

LAKELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

35827 32nd Avenue South, Auburn, WA 98001 253-945-3000
www.fwps.org/lakeland

Jeff Soltez, Principal
Nancy Fleck, Office Manager

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January 22, 2009

Phyllis Savini, Office Clerk

Message from the Principal!

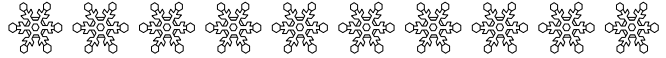
TARDIES/ABSENCES

Over the past couple of months, some students have had an excessive number of tardies. District Policy states that an excused tardy or absence is due to illness, health condition, family emergency, religious purpose, or education opportunities. Elementary students arriving more than 30 minutes after the school's start time or leaving 30 minutes prior to the school's end time will be counted absent 1/2 day.

When your child has been absent or tardy, please remember to send a note to the office explaining why. We believe that good attendance and arriving at school on time is in the best interest of our students. Please help us help your child have a successful year by having him/her in school for the entire day.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school office at 253-945-3000.

Jeff Soltez, Principal



Important Dates to Remember

- January 23 ~ Sweats Day
- January 26 ~ **No School** ~ Semester Break
- February 6 ~ Class Pictures
- February 13 ~ Twins Day
- February 16, 17 ~ **No School** ~ Mid Winter Break

Sweat Pants

We are in need of "gently used" **sweat pants**. If you have any your son or daughter has out grown but are still in good condition would you consider donating them to the health room? We use them when children have accidents or fall in the mud/water during recess. Please only send sweat pants, jeans and zip up pants are too difficult to fit.

Thank you!

Snow Make-Up Days Change The June Calendar

Due to the three snow days missed in December, the last day of school has been moved from June 12 to June 17. Our district-adopted calendar indicates snow make-up days will come at the end of the year. Superintendent Tom Murphy has confirmed that the three snow days we have to make up will be made up on June 15, 16 and 17. Please mark your calendar with this change.

"We're Making Music"! Come and hear us perform in the Lakeland Gym on Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Performers include: 5 Bacon, 3-4-5 Keeler, 4-5 Rea-Smith and 5 Werner. Details to follow. See you there!

Lakeland Science Fair 2009

Information for Students / Parents / Guardians

Purpose

A science fair gives students a chance to study areas of science, which particularly interests them. They go beyond the limits of the classroom to develop their own ideas. They use their own initiatives to plan and create science projects. Then, by displaying their projects, students share what they have learned with others and are recognized for their efforts.

Date and Time

Lakeland Science Fair will be held February 26 in the gym. Participants must have their projects at school on the day before, February 25 unless the classroom teacher has other instructions. Participants will have the opportunity to describe their project to others. Students will be scheduled to view the projects during the school day. There will be a family viewing time, that evening, from 5:00 to 6:30 in the gym.

Who

The fair is open to all students grades K-5. Students may enter the fair individually or if allowed by their teacher in groups of 2-3. Students may choose a scientific experiment, a model/construction or scientific collection. **Grades 4 and 5 must perform a scientific experiment.**

Rules and Procedures

Assistance

Family help is permitted and encouraged, but the student should do most of the work.

Materials

There will be a limited supply of display boards available for \$4.00. Animals are discouraged. The student's teacher must clear any animals used. Batteries are urged over electrical plug-ins. If a wall outlet is to be used your teacher must approve it and the participant must supply a 10-foot extension cord.

Format

All presentations must have a display following the format given. Clean up is the responsibility for all projects that have a liquid, dye, or food or would potentially make a mess on the floor. At the conclusion of the Science Fair it is the students responsibility to remove the science projects from the gym.

Questions about ideas for experiments, displays or written reports should be directed to your classroom teacher.

FEDERAL WAY SCHOOLS FACE DEEP BUDGET CUTS FOR NEXT YEAR

The national and state budget crises are deep, and we are already seeing a local impact. Based on Governor Gregoire's proposed state budget, the state's level of funding to Federal Way schools – and to all districts in the state -- in the coming school year will be significantly less than what is needed to maintain current levels of service.

This means that the amount of money that Federal Way Public Schools expect to receive from state, federal and local funding sources for the 2009-2010 school year will not be enough to pay for everything the district currently funds.

This will require difficult reductions in the district's operating budget for the coming school year, which begins in September 2009. We know that families, FWPS staff and the entire community are very concerned. There are many questions – some of which can't be answered yet. Until the legislature and the governor finalize the state's two-year budget in late April 2009, we are using what we do know to prepare for a minimum shortfall of \$5 million.

Superintendent Murphy and his staff will spend the next few months providing information to staff, parent groups and community organizations about the extent of the funding reductions, collecting comments and suggestions related to strategies we might utilize to address the impact on staffing and programs.

We have prepared some information that may help you understand the situation and issues we face in the next few months. As more is known, we will update the budget information on the FWPS website, www.fwps.org/info/budget. You can also provide us with your comments and suggestions on the site.

What can you do?

- Encourage your state elected officials to fully fund K-12 by writing, calling or emailing your state representatives and state senators – this info is available on the State of Washington website at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rosters/Members.aspx>
- If you have ideas on how the district can save money, send your suggestions to budget08@fwps.org or write Federal Way Public Schools Budget '08, 31405 18th Ave S., Federal Way WA 98003

The Superintendent's recommendation will be presented to the Board on April 28. The community will have opportunity to comment on these recommendations until the end of June when the board will adopt a budget. Dates will be announced when the schedule is finalized.