

DECEMBER 8, 2015

ELMHURST NEWS

**ELMHURST ELEMENTARY, 420 133RD ST EAST TACOMA, WA 98445
(253) 298-3500**

Free Developmental Screening for preschoolers!

The next Child Find screening for children 3 to 5 years old will be **January 13th**. The purpose of the screening is to determine if your child is in need of special education services. If your family is living in a temporary situation you may contact the district where you are staying to attend a screening.

Please call Tricia at 253-298-4675 to schedule an appointment.

Birth to Three Screenings

Families of children below age 3 who have concerns about their child's development can call our district Family Resource Coordinator, Lori Holbrook, at 253-298-4670 to see if your child qualifies for services.

Pruebas de Desarrollo Gratuito para Preescolares!

Pruebas gratuitas para niños y niñas de 3 a 5 años que que viven en el Distrito Escolar de Franklin Pierce proveídas por medio del programa de Child Find. La próxima prueba de Child Find esta programada para **13 de Enero**. El propósito de las pruebas es para determinar si su niño(a) esta en la necesidad de usar servicios especiales de educación. Si su familia esta viviendo en una sitacion temporal, comuniquese con el Distrito donde usted esta asistiendo, para que atienda una revision/screenining. Por favor llame a Tricia 253-298-4675 para que pueda concertar una cita.

Pruebas de Natal a Tres

Las Familias de los niño(a)s de 3 años para abajo que tengan concernimientos acerca del desarrollo de sus niños pueden llamar a nuestra Coordinadora de Recursos del Distrito, Lori Holbrook, al 253-298-4670.

Upcoming Events

Franklin Pierce Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, 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 in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to Dr. Shaun Carey, Compliance Coordinator for State and Civil Rights Laws; Wendy Malich, Title IX Officer; or William Rasplica, 504/ADA Coordinator at 315 129th ST S, Tacoma, WA 98444-5099 or at (253)298-3000.

December 9	Early Release 2:35
December 16	Early Release 2:35
December 17	4th/5th Concert 6:30
December 21-January 1	No School
January 6	Early Release 2:35
January 13	Early Release 2:35
January 18	No School

Elmhurst Eagles SOAR!

Here is the Wheel Deal-

Dear Parents-

Everyday within the Franklin Pierce School District, over 4,100 students step onto a yellow school bus to start their day. They sit with their friends, share stories of life at home or at school, and create memories of growing up in today's world. The ride might be as short as a few minutes, or as long as an hour, but it is an important part of their world.

I read where over 23 million students take the bus to school, nationwide, and statistics show that it is the safest way to get to school. It is safer than the parent's car, the taxi or even a charter bus. The reasons for this are many, but include the annual training every bus driver receives, the care and maintenance of the bus itself by our mechanics, and the high visibility and markings on the bus. Special laws protect the space around a bus when it stops at the curb, and the predictable times when buses are moving around the community all present a focus for the other drivers to notice.

There are several ideas that will increase the safety for all that I would like to suggest, ideas that come from both practical experience and from such organizations as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Every month, I meet with fellow directors from other districts, and every meeting includes some discussion about student safety. Here are some of those ideas that I have heard that can make all the difference in the world for your "precious cargo":

Try to get to the bus stop a few minutes early, so that there is not a rush and the possibility of dashing across the street.

A parent, if possible, should wait at the stop with the youngest of our children. We can watch for each other's well-being.

Staying in the "safe zone" at the stop allows the driver to see the students clearly as it approaches, especially in the darker mornings and afternoons.

Boarding the bus should be in single file, with no pushing or loud noises. The driver may wish to give specific directions.

Remember to tell your child not to pick up something that they dropped while the bus approaches. Wait for the bus to come to a stop and then tell the driver of the need to reach down within the danger zone.

Students need to be mindful of their backpack straps when they board or depart, as these can become caught on handles and other fixtures on the bus.

Parents should wait for the bus to leave the bus stop before they start to walk back to their homes. There are too many blind spots with a large bus blocking the view.

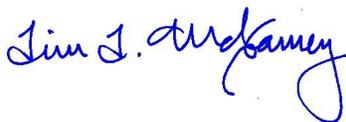
Once a child departs the bus, remember to get into the safe zone area by taking five giant steps away from the door and,

Watch for the driver to give you the sign to safely cross the street. Only the driver can see cars approaching from the sides. Respecting the driver's authority helps all to be safe.

Following our published rules for bus behavior while riding can also increase the safety for all. These guidelines for success are found at every school site, and are printed for you and available by contacting our office.

Take the time to speak to your children about bus safety, and remember, these are the times to create happy friendships and memories, all while riding the big yellow bus!

Sincerely,



Tim T. McKamey, FPSD Transportation Director