

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

Jefferson Families and Community Members,

After taking last week away to report on our recent Parent Teacher Conferences, I am coming back to our mindset journey. This week's message will focus on praise, and how it affects students' development of a growth or fixed mindset.



In America, unlike many nations who outperform the United States in mathematics achievement, children often receive fixed mindset messages from parents and teachers. When we unwittingly tell a child that she is "so smart" after building a block bridge or that he is "brilliant" after completing a puzzle, we are sending the message that ability is innate, and not a function of the effort and tenacity exerted to arrive at success. Interestingly, one study found that the praise parents gave to their babies between birth and age three predicted their mindsets five years later. Surely, the power of our mindset messages cannot be underestimated!

In one school-based example, 400 fifth grade students were asked to take an easy assessment in which almost all of them performed at high levels. Following the assessment, half of the students were praised for "being really smart!" The other half were complimented on their "hard work." All 400 students were then asked to choose a follow-up test, either one which was pretty simple and the students were likely to do well, or one that was more challenging where some errors were likely. Of the students who received compliments for their effort, a full 90 percent chose the more difficult assessment. Of the students given the fixed mindset message of being smart, the majority chose the easy assessment. And given that we know that the mind has to grapple and struggle to grow new dendrites, you can certainly guess which students' brains grew the most that day!

Consider this from mathematician Jo Boaler:

Praise feels good, but when people are praised for who they are as a person ("You are so smart") rather than what they did ("That was an amazing piece of work"), they get the idea that they have a fixed amount of ability... Instead of praising students for being smart, or any other personal attribute, it's better to say things like: "It is great that you have learned that." And "You have thought really deeply about this." (Boaler, 8)

In short, let us praise the child's effort, tenacity and grit, and shy away from praising innate characteristics that he/she has no control over.

Be well, and be sure to tune in next week, when we will continue or dive into mathematical mindsets.

Brent A. Perdue (he, his, him)

Principal brentp@spokaneschools.org

FEBRUARY 20TH, 2023

CALENDAR

February 20

President's Day-NO SCHOOL

February 21

Professional Learning
Development Day for
Teachers-NO SCHOOL

February 22-23

5th/6th Grade Curriculum
Night, 6:30pm Sacajawea MS
(Last name A-M-22nd;
N-Z-23rd)

February 23

Unicycle Club, 3-4pm

February 24

School Night with the
Spokane Chiefs

February 28

Group Picture Day
Unicycle Club, 3-4pm

March 1

Leadership Mtg, 3:05-3:45pm

March 2

Unicycle Club, 3-4pm
Multicultural Club, 3-4pm

STAR AWARD

- Olivia V.-V.
- Daphne L.
- Sasha C.
- Henry B.
- Owen K.
- Iris S.
- Sophie H.
- Juniper H.
- Jack O.
- Vera B.
- Sage R.
- John R.
- Matt W.-B.
- Donnie H.
- Carter B.
- Freddie J.



THE PTG SCOOP.....

- It's never too soon to start thinking about next year. The majority of the PTG Board members will be transitioning away in the 2023-2024 school year, and their roles will need to be filled. Could you step in? Earlier planning opens the door for possible mentorship. Please contact PTG with questions!
- 5th and 6th Grade Parents: You should have received an email from the Memory Book Committee (via your child's teacher) regarding submitting permission forms and photos. PLEASE get these needed items in soon if you haven't already.
- The next PTG Meeting will be Tues, March 7th at 7pm in the Library and on Zoom. See you there!

MUSIC ABOUND!

5th grade classes are creating ukelele music compositions by collaborating or working solo while in Mrs. King's music room. Students are creating by using their own ideas, making a plan, and evaluating their work. Before this happened, they learned the "C" scale and several chords. C, F, G, G7, and A minor. They will share their compositions with visiting classes once completed.





FROM YOUR

Jefferson Scholar & Family Handbook

(located on the Jefferson Website in the "Students" dropdown menu or click [here](#))

Safe School Hotline (page 19)

All doors at Jefferson remain locked at all times. A single point of entry system requires that all visitors be buzzed in at the front entry by the office. Staff have proximity badges that allow them to buzz themselves and their students through other exterior doors. Families are asked to help reinforce the safety protocol of never opening an exterior door for anyone with their scholars.



GLOW DANCE PARTY A BLAST!

Thursday, February 9th saw families come together for Jefferson's first, and hopefully annual, PTG Glow Dance Party. Kids, parents and staff busted out their dance moves to some new and retro tunes!

See videos from the event on Jefferson's Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/jeffersonelementaryspokane>) and Instagram (www.instagram.com/jeffersonelementaryspokane) pages.



DEMONSTRATING CLASS PRIDE

Congratulations to Mrs. Olson's Kindergarten for recently filling up the 60 spaces on their classroom PRIDE poster!



BUS LOOP

RESTRICTIONS

The bus loop is restricted to buses and vehicles with special permission before and after school. This allows for the efficient and safe pick up and drop off of scholars each school day. Other scholars can be dropped off on 37th street in front of the school or along Manito Boulevard in the back.



PRESENTED BY  **Shriners
Children'sSM**
Spokane

SCHOOL NIGHT AT THE SPOKANE CHIEFS



FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 24 | 7:00 PM
JERSEY PILLOW GIVEAWAY

\$10 TICKETS

**OFFER VALID FOR STUDENTS,
FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND FACULTY**

**CLICK
HERE**

**TEXT/CALL
509-340-8384**



TICKET DEADLINE FEBRUARY 21
TICKETS WILL BE DELIVERED DIGITALLY



GAME DETAILS, SEATING MAPS, PROMOTIONS, & MORE
SPOKANECHIEFS.COM | CALL/TEXT 509-535-PUCK



Future Sacajawea Thunderbirds Parent Nights

When:

-Wednesday, February 22nd at 6:30pm *for Last Names A-M**
OR

-Thursday, February 23rd at 6:30pm *for Last Names N-Z**

Parents of students with IEPs, please plan on attending a Special Education Information Session from 5:45pm-6:15pm on either night

Where: Sacajawea Middle School

401 E. 33rd Avenue, Main Entrance/Gymnasium

Who: Parents of current 5th and 6th grade students who will attend Sacajawea in the Fall—this is a *PARENT/GUARDIAN ONLY EVENT*

Why: To welcome you to our school and provide information about our programs

**Due to parking considerations with two grade levels in attendance and construction ongoing, please try to attend on the night that matches your student's last name. The presentation will be IDENTICAL both evenings, so you can attend either night.*

Can't Attend Either Night?

[Visit our Registration Page:](#)

Visit www.sacthunderbirds.com, then select the 23-24 Registration button:

Here you will find....

Sac-specific Course Catalog, Registration Forms, Elective Video Descriptions, and more!



23-24 Registration