



SACAJAWEA ELEMENTARY

700 NE 112th Street, Vancouver, WA 98685

Phone: 360-313-2750 Fax: 360-313-2751

Travis Bond, Principal Trina Irons, Secretary Cheryl Sawyer, Clerk

November 15, 2013

Dear Families,

We know that when you send your students to school each day you entrust us with your most precious commodity, your child. We take this responsibility very seriously. As such, I'd like to take this opportunity to share on this topic. Please be ready to show ID when you come into the school or come to sign out your children for appointments, etc., and please ask this of those who will be picking up your children. Our goal (for the security of our kids) is to know everyone who is in our building by face and name. Once we know you, we won't ask any more. Until that time, we cannot afford to make even one mistake. Thank you for having your ID ready. Also, if you are volunteering please don't forget to sign in and to get a visitor badge.

If you know you will need to pick up your child early for an appointment, **please attempt to be here 15 minutes or more before school is out.** At the end of the day over 400 students and more than 60 staff members are in motion with coats/backpacks, lining up, moving to stations, etc. Getting a class of 24 kindergarteners prepared and out the door takes some doing and even a simple phone call to the room requesting a student be excused can take the teacher's eye off the security of the other children. The other issue, of course, is that the last minutes of school are precious review time of the day's learning; if appointments can be made later, that's even better.

We would also ask that if you are requesting your child leave early simply because you happened to arrive early, that you wait until day's end to collect him/her. Being here at the end of the day is just as important for children as being here on time and ready to learn at the beginning of the day. With teachers and parents both emphasizing this with students, we work together toward the student's success. Thank you for your support. Here's to a full day of learning today and every day!

Your partner in learning,
Travis Bond

Sacajawea School staff strives to achieve the highest potential of its students and staff by fostering a positive learning environment. We promote dignity, compassion and self-worth in each individual.

Our students are empowered with skills necessary to become responsible, contributing citizens and lifelong learners.

~ Sacajawea Mission Statement ~

Clip and Save.....

Skyhawk Calendar

November:

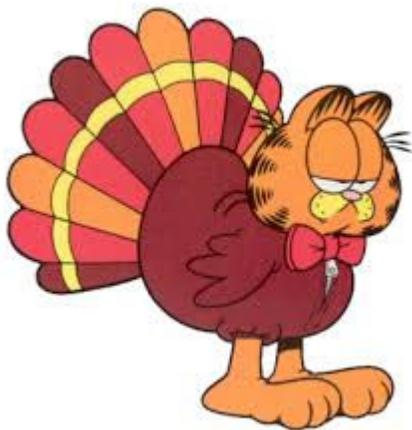
- 18 - 1 Hr. Early Release
- 25 - 1 Hr. Early Release
- 21 - Thanksgiving Lunch
- 27, 28, 29 - No School, Thanksgiving Break

December:

- 9 - 1 Hr. Early Release
- 11 - PTA Board Mtg. 3:20-4:20pm
- 13 - Report Cards sent home
- 23-Jan. 3 - Winter Break

January:

- 6 - School Resumes
- 8 - PTA General Mtg. 6-7pm
- 13 - 1 Hr. Early Release
- 20 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday No School
- 24 - Family Movie Night 6:30-8:30pm
- 27 - 1 Hr. Early Release
- 29 - Semester Break, No School



A Fun Thanksgiving Weekend Activity

The 18th Annual **Vancouver Rotary Foundation's Festival of Trees** will be held at the Vancouver Hilton, 301 W 6th St., November 29-December 1. In addition to viewing the beautifully decorated trees, the family-friendly activities include entertainment, a scavenger hunt, pictures with Santa, the tree lighting at Esther Short Park and concerts. The Festival of Trees is the chief fundraiser for the Vancouver Rotary Foundation, which supports community projects and scholarships. For a full schedule and information, visit www.rotaryfestivaloftrees.org or call 360-750-0409.

Last Chance Holiday Bazaar

FVHS Booster Club is hosting a Holiday Bazaar on December 14, 2013 at Fort from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is your chance to shop for those last minute gifts you might need, or to start your shopping! Come by and visit the 40 plus vendors that will be at Fort Vancouver High School showing off their products for you to purchase. Visit with Santa, listen to some great music, and shop. What could be better! For vendor information contact Candaice at 360-518-0561 or Heidi at 503-459-2227.

Swim Lessons @JPCC

Tuesday/Thursday Lessons, next session starts: November 19th.
Saturday Lessons, next session starts: November 30th.



Propstra Friday lessons:

Stroke Improvement & Adult Beginner, session starts November 15th.
For more information on all lessons visit www.vansd.org under the Events headline.

Saturday Adventure Club @JPCC

Ages: 6-13
Pilgrims' Potluck: November 23
Enchanted Elves Workshop: December 14
More information on JPCC web site under the "Community" tab



Bright Lights Bazaar @JPCC

November 30th, 9:00-4:00 p.m.
More information, and registration for vendors, on JPCC web site under the "Community" tab

Lifeguard Class

December 5-8th, 2013
Shallow water certification, \$200.00
Minimum age for class is 15 years old, 16 years old to be hired by the District.
Register at JPCC.



Swim Schedules

Jim Parsley Community Center is open Friday-Sunday for public swims.
Propstra Aquatic Center is open Monday-Friday for public swims.
Keep an eye out for Winter Break schedules.
See web sites under "Community" tab on www.vansd.org for schedules & events.

Join Superintendent Steve Webb on Friday, Dec. 6, as he showcases dynamic learning opportunities at Jason Lee Middle School and Fruit Valley Community Learning Center. Patron tours are the best way to find out what's new in your school district.

Both schools will showcase applications of Vancouver Public Schools' Design II Strategic Plan and the district's commitment to preparing students for college, careers and life. The tour of Jason Lee will feature middle-school students increasing their proficiency in math and science in an academically challenging environment that includes Honors classes. Fruit Valley Community Learning Center will highlight its Family-Community Resource Center, community partnerships at work and how the full-day kindergarten program impacts its youngest learners.

The tour will begin and end at the Bates Center for Educational Leadership, 2921 Falk Rd. The tour starts at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at noon. Afterward, a delicious luncheon prepared by students in the district's award-winning culinary arts program will be provided for \$4. Guests also will enjoy a student musical performance.

Everyone is welcome, so please invite co-workers, friends, neighbors and family members. To register for a tour, go to www.vansd.org. Click on the "Community" tab, and then choose "Patron Tours" from the dropdown menu. Or contact Sue Knable at 313-4720 or susan.knable@vansd.org. Space is limited, so sign up today.

We hope to see you on Dec. 6!



Late Arrivals

We are noticing a significant amount of children arriving late. Regular and prompt school attendance is important for a child to experience success in school. Tardiness is difficult for the entire class; it is disruptive to the lesson to have a student arrive late and then need to be filled in on what was missed.

Tardy students often spend a great deal of time trying to catch up with their classmates. They miss key instruction that makes learning essential skills more challenging. Our school is open at 8:00 AM for students who wish to eat breakfast, or have recess on the playground. Otherwise, students can enter their classrooms at 8:20 AM. If students arrive at 8:30 or later, they are tardy and must come to the office for a pass.

School closure information

Please be prepared for school closures due to bad weather or other emergency situations. Depending on the circumstances, schools could be closed for one day or several days. Schools could open two hours later than usual or close earlier than scheduled.

To find out if schools are closed:



- Check "Emergency Closure Information" on the district website: www.vansd.org.
- Check the Flash Alert website: www.flashalert.net (select Portland/Vancouver area, then Clark County Schools, then Vancouver School District).
- Sign up for free FlashAlert text and/or email messages. You must renew this service each year. Both websites listed above will take you to the Emergency Messages page for Vancouver School District. Find "Emergency Alerts," click "Subscribe" and follow directions.
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see our school closure posts: www.facebook.com/VancouverPublicSchools and <https://twitter.com/VancouverSD>.
- Listen to your local radio and television stations.
- Call the School Closure Information Line at 313-1401.

If schools are closed, the main school phone numbers will allow you to connect to the School Closure Information Line.

The decision to close or delay the opening of school due to snow or icy roads usually is made early in the morning of that school day. If weather becomes threatening during the school day, schools may close early. If schools are closed, all after-school and evening school activities are canceled for that day.

Snow/ice routes may be used for some school bus routes. Families that would be impacted by altered bus routes will receive letters with detailed bus stop information. Snow/ice route information also will be sent to the schools affected and posted on school websites.

Schools in Washington State must, by law, provide 180 days of instruction each year. These days have been designated as make-up days in case scheduled school days are canceled: January 29, June 18, June 19, and June 20, 2014. If school must be closed more than four days, additional make-up days may be added.



Classroom Treats

Just a reminder that the Vancouver School Board approved a new Regulation last year which limits treats brought for classroom celebrations. Food and beverages brought to school to be shared with other students should be commercially prepared with the ingredient label intact. No homemade treats will be allowed in classrooms.