

Greetings Peter G. Schmidt Families,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We hope you had some time this summer to unplug, unwind, and relax. We are thrilled to welcome all of our Peter G. students back to a new school year of learning and growing full-time.

We are grateful to continue this journey with you as your Principal team. Over the past year and a half, we have had to readjust to our schooling format while working to build strong relationships. Our focus on relationships with families and students, will continue to be at the forefront of decision making.

As we enter this new school year, we want to let you know that our staff will be engaging in conversations around participants working together to ensure success for ALL students. We believe that every person in this building is always growing, learning, and adapting to the needs/strengths of our community of learners. Despite obstacles that may arise, we must always believe in our ability to rise above challenges and come out stronger on the other end.

Staff assignment are as follows;

Administrative Team: Kim Doughty/Principal, Heidi Center/Assistant Principal

Front Office Staff: Sylvia Raatz, Megan Woods, and Tammi Pearce

Health Team: Sherry Taylor (Health Room), Karen James (Lead Nurse), Sandy Vandenberg (Quarantine Room)

Counseling Team: Sidney Reid (K-2 Lead), **Jessica Juergens** (3-5 Lead)

K – Leann Rupke, Amy Gress, Kristi Bunda, Alison Gillett, Chad Hargrove

1st – Jenifer Shaner, Lindsey Knutzen, Grace Bigelow, Cathy Killough, Melissa Mailhot

2nd – Lauren Roberts, Kelly Merslich/**Adam Griffin**, Meghan Langford, Leah Bacon, Stephanie Spriggs

3rd – Sylvia Swasey, Holly Coty, Danielle Beamish, Jayde Richtmyre

4th – Sean Colgan, Tamara York, Erin Crabtree, Hayley Pearce, **Dexter Morton**

5th – Tara Madden, TJ Thornton, Dan Casler, Heather Siminski

Specialist: Sara Glass (Library), Heidi Seldomridge (Technology), Marie William (Music), Carmen Luce (PE), Kori Wilson (Literacy Art Lab/Intervention)

5th Grade Music Enrichment: Ben McDonald (Band)/Lisa Pearson (Orchestra)

Title/LAP Intervention: Meeka Cotey (Reading/Social Emotional), Melissa Whitson/Debbie McKee (Math)

ELL Support: Tiersa Rogers

Special Education Team: Sherri Bentley (School Psych), Jasmine Stray (K-3 Resource), Katie Gates (4-5 Resource), Mackenzie Dunphy and Michelle Iliev (Speech), Ana Wright (OT)

Super Para Team: Kim Freeby, Patricia Massie, Natalie Fillipone, Jaime Dominoski, **Emily Farden**, **Kristin Sperling**, **Katy Sharp**, Kristin Jones, **Shelia Nordquist**, **Reid Mager**, Chris Spengler, Kathryn Cholakian

Custodial Staff: Kim Ewell, James Brigham

Cafeteria Staff: Julie Uphold, Kally Ashby

****New staff noted in bold face.***

Start times and Drop Off Procedures: Due to local health guidance, we will continue to follow some of our procedures put in place last year. First, please help us to be good neighbors. The traffic flow around the school is clockwise. Cars will line up in both lines, but will stop at the crosswalk. Students will remain in cars until 8:30. At that time staff will guide you to merge forward where students exit the car in the loading/drop off zone (area marked in white). The passenger door always opens to the curb for safety reasons. Please have your student ready to exit when approaching the unloading zones. In consideration of children and adults who might be allergic and/or uncomfortable around animals, **pets are to remain off campus (No dogs during school hours).** **Students walking to school need to use the two cross walks on Dennis. Your safety is our number one priority. Students walking may not show up before 8:30 am.** There is no supervision prior to 8:30, so please plan accordingly. Finally, school begins at 8:40 a.m. Breakfast will be served to students who choose to eat at school as they enter. Help us in setting your child up for success by getting him/her to school on time, ready to learn.

Bus Arrival: Students will exit the bus at 8:30 am where they will eat breakfast in the gym if they choose to. Students will then head to class in a one way fashion.

Dismissal: School will dismiss Monday-Thursday at 3:10 and on Fridays at 1:55 pm. Students not picked up by 3:20 or 2:05 will report to the office and the parent/guardian will need to come into the office to sign the child out. The end of the day routines for pick up, students walking, or riding the bus will remain the same and are similar to drop off. (Please see Map on our website). We will stagger release again this year with the younger students exiting first. Please plan accordingly for traffic flow. If you have older students and you are at the front of the line, we will ask you to pull forward into the parking lot. Our front parking and circle zone are all one way. **Please do not enter the parking lot through the exit lanes.** If you are walking up to retrieve your child, you will be asked to wait at the flag pole. If you park in the parking lot, we will ask that you stay on the far side of the cross walk and we will assist your student across the lanes. This year, we will continue with the blue name plates for the windshield of your cars. You will be getting more information about this at SMART start conferences.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS:

General: Our programs each year are exciting and structured to ensure that all our kids continue to receive a well-rounded and challenging education. Our standards and expectations remain high! As always, our number one goal is providing our students with a quality educational experience in a safe, caring and nurturing environment. We have a dedicated staff who continue to grow through professional development and collaborative opportunities which are built into our yearly schedule. Our curricular program is aligned to the Common Core Standards.

Important DATES TO REMEMBER:

Class Lists Posted	Class Assignments through Skyward access and posted on the exterior of the building	Wednesday, August 26th	Skyward Front of PGS
Smart Start Sign Up	Sign up for your time through skyward	August 26th-September 2nd	Skyward Family Access
SMART Start Conference (K-5)	*Information to Follow by an email with a link.	Sept. 8th, 9th, and 10th	Classrooms
First School Day		Monday, September, 13th 8:40 AM	Home Classrooms

SMART Start Conferences: As we adjust to welcoming ALL kids and families back to school, we have incorporated a new system put in place for this school year. You will set up a time slot that works for you and your student through skyward access. If you are unable to attend in person, we will work to support your family with alternatives.

The purpose of the conferences:

- To continue the partnership with families and understand ways to support your student best
- Get to know students and ease them into school (while dropping off supplies and getting to see their class)
- Doing a quick assessment in Reading and Math (Allowing support to the students from Day 1)

Other Opportunities/Activities for your student:

- Spirit Wear Samples for you to pre-order with the Theme of the year “Peter G. Round-Up”
- Festive Decorations and Welcoming presence from staff
- A backdrop for families and students to take pictures

Here is how the day will work, Families will sign up for a 25 min time slot for each student. They will come in through the front door. Staff will be available for transportation information, programs, as well as the office will be open for any paperwork needed.

Families will head to their student's class for one on one time with the teacher. Upon completion, students will have an opportunity to check out a book from the library and head to the playshed/ gym for their quick screening administered by staff.

Safety Protocols: Students and staff safety is our number one priority. Here are some protocols and schedules we will be following in order to keep everyone health:

- Approved masks for students and staff will be worn when indoors or playing in groups (Mask breaks are given and masks are removed for eating)
- One grade level at a time in the cafeteria (6 ft. distance when possible)
- Social Distancing of 3 feet in class spaces and moving in halls
- Reminding families to keep students home if ill
- Continued use of extra health room for ill students while contacting families for student pick up
- Following Department of Health Pathways to Response
- Hand Hygiene will be practiced with hand sanitizer and proper hand washing
- Limited hall crossing

If you have further questions, please see the following document.

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf>

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT:

Because it is so important that teachers and families work together in making a child's school year a happy and successful one, it is hoped that you will be able to spend some time during the school year helping in the classroom or at home. Please discuss with your child's teacher, ways that will work within your schedule. School volunteers must go through district clearance. We are also seeking guidance for requirements of adults in building in lieu of DOH guidelines and state mandates. Stay tuned for more information.

PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION:

We strongly encourage all of our families to join our Parent Teacher Organization, led by our PTA Co-Presidents Katy Sharp and Madison St. John. We have been recognized as a PTA school of Excellence!! When a fundraising event surfaces please consider supporting it through donations or time as it helps support our number one priority: your children. Stay tuned for more information on when and where the meetings will take place monthly.

Please know that our doors are always open and we value the opportunity to visit with our families. Teachers are frequently available before and after school daily. Please schedule time to visit with your child's teacher should you have any questions or concerns – we want your child's educational experience with us to be top notch and that takes teamwork between home and school. You are their first teacher and we are pleased to have the opportunity to work with your family along this journey.

Thank you for your support and involvement in our school community. We are looking forward to working with your family this year as we continue to grow to greatness at Peter G. Schmidt Elementary School!

"Together we make a great TEAM".....Looking forward to working alongside you,

Kim Doughty
Principal

Heidi Center-Howden
Assistant Principal

Peter G. Schmidt Elementary

Tumwater School District