



# RAM News

16516 10th Avenue NE \* Shoreline, WA 98155 \* 206-393-4272 \* Dr. Sue McPeak, Principal

**Ridgecrest Elementary: Creating Change Together**



## School Attendance

Thank you to the families that are contacting the attendance office if their student will be absent or late. It is extremely helpful to receive this information in advance. Please send an email (and cc your student's teacher to be sure they know) to: [rc.attendance@shorelineschools.org](mailto:rc.attendance@shorelineschools.org) or call 206.393.1493. If we are unable to answer, please leave a message. Absences that are not excused within three days are permanently unexcused on your student's record.

## Breakfast at School?

Elementary breakfast is only \$1.75; if your student qualifies for free or reduced price meals, breakfast is absolutely free! You are welcome to join your child at breakfast for \$2.75. Take one thing off your morning to-do list and have your child join us for a nutritious breakfast at school. Doors open at 8:05am.

## Safety Reminder - Please sign in!

For the safety of all Ridgecrest students, staff, and visitors we ask that you stop in the office to sign in and get a visitor's sticker even if you are only going to be in the school "for a minute." Then, please sign out when you leave. This helps us keep track of who's in the building in the event of an emergency. Thank you for your cooperation!

## Principal's Note

Ridgecrest is bursting at the seams with our current enrollment. Actually enrollment all over Shoreline is increasing—great news for the district, yet a difficult situation for us.

With kindergarten enrollment occurring during the month of February, it was important for the district to determine our projected total enrollment for the fall as well as our building capacity. Currently we only have the capacity to house about half of our RC Kindergarteners. The others attend Meridian Park as an overflow K site and we look forward to having them join us for first grade in September. Due to our continued enrollment growth and limited building capacity, the district needed to make a tough decision.

With a heavy heart I need to share that we will not be able to have any kindergarten classes at Ridgecrest next September. All new kindergartners will attend Meridian Park Elementary School. I love our "Littlest Rams" (as I often call them) and I will miss them. Our building just does not have enough classrooms to accommodate grades K through 6, so we will only have 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade next year. Be assured that this decision wasn't an easy one because the whole school loves our kindergartners. The plan is for them to

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mar 30-31	Kellogg Play: Into The Woods, 7pm
Apr 3	No School: Non-Student Work Day
Apr 6 and Apr 7	Annie Performances, 7pm, Shorecrest HS Theatre

# Nurse Notes

## 6th Grade Parents

### Camp is SEVEN weeks away!

**Camp Medical Forms:** If your student takes medication – prescription or over-the-counter – that you would like to send to camp, then your physician needs to fill out the Permission to Administer Medication for Extended Field Trip Form. This form was included in your camp information. Return this form to school with the medication in the original labeled bottle. Please only send enough medication for the four days of camp. **The paperwork and medications need to be in the health office by May 1st** so that the nurse going to camp may review them.

For example, your student camper may need sunscreen, anti-itch medication, Tylenol for a headache or Ibuprofen for a muscle strain. ALL these medications require the Permission to Administer Medication for Extended Field Trip Form to be signed by your doctor and returned to school with the medications by May 1st.

The nurse cannot administer medications to your student without this form and parent supplied medicine.

Please call the health office if you have any questions - 206.393.4276

**5<sup>th</sup> grade parents** - 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be here before we know it! By the first day of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, the Tdap vaccination is required. This vaccination protects your student from tetanus, pertussis and diphtheria. Your doctor may recommend additional immunizations (meningococcal and human papillomavirus), but Tdap is the only one required for school attendance. Students out of compliance will be excluded from school until they receive the vaccine.

Thank you,

Nurse Joan and Nurse Stacey

## Principal's Note continued

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return to Ridgecrest for first grade–yay!

It is very important to us that we keep our Kindergarten families connected to Ridgecrest next year. Whether they have another student here or not, we will make sure they know what's happening in our RC community. Staff and PTA are already thinking about how to make this happen. We will miss our 'littlest Rams'.

Thanks for your continued support and please let me know if you have any questions.

Cheers,

Sue



## \*\*\* PTA NEWS \*\*\*

The following link will take you to the current PTA newsletter:

<http://ridgecrestpta.org/Doc/Public/PTANews%2004.2017.pdf>



# Counselor's Corner

## Problem Solving:

Here's a tool I use when working with students. It's called Kelso's Choice. We talk about it if it's a small problem. If so, they pick to strategies to try and solve it. Give it a try!

## Attendance:

Help your child succeed in school: build the habit of good attendance early. School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

Did you know?

Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school

Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read

Being late to school may lead to poor attendance

What can you do?

Set a regular bed time and morning routine

Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before

Don't let your child stay home unless he/she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home

If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teacher, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make him/her feel comfortable and excited about learning

Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent

Grateful to be with you,

Mr. Dom

