

January 14, 2020

Principal's Corner

Families and Community Members,

With the events in Washington DC in recent days, I am reminded that young ears are listening, and young eyes are watching. You may wonder what we are to do as parents to help our young scholars navigate a world that can be so scary?

I recently listened to a podcast titled "What To Tell Kids When the News Is Scary." In it, experts share that we cannot completely shield children from hearing bad things. So, we should first start by asking the child what they know. This will help us get a sense of how deep to dive into the topic and help address any misconceptions they may have.

Sometimes getting a map and helping them develop a sense of how far away the event is can help, for a child may think that a hurricane is on its way to Spokane. Your showing them on a map and helping them understand how long they would have to ride in a car to get to the area of the country where the danger is can ease their anxiety.

You can also share with your child that things are on the news because they are unusual. It is the unusual nature of the event that makes it newsworthy in the eyes of the media. So, a fire on the news does not mean that fires happen often, but more so that they are rare.

And when they inevitably ask why someone did a "bad" thing, it is OK to tell them that you don't know. Hear them out and tell them you are always there to listen and help them process things that happen in the world.

The podcast is a good one, and my words above cannot possibly do it justice. If you would like to check it out, it can be found on National Public Radio's Life Kit podcast or at this web address: http://n.pr/39pliAO.

Be well,

Brent A. Perdue

Principal, brentp@spokaneschools.org

Meal Distribution Change for Week of Jan. 18

Due to the Martin Luther King holiday, meal pick-up times will change slightly the **week of Jan. 18** as



will change slightly the **week of Jan. 18** as follows: **Monday** - no meal distribution. **Tuesday** - 11:50 a.m.-12:50 p.m. and 5-6 p.m., mobile meals 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Wednesday** - 11:50 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

January Edition of Kids: For Moms and Dads Now Available!

Families are invited to review the newest edition of Kids magazine at https://bit.ly/3bl5QrX.



Attendance Hotline: 354-3496



Spokane Public Schools complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, marital status, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, 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, sexual orientation including gender expression or gender identity, or honorably discharged veteran or military status. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/ or extracurricular school activities, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's officers listed on our website at www.spokaneschools.

No School Monday, January 19th in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

The third Monday of every January is a federal holiday honoring the achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr..

Dr. King was instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964 which outlawed discrimination in employment, public accommodations and facilities.

Logan families are encouraged to help children learn

more about this amazing man and the ongoing struggle for civil rights and equity in America.



Feb. 9 Replacement Levy

The levy is a way for the Spokane community to provide a well-rounded experience for SPS students by funding extracurricular activities, support for students with

special needs, and critical health and wellness services. Learn more at spokaneschools.org/levy

What does the levy fund?

School levies support essential programs, staff and services that provide a quality education for our students:

- Nurses
- Counselors
- Behavior specialists
- Student intervention programs
- Special education services
- Technology support
- Smaller class sizes
- Advanced Placement courses
- Athletics
- Arts, music, and drama

Learn more at spokaneschools.org/levy

What will the levy cost?

The 2021 levy replaces the expiring 2018 levy and is not a new tax. The total estimated tax rate for schools will be less than in 2018 and prior years.

Estimated tax rates (per \$1,000 of assessed valuation) are:

- 2022: \$2.40
- 2023: \$2.45
- 2024: \$2.50

Learn more at spokaneschools.org/levy



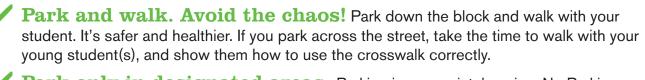


Thank you Staples on North Division for the generous donation of school supplies!





The 10 minutes right before and after school can be quite a challenge. Busy and congested may be inconvenient, but it doesn't have to be unsafe. Please do your part to keep our students, staff, and other parents out of harm's way.



Park only in designated areas. Parking inappropriately or in a No Parking zone puts students and other drivers at risk.

Watch for and follow crossing guard instructions. Help them keep our students safe!

Use curbside arrival/departure: Have your student(s) exit the vehicle at the curb, not into or across traffic.

Slow down! We get it. It's been a hectic day. But the school zone is where you need to slow down and practice patience.

Please do NOT:

Park in bus areas. While this may seem convenient, it creates all kinds of student safety issues.

Drive in the wrong direction or make U-turns. Besides being illegal, these actions put students and other drivers in danger.

Block crosswalks, sidewalks, or driveways. This forces students and others to walk around your vehicle into traffic. It also makes neighbors mad.

Use your phone. Distracted driving puts everyone in danger.

Back up in school zones. This can be extremely dangerous in areas with many younger students.

Questions? Ask your school's principal or call SPS Safety Services at 354.7320.

