



August 9, 2017

Hello IDEA Families,

We look forward to the 2017-2018 school, welcoming back our inaugural class of 2020 and welcoming our new class of 2021! We are so excited to have you join us! Below, please find information about the upcoming school year. Attached is a packing list for camp, directions for dropping your student off on August 30 for camp and a map of bus pickup options for the school year.

**ALL SCHOOL RETREAT** We would like to remind you that the All-School Retreat is Wednesday August 30<sup>th</sup> to Friday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at Black Lake Camp in Olympia. Please meet at FOSS HIGH SCHOOL (2112 South Tyler Street) on Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am packed and ready to head to the overnight retreat. Please note that the retreat fee is due in full by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Steve Kevlin our office manager at (253) 571-2555 with questions. School pictures will be taken at the retreat. A packing list for the retreat and map of Foss High School will be included with schedules and bus routes in a separate packet in mid-August. Included is a map for drop-off and a packing list for camp.

**FIRST DAY** The first day of fall semester classes is Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Please note that our school hours will be from 8:15am to 3:30pm Monday to Thursday, and 10:30am to 3:30pm Fridays. The school building will be open for students 45 minutes before school each day.

**CLASS SCHEDULES** We will be sending home class schedules for your student next week. If there are any questions once you receive your schedule, please contact Steve at 253-571-2555.

**MENTOR GROUP** Your student will be in a mentor group with both Freshman and Sophomores this year. Your students mentor is your primary source of contact for anything regarding grades, help with school work, student-led conferences, etc. Mentor group meets on Friday mornings and *this year we've added a daily 20-minute mentor group right after lunch to give students daily check-ins with their mentor.*

**BELL SCHEDULE**

Time	Mon-Thurs Schedule	Time	Friday Schedule
8:15-9:45	1 <sup>st</sup> Period or 5 <sup>th</sup> Period	10:30-12:30	Mentor-Project Group
9:55-11:25	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period or 6 <sup>th</sup> Period		
11:25-11:55	LUNCH	12:30-1:30	LUNCH
11:55-12:15	Daily Mentor Group	1:30-3:30	A&A
12:20-1:50	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period or 7 <sup>th</sup> Period		
2:00 – 3:30	4 <sup>th</sup> Period or 8 <sup>th</sup> Period		

**LUNCH OPTIONS** IDEA will be a closed campus in the first two years. **Students will not be allowed to leave campus alone until after their sophomore year.** There will be box lunches provided in the 2016-2017 school year available for purchase or to families who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Boxed breakfast will also be available in the mornings before school.

**TRANSPORTATION** Students will be given an ORCA card to ride public transportation at the all-school retreat in August. There are 2 bus lines that come to IDEA

- 45 – This bus comes once an hour and drops students off at 64<sup>th</sup> and Yakima, 2 blocks from the school. It will drop students off in the morning at approximately 7:26.
- 1 – This bus comes every 20 minutes and drops students off at 64<sup>th</sup> and Pacific, 6 blocks from the school.
- In addition, there will be pickups on yellow school busses at 3 locations from around Tacoma.
  - Tacoma Mall Transit Center
  - Skyline Elementary (West Tacoma)
  - 10<sup>th</sup> and Commerce (Downtown)
- Students coming from NE Tacoma will be able to take the SAMI/SOTA bus from Browns Point Elementary to the 10<sup>th</sup> and Commerce Drop-off where they can transfer to the IDEA bus.

Included is a map of the drop off locations. Exact times and locations will be provided to students at camp.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES** Please provide the following supplies for your use this school year.

- 4-6 composition or spiral notebooks
- 3-ring notebook
- Notebook paper
- Graphing Paper
- Pens (red & black)
- Pencils
- Scientific or Graphing Calculator (or a smartphone or tablet with a graphing calculator app)
- Protective sheet covers (for best works portfolio)
- USB Jump Drive (16 GB or larger preferred)
- A backpack – We will not have lockers.

**A&A** Academics and Application is a Friday afternoon class that allows students to go in depth into one area of study that interests them throughout the year. Students will be given a full list of A&A classes and class descriptions during the first Friday mentor group of the school year and will enroll then. Some classes will include skateboarding, animation, drone photography, structural engineering, etc.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions at (253) 571-2555. Our main office will be open from 7:30 to 4:30 during the school year. The location is on the main floor just to the right of the rear entrance to the building.

Sincerely,

Zach Varnell  
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Industrial Design, Engineering and the Arts School  
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