Welcome Back Screamin’ Eagles!

A sincere welcome to all Sunnycrest families—both returning and new! I hope that your summer was both relaxing and thoroughly enjoyable! More importantly, I hope that you are eager to return to school!

As always, I look forward to working closely with you as we continue to build critical partnerships that place your child at the center of our decisions. I value your input and recognize the importance of your continued involvement in your child’s education.

I know that I speak for the entire staff in welcoming you to another great year of learning. We are excited to help all students think and learn at high levels, and it is with much sincerity that I share my excitement for the upcoming school year. I have truly missed seeing and hearing the laughter, curiosity, and enthusiasm specific to elementary students and their learning, and I look forward to seeing all of you on Wednesday, September 3—the first day of a fantastic school year!

Very Respectfully,

Tim Haines, Principal

My Child’s Teacher

Your child’s teacher for the 2014-2015 school year will be available online via Family Access beginning Friday, August 22. You can find the link to Family Access at the top of Sunnycrest’s homepage.

If you have forgotten your login and password, please click the “Forgot Your Login/Password” hyperlink to generate an email reminder.

To login to Family Access, it is necessary to have an email address on file at the school. If you do not have an email address on file, please contact the school office at 425-335-1535.
Important Notes

Early Release Fridays

Please know that every Friday, your child’s day will end earlier than on Mondays-Thursdays (PM kindergartners’ day will also begin earlier); please use the following table to determine when your child’s day will both begin and end.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade:</th>
<th>Day of Week:</th>
<th>Start Time:</th>
<th>End Time:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FDK &amp; Grades 1-5</td>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>3:35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDK &amp; Grades 1-5</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>2:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AM Kindergarten</td>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AM Kindergarten</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>11:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM Kindergarten</td>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>12:50</td>
<td>3:35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM Kindergarten</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12:10</td>
<td>2:10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transportation: Search bus routes and school boundaries online!

Very soon, the district will share information on E-LINK, an online mapping tool accessible through the district’s homepage. E-LINK allows families to enter their home address to find attendance area school, bus number, nearest bus stop and pick-up and drop-off times. Families who have registered for Family Access in Skyward will receive an email once E-LINK is available.

In order to make certain that 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/guardian at the bus stop to receive his/her child. Please also note that busses will be arriving much later than expected during the first few days of school as routes and times are refined. Questions specific to transportation should be directed to our transportation department at 425-335-1508.
Welcome to our new Associate Principal, Susan Songstad!

Hi Sunnycrest Families:

I’m thrilled to be joining the dedicated team of educators working towards the success of each and every one of your little “Screamin’ Eagles.” I’ve been an educator for over 20 years now and have loved every minute of it. I began my career in the Shoreline School District, moved to the Mukilteo School District in 2000 and now have the opportunity to become part of the Lake Stevens community.

I was trained as a constructivist, student centered teacher which means I believe in honoring the skills and strengths that each individual brings to the classroom. Helping a child to find their niche, their passion, and to become a strong self-advocate is essential for growth and success.

I believe in experiential learning. Throughout my career I’ve traveled with students on a variety of field trips including many local venues: Deception Pass, Woodland Park Zoo, Museum of Flight for a mock mission to space to name a few. I’ve also taken groups to Kennedy Space Center in Florida, Bio Sphere III in Arizona, and twice spent 5 weeks back-packing through Europe. Experiential learning is life changing for our kiddos (and me too).

I earned my teaching/administrative degree through the University of Washington with a major in biology and a minor in psychology with a focus on child development. I’ve taught grades 6-12 general science through Advanced Placement Biology. I’ve served as the science curriculum specialist in two districts, provided professional development for teachers’ kindergarten through 12th grade, and am well versed in Common Core State Standards in math and literacy as well as the Next Generation Science Standards. I believe that when we have common goals and set high standards our students will excel to their highest performance level and build a strong base for becoming healthy happy contributors to society.

I’m the proud mother of 3 grown children and 5 beautiful grandchildren. With a husband as a local and Alaskan commercial fisherman and two sons who followed in his footsteps, we are a true Pacific Northwest family.

In closing, I want you to know that there is little that brings me more pride or pleasure than having a hand in shaping the lives of our future leaders (your babies). Providing them with a safe, caring and rich learning environment is my number one goal.

I look forward to meeting you. Please feel free to come by and say hello or drop me a line via email.

Proud to be a Screamin’ Eagle.

Warmly,

Susan Songstad
Assistant Principal, Sunnycrest and Hillcrest Elementary
Important Notes!

Sign-in at the Office
All visitors on campus MUST sign in at the office and wear proper identification at all times.

Before School Supervision
So that we can provide learning support in the classroom, we do not provide before school supervision. Therefore, I kindly ask that students are not dropped off prior to 9:10.

Medication and Health Concerns
If any medication will be administered during school hours, please coordinate with our school nurse. Requirements include:
- Signed permission from parent/guardian and prescribing practitioner
- Medication must be brought to school by parent/guardian in original prescriptive container.
- Medication will be counted and administered by designated staff and/or parent/guardian.

Please keep our nurse updated. If your child is taking medication, changes medications, etc., please let us know. This information is both confidential and critical. Additionally, if you have any concerns about your child’s health, please feel free to call our school nurse at 425-335-1535.

Staggered Release
In order to establish a safe and smooth dismissal process, Sunnycrest will release students a little differently during the first eight days of the school year:
- Fifth grade and kindergarten students will be released at 3:35.
- Students in grades 1-4 will be released at 3:38 (or when all school buses arrive at Sunnycrest).

In doing so, students will have more success navigating the front lot, locating their school bus, or finding the appropriate daycare van. On Monday, September 15, all students will be released at 3:35. Your understanding and patience is greatly appreciated!

Front Lot Driving Reminders
Our front lot becomes congested quickly. Drive with extreme caution at all times and exercise patience at all times.
- Only release children curbside and through the passenger door.
- Do not park your vehicle curbside at any time; please park in designated parking spots. Never park next to red curbs.
- Always obey all parking lot signage!
- Please do not beckon children to your vehicle. Either pick them up directly from the curb or personally walk them to your vehicle if you are parked.
- Always pull forward (as close to the mailboxes as possible) to help minimize backups on 99th.

These procedures have been established to make certain your child is safe during the school day. To help enforce our parking lot expectations, Sunnycrest frequently partners with the Lake Stevens Police Department.

Bedtime Routines
Please consider adjusting your child’s bedtime routine so that your child is well rested on the first day of school. Elementary children should be in bed for no fewer than 10 hours or more nightly! Less sleep means more struggles for elementary-aged children! Elementary students are tired at the beginning of the year, so returning to an earlier bedtime now will make the beginning of their year more successful!