

MEDINA ELEMENTARY FAMILY NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

November 25 & 25 - NO SCHOOL,
in observance of Thanksgiving

December 6th – Picture Re-Takes
(see below for details)

January 12th – Kindergarten
Information Night, Virtual 6-7pm

5/5 – *Proposed* Classroom Picture

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Phone:
(425) 456-5400

Website:



December 3, 2021

Laurie Harvey, Principal
Ashley Kardos, Assistant Principal

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPALS

Hi Tiger Families,

I hope your long weekend with family, last weekend, was restful and fun. We've had families reach out to us asking about current quarantine requests for domestic and international travel during our upcoming Winter Break. This link provides the most up to date information for vaccinated and unvaccinated student and family travel:

<https://bsd405.org/services/health/covid-19-health-and-safety/domestic-and-international-travel/>

Everyone should monitor for symptoms for 14 days and wear a mask, regardless of your vaccination status or where you're traveling.

If you have further questions about **testing options, through BSD schools**, for your student, please see this link: [COVID-19 Testing in Bellevue School District](#) This link also provides content on a full range of Covid content as well: vaccinations, New Covid-19 Dashboard, Visitors and Volunteers, and more.

Lastly, please see content at the bottom of our letter, from the district, regarding suspension of Microsoft Teams student private chat and extension of mask requirements at recess.

Warmly,
Laurie and Ashley

FALL 2021 SBA/WCAS RESULTS

Our 4th and 5th grade students and parents/guardians are now be able to view results from the Fall 2021 Smarter Balanced ELA and Math tests. StudentVue and ParentVue will display test date, subject, and proficiency level – in the test history table.

Regrettably, teachers, and families, will only see the scores and not the typical analysis of these scores. The more elaborate, traditional SBA and WCAS Family Score Reports (with Fall 2021 results) will be available in February, from the test vendor.

For more information, please use this link.

<https://bsd405.org/departments/curriculum/guide-to-assessments> . This new **Guide to Assessments** page currently features information about Star Testing, followed by an explanation of the unique Fall 2021 state SBA/WCAS tests.

PREARRANGED ABSENCES & TRAVEL / ACTIVITY REMINDER

If your child will miss **2 or more school days** for vacation, a family event, a tournament or other reasons other than illness, **please submit a prearranged absence form before the absence.**

Prearranged absence forms can be picked up at the front office or printed off [the school website CLICK HERE](#) . Please submit completed form to medinaattendance@bsd405.org.



Each school year students are allowed up to 5 days of prearranged absences to be excused. Any days exceeding that amount, will be marked unexcused.

FAMILY FEEDBACK SURVEY: ILLUSTRATIVE MATH

WE ARE REPOSTING THIS INFORMATION FROM THE BSD NOVEMBER NEWS AND EVENTS AS IT IS IMPORTANT FAMILY INFORMATION, LINKS AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK.

Families with students in kindergarten through 7th grade received an email from BSD regarding the new math curriculum, Illustrative Math, on Tuesday, November 23. We have learned that some families are having difficulty accessing the curriculum notes. Please use the following links:

- Kindergarten: [See Math Unit 2](#)
- 1st Grade: [See Math Unit 2](#)
- 2nd Grade: [See Math Unit 2](#)
- 3rd Grade: [See Math Unit 2](#)
- 4th Grade: [See Math Unit 2](#)
- 5th Grade: [See Math Unit 2](#)

When opening these links, if the blue quick links on the page, on the right, do not work, navigate to the left-hand side to open the same content link there.

You may also review information on the [curriculum adoption process](#) and [learning resources for students and families](#).

Share your thoughts on the new curriculum by completing the survey linked in the direct email to K-7 families. The BSD Teaching and Learning team is collecting feedback from families, students and classroom educators before adopting the Illustrative Math curriculum for future years, or deciding whether to retain these particular platforms. Surveys must be completed by Sunday, December 5.

PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY – MONDAY DEC. 6

If you would like your child to take a picture re-take this Monday, Dec. 6th, please be sure to send them WITH their original Life Touch photo. This is required in order to have the re-take photo.

We will begin with our Kindies and on from there 1st, 2nd, etc. Life Touch will be here from 8:00-1:00. They may finish up before 1:00.

MEDINA PTA CORNER

Our PTA continues to amaze us! There is so much going on through our PTA for our Medina community. Be sure to check out their link for upcoming events for:

Talent Show is now accepting video submissions (90 seconds max) for our Medina's Got Talent Virtual Party on **Wed, Dec. 15th at 6:30pm**. Submissions are due **Wed, Dec. 8th**.



	Snow sports registration	Reflections Art submissions	Runners Club
	Reading Club	Downtown Skating Rink	And more

Dear Families,

We are sending this communication to inform that we will suspend Microsoft *Teams* student private chat on December 17th, 2021 for all students, except for those students who are currently enrolled in the Bellevue Virtual Academy. Microsoft *Teams* student private chat is a student’s ability to chat with other students or staff via *Teams* Chat. Students will still be able to utilize other forms of communications, which include email and *Teams* Classroom Channels.

We are suspending the student use of *Teams* chat due to inappropriate use by some students and the distractions it can cause during class time. Currently, the impact of these challenges outweighs the potential learning benefits of *Teams private* chat for students. Suspending Microsoft *Teams* private chat for students means students will no longer be able to use the *Teams* chat function to communicate with other students and/or staff members via *Teams* private chat. *Teams* Channels can be created by teachers for students to collaborate on class assignments.

We are continuing to work with Microsoft on enhancing controls and filters around the chat function to enhance its usability in an educational environment. We plan to revisit this decision at the end of the first semester. We will continue to engage in dialogue and professional development with educators on how to best use Teams to support class instruction and student well-being.

Reviewing Elementary Mask Requirements at Recess

This is an update for elementary families about our **mask requirement for students at recess**. Based on input from our elementary administrators and their leadership teams, we have kept our mask requirements in place for students at recess through the fall and into the winter. The rationale includes: (1) students are playing together and often don’t stay physically distanced from each other throughout recess; (2) mask wearing (in addition to keeping students in class cohorts at recess) is helping to minimize the necessity for quarantine and isolation due to exposure; (3) we are receiving very few concerns from students/parents about the mask requirement at recess; (4) we are able to mitigate the concerns we do get on an individual basis for those that do have challenges with mask wearing at recess. With vaccines now available to students ages 5-11, we will be revisiting the requirements of masks and cohorts for elementary students at recess. In January, when we come back from winter break, we will let families know of any changes to the mask requirement at recess.

Bellevue School District

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LEARN FROM.
LEAD WITH.

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