

August 26, 2009

Dear Kindergarten Families and Students:

Welcome to Sunnycrest Elementary School, home of the Screamin' Eagles! Kindergarten is truly a milestone for both children and parents, and I am very excited to work closely with you during the 2009-2010 school year—as both your principal and as a parent of a Sunnycrest kindergartener!

I know many of you have been patiently awaiting pertinent information regarding the upcoming school year; here it is! The name of your child's teacher, along with AM or PM designation, and your child's "Small Steps to Kindergarten" appointment time are included in this letter. Please know that schedules and teacher assignments occasionally change, and it is possible that between now and the first day of school, this information could change. In the event that teaching assignments change, or your AM or PM designation changes, we will contact you. As I write this, kindergarten enrollment continues to grow. As of yesterday afternoon, almost 100 kindergarteners had registered for kindergarten. Wow! This year, we have three remarkable kindergarten teachers: Mrs. Snyder, our full-day kindergarten teacher, and Mrs. Carter and Ms. Sablan, our ½ day kindergarten teachers.

This year, the Lake Stevens School District has incorporated a short screening session for all kindergarteners. These screenings will take place during the first few days of school. **PLEASE NOTE: The first day of school for all kindergartners is FRIDAY, September 11.** Between Wednesday, September 9 and Thursday, September 10, all incoming kindergarteners will take a short assessment to help us plan instruction that meets the specific needs of your child. It will also provide you with a brief period of time to meet with your child's teacher, ask questions about kindergarten, and see his/her classroom. I know this is much different than year's past, and I certainly hope none of you are inconvenienced by this change. If you have any questions about your child's appointment, do not hesitate to call me or the front office. **Again, your kindergartener will not report to school on Tuesday, September 8; his/her first day of school is Friday, September 11.**

During your "Small Steps to Kindergarten" screening, your child will receive a special kindergarten bus pass. Please remind him/her to wear it daily for the first few weeks of the school year.

As many of you know, Sunnycrest underwent a beautiful modernization during the 2008-2009, and all of us at Sunnycrest are very excited to return to our new building. The kindergarten classrooms are spacious, bright, and very warm. Most importantly, they will provide an optimal and creative learning environment for your child.

Regarding transportation: Bus routes are listed in the Lake Report. You can also get this information from the district's website (www.lkstevens.wednet.edu) or from our transportation department (425-335-1508). In order to make certain we have correct routes established, we must be informed of any recent daycare/childcare arrangements that changed over the summer; please

let us know if this is the case. Also, kindergarten students will not be dropped off unless there is a parent or guardian at the bus stop to receive his/her child. Kindergarteners will not be dropped off or picked up at the door as in years past, so please don't forget to check the Lake Report for the bus stop in your area. Please also note that busses will be arriving later than expected during the first few days of school as routes and times are refined. Again, questions specific to transportation should be directed to our transportation department at 425-335-1508.

Often, parents prefer AM or PM sessions to accommodate work/daycare schedules. If you are able to provide daily transportation, it might be possible to change your child's AM or PM designation. Please let me know, and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Ensuring a successful year, emotionally, socially, and academically, is at the forefront of our thinking. I look forward to personally working closely with each of you! If you have any questions, thoughts, or concerns regarding the upcoming school year, please contact me. As a parent of a recent kindergartener **and** of an upcoming kindergartener, I recognize both the excitement and possible anxiety of the upcoming year. Do not hesitate to call me for any reason.

Lastly, I want to invite all of you to our open house on Thursday, September 3 from 5-7 PM. Please come to tour your new building, meet the PTA, and say hello to the dedicated Sunnycrest staff! We hope to see you next Thursday!

Again, welcome! It's going to be a great year!

Very Respectfully,

Tim Haines
Principal

425-335-1535
425-754-0472 (cell phone)

Your child's teacher is: _____

Your child will attend: FULL DAY AM or PM session

Your "Small Steps to Kindergarten" screening is: Wednesday or Thursday at _____