

# 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

Good day all,

*This week I wanted to share some updates about our Every Day Matters attendance campaign here at Jefferson. Coming off the COVID-19 pandemic, school attendance rates have struggled to return to their pre-pandemic levels across the nation. Schools have been working hard to help kids, and families, get back into the attendance habit.*



*To start, let's dive into some data. Researchers have found that students who miss more than 10% of the school year begin to see negative impacts on academic performance and social emotional growth. This is why they have deemed a rate of 95%, or missing no more than one day per month, as the target for what is considered "regular attendance." As of February 24, 49% of Jefferson students have hit this regular attendance target. Another 33% fall in the at-risk attendance level (90-95%). And as of this writing, 18% of our young scholars have missed more than 10% of the school year.*

*How do these numbers compare to other years you may ask? First, we are on the upswing over last year, which saw us with rates of 36% satisfactory, 32% at risk and 31% falling in the chronic absence category. However, these numbers call for one caveat. These are end-of-year attendance rates and schools often see an "attendance slump" in the spring. Let's partner together to help our shared scholars understand that Every Day Matters at Jefferson and continue being here each and every day that they are not too ill to be at school!*

March 4, 2024

## CALENDAR

### March 4

Variety Show Practice  
7:30-9:00am, Gym

Board Game Club  
3-4pm

PTG Skate Night  
Roller Valley Skate  
Center 6-8pm

### March 5

Leadership Club 3-4pm

Sign Language 3-4pm

Choir Ensemble 3-4pm

Science Fair Work Day  
3-4pm

Choir Concert  
"A Music Celebration"  
4-5pm

### March 6

Music & Movement  
3-4pm

### March 7

Jefferson  
Parent/Guardian/Staff  
Book Study  
Demystifying Disability  
(Chapter 2)

*I'll end today's Principal's Corner by asking each of you to be part of a shared goal of getting all of our kids back to school. I know we can do it, for Jefferson had a pre-pandemic attendance rate in 2019-2020 that saw 71% of scholars with a satisfactory attendance rate, 25% being at-risk and only a 4% of scholars landing in the chronic absentee category!*

*We can do this!*

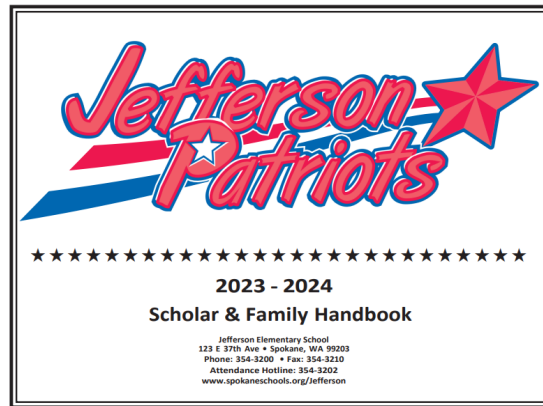
*Brent*



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



- Jhene N.
- Leo P.
- Aleia B.
- Charlotte A.
- Mikah F.
- Cru W.
- Iris S.
- Oliver E.
- Benjamin S.
- Kailey F.
- Benny L.
- Caius W.
- Ben B.
- Ethan T.
- Gabi G.



**FROM YOUR**  
*Jefferson Scholar & Family Handbook*

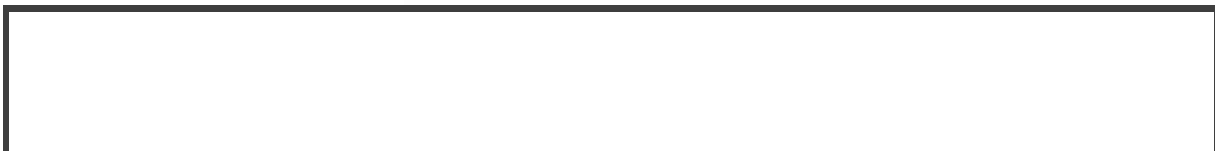
*(located on the Jefferson Website in the "Students" dropdown menu or [click here](#))*

**Lost and Found**-page 17

Parents are requested to mark all backpacks, lunch pails and articles of clothing with the child's first and last name. We always have quite an accumulation of unclaimed articles which could have been returned if properly marked.



During the school year, please notify the office regarding missing items. After staying in the Lost and Found for a month, unclaimed items are donated to a community agency.



# Tonight!

GET YOUR SKATES READY!

## JEFFERSON SKATE NIGHT

at ROLLER VALLEY

Monday, March 4  
6:00-8:00 PM  
Roller Valley  
9415 E 4th Ave,  
Spokane Valley, WA  
99206

\$9/skater (includes rentals)  
\$8/skater if you bring your own  
skates

**Health Room  
Extra Clothing Cupboard**

Looking for donations of soft, elastic waist pants and new underwear in smaller sizes for the extra clothing closet in the Health Room.

Donations can be sent to the office.  
Thank you!



## Playground Closed for One Hour After School Each Day

The Jefferson playground is closed for 60 minutes after school lets out each day. The playground is reserved for after-school activities and for Jefferson's Express Childcare program. Families are asked to remind their scholars that they are to go straight home after school. Families picking up students are also asked to help by having their children stay off the equipment until after 4pm.



## WE ARE HIRING Crossing Guards and Noon Supervision

Jefferson is accepting applications to serve as morning and afternoon crossing patrol guards, as well as for playground supervision from 11am-12:45pm. Even if you only have 1, 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 \$16.78 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 might attend. For more information, please stop by the office or call 354-3200 between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:30 pm.

# THE PTG SCOOP

## PTG Upcoming Events

### March 4

Roller Skating Night  
6-8pm  
Roller Valley

### March 7

Treats for Staff  
Let's Show our appreciation for  
Jefferson's amazing teachers and  
staff!

[Sign Up to Bring Treats for Staff](#)

**March 12**  
PTG Meeting  
In Library or on Zoom  
6:30-7:30pm

[PTG Meeting Zoom Link](#)

**March 14**  
Student STEM Fair  
5-6:30pm  
(Help Sessions on 3/5 & 3/12 from  
3-4pm in Science Room)

**April 18 & 19**  
Variety Show  
Volunteers needed!

Rehearsals: March 4, 11, 18, 25  
8-9am in the Gym

[jeffersonvarietyshow@gmail.com](mailto:jeffersonvarietyshow@gmail.com)



Spokane Public Schools complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate in the admission, treatment, employment, or access to its programs or activities on the basis of age, sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, to the use of a trained 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 Title IX/Staff Civil Rights Officer, ADA Officer, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB)/Student Civil Rights Officer and/or 504 Compliance Officer.

The following Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

•Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator: Jodi Harmon, 509.354.7344

•Section 504 Coordinator: Melanie Smith, 509.354.7284

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