

# Brookside Elementary Principal's Message

3/26/19



## Greetings Brookside Families,

### Online Safety Workshop for Parents & Guardians TONIGHT at 7:00 p.m.

Children's use of online devices and social media has increased sharply in recent years. We want to help your family navigate these ever-changing tools and platforms. This is a great opportunity for parents of children in all grades. Topics will include: online safety and security, inappropriate content, privacy, sexual solicitation, and cyber bullying. I look forward to seeing you in the music room.

### Tools for Parents/Guardians Concerning Children and the Online World

I've been looking into resources that can help parents/guardians guide children in their tech use outside of school. Here are a few things that I've encountered:

- <https://www.common sense media.org/> This organization has been around for many years and remains the go-to for many parents/guardians. Near the top of the page, you will see the "Advice for Parents" tab. This provides information organized by child's age or topic. Do you want to know what exactly what is Fortnite? Did you realize it has a voice chat function that allows your child to talk to other players online? Find out about that and more.
- OSPI (the State office of education) has the following tip sheet in multiple languages:  
[English](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Cambodian](#) | [Korean](#)  
[Russian](#) | [Somali](#) | [Ukrainian](#) | [Vietnamese](#)
- <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/kids-online> The Federal Trade Commission has put together information and resources on a variety of topics concerning child media use.

### i-Ready Info at Tonight's PTA Meeting

Our PTA co-presidents allotted some time for me at tonight's meeting. I was initially going to talk about the parent/guardian and student responses from the perception surveys provided earlier this year. However, I've been in contact with the Center for Educational Effectiveness (creators of these surveys) and am coordinating a more comprehensive dive into these data; I will provide you the date once I have that settled. However, I will use the time allotted tonight to discuss i-Ready, our new benchmark assessments for reading and mathematics.

### Crayon Drive for Seattle Children's Hospital – Starts Monday!

I recently met with Brookside students who are also members of the *Pink Polka Dots Junior Guild*. This group does a variety of fundraising activities to benefit pediatric cancer research and children in treatment. They want to do a crayon drive here at Brookside for the hospital...What a great idea! I applaud these blue jays for their ongoing contribution to this important cause. Starting Monday, you can contribute too. Please bring one or more boxes of crayons to Brookside – you will see a large box just outside the door to the main office for these donations. Our PPD Junior Guild members will collect all donated crayons so children in treatment at Seattle Children's Hospital can use them. Thank you in advanced for supporting this important cause. If you want to learn more about this organization, see their website: <https://www.pinkpolkadotsguild.org/>

### Highly Capable Testing Results

If your child took the full battery testing last week, you are probably eager to learn the results. These will be mailed to your home address on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Families with a child that qualifies for services will need to inform the Highly Capable Program Office of their decisions by April 16<sup>th</sup>. The applicable form will be mailed with your child's test results.

Thank you for supporting to our students, staff, & school,  
Principal John Simard