

# 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,

Welcome to a new school year! This is the first edition of The Jefferson Journal for the 2023-2024 school year. Each Monday throughout the year, a new edition will arrive in your email inbox. Each edition is also posted on our [school website in the "About" dropdown menu](#), and on both our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

Please take the time to read The Journal each week with your young scholars, as it will be full of information about the current happenings at school, celebrations of learning and ideas for how you can help support your scholars' learning at home.

In keeping with our digital age, the [Scholar and Family Handbook](#) that used to come home as part of a printed school calendar is now maintained electronically. This will allow you to access information about your scholars' school from any computer or mobile device. Please take time this week to review the handbook together as a family. The handbook can be found on our website under the "Students" drop down. This will help everyone get off to a smooth start!

On behalf of the entire Jefferson Elementary School staff, welcome back! We look forward to partnering with you in guiding the learning and growth of your children!

Brent A. Perdue (he, his, him)  
Principal [brentp@spokaneschools.org](mailto:brentp@spokaneschools.org)

— WELCOME —  
BACK TO SCHOOL

AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

## CALENDAR

### August 30th

Free Vaccination Clinic at  
Shaw Middle School  
3:00pm-6:00pm  
PTG Back-to-School Social  
5:00pm-6:30pm

### September 5th

First Day of School-Grades 1-5

### September 6th

First Day of School  
Kindergarten Group A

### September 7th

First Day of School  
Kindergarten Group B

### September 8th

Kindergarten Group A

### September 11th

Kindergarten Group B  
Late Start for Staff  
Collaboration, school begins at  
9:30am

### September 12th

Kindergarten-  
All Students Attend

### September 18th

Late Start for Staff Collaboration,  
school begins at 9:30am

### September 25th

Late Start for Staff Collaboration,  
school begins at 9:30am

# THE PTG SCOOP...

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL SOCIAL WEDNESDAY!

Please join us on the Jefferson playground on Wednesday, August 30th from 5-6:30pm for our PTG Back-to-School Social! Come see the new additions to our playground, play with friends and enjoy a cold treat. A parent or guardian is required to attend with their child(ren). We hope to see you there!



## SIGN UP FOR LAUNCH CONFERENCES!

Schools across Spokane will again kick off the year with Launch Conferences.

Conference times are available throughout the day this Thursday and Friday for scholars in grades 1 through 5. Kindergarten families have received a letter from their scholar's teacher indicating the time they have been assigned and steps to take if a different time is needed.

Families of scholars in grades 1-6 will sign up using the district's electronic scheduler. The scheduler can be found at <https://weba.spokaneschools.org/conference>.

In addition to the conference with the teacher, families are asked to plan an additional 30-45 minutes to spend on a scavenger hunt visiting various parts of the school, looking for the hidden Patriot Puppies and taking care of important tasks that will get everyone off to a smooth start.



## 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.

## NEW FACES AT JEFFERSON

Jefferson is excited to introduce you to a number of new faces among the 80+ staff members who support the children of the Jefferson neighborhood.

- Holly Anderson-Lester, Preschool Family Support Specialist
- Melanie Cossey, Grades 3-5 Multi-Age Teacher
- Katie Harsh, Multi-Lingual Learner Teacher
- Tricia Martin, Speech and Language Pathologist
- Gretchen Quinn, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Specialist
- Jewel Shea, Grades 3-5 Multi-Age Paraeducator
- Rachel Socha, Kitchen Manager
- Cassi Teshome, Primary Designed Instruction Teacher
- Trisha Wais, Mental Health Therapist



## BIRTHDAY WISHES

Jefferson announces birthday wishes for students during morning announcements. If your family would prefer that your child's name not be announced in recognition of his or her birthday, please contact the office so that we can make a note of your request.



## PEACH JAR PROVIDES ELECTRONIC "BACKPACK" FOR FAMILIES

Jefferson, and all schools in Spokane Public Schools, utilize a free digital service, called Peachjar, to put school and community fliers at your fingertips. No more lost or forgotten fliers buried in the bottom of a child's backpack.



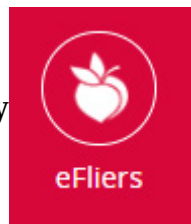
Peachjar will send information right to your device via a free app. Digital school fliers will come directly into your virtual backpack and remain there until they expire for easy review and reference.

No action is required on your part beyond making sure that Jefferson has your most current email address. You will receive a welcome email from Peachjar that includes a username and password. This is provided to give you the opportunity to manage your account and flier delivery preferences. You do not need to login to receive or view school digital fliers.

To ensure smooth delivery of this communication, we suggest you add "school@peachjar.com" to your email contacts. When you receive your first e-flier, be sure to click "always display images."

This system is used exclusively for distribution of district and school-approved communications. Your email address will not be shared or used for any other purpose. You can also visit Jefferson's website to see school/district-approved digital fliers. Simply click the e-fliers button with the picture of the peach on [Jefferson's homepage](#).

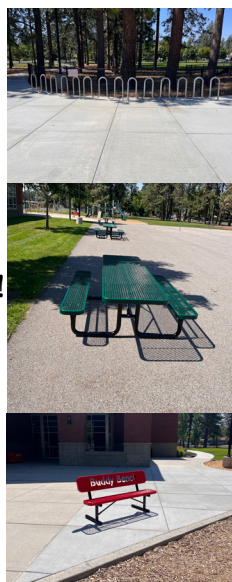
Note: Peachjar is free to our schools because community partners pay a small service fee to post and distribute their flyers digitally (typically much less than the cost to copy and deliver paper fliers).



## PTG PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS ARE HERE!

The PTG used part of its annual fun run proceeds to purchase new items for the Jefferson playground. Included in the purchase are three picnic tables, a new Buddy Bench and two extensions to the bike rack on the southwest side of the school. One remaining item, "spiny bars," is yet to be installed near the big toy. Thank you PTG and thank you to families and community organizations who donated!

Be sure to come and check out the new purchases at the PTG's back-to-school social set to take place on Wednesday, August 30, from 5:00-6:30pm on the playground!



## WE ARE HIRING..... NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CROSSING GUARDS AND NOON SUPERVISION FOR THE 23-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Jefferson is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year to serve as

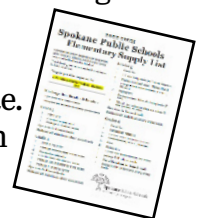


morning and afternoon crossing patrol guards, as well as for the lunchroom and playground supervision during the noon hour. Even if you only have 2 or 3 days per week of availability, consider applying. If you know a neighbor or friend who might be interested, please encourage them to apply as well.

The wage for these positions is \$16.24 per hour. It is a great way to get outdoors, interact with students and become more involved in the school that your child or children attend. For more information, please stop by the office or call 354-3200 between the hours of 7:30am and 4 pm.

## JEFFERSON SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST POSTED

The [supply list](#) for each grade level has been posted on the Jefferson Website. It can be found in the "Students" dropdown menu



on Jefferson's website. Families are encouraged to bring supplies with them to their scholar's launch conference this week.