



Principal Message

Hello Lowell Parents;

We are off to a great start this year at Lowell and thank you for helping the beginning of school to be a smooth and safe one. I appreciate your phone calls and emails and always have an open door if you need information or have a concern, please stop by.

This year, we're sending parent communication home in several different ways hoping that we can connect with all of our Lowell families. We are using our phone message system every Monday evening at 7:00pm where a recorded message will come to your primary home phone number with updates about school and upcoming events. We will use our school website to advertise school wide events and showcase activities happening in our classrooms. We will also use Peachjar which has flyers and memos that you can access on our website to get more information about after school activities including Metro Parks, YMCA, Lowell PTA, enrichment, computer coding, foreign language and other programs at Lowell.

I would like to invite you to a principal "snack chat" on Wednesday, October 18th at 3:30 in the library. These monthly snack chats will highlight school wide events that you can hear more about including our school wide GATE program which includes enrichment and Project Based Learning lessons in every Lowell classroom. Our PTA will also be at the meeting on October 18th to share more information about school events they sponsor such as our carnival on October 26th from 6:00-8:00pm. PTA will also talk about their auction that is held every other year and is scheduled for May 5th. The auction is a wonderful event that includes dinner, a live and silent auction and art projects from every classroom at Lowell are included in the auction. I hope you will come to the snack chat on the 18th for a drink and a snack to hear more about Lowell's GATE program and also about our amazing PTA.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs. Rossman, 571-7190

Book Fair - October 23rd - 26th

We need 2 volunteers per class to help with our book fair this year! Volunteers are an important piece in keeping our book fair running smoothly. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our Book Fair Chair:

Pier Walken

Email: pierypoo@hotmail.com

Call/Text: 425-737-2104

Laptops2Kids

Tacoma students can apply for a laptop by submitting an application form on the website www.tacomaschools.org/laptops2kids. You can access the website from any computer, including computer kiosks in school offices.



DATES TO REMEMBER

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| 3 | PTA Mtg. 6:30pm |
| 4 | Walk to School Day |
| 6 | Fall Picture Day |
| 9 | Vision & Hearing Screening |
| 9-13 | Discover U Week |
| 12 | College Day |
| 18 | Snack Chat - Library w/ Mrs. Rossman
3:30 - 4:00pm |
| 20 | Honored Students
2:45 - 3:30pm |
| 23-26 | Book Fair - Library |
| 26 | Carnival 6-8pm |
| 26 & 27 | NO SCHOOL for Kindergarten |
| 27 | NO SCHOOL
Staff Data Day |

Peachjar

The District has a partnership with Peachjar to distribute school-approved flyers to parents online. Peachjar saves our school tons of paper, reduces copy costs and saves on all the paperwork coming home to parents.

Here's how it works for Parents:

Peachjar emails school flyers directly to you and posts them online on our own Peachjar webpage. We just need your email address in the student system.

You can also visit the Lowell website at lowellleopards.org and click the Peachjar link in the footer under "Quick Links". You will be able to find all of the flyers submitted through Peachjar.

VOLUNTEER

We need 2 – 3 volunteers to assist us with Picture Day on October 6th.



Discover U Day – Thursday, October 12th

Discover U Day is an opportunity for every Tacoma student to:

- Think about their future
- Increase college knowledge
- Participate in college or career awareness activities

***College gear is encouraged
on October 12th!!!***

Hello and Happy Fall from *Prime Time Extended Learning Center*

As we continue to explore what "Quality" looks like in Out of School Time for Elementary Students, let's talk about adult to student ratio. As a licensed Center, the requirement by the State is 1 adult for every 15 students. Ideally, the number would be lower, such as 1 to 10. Just like smaller class size shows great benefit to students at school, so does a low ratio of students to adults in child care.

Here's why-

When adults have less students they develop deeper connections and relationships with students, have the ability to respond to individual needs and give each student the attention they need, offer better guidance and mentoring, have more interactions with each student, and facilitate deeper learning. Students have more opportunities to be heard, engage with adults in meaningful conversations, feel supported, safe, and valued, and academic development is enhanced. It also creates a calmer environment to support engagement. In addition, the adults are more sensitive, responsive, and positive, and experience greater job satisfaction which leads to less staff turnover. But we will save that for another newsletter.

When the ratio is high, interactions between adults and students is focused on commands, prohibitions, corrections, and generally more punitive in nature.

The gist, less students per adult has positive impacts on student's well-being, and their overall development and experience at child care, and is a great indicator for parents on the level of quality of the child care program.

Enjoy the changing season and see you all in November as we continue to explore "Quality" in child care.

Regards-
Gemma Stephani, Director and the PT Staff