



# ORCA K-8 SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

Principal Tonie

WE ALL BELONG!

EVENTS

NEWS

UPDATES

## Sense of Community

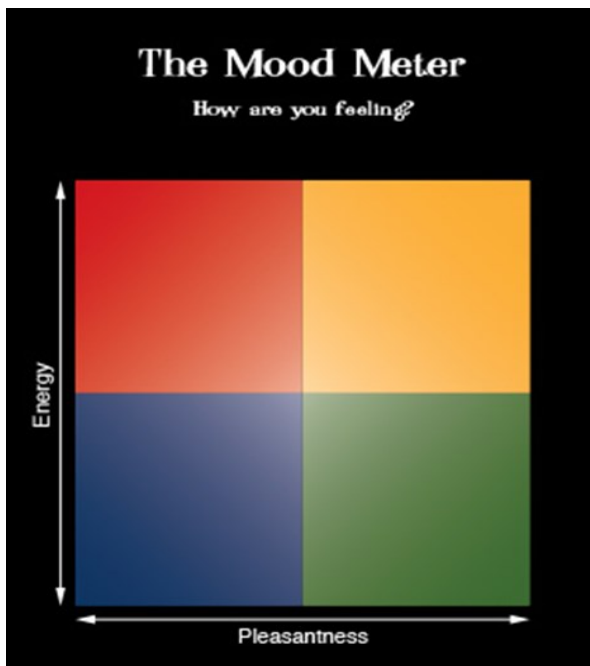
We have had a great start to the 2016 – 2017 school year. Orca prides itself on our sense of community with your child in the center. It is through our relationships with each other that we can build a wonderful learning environment. We are determined to create a safe learning environment for every student and deliver instruction that will enhance and challenge our students.

*“Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day”* will continue to be our focus this year.

The wonderful Orca staff feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at the all school BBQ on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## The Orca Way!

One of our school-wide goals is to get students excited about The Orca Way and show their knowledge of RULER and the Mood Meter, as well as build community, kindergarten through 8th grade. This year we are diving deeper into implementing the RULER approach. With key program facets, such as the “Mood Meter”, students will gain practical tools for identifying and expressing their feelings. Today at our exciting and fun-filled assembly, RULER Approach was re-introduced to students through Role Play and Skits based on The Mood Meter.



**The Mood Meter** is a self and social awareness tool to help students with:

**Recognizing**= *Where are you on the Mood Meter?*

**Understanding**=*Why do you feel this way?*

**Labeling** =*What word best describes how you are feeling?*

**Expressing**=*How are you showing your feelings? (facial expression, body language, or behavior)*

**Regulating**= *Is this feeling helpful? If yes, how will you maintain it? If not, what strategy will you use to shift your feelings?*

## Hiring Updates

- ◇ K-3 Music Teacher—Erin Jordan-Rail has been hired as our new .5 Music Teacher for K-3 students. She will begin on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Welcome Erin!
- ◇ Counselor—We are in the process of hiring a .5 FTE counselor. In the interim, Lisa Starke is substitute for the position.
- ◇ Middle School Language Arts—We are also in the process of hiring a .7 FTE Language Arts teacher.

## Parent Packets go home today

Parent packets were distributed today to each classroom. Please read the information inside the brown envelope. Contact Joanne Davis (jcdavis@seattleschools.org), Parent Coordinator, if you have any questions.

## Orca K-8 Family Handbook

Orca families will receive an **Orca K-8 School Handbook** in October. The handbook is Intended to serve as a helpful resource to inform families and students of the policies, procedures, safety protocols, and guidelines necessary for the academic achievement, social, and emotional well-being of our students.

## Communication

Please contact us directly with your needs, concerns, or questions. Open communication helps us make school a positive and successful experience for students. Orca families will receive an Orca K-8 newsletter weekly via School Messenger. This is in addition to the many classrooms that publish their own newsletters on a weekly or monthly basis.

September 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 First Day of School	8	9 All School Assembly	10
11	12 K – Meet and Greet	13	14	15	16 All School Assembly  Parent Packets Go	17
18	19 BLT Mtg. 8:15	20	21	22 All School BBQ – 6-8	23 Middle School to State Fair	24
25	26	27	28 2 Hour Early Dismissal	29 Race Forum- Mt. Baker Comm. Club 6:30-8:30	30	