



January 6, 2023

School News

Sequim Middle School

Office Hours: 7:00-3:30 p.m.

Main Office 360-582-3500 Attendance 360-582-3503



What do I need to know before the week starts: 1/9-1/13

Welcome back was our message this week.

As a building, we took a few minutes to remind students about school wide expectations and protocols. Teachers began to reconnect with their students and establish goals for the coming days. Mr. Harris did a TEAMS broadcast to students and staff about Off and Away, courtesy in the hallways, how and when to access passes, lunch protocols and our double bell tardy warning system. He finished with the SMS team's belief in all our kids and their ability to grow their skills and knowledge particularly when we embrace and change in the face of our mistakes. Classroom teachers warmed up their student's abilities to work cooperatively, to set targets and to use time effectively with a wide variety of lessons that were aimed at high engagement and curricular goals.

Our students have through February 2nd (the end of 1st semester) to show teachers what they know, what they can do and how much they have grown. For 6th graders, they will experience finishing a class mid-year and then starting the next semester with the same teacher and period, shifting teachers or periods, or even starting a whole new class. Half of our 7th grade will complete their first check box on their road to graduation, while the other half will begin it, in the form of Washington State History. Some 8th graders will be posting their first high school credits through Algebra or Geometry, which will be another checkbox toward graduation that will free up choices in their high school years with classes connected to CTE course completion.

The district is about to set the course that will impact our kids at least over the next 5 years.

As we target the semester change, we also look ahead to what we will be offering our students next year and beyond across the district. Thursday, January 12th, Superintendent Nickels and our School Board will begin collecting community, parent, student and staff input to build a new 5-Year Strategic Plan. The strategic plan will guide choices available for kids, priorities for spending, set infrastructure targets, direct staff training and set the fundamental culture of our district. This first meeting will be at Guy Cole Event Center in Carry Blake Park 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

Sports

Wrestling: Sign ups now open. See Ms. Forshaw for paperwork or click [here](#) to download the forms. **Practice starts February 6th.**

Logistics:

1/12: Hi-Cap info night, 5pm via [Zoom](#)

1/12: Strategic Planning, 6-7:30pm, Guy Coleman Center

CLUBS:

Mon: HOSA— Future Health Professionals, 2:45

Mon: Gamer Girls, 2:45-4:00

Tue: Timberwolves Thunder Drumline, 2:45-4:00

Tue: Art Club, 2:45-4:00

Tue: Tea with Taylor, 2:45-3:45

Wed: Hiking Club, 2:45-4:00

Wed: Woodwind & Brass Club, 2:45-4:00

Wed: NASA Science Club, 3:00-4:00

Thurs: Fly Fishing Club, 2:45-4:00

Thurs: Sequim Thunder Drumline (Advanced), 2:45-4:00

Thurs: Dungeons and Dragons Club, 3:00-5:00

Thurs: Game Club, 2:45-4:00

Thurs: TSA e-sports, 2:45-4:00

Next Week 1/16-1/20...

Sports:

1/16: Basketball vs. Forks @ home

1/18: Basketball @ Stevens

Logistics:

1/16: NO SCHOOL—Martin Luther King Jr. Day

A week or more out...

Sports:

1/23: Basketball @ Chimacum

1/25: Basketball vs. Neah Bay @ home

1/30: Basketball @ Blue Heron

2/1: Basketball @ Forks

Logistics:

1/26: Strategic Planning, 6-7:30pm, Guy Coleman Center

1/31: Hi-Cap referral window closes

2/2: End of Term 2

2/3: NO SCHOOL

Sequim School District annual vision and hearing screening

Each board of school directors in the state shall provide for and require screening of the auditory and visual acuity of children attending schools in their districts to determine if any child demonstrates auditory or visual problems that may negatively impact their learning. [Chapter 246-760 WAC](#):

The Sequim Lion's Club is making the [Plusoptix 12C Vision Screener](#) and [e3 Diagnostics](#) audiology screening equipment available to Sequim School 7th grade students at Sequim Middle School on Feb. 7th and 8th, 2023. Volunteers from the Northwest Lion's Foundation will be visiting your child's class to perform the school's state mandated vision and hearing screening tests.

The purpose of a Plusoptix vision screening device is to detect most prevalent vision disorders in children as early as possible. The earlier a vision disorder is detected the better it can be treated, and Amblyopia (a treatable disorder that can result in permanently reduced vision when not addressed by an early age), can be prevented. The screening devices detect risk factors for amblyopia such as strabismus (eyes that cross or wander out), refractive errors, and unequal vision between the eyes.

Plusoptix Vision Screeners use the measuring principle of a [transillumination test](#). Unlike other transillumination tests, Plusoptix devices avoid glare of the patient, by using infrared light. The pupils remain large *even without dilation*. [Plusoptix: Vision Screening - Plusoptix Vision Screener](#)

WORKING PRINCIPLE OF A TRANSILLUMINATION TEST

All Plusoptix devices use the **measuring principle of a transillumination test**. In a transillumination test, a beam of light is projected into the eye and reflected by the retina. The light beam illuminates the central part of the cornea, the lens, the vitreous humor and the retina. This measuring principle is used in many eye examinations.

Unlike other transillumination tests, Plusoptix devices **avoid glare of the patient, by using infrared light**. The device records **camera images** of the illuminated pupils, so that a referral to an eye care specialist can be made for any concerns noted.



Picture 6: Illustration of a measurement

Please call the School Nurse: Sonja Bittner RN at (360) 477-7728 for questions.

Opt-Out Section:

If you **DO NOT** wish your child to participate in the Plusoptix Vision Screening, please complete the information below:

I do NOT want (child's name): _____ **to participate in the Plusoptix Vision Screening that the Lion's Club volunteers will be performing at school. I understand that my child will remain in class during the time that other students will be participating in the Screening.**

Child's Teacher: _____ **Grade:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Sequim School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator: Victoria Balint, vbalint@sequimschools.org 503 N Sequim Ave., Sequim, WA 98382, 360-582-3260, and for Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Cheryl McAliley, 503 N. Sequim Ave., Sequim, WA 98382, 360-582-3402, cmcaliley@sequimschools.org .