

Stevens Speak

★ THE STEVENS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER ★

UPCOMING EVENTS



1242 18th Ave E
Seattle, WA 98112

Sept 28, 2016

From The Principal

September 28 - 2 hr early dismissal - Professional Development Day

October 13 - Picture Day

October 14 - No School Professional Development Day

October 26 - 2hr early dismissal Professional Development day

October 28 - Fall Social 6:00 PM

I enjoyed having the opportunity to speak to our community last evening at our PTA meeting about student assessment and testing in SPS, specifically at Stevens. I will be addressing questions around that topic and specific related questions in future editions of Stevens Speak.

This week I wanted to take this space to talk about our social emotional curriculum here at Stevens. We are using the RULER program which is the primary program used in SPS at most schools for this area. We are in our second year of implementation and just becoming comfortable with the different parts of the program. You may have already seen or heard about RULER from your children or visits to the school. That's great. We want our families to learn the program and language we use so they can support our work outside of school. Every class should now have a classroom Charter. I encourage you to ask your children about their class charter. RULER is actually an acronym supporting 5 major goals:

R – Recognizing emotions in self and others

U – Understanding the causes and consequences of emotions

L – Labeling emotions accurately

E – Expressing emotions appropriately

R – Regulating emotions effectively

RULER is at the core of our school culture, and the expectations and hopes we have around learning and conduct. The three words that our students have chosen as a school to hold up as the vision of what they want our school to be are Happy, Safe and Energized. We believe that this program supports our desire to have a safe school where students are empowered to be in control of their own thoughts and actions while understanding and practicing empathy and authentic care for one another will enhance the culture here at school, including academic achievement, and prepare our students to take their next steps towards personal and social responsibility with confidence.

RULER uses four anchor tools for helping students learn and apply these important life skills: the Charter, the Mood Meter, Meta-Moment, and the Blueprint. Over the next few months I've invited our RULER Team to write a guest column in this space of the Stevens Speak to explain each of the four anchor tools. In the meantime, I am excited to share this recently completed video, RULER in Seattle Schools. The video link below provides an overview of RULER and the amazing work being done at our RULER schools in Seattle.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLdIqfjKjaOxQirbnX4mUMxtKeHOMYqckE>

Thank you! Let me know if you have any questions. - Brian

Dr. Brian K. Fitch, Principal

Stevens Elementary School

206.252.3400

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Highly Capable Referrals (Formerly know as Advanced Learning)

DUE OCTOBER 6!

The window for referring students for Advanced Learning testing closes October 6. Referrals in English are done online, using the Source (which is the parent portal for individual student information.) Translated forms are available on the district website:

<http://www.seattleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=1548870>

If you have questions, please contact Mary Mills (mamills@seattleschools.org, 206-252-0182) or Matt Okun (mjokun@seattleschools.org, 206-252-0033.)

If you have trouble accessing the Source, please check here for information:

<http://www.seattleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=16245> or email: sourcesport@seattleschools.org

Student Verification Forms

We are sending these forms home this week. They are the forms we use to make sure that student data is up to date in our computer systems.

They are also the forms that will affect numbers and emails used for contacting families from school officials, for registering online for Advanced Placement information and for who is allowed to pick up your students from school.

Please make changes and return to the school as soon as possible.

School Messenger

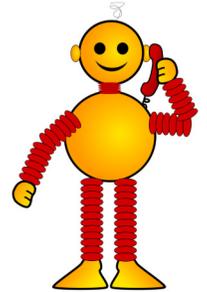
We have sent our first message of the year reminding families of the PTA meeting and early release on Wednesday.

Our plan is to limit messages to no more than once per week this year (probably less).

As a reminder, every family is automatically enrolled to receive all messages from the school and the district.

Families are able to opt-out of non-emergency calls by updating their Info-Center account preferences. A voice activated opt-out feature is available at the end of each school or district call or you can access the website:

infocenter.schoolmessenger.com to set your preferences, for this option you will need to have an email address on file.



Special Ed Parent Meeting

Meeting for parents of Special Education Students Oct. 4

If your student has an IEP or 504 plan, is part of the Access program, Social Emotional Learning program, or Resource Room, please join us for the first monthly Special Education Parents meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 4 from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Stevens Library. This is an informal chance to meet other parents with similar concerns and discuss issues related to school and parenting. Dr. Fitch, the new Stevens principal, will join us for the first 30 minutes of this meeting. We hope to see you there! (If you have any questions, please contact Larisa Moore at raincitykitty@hotmail.com)

From the PTA

T-shirt Lead needed

PTA is looking for a volunteer to head up T-shirt ordering for Stevens students/staff this year. Commitment is a couple days' worth spread out between Oct 3-Dec 8. Contact Jennie Rhoads @ jjprhoads@gmail.com or [206-696-2707](tel:206-696-2707) and see the HUGE appreciative smiles from all students, but especially our kindergartners, as they show off their new school pride.



Team Read Update

The Team Read Program has notified us that they are discontinuing the program at Stevens. The new start times have significantly impacted their ability to get high school students to the schools. We are looking into possible options and will keep you posted.