sponsor a teacher while helping our overall FUNdraising goal!

Jump-a-thon pledge sheets were sent home with your student last week to ask family, friends, and neighbors to sponsor student jumps. On Friday afternoon, students will bring home a **pre-labeled envelope** with their total number of jumps. Please help them **collect their pledge money and return it to school the week after the Jump-a-thon.** Checks can be made out to Stevens PTA.

If collecting money isn't possible this year, please still congratulate your jumper and send empty envelopes back to school, as we can keep costs down by re-using the envelopes next year. But no contribution is too small!

If you're available to log jumpers the morning of Jan 27, **8:45-10:30am** contact Diane Stoebe at stoebejenkins@gmail.com or 206-999-3592.

Extra pledge sheets are located in the front office and on Stevens website for downloading at <http://stevens.seattleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=9951&pageId=8681250> . Thank you for supporting all our students!

Students, Family & Friends: Save the Date

Stevens Elementary Spring Art Show

Sunday, March 12th 2-5pm
Optimism

Student Art Work on Display
Performance by Choir
Classroom Art & Professional Art
Silent Auction



Brought to you by the Stevens PTA. More details to follow.

FREE Education and Employment Workshop
Activities for every member of the family!

Your **whole family is invited** to participate in a workshop where you can access work and education resources. Snacks and coffee will be provided.



Adults: Help for adults enrolling in and paying for college and job training programs. Assistance with job search, English language lessons, resume and job interview preparation, and more.



Middle and High School Students: It's never too early to start planning for your future! Come and find out about the different college options available to you, the different ways to pay for it, and what college life is like.



Elementary Students: Learn to program a robot. Learn science, math, and engineering through the latest technology gadgets.

JOIN US!

February 1st, 2017, 10:00am – 12:00pm
Aki Kurose Middle School
3928 S Graham St, Seattle, WA 98118



For questions and concerns please contact the workshop team at: (206) 615-3366.



Tutu's Pantry

Each week, the Tutu's Pantry volunteers use your donations to provide food for about 30 students over the weekend and ALL of what we receive goes directly to Steven's families.

Things we are always need include:

- ◆ canned entrees (Ravioli, Spaghetti-Os and Chili)
- ◆ single serve snacks (such as granola bars, fruit snacks or pudding cups)
- ◆ boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- ◆ monetary donations - we will do the shopping for you!

Thank you again for all of your support!!