



Garfield Elementary School Newsletter

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND STAFF OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2016

Attendance & Absences

Research shows that consistent, on-time attendance in elementary school creates a lifelong pattern of punctuality and investment all throughout a student's school career and later for on the job. As a parent or guardian, please do everything you can to be certain your student(s) arrives on time and ready-to-learn each day. The best arrival time each morning is between 8:20 and 8:35 a.m. (There is no supervision before 8:20 a.m.)

Anytime your child is absent from school, parents are required to call the attendance line at (360) 596-6900 or 596-6903



to report the reason your child is not in school. The attendance line is a 24-hour voicemail number that you can call anytime; please call before 9 a.m.

You may also send a note to the teacher/office explaining the reason for your child's absence the next day.

A student is marked unexcused if they are absent from school and the office does not receive a phone call or email the day of the absence OR if there was no written or verbal notification given to the office prior to the absence.

Olympia School District Policies and Procedures Policy 3200 states: When a student reaches 10 or more total unexcused absences during the current school year, the district is required to file a court petition. Unexcused absences cannot be amended after 72 hours from the date of the absence. Thank you for your cooperation.

Planned Absence Request Form

Remember, if you are going on vacation or on a trip, please complete a Planned Absence Request form. These forms are available in the office or call us and we will send one home with your student.

Volunteers

All volunteers need to have a background check done. If you would like to volunteer at school or on a field trip, make sure your background check is done at least two weeks before the event. Go to our district's website at <http://osd.wednet.edu> and look under Community to Volunteer and fill out the online application.

If you have questions you can contact our volunteer coordinator via email at volunteer@osd.wednet.edu or call (360) 596-6130.



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Parent Education Classes



OSD Parent Education Classes

Location: Olympia Regional Learning Academy (ORLA)

2400 15th Ave. SE, Olympia

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Cost: Free (no child care)

Olympia School District is hosting a series of free parent education workshops this year by Candyce Lund Bollinger, a local parent educator for the past 35 years. She has done private parenting services for 30 years. She has done numerous workshops in Thurston (Olympia, Tumwater and North Thurston School Districts) and Mason counties. Bolinger will present the following workshops:

Tuesday, Nov. 15 – Positive Discipline

This workshop is designed to give parents a map and techniques to facilitate healthy discipline.

Tuesday, Jan. 24 – Safety without Fear

A workshop designed for parents to help facilitate their children having self skills for personal safety, without increasing anxiety and fear in their children.

Tuesday, Feb. 28 – Managing Technology

Parents will learn about the latest research, appropriate limits around technology and tools for helping their children learn to self-manage their technology use.

No registration is required for the workshops. Child care will not be provided. OSD is also offering parent education classes for parents of middle school and high school students. Please refer to the district website, <http://osd.wednet.edu>, for these scheduled classes presented by Bollinger.

Winning at Parenting Seminar

Location: Garfield Elementary School

Classrooms: Library (adult's group), Gym (children's group)

Time: 6:30 - 8 p.m.

When: Wednesdays, Nov. 2, 9 and 16

Cost: Free (including child care)

Winning at Parenting is intended to strengthen families by providing information, resources and an opportunity for parents to connect with each other. Throughout this six-week class (which began in October), group members share parenting strengths and identify areas for personal growth. The class combines discussion, lectures, group activities and the positive social support of peers to address common parenting concerns. Parents will receive a certificate of completion for this class.

Topics:

Nov. 2 - Anger in the Home: Methods for managing anger with adults and children.

Nov. 9 - Setting Limits With Children: New ideas that may work in your home.

Nov. 16 - Managing Family Stress: Explore concepts to keep your family healthy.

Other local agency resource information will also be available to share with families. For more information, directions and registration, contact staff at (360) 754-7629, by email at Marc@Familyess.org or register online at www.Familyess.org. Childcare available for children age 3-12 by reservation only. This Strengthening Families Event is sponsored by the Olympia School District and Family Education and Support Services (www.FamilyESS.org).

Walk N Roll

This year we are participating each month in the Walk N Roll program. It will happen the first Wednesday of the month (except April when we are on spring break). Let's hit the sidewalks together and arrive at school energized. Meet up at 8 a.m. at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church or at the entrance to Evergreen Villages Apartments. Look for special walking friends like your principal, teachers and members of the Olympia Police Department. Parents can choose to park at Gloria Dei or at Sunrise Park and walk in with your student.



Garfield students participate in Walk N Roll during the 2015-16 school year.

Tardies & Early Dismissal

New guidelines have been implemented for the elementary schools in the Olympia School District regarding tardies and early release of students at the end of the day. Student will be marked:

- Tardy 8:40 to 9:10 a.m. (30-minute window)
- After 9:10 a.m.(9:11 a.m. on) the student is considered a Half-Day Absent (AM)
- If a family takes a student out early from school (before 2:32 p.m.) it is a Half-Day Absent (PM)
- If the children leave within the last half-hour of the school day (2:32 to 3:02 p.m.) it is recorded as an Early Departure.

Unless it is medically urgent, we ask that parents not check out their students after 2:55 p.m. At this point, please wait until the end of the day at 3:02 p.m. for the student to be released.

Sending Money to School

When sending money to school, please make sure the check or envelope is clearly marked with your child's name, teacher's name, amount (if cash) and indicate what the money is for (field trip, lunch, etc.) so that we can direct the check or cash to the correct person. Please send the exact amount. The office does not have petty cash to make change.



Drop-off/Pick-up

If you drive your student to or from school, please use our adult-supervised drop-off and pick-up designated spot on Thomas Street (behind the school) adjacent to the middle of the playground.

If you pick up your student after school or after a MORE enrichment class:

- After school please pick up by 3:05 p.m. (but never later than 3:15 p.m.);
- After MORE classes please pick up by 4 p.m. (but never later than 4:15 p.m.)

Thanks for helping us help kids and families stay safe!



THE GARFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER is published monthly, during the academic year, by Garfield Elementary School. Submission deadline is the third Monday of each month prior to publication. Photos should be high-resolution digital files. Please send submissions to Rosetta Reinemer, Secretary, at rreinemer@osd.wednet.edu or Norah West, parent volunteer, at norah.m.west@gmail.com. Thank you!

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Olympia, WA 98502
360-596-6900

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

2	11:45 a.m.	Early Release
3		Picture Retakes
11		No School - Veterans Day
14		Cookie Orders Due
16	11:45 a.m.	Early Release
22		Vision and Hearing Screening
23-25		No School -- Thanksgiving Break

January

3		School Resumes
4	11:45 a.m.	Early Release
16		No School – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
18	11:45 a.m.	Early Release
27	11:45 a.m.	Early Release

December

7	11:45 a.m.	Early Release
	6- 6:45 p.m.	Winter Concert – Grades K-3
	7-7:45 p.m.	Winter Concert – Grades 4 & 5
8		Cookie Dough Delivery
19		Winter Break Begins

Garfield Cheetahs are online at

<http://garfield.osd.wednet.edu>

Young Lady Cougar Girls Basketball

Young Lady Cougar basketball is a league for West Olympia-area girls in grades 3-6. The emphasis is on sportsmanship, having fun and allowing all to participate. Their goal is to give future Capital High School Cougars a chance to learn basketball fundamentals and develop skills through practice and games. Registration takes place 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 5 at Capital High School commons. All registrations can be dropped off or mailed to CHS at 2707 Conger Ave. NW, Olympia, WA 98502.



Olympia School District Nondiscrimination Statement

The Olympia School District will provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request to individuals with disabilities.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies, reports of alleged sexual harassment, concerns about compliance and/or grievance procedures: Jeff Carpenter, Title IX Officer, (360) 596-8544; Kari Lewinsohn, Section 504 and ADA Coordinator, (360) 596-7538; and Scott Niemann, Affirmative Action Officer and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, (360) 596-6193. All three individuals may also be contacted at 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA, 98501.