



# Garfield Elementary School

325 Plymouth Street NW  
Olympia, WA 98502  
(360-596-6900)  
<http://garfield.osd.wednet.edu>

Brendon Chertok  
Principal

September 26, 2014

## October Calendar of Events

October 1	<b>9:40</b>	Late Start
October 2	<b>12:45</b>	LifeSkills Assembly
October 7	<b>5:00</b>	Site Council Meeting
October 7		MORE Classes Begin
October 8		Walk to School Day
October 9		PTA Cookie Dough Sales Begin
October 10		No School - Teacher In-Service
October 21-24	<b>11:45</b>	Early Release - Conference Week
October 21-24		PTA - Book Fair
October 27		PTA Cookie Dough Sales End
October 30	<b>6:30</b>	PTA Fall Fling

## Garfield Wish List

Linda Zaccagnini:	MORE Class Instructors
Bob Hodges:	Tennis balls - used or new
Garfield Track Stars:	Volunteers - mornings - 10:10-10:35
All Classrooms:	PTA room reps
Playground:	Large spoons (for digging in sandboxes)

## Forms Needed!

Please help us help you and your family. We need these forms turned in to the office ASAP:

**Student Information/Registration**

**Health**

**Emergency**

**Acknowledgment Form (from handbook)**

Current information is vital when we need to contact you concerning your student. Its absence can create a crisis for students and families.

All forms must be completed, signed, and in our possession before your student will be allowed to participate in field trips and/or any after school activities like MORE Classes, Homework Center, and Math Club. Please contact the office at 596-6900 if you need extra forms or assistance.

## Garfield Families,

Welcome back and welcome to our new Garfield families. Thank you for making the start of this year a positive one for our students. Coming up October 21-24 we will schedule our first conferences of the year. This is a great opportunity to begin building an important partnership between school and home. It is also a good time to think of goals. In the world of education, each year we are asked to make goals for ourselves.

As a new Principal to Garfield one of my goals this year is to learn about the Garfield culture and community. I started collecting information last spring when I asked staff to fill out a questionnaire to describe important parts of Garfield. At Curriculum Night I asked the same from parents. If you did not make it to Curriculum Night there are extra questionnaires in the office. Your feedback is important. Lastly, I will ask students to do the same. This feedback will help direct my attention and efforts as I become part of this great school.

I'm sharing this goal with you because as you prepare for conferences, it is a good time for you, your children and our staff to do the same. Please take some time over the next few weeks to think about appropriate goals for your child. This could include academic goals, it could be about becoming more independent as a student and individual, it could be about developing emotional empathy and stamina.

Whatever goal you decide upon, write it down, revisit it every once in a while and celebrate when it is accomplished.

Thanks for your support of our school and staff and please don't hesitate to call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Brendon Chertok

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

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 (There is no supervision before 8:20.) School policy requires that parent-initiated late arrivals or early dismissals that exceed one hour get marked as absences - less than one hour get marked as tardies.

## Substitute Para-educators and Tutors Needed

Garfield is looking for substitute para-educators and individual or small group tutors. Experience is not required but an interest in helping students with basic skills in reading, math and writing is important. If you're interested or have questions please call Brendon Chertok at 360-596-6905 or email him at [bchertok@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:bchertok@osd.wednet.edu). (If you contact the ESD113 about substitute para-educator positions they will tell you the list is full. Garfield can request that the list be opened for you to sub here. Tutoring is separate from the ESD113).



**Jen Marmont, Erin Rogan, and Alex Davidson are Garfield's every day AmeriCorps staff for the 2014-15 school year. Erin Jamison (not pictured) helps three mornings each week. These committed volunteers are thrilled to be serving our Cheetahs in the subjects of math and reading.**

## Building a Positive School-wide Culture - PBIS

Along with many other schools in the district and region, Garfield Elementary is focusing its resources on a student behavior management program called PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support).

What is PBIS?

It is a school-wide student behavior management system whose goals are to:

- Maximize academic engagement and achievement
- Minimize school rule violations
- Encourage acts of respectful and responsible behaviors
- Encourage students to be ready to learn
- Improve behavior supports for all students, and especially for those with disabilities and those who are at risk of academic failure
- Develop a *school-wide* common framework about positive behavior, re-direction, and discipline

We believe that our children should feel safe, be treated respectfully, and be responsible for themselves and others. Just like teaching reading or math, we also teach behavior - what it looks and sounds like to be respectful, responsible and ready to learn in the classroom on the playground, or anywhere around the school.

PBIS and cognitive behavior research says students:

- Are not born with “bad behaviors”
- Learn from consequences only when taught strategies that help them to understand the problem and make better choices
- Learn positive behaviors when they are taught directly and when positive feedback is readily available

**If you have any questions about PBIS, please feel free to address them to any PBIS Team member (staff members who are leading this effort). They are Linda Carbonneau, Jessica Duncan, Taylor Meadows, Aleece Jenne’, Linda Bell and Brendon Chertok.**

## Arrival/Dismissal Information for Special Days

### Half Days

#### Dismissal 11:45

October 21, 22, 23, 24 – Conference Week

December 5

March 13

March 24, 25, 26, 27 – Conference Week

### One Hour Late Start Days for Improving Teaching and Learning

#### 9:40 Start

October 1, November 5, November 19, December 3,

January 7, January 21, February 4, February 25,

March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3

### No School Days

October 10 - Teacher In-Service

November 11 – Veterans' Day

November 27-28 - Thanksgiving Break

December 22 - January 2 - Winter Break

January 19 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 16 and 17 - Presidents Day/Mid-Winter Break

April 6- 10 - Spring Break

May 25 - Memorial Day

### Last Day

June 12 (unless makeup days are needed)

11:45 Dismissal

## Garfield Student Behavior Management Plan

### Section 1 - Student responsibilities:

make good behavior choices

### Staff responsibilities:

- be proactive (preventative), positive and patient
- take collective responsibility and consistency
- teach, model and practice
- provide clear expectations and natural consequences
- use positive and consistent reinforcement
- learn about, use and support Kelso's Choice – conflict management for students
- support the Garfield "alternatives to traditional recess program" by helping students to be responsible for their alternative assignments

## 2014-15 School Meal Prices

### Lunch

Elementary Full Pay	\$2.45
Adult	\$3.45
Reduced Priced K-3	No charge
Reduced Priced 4-5	\$0.40

### Breakfast

Elementary Full Paid	\$1.60
Adult	\$2.10
Reduced Priced K-12	No charge
Milk for all	\$0.60

## TWO WAYS YOU CAN HELP YOUR SCHOOL

**If you drive your student to or from school** 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 (but never later than 3:15);

After MORE classes please pick-up by 3:50 (but never later than 4:00.

Thanks for helping us help kids and families be safe!

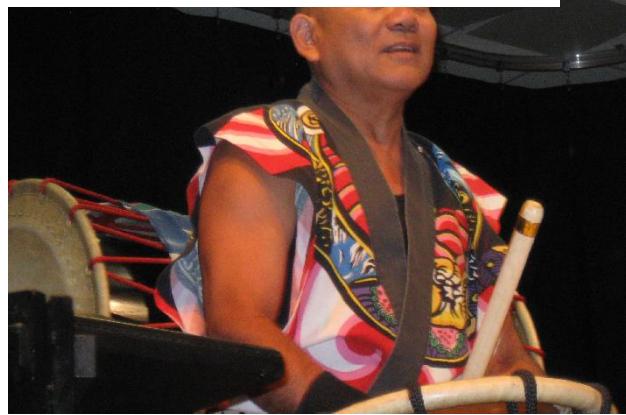
## Safety Change For Parent Pick-Up

Families please note this change of procedures for student pick up inside the school. The end of the day is a busy time for students and staff. It is a time when we have to focus on getting students to the right place to meet parents, daycare vans and buses. Beginning this year, at dismissal, we are asking parents to wait in the main hall, outside the office and gym, to meet their children. Freeing up congestion in the PODs will allow us to get students where they need to be in a more organized fashion. We understand this can be a time when parents might communicate with staff. This can still occur but only after we have made sure students have made it to their afternoon destinations.

Thanks,  
The Garfield Staff



**One World Taiko Drums visits Garfield as a part of our PTA-sponsored Performing Arts Series.**



**OUR GARFIELD LIBRARY**

***Ways to Support the Library & Your Child's Education:***

1. **Visit your school library.**
2. **Get to know your school librarian.** Ask what the needs are and how you can help.
3. **Donate** books and equipment. Offer to **volunteer** your time.
4. **Make sure your child has a public library card** and knows how to use it. **Read together** with your child. Research shows that children who are read to in the home do better in school.
5. **Be a role model.** Let your child see you reading at home. Help your child explore new technology. Many school and public libraries make computers available for public use. Feel free to ask for assistance.
6. **Support legislators who support libraries and education.** Let them know you think the two go together and should be a high priority.

**LETTERS FROM THE LIBRARY**



Scan to see what's happening at your lovely Garfield Library!

OR visit <http://garfieldlibrary.wordpress.com>

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/parents/know>