



# Christa McAuliffe Elementary

## McAuliffe Monthly

**JANUARY 2020**

**A Note From Your Principal**

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a restful and relaxing Winter Break. Thank you in advance for helping your child with their transition back to school after break.

I would like to take a moment to send a special thank you to our many parent and PTSA volunteers. Parents volunteer in the classroom every day as they support students in the classroom, chaperone field trips, lead art lessons, and help as Watch DOGS. Our PTSA volunteers host and organize events such as the Talent Show, Ice Cream Social, Vision and Hearing Screening, the Holiday Giving Tree, and much more. Thank you to everyone for making our school a special place through your volunteer support!

Brady Howden  
Principal

### January Conferences

January conferences will be held on January 28th, 30th, and 31st. This is an opportunity for you and your child to revisit goals set in October, examine evidence of growth, revise goals, and discuss student progress. If you have not signed up for a conference, please contact your teacher to set up a time.

### Report Cards: Science Grades

This year our district is implementing a new science curriculum called Amplify, which will result in a change in how science scores are listed on report cards. Typically, parents see grades represented on a 1-4 scale for any topics covered. However, as our district works on aligning assessments with our new curriculum, parents will instead see a "+" on the report card this year for any areas taught. The only exception will be on the June report card, which will show a standard 1-4 score in the area of "Scientific Process". All other strands taught will continue to be a "+". A more detailed letter from our curriculum department will be included with January report cards outlining this change.

### Kindergarten Registration

Registration for next year's kindergarten classes will be held on Thursday, February 20th from 1:00pm-7:00pm in the commons. Children who will be 5 years old by August 31, 2020 are eligible to register for next year's kindergarten classes. Parents registering their children for kindergarten will need to provide 2 items for proof of residency within McAuliffe's school boundary (ex: utility bill), an original birth certificate or passport, and immunization records. Lake Washington School District kindergarten classes will be a **free all-day program**. It's important that incoming families register on February 20th as our registration numbers will determine staffing for next year.

### Principal Chat

Parents are invited to meet with Mr. Howden from 9:20-10:50 in the school library on Friday, January 24th. This is an open forum, with no set agenda. Parents are invited to stop by to say hello, ask questions, and learn more about our school. We hope you can join me for a few minutes.

### School Parking Lot Reminders

As we turn to the new year, we wanted to provide everyone with a few parking lot and pick-up/drop-off reminders:

- Please make sure your student is using marked and monitored crosswalks
- Student pick-up takes place in front of the school in the loading zone (please move forward as you wait)
- The side parking lot is not a student pick-up area, please park in a stall if you enter the side lot
- Please make sure to be respectful of our Instructional Assistant and Student Safety Patrol staff



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### Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA)

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will take the “Smarter Balanced Assessment” as their state assessment this Spring. The assessment will consist of 2-3 days of English Language Art/Literacy testing and 2 days of mathematics testing. Fifth grade students will also take a 1-day science test. We ask that parents do not schedule vacations or appointments on testing days (please see the schedule below). More information on state assessments will come later.

McAuliffe’s SBA Testing Schedule will be as follows:

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: April 28, 29, 30 and May 5, 6

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: May 11, 12, 13, and 14

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: May 15, 18, 19, 20, and 21

### School Resources

Our school has many talented educators who support students with IEPs, 504 plans, Highly Capable, and ELL services. If you have any questions in one of these areas please feel free to contact one of the individuals listed below.

Heather Kolbly, Psychologist (Gen Ed) ([mkolbly@lwsd.org](mailto:mkolbly@lwsd.org))

Brenna McCleary, SPED ([bmcclareychildress@lwsd.org](mailto:bmcclareychildress@lwsd.org))

Emily Josefowitz, SPED ([ejosefowitz@lwsd.org](mailto:ejosefowitz@lwsd.org))

Anna Jaramillo, ELL ([ajaramillo@lwsd.org](mailto:ajaramillo@lwsd.org))

Claire Goveia, Nurse ([cgoveia@lwsd.org](mailto:cgoveia@lwsd.org))

Jody Lallas, Nurse ([jlallas@lwsd.org](mailto:jlallas@lwsd.org))

Lisa Daniel, Counselor ([ldaniel@lwsd.org](mailto:ldaniel@lwsd.org))

Sam Hurkadli, SLP ([shurkadli@lwsd.org](mailto:shurkadli@lwsd.org))

Esmay Friehofer, SLP ([efriehofer@lwsd.org](mailto:efriehofer@lwsd.org))

Mary Stavig, HC Program ([mstavig@lwsd.org](mailto:mstavig@lwsd.org))

Esther Manlapaz, OT ([emanlapaz@lwsd.org](mailto:emanlapaz@lwsd.org))

Shana Speer, OT ([sspeer@lwsd.org](mailto:sspeer@lwsd.org))

Bev Marcinko, PT ([bmarcinko@lwsd.org](mailto:bmarcinko@lwsd.org))

### School Closure and Delay Notification

LWSD notifies parents of school delays or cancellations using the School Messenger calling system.

Families who have a land line as their primary phone number will not receive this notification during a power outage. There are two ways to ensure you are contacted in the case of a school delay or cancellation: (1) Change your School Messenger contact phone number to be a cell phone; or (2) Download the “Flash Alert” app on your cell phone so you can receive updates. In order to use the Flash Alert option, go to [www.flashalert.net](http://www.flashalert.net), click on “View Local News”, select “Seattle/Western Washington”, Select “King Co. School Districts”, select “Lake Washington SD”, create a count, and download the app.

### Used Clothing and Textile Drive

It’s time to clean out your closets! In support of our fifth-grade students, we are collecting used clothes and textiles at the end of January. Our school will receive money for the 2020 Outdoor Education trip based upon the total weight of items donated. Please place any items you would like to donate into plastic garbage bags and drop them off in the library during the weeks of January 27th – February 7th.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## JANUARY

1-3	Winter Break
18	New/International Family Orientation
20	No School—MLK Day
22-24	Used Book Rodeo Collection
24	Principal Chat
28-31	Used Book Rodeo
28, 30, 31	Conferences—12:20pm Dismissal

## FEBRUARY

4, 6	Spelling Bee
12	Valentines Parties
13-17	No School—Mid-Winter Break
17	No School—President's Day
20	Kindergarten Registration

## MARCH

12	Choir Concert
13	No School—LEAP Day
20	Class Pictures
20	All School Photo

### Pick-Reminders

- **Early release**-Due to the disruption, we will not call classrooms after 3:30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday or 2pm on Wednesday.
- **Dismissal**- There is no after school student supervision unless you are enrolled in the YMCA after school program. For the safety of our students, please plan to pick up your child on time.

**ASB** Thank you all for your gingerbread house donations to help the ASB raise funds for literacy schools in Uganda, through Sister Schools. We appreciate the support and participation. ASB is teaming up with the PTSA to help promote better "Green" habits at school. This month the school will begin composting paper towels. We also working on recycling the right materials. Be on the look out for our next "Green" event to promote carpooling in February! Ms. Magraw [jmagraw@lwsd.org](mailto:jmagraw@lwsd.org).

**Music Happens!** Happy New Year to you all! After the whirlwind of the holiday season the music room is ready to settle down and dig deep into curriculum. Here we go... Kindergarten will be working with dynamics, and feeling strong and weak beats. First grade will begin their rhythm books. Second grade will begin their melody books. Third grade will experience rounds and canons. Fourth grade will begin their recorder unit. And finally, fifth grade will be learning a variety of African American spirituals. Mrs. Warren [jwarren@lwsd.org](mailto:jwarren@lwsd.org)

**LRC** December flew by quickly in the library! Kindergarten through fourth grade students learned about the traits of books in the fairy tale genre, with specific focus on fractured fairy tales (stories in which authors have taken traditional fairy tales and changed them to make them more modern or funny). Fifth-grade students worked on learning how to create a works cited list in MLA format for information papers. In addition to all the learning we did, students participated in a holiday read aloud with Mr. Howden. It was a fun time of holiday stories, bad jokes and celebrating the fun of reading! Please feel free to pop in and visit our McAuliffe library any time to look at the adult little free library or just to say hi. If you have any questions you can contact me at [jumartin@lwsd.org](mailto:jumartin@lwsd.org).  
Julie

**PE** Happy New Year! I hope you had a fun, restful break with family and friends. Rules review and teamwork will be the focus the first week back after break for all students. We are getting the double scooters and will be playing fun games such as Kings and Queens vs. the Dragons, Polar Bear Tag and Kaboom for 3-5 graders. All students are required to wear PE shoes with rubber soles on designated PE days-please help your child out and make sure they have good shoes for PE! Thanks,  
Mrs. Strong [sstrong@lwsd.org](mailto:sstrong@lwsd.org)



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