

# ORCA K-8 SCHOOL



Principal Tonie

September 22, 2017

## WE ALL BELONG!

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Hello Orca Community,

This is our 13<sup>th</sup> day of school and we are off to a great start! Last school year, we began the school-wide implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) for students in grade K-8<sup>th</sup>. PBIS is a proactive system approach to establishing the behavioral supports and social culture for all students so that they achieve social, emotional and academic success.

PBIS is not a program; It is a belief system that supports staff in teaching and promoting positive behavior in all students. It aligns with our belief in creating an environment where everyone feels welcome, promotes unity, and increases learning. When I think of PBIS, I think of perseverance: Sticking to a purpose; never giving up what one has set out to do. When someone demonstrates perseverance, that person is diligent, with the inner strength and determination to pursue goals and hopes.

There is a role for everyone to play in this real life scenario. We here at school have our part; the students' role involves coming to school with an attitude for learning, an excitement to delve deeper, a desire and anticipation to explore, an attentive and alert mind to be instructed and an awareness of those around them. As parents, you are the breeding ground for greatness. All soil is not alike, yet there is a common denominator for growth of any plant, not the sole denominator, but a common denominator...good soil. For a parent, the soil that grows a child may consist of several nutrients that play a factor in their growth, both physical as well as educational. Parents can identify strengths in their child's character and help to cultivate, take root and grow in the direction of adulthood. Creating an atmosphere at home for success in school, could look like having your student at school on time, committing to having your child in bed at a decent hour, involving them in social and recreational activities, taking part in helping out in your student's class or at least at the school in some capacity. There is simply no substitute for parents, who form a loving and supportive circle around their children, by both of what you say and how you live. We must not only help students become literate and well informed, but we must also help students develop the capacity to live responsibly and to be able to judge wisely in the matters of life and conduct. Here, at Orca, we can reinforce those universal values we all cherish and in which we hope our students will demonstrate when we are not around. We want them to be respectful, honest, caring, kind, and tolerant in their everyday lives. We want them to have character traits that will enable them to be successful in life – in school, in the community and in society as a whole. Tonie



**Donte Felder, Head Teacher**

Greetings Orca Community,

Last week I mentioned that there would be learning/observational walks happening at our school this year. On October 12, at 10 am, I will host the first observational walk. We will have a team comprised of staff, parents, and students. After each team completes their walk-through, they will have time to reflect and discuss their observations with the whole group.

Please let me know if you are interested in participating in the first observational walk. It is a two-hour time commitment.



**Ian Reid Safety News**



Things have been going very smoothly so far this year. As you know, parking spaces are limited and we are working on a solution to control traffic before and after school so that our students are safe.

I want to say "Thank you!" to everyone for making before school drop-off and after school pick-up safer and smoother. I really appreciate your efforts to not park in the middle of the street and in the crosswalks. I also want to give a *Shout Out* to those of you who come to me personally with your concerns. It makes it much easier to handle the problem promptly and efficiently. It is always our goal that when problems arise, we solve them quickly.

We are moving the needle forward at Orca K-8. Let us continue to build on that progress.

## **Parent Volunteers, Cynthia Rainwater**

We are always so grateful to have parents come into the building and volunteer. It serves as extra hands, extra eyes and extra help in classrooms, outside on the playground and on field trips. It is important for the safety of all, students, parents and staff that everyone that would like to volunteer fills out a Volunteer Background form. The forms are completed annually and are located on the Seattle Public School website under Get Involved. Some parents have already turned in forms for upcoming field trips, but if you want to chaperone on an overnight field trip, you will not only have to fill out the form, you must complete an Adult Sexual Misconduct Prevention video. All paperwork has to be turned into the main office before participation as a volunteer. Background checks are completed through the Washington State Patrol. Make sure you present a copy of your driver's license or passport attached to your paperwork. **Please have paperwork in the office, two weeks before a field trip.** Again, thank you so very much for volunteering here at Orca.

Cynthia



## **Krista Marceron, Parent Volunteer Coordinator**

A special thanks to all the families that attended the Back to School BBQ! It was a fantastic turn out despite the rain. Thank you for all the yummy side dishes and desserts. Thanks to all the volunteers that set up, grilled our delicious dinner, and helped clean up. During the day we had students that came forward during their recess to help with set up, table setting, and poster making. It was truly a beautiful representation of our Orca K-8 community serving together to make our gathering great!

If you didn't get a chance to view our Volunteer Opportunities Corner in the cafeteria please check it out when you are able. It will remain in the cafeteria for Curriculum Night, Wednesday, September 27th. After that it will be posted in the hallway on the 2nd floor.

## **Counseling Corner**

One of the many aspects of a Comprehensive School Counseling Program is that it includes guidance on college and career readiness. Middle School students have a fantastic opportunity to sign up for a college scholarship!



### **What is the College Bound Scholarship?**

The scholarship is an early commitment of state financial aid to eligible students who sign up in middle school and fulfill the College Bound pledge. The program is administered by the Washington Student Achievement Council.

### **What is the Pledge?**

- College Bound students promise to:
- Graduate from a Washington State high school or home school with a cumulative 2.0 GPA or higher
- Not be convicted of a felony
- Apply to an eligible college and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WAFSA) as soon after October 1 as possible in your senior year of high school.

### **Am I Eligible?**

- Apply if you are in 7th or 8th grade and meet one of the following requirements:
- Your family meets the income
- Requirements in the chart below.
- You are in foster care or a dependent of the state.
- Your family receive basic food or TANF benefits

### **How do I apply?**

Check with your counselor or go online at [www.collegebound.wa.gov](http://www.collegebound.wa.gov)

### **Is there a deadline?**

Yes! You must apply by June 30 at the end of your 8th grade year.

### **What happens next?**

Once you have submitted a complete application, you will receive a College Bound certificate in the mail. The program will send scholarship updates to the email address you list on your application.

### **How will I receive the Scholarship?**

- File the FAFSA or WASFA in your senior year and every year in college to determine income eligibility.
- Fulfill the scholarship pledge requirements.
- Be accepted to an eligible college.
- Be a US citizen or eligible non-citizen, or have DACA status.

For more information contact Ms. McCullough:  
[ecmccullough@seattleschools.org](mailto:ecmccullough@seattleschools.org) or 206-252-6883

## 5th GRADE TEAM

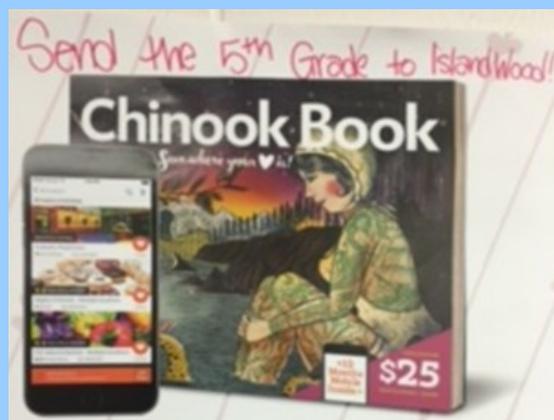
*We need your support!*



**Ms. Georgi**

**Mr. Zimmerman**

Help support our 5<sup>th</sup> graders in reaching their fundraising goal of \$1000 by purchasing a **Chinook Book**. Money raised will help send our students to Island Wood environmental program on Bainbridge Island. The books are filled with coupons to local and sustainable businesses, grocers, family attractions, and more. Coupon books can be purchased from any 5<sup>th</sup> grade student, teacher (Ms. Georgi and Mr. Zimmerman), or stop by room 201 or 203. The Books are \$25 and come with the mobile app. Apps can be purchased separately from the book for \$15 by using this link: <https://chinook.co/orcak8>



**Thank you for the support!!”**

## **Curriculum Night, Wednesday, September 27th**

**5:15-5:30pm** - Meet Orca Staff and PTSA members in the cafeteria

**5:30-6:15pm** - Elementary: Parents can go to their student's classroom

**6:15-7:30** - Middle School: Parents will meet in the Library

**Principal**—Tonie Talbert

**Office Manager**—Cynthia Rainwater

**Office Assistant**— Ian Reid

**Head Teacher**—Donte Felder

**Counselor**—Erin McCullough

### **Kindergarten**

Marletta Iwasyk, Room 104

Jim McCullough, Room 105

### **2nd Grade**

Jacqueline Runnels, Room 209

Supaydah Sanh, Room 210

### **4th Grade**

Lissa Munger, Room 205

Krystal Smith, Room 207

### **Middle School Teachers**

Aimee Hall, Math, Room 305

Jeanetta Murray, Lang. Arts, Room 306

Zelda Padmanabhan, Science, Room 308

### **1st Grade**

Karen Deeter, Room 211

Abby Loux, Room 208

### **3rd Grade**

Phi Ho Le, Room 204

Krista Brown, Room 206

### **5th Grade**

Joe Zimmerman, Room 205

Brianna Georgi, Room 201

Tafuta Fundisha-Bey, Social Studies, Room 307

Allison Irvine, Language Arts, Room 307

Michelle Herrmann, Math Spec., Room 311

### **Special Education Teachers**

Kati Gratz, Middle School, Room 101

Jared Surbaugh, Room 309

Jennifer Lyle, Elementary, Room 102

### **Instructional Assistants**

Khadijo Abdirahman, Room 101

Tania Yowson, Room 102

Renee Shields, Room 102

Jamal Nur, ELL, Room 310

### **Specialists/Enrichment/Support Teachers**

Tracy Appleyard, Librarian,/ELL, Library

Erin Jordan-Rial, K-8 Music, Stage

Cris Sherman, Instrumental Music, Annex

Stacy Stark, K-8 Art, Room 303

Rebekah Binns, Elementary Math, Room 310 (on leave)

Lillie Rainwater, Elementary Reading, Room 310

### **Support Staff**

Marsha Burnworth, Nurse

Silvia Vidal Zarate, Lunchroom Manager

Amanuel Gebreyesus, Custodian

Carmen Harris, Lunchroom Supervisor

Tanya Dang, Playground Supervisor

Linda Dodgson, Nurse

Anthony Warner, Garden Coordinator

Joe Chaten, Custodian

Lori Hurd, Playground Supervisor

Krista Marceron, Parent Volunteer Coordinator

## News from Jared Surbaugh

Dear Guardians of Orca Middle School Ultimate Players,

We look forward to establishing an Orca Co-Ed (boys and girls) Middle School Ultimate Frisbee team this 2017-18 school year, and hope it grows in years to come. Practices will be held on Mondays and Fridays (beginning Sept 25, 2017) on Orca's playfield (behind the school) from 3:35 to 5:00pm with Ms. Harris, from Orca's staff. Rain may at times force our team to play under the outside pavilion or indoors, if staff is still in the building.

Ms. Harris is looking forward to coaching Ultimate, which is a unique sport at the Middle School level for several reasons. Ultimate Frisbee games are refereed/officiated by the student athletes of each team. Ultimate games also end with two scores, a game score and a "spirit score." Players from each team determine the spirit score based on the level of sportsmanship-sportswomanship each team shows. Each game is 7 on 7 and 3 players on each team must be female. It should also be mentioned that Ultimate is a sport which can help build fundamental skills used in other sports, such as basketball, soccer, and football.

Orca's first game this season will be at Ingraham High School against the Madison Bulldogs on Sept 30, 2017. We have players on the squad who are experienced with this sport. We will order a bus and notify players in written form if a bus is able to pick student athletes up at and return to Orca K-8 on 9/30/17. We will send the rest of the schedule out to families as we receive it.

**Players must have completed a "sports physical" from a licensed medical physician (your family doctor is fine) in order to play.** The physical from the doctor should tell us if the athlete is able to play with or without restrictions. A sports physical is good for 2 years, so students may already have one on file at Orca or at your physician's office.

Please e-mail Jared at [jrsurbaugh@seattleschools.org](mailto:jrsurbaugh@seattleschools.org) for questions related to physicals.

Thank you,

Orca K-8 Middle School Athletics

### **Orca Ultimate: Game 1**

**ORCA 6th, 7th, & 8th grades vs Madison Bulldogs Gold C**

September 30, 2017. 12:30 PM @ [Ingraham HS](#)

1819 N 135th St  
Seattle, WA



# September 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>Curriculum Night</b> <b>Wednesday, September 27th</b>  <b>Orca T-shirts for Sale! \$15</b>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			<b>First Day of School</b>			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			<b>Early Dismissal 2:10pm</b>			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<b>BLT MEETING</b>	<b>All School Bar-B-Q 5-7pm</b>	<b>Early Dismissal 2:10pm</b>			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		<b>Inclusion Meeting 6:30pm Library</b>	<b>Early Dismissal 2:10</b>  <b>Curriculum Night</b>			