

## It is good to be back in school in-person *full time five days a week!*

Starting school this fall has been more notable than previous years because after 18 months of remote and hybrid learning, we are back in school in-person five days a week. We still provide an opportunity for remote learning for students in grades K-12 through the Arlington Online Program. We continue to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and implement the safety protocols outlined by the Department of Health and monitor health and safety needs frequently.

It is very exciting to see how happy our students are to be engaged in learning and other activities such as participating in the Arlington High School Homecoming events, enjoying the outdoor classroom at Haller, practicing and preparing for the upcoming drama, "All in the Timing," learning about letter names and sounds at Kent Prairie or participating in a class meeting at Presidents.

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Again, this year, we are implementing "Voices Opportunities" to hear feedback from our students, staff, families and community members. During these opportunities, we hear about what is working well in our schools, what needs improving, potential ideas and/or suggestions and where we want the district to be in five years. These listening opportunities are extremely valuable!

During a recent "Student Voices" opportunity with fifth grade students at Kent Prairie, some of the feedback students shared with us includes:

### ***Working well at my school and I love about my school –***

- Everyone is nice, polite and have good manners
- We solve problems together
- Teachers make learning fun for us by telling interesting stories

### ***Needs improving and makes it hard to learn –***

- Stops and pauses during instruction because of disruptions
- Clearer explanations to understand the next steps
- Others talking in class

### ***Suggestions –***

- Longer recesses because, "Recess is a great time for kids to nurture creativity while providing kids an opportunity to make their own decisions about what and how to play."
- Music class needs more money because, "Musical training helps develop languages..."
- Art needs more money because, "Art is an important contributor to our daily life."

### ***In the next five years, I would like to see –***

- Swings
- More recess
- Adding bathrooms to the portables
- Dog houses for stray dogs
- More fundraisers to help add more playground equipment/toys
- Better pay for teachers

I love the honest and thoughtful feedback from our students.

Other "Voices Opportunities" this year will include:

- Community Voices for parents, community members and alumni
- Staff Virtual Voices in a virtual survey format which is available for all staff 24/7

It takes ALL of our voices and actions to support the academic and social emotional learning needs of our students. I am so proud of the joint efforts taking place in our schools and across our community to support learning at high levels for EACH student.

Thank you!



Dr. Chrys Sweeting, Superintendent





Arlington community members can receive

## *Free School Messenger notifications during emergencies*

Would you like to be alerted of school-related emergencies that might impact the community? During emergencies and other incidents, Arlington Public Schools sends notifications like phone calls, emails and text messages to our families. If an emergency has the potential to impact the community, these notifications are expanded to include community members.

If you don't have a child in Arlington Public Schools and would like to receive these free notifications, please visit School Messenger at the following website address: <https://asp.schoolmessenger.com/arlingtonsd16/subscriber/>

You can specify whether you want to receive phone calls, emails, text messages or all three. You will need to log in periodically to keep your account active.

*Arlington community members cheered on Arlington High School students during their homecoming parade on Oct. 22!*

## *Receive school closure information through FlashAlert*

Arlington Public Schools uses FlashAlert Newswire to communicate school closure information due to bad weather, hazardous road conditions or other emergencies to local media sources. Parents, students, staff and community members can register up to three email addresses and/or cell phone numbers in a single account and receive information at the same time as the news media. A free iPhone/Android app, FlashAlert Messenger, is also available and allows families and the public to receive emergency messages. As a subscriber, you can also view all local emergency items and news releases on [FlashAlertNewsire.net](http://FlashAlertNewsire.net).

Sign up for free today at [www.flashalert.net/signup.html](http://www.flashalert.net/signup.html)





# Use the SafeSchools Tipline to report incidents

Safety is one of our district's top priorities. The district utilizes SafeSchools Alert, a tip reporting service that allows students, staff, families and community members to submit safety concerns to our administration in five different ways:

1. App: Search for "SafeSchools Alert" in the App Store to download for free
2. Phone: 844.241.1346
3. Text: Text your tip to 844.241.1346
4. Email: 1348@alert1.us
5. Web: <http://1348.alert1.us>

On the front of the district website and all school websites, you can access the tipline by going to the "Quick Links" tab on right and scroll down to "Reporting on the SafeSchools Tipline."

You and your child can easily report tips on bullying, harassment, drugs, vandalism, threats of violence, or any safety issue you're concerned about through SafeSchools Alert. When you submit a tip, be sure to use our district's identification code (1348) in your communication. Please call 911 if there is an immediate threat.

Every SafeSchools Alert tip that is received by our district is immediately logged in the system and our administration is notified so that they can investigate and take appropriate action. Tips may also be submitted anonymously if you prefer.

## SENIOR CITIZENS! COME SUPPORT THE EAGLES!

Our schools receive tremendous support from our community. We invite Arlington community members 65 and older to become members of our Golden Eagles Club.

Golden Eagles Club membership provides senior citizens with an opportunity to receive free or reduced admission to many of our Arlington Public Schools events, including home sports events and plays. The card cannot be used for athletic playoff games or for any state-sponsored athletic events even if they are hosted by Arlington Public Schools. Golden Eagles Club Membership is open to all community members within the boundaries of Arlington Public Schools who are 65 or older. Membership in the Golden Eagles Club is offered by Arlington Public Schools in appreciation for the support senior citizens provide to Arlington schools. Please contact the Public Information Office at 360-618-6217 to receive an application.

# See something? Say something! Report it on the SafeSchools Tipline!

## EASY WAYS TO REPORT



Visit the website  
[asd.wa.safeschoolsalert.com](http://asd.wa.safeschoolsalert.com)



Call to report your tip  
**844.241.1346**



Email your Tip to  
**1348@alert1.us**



Text your Tip to  
**844.241.1346**

## REPORT ON:

- **Bullying**  
- **Intimidation**

- **Harassment**  
- **Weapons**

- **Drugs**  
- **Threats**



ECRWSS Postal Customer

## Grant helps fund outdoor classroom at Haller Middle School

A new outdoor classroom at Haller Middle School is allowing students to take a mask break and interact with each other in a unique learning setting. Current Department of Health guidance allows students to remove facial coverings when they're outside.

Last year, Haller Science Teacher – Rachel Harrington – applied for and received a \$5,000 Ellison Foundation grant. The grant paid for a gazebo, shed and learning materials for the outdoor classroom. The district added a concrete pad and fencing to enclose the area.

“I think it’s important to branch outside the four walls of the classroom and allow students to experience a different learning environment where they can work on projects with their classmates,” said Harrington. “When we were learning virtually, it was very challenging for students to interact with each other. Socialization is such a big part of learning and this setting really allows for that.”

All classes at Haller can utilize the outdoor classroom and students seem to really enjoy the unique classroom.

“I wasn’t a huge fan of Zoom classes last year,” said sixth grader Logan Cardoso. “I really like this outdoor classroom. It’s a great way to talk with friends while working on projects.”



Arlington Public Schools provides equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The District will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request to individuals with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

TITLE IX OFFICER AND COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR  
Mr. Eric DeJong  
Executive Director, Human Resources  
315 N French Ave.  
Arlington, WA 98223  
360.618.6212  
edejong@asd.wednet.edu

SECTION 504 COORDINATOR  
Mr. Brian Long  
Director of College and Career Readiness  
315 N French Ave.  
Arlington, WA 98223  
360.618.6229  
blong@asd.wednet.edu