

THE JEFFERSON JOURNAL

☆☆☆ News from Jefferson Elementary School ☆☆☆

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we are on the unceded lands of the Spokane Tribe. The Spokane people shared this place with other tribes through their relations, resources, history, trade, and ceremony. We thank the caretakers of this land, who lived, and continue to live here since Time Immemorial. This land holds the knowledge, culture, and spirit of "The People of the River."



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Hello all,

The last 2½ years have been a challenge for us all. The pandemic impacted everything from regular everyday interactions, like handshakes and high fives, to how kids are allowed to play and interact with their peers. This says nothing of the academic impacts that virtual school and quarantines have had on our young scholars. To help make up for the learning loss stemming from this disruption to normal schooling, it will be important that we strive to make attendance a priority for each young scholar going forward.



In the coming weeks, I will be visiting this topic to help families understand the impacts of even just a few missed days of school and the cumulative impacts of regularly arriving late or being picked up early from school.

According to [Attendance Works](#), a non-profit working to reduce chronic absence across America, many of our youngest learners miss 10 percent of the school year, or about 18 days. While this is only about 2 days per month, scholars who miss this much are deemed "chronically absent" because of the deleterious effects that this level of absence has on their future success. In fact, chronic absenteeism in kindergarten, and even preK, is associated with lower test scores, poor attendance and higher retention rates in later grades. This is especially true if the chronic absences persist for more than one year.

It is important to note that we are not advocating for scholars to come to school when ill, especially given COVID-19 is still impacting all of us. As a parent myself, I know it can be hard to navigate when a child should go to school and when they should stay home. This is why we have included some guidance in the [Jefferson Scholar & Family Handbook](#) which is posted on the [Jefferson Website](#) in the Students drop down menu. **The Illnesses: When to Keep Your Child Home from School** section on page 13 is a great resource to keep in mind when your scholar wakes up feeling a little under the weather.

Your partner in attendance,


Brent A. Perdue (he, his, him)
Principal brentp@spokaneschools.org

CALENDAR

September 6
KG Conferences

September 6
1st Day of School Grades 1-6
8:30am - 3:00pm

September 7
1st Day of School for
Kindergarten (Group A)
8:30am - 3:00pm

September 8
1st Day of School for
Kindergarten (Group B)
8:30am - 3:00pm

September 9
Kindergarten (Group A)
8:30am - 3:00pm

September 12
Kindergarten (Group B)
Late Start 9:30 am For All
Students

SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2022

Morning Arrival, Breakfast and More!



Scholars who are not eating breakfast at school are allowed on campus beginning at 8:15am. They will enter the school directly at that time and through the doors that they exit from in the afternoon. Exit doors will be shared with families during launch conferences this week. Scholars with younger siblings may enter the school through the door of the younger sibling if needed.

Those wishing to eat breakfast may arrive on campus to eat after 8:00am. Breakfast eaters will enter through the doors near the cafeteria on the north side of the school.

Like us on Facebook, Follow us on Instagram

Family and community members are encouraged to like Jefferson on Facebook and follow Jefferson on Instagram to keep up on the latest happenings and to see many more pictures of events than can fit in an issue of The Jefferson Journal.



THE PTG SCOOP

- We will need MANY volunteers throughout the school year. To be able to volunteer, you will need to be cleared by the district. Find more information on that [here](#). Don't wait to get your volunteer clearance in volunteer forms can take two weeks to clear!
- To find out what some of those opportunities might be, sign up for our email list! [Click here](#) to receive updates from PTG about events, volunteer opportunities and PTG meetings!
- 5th and 6th Grade Parents: You likely got info about the memory book at your student's Launch Conference. (If not, please reach out to PTG for a new copy!) ALL 5th / 6th Grade parents need to submit permission & pictures for their child, so please look it over and reach out to PTG with questions. The timelines for submissions are very different this year and coming up soon!
- Did you know the PTG is an option for AmazonSmile? You can donate to the PTG whenever you shop by choosing us (Jefferson School Parent-Teacher Group, Spokane WA) in your Amazon app as your AmazonSmile charity!
- Don't forget to follow our social media pages: Facebook: Jefferson PTG, Instagram: @jeffersonpatriotsptg , for all the latest updates!
- The first PTG meeting of the school year will be TUESDAY, September 13th, on Zoom! Watch for the link. See you there, Patriots Families!

More New Faces at Jefferson

Last week, The Journal included many new names of staff who have joined the Jefferson family. This week, there are a few more to announce. Please welcome the following:

Krystal Deesten, Kindergarten (Long Term Substitute)

Cecile Gomiero, Student Support Paraprofessional

Juliana Greiner, Preschool Family Support Specialist





Get ready for one of the biggest adventures of your child's life!

Habit Time!

Set a standard bed and wake up time a few weeks in advance

- Let children choose what clothes they'd like to wear the next day.
- Routines make everyone feel in control, and that's a good feeling.



Good Health Time!

Make sure your child has the right shots to attend school

- Ask your child's teacher about health and safety procedures.
- Ask questions about any concerns you have related to Covid-19.
- Schedule non-Covid-19 medical appointments and extended trips when school is not in session.



Preschool through first grade establishes the foundation for relationship building and life-long learning. Help your child gain comfort, self-confidence and delight in these milestone events.

Revised October 2021

Visit Attendance Works www.attendanceworks.org for strategies and resources