GREYWOLF FAMILY HANDBOOK 2023-2024



Mrs. Jennifer Lopez, Principal Ms. Tami Ota, Assistant Principal

Greywolf Elementary 171 Carlsborg Road Sequim WA 98382

Telephone (360) 582-3300 Fax (360) 582-9555 www.gwe.sequimschools.org

> Sequim School District www.sequimschools.org 360-582-3260

Where all students are capable of success, no exceptions!!





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Greetings from Greywolf

Welcome to Greywolf Elementary School. In this booklet, you will find information that will help you to understand many of the operational processes for our school.

At Greywolf, we believe all children are capable of success, no exceptions! Greywolf incorporates a mindset called "Kids at Hope." Here is the Kids at Hope pledge:

"I am a Kid at Hope.
I am talented, smart and capable of success.
I have dreams for the future and I will climb to reach those goals and dreams every day.
All Children are Capable of Success,
No Exceptions!"

Our highest priority is our kids. We believe that a strong foundation in math and reading can change the trajectory of a life. Greywolf is a regional, state and national award winning school. We believe learning can be fun in a positive setting. Greywolf is a great place for a child to begin their formal public school education. We have high expectations for our students, and we can't wait to see what this year brings!

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as Principal of Greywolf Elementary School. We cannot wait to **partner** with you for the success of all our children, no exceptions!

Sincerely, Jennifer Lopez, Principal GWE

GREYWOLF STAFF

Principal

Jennifer Lopez

Assistant Principal

Tami Ota

Counselor

Rebekah Uskoski

Office Staff

Darcy Lamb & Sandra Carlson

Dev. Preschool

Carra Manley

Kindergarten

Echo Cox

Stephanie O'Mera Amy Skogsberg

Carla Drescher

Lauren Kleinberg Andrea McCrorie

Bethanie Robbins

Sarah Wilhelm

Leah Johnson

First Grade

Lorrie Corder

Leigh Ann Koenig

Alex Ogilvie Gwen Rudzinski

Emily Ellefson

Cricket Hagan

Carolyn Luengen

Cindy Morgan

Second Grade

Shannon Green Jennifer Newton

Heidi Sembach Chris Stevens

Gretta Low Brittney Rothwell

Life Skills

Tiffany Malean Kerry Ladd **Learning Support**

Melissa Sagara Jennifer Thatcher

Specialists

P.E. Doug Hastings
Librarian Sheri Burke

Science Melissa Sterrett

Music Florin Baros & George Rodes

SEL Claire Bernards

Literacy Specialist

Krista Chatters (K-5)

Custodians

Young Nguyen

Abel Segura

Martin Loza

Support Staff

Nurse Sonja Bittner

OT Vanessa Schubert

PT Molly Booth

Speech Nachelle Jannetti Speech Kristine Summer Speech Sandy Dauaherty

Title VI Robin Hall

FLL Andrea Dietzman

Hi-Cap Jodi Olsen

Psychologist Ed Triggs

Para Educators

Rachel Anderberg, Paula Berkes, Rhonda Cays, Meghan Coffman,

Cassie Cobb, Jane Dominguez,, Stephanie Dormer, Marci Dotson, Bonnie Gufler, Michelle Haman.

Erin Hiner, Monica Gonzalez Sascha Hubbard, Carrie Johnson,

Carol Lichten, Cassi Sather,

Rachel Seamands, Susan Slate, Michelle Smith, Tamara Sorenson,

Robin Sullivan, Johnnie Wallace

GWE SCHOOL HOURS

Mondays- Late Start 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Drop-off 7:45-9:30 a.m.

Tuesday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Drop-off 7:45-8:30 a.m.

Office Hours

GWE Office: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. M-F.
(360) 582-3300.

A message machine is available after regular school hours.

www.gwe.sequimschools.org

Professional Development Mondays (Late Start Monday)

Our district has adopted a professional development model which incorporates late starts on Mondays throughout the school year. These days are intended for additional staff development. Our teachers also use this time to work collaboratively; developing plans to help all students be successful. School hours are listed above. **Morning buses run one hour later** than their normal route on late start Mondays.

NO MORNING SUPERVISION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE 7:45AM

Children may not be dropped off before this time.



2023-2024 CALENDAR

CLASSES BEGIN: September 6, 2023

KINDERGARTEN BEGINS: September 11, 2023

CLASSES END: JUNE 18, 2024

Vacation/Holiday/No School Days

Labor Day September 4
Veterans Day November 10
Early Release November 22

Thanksgiving November 23 & 24 Winter Vacation Dec 25 to Jan 5

MLK Jr. Day

No School Day
Presidents' Day
Spring Vacation
Memorial Day
Early Release
June 19

January 15
February 2
February 19
April 1 to 5
May 27
June 18
June 19

Snow Make Up Days (if needed)

May 10, May 24, June 20

Conference Days

October 31 & November 1

Elementary Grading Periods

1st Semester ends — February 1 2nd Semester ends — June 18 (Report Cards available 7 days after)



Sequim School District's



Respectful

I am respectful to others, all property, and myself.

Responsible

I use responsible behavior with my words, actions and attitudes.



I make safe choices so that Greywolf Elementary continues to be a great place to learn.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Up to date information about our school and district programs can be found at:

Sequim School District

Greywolf

www.sequimschools.org

www.gwe.sequimschools.org

Email us: greywolf@sequimschools.org

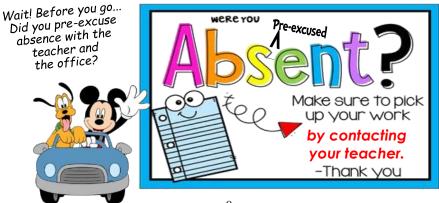
~ Our building is currently closed to the public ~

Appointments can be made with teachers. Call when you are at the main entrance door and someone will greet you.

Pick up child early: Contact the office ahead of time and staff will bring your child to you. Please wait at the main entrance, on the right side of the building. A note is required to excuse any early appointment.

Late Arrivals: Please use our main entrance for drop-off and call the office at 360-582-3300 so student can be met at the door.

Pre-excused absence—Homework - If a child is absent 2 or more days, parents are asked to contact the teacher for homework. Parents may request that work be sent home with a sibling or another student. Although we discourage extended absences for non-illness, parents are asked to pre-excuse absences the **week prior** to their absence and the student will **have 5 days** when they return to school to turn in work for their absence to be excused.





Skyward Family Access - This web-based tool, located on our website, allows **parents** to check their child's lunch account balances, attendance, and contact information. **Adult** login information and passwords are available by contacting our office.

For security and confidentiality purposes login and password information <u>cannot be</u> provided over the phone, but we can send a reset link to the email on file.

Update information - Parents are encouraged to update their child's information through SKYWARD with the school office **any time** you have a change in address, telephone number, work number, emergency contact numbers, email address, etc.

Emergency contact numbers - In the event we are unable to contact a parent when a child is ill or injured during the school day, we will call your emergency contacts. Emergency contacts should be people your child knows and who you have authorized to transport your child home. Keeping this information current is very important. Please update your Skyward Family access. Need assistance, greywolf @sequimschools.org
*** We can not release students to anyone not on this list.

Emergency school closures - In the event of snow, ice and other emergency school closures, current information will be posted on the Sequim School District web site at www.sequimschools.org. The school district will also notify local TV and radio stations and activate the automated calling system. In the event of a late start because of snow, our buses will run on modified routes.

Alternate snow-day bus schedules will be on the district web site.

Lost & Found—PLEASE, mark your child's name on all of his/her outerwear and backpack in a safe spot—inside the sleeve or on the inside flap of a pocket; inside the backpack or underneath the straps. Items with names are easily returned to their owners. We have a rack outside the office door for lost coats, lunch boxes, back packs, water bottles, etc.



Did you know? 80-100 unmarked items are donated monthly!

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Establish classroom procedures with your students at the start of each school year. Review periodically throughout the school year.
- Consistently enforce school-wide expectations.
- Provide reasonable consequences for minor infractions.
- Contact parents when behavior interferes with child's learning or the learning of others.
- Contact parents when a Behavior Referral form has been completed.

Parent Responsibilities:

- Make sure child comes to school, on time, every day.
 (Drop off time is between 7:45-8:30am M-F)
- Review school expectations with your child.
- Contact the school if you have concerns.
- Send your child to school well rested, fed properly, and in appropriate clothing. Call us if you need help.
- Discuss with your children proper language, courteous behavior, and respect for the rights and property of others.
- Encourage your child to do their best.

Student Responsibilities:

- Follow the Sequim School District's Big THREE.
- Contribute to the learning process by letting teachers teach and classmates learn.
- Understand that the purpose of Greywolf Elementary is for learning and that each student must show effort toward reaching the learning objectives set forth by the teacher.
- Accept redirection when not following school rules.





Our primary goal at Greywolf is for students to be successful and in class 100% of the time. At times students may struggle behaviorally, so teachers use classroom-based interventions. If these interventions are unsuccessful, further steps may be taken to improve student behavior.

Break Space

We have spaces in our classrooms when students need a quiet place to study, relax, or self-regulate. The break space is open to all students!

Please ask your child's teacher or our Counselor, Mrs. Uskoski, how this benefits our students!



Student Conduct/Discipline Policy & Procedures

Sequim School District Policy #3240 and Procedure #3241 address student discipline. Please refer to the small orange book that is sent home with your student titled:

Sequim School District No. 323
Student Conduct Expectations and Reasonable Sanctions
Procedure for Board Policy #3240
Parent/Student

(<u>click link</u> for more info to www.sequimschools.org procedures)



Homework Guidelines

Homework varies from teacher to teacher. These guideline are designed to help staff, students, and families have common expectations. Homework is one of many learning activities in which students engage. Its purpose should be to:

- extend learning and/or provide practice in applying concepts initially presented in the classroom.
- provide opportunities for independent and guided work (depending on grade level and task).
- develop initiative, responsibility, self direction and organizational skills.

Guidelines

- All assignments will be clearly explained in the classroom.
- Homework will grow from classroom tasks and projects or will focus on skill/strategy reinforcement.
- We strongly recommend reading for 20 minutes everyday with your student.
- We request that problems/concerns be communicated to the teacher.
- Any missed days, contact teacher directly for homework.



Cell Phones Toys- Electronic Devices

There should be no buying, selling, or exchanging of toys and/or trading cards at school. It distracts from the teaching and learning process.

Please leave all electronic devices at home.

This includes all hand held items such as cell phones, tablets, games, etc. These items are often the target of theft and/or misbehavior at school.





If your child must have a cell phone at school, they need to keep it turned off and in their backpack. At no time during the school day are students to use their cell phones or watches. If you must talk to your child, please call the school office (360)582-3300.

Failure to follow these expectations could result in:

- Confiscation of phone or other distracting items until end of day.
- Items will need to be picked up by parent.

Birthday Treat Policy

Every child at Greywolf is acknowledged for their birthday.

We do not have classroom birthday parties.

- Parents, please no special treats at school.
- Remember, flowers or balloons <u>can not</u> be transported by the school bus.

This policy ensures the safety of any student who may have a life threatening food allergy.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.





'Good To Go!'

HELPFUL TOOLS TO PROBLEM SOLVE

We will be learning, reviewing, and strengthening problem solving and self regulating skills throughout the school year. The school staff & student support conducts classroom lessons, small group lessons, and individual coaching. We use the program Stop & Think to encourage independent problem solving.

STOP & THINK

Stop and Think is a social skills curriculum designed to help students solve problems in positive way. An important component of this program is a universal language that is easy for students to learn and leads to automatic prosocial behavior. Here are the steps that are taught each time a social skill is taught, reinforced, or implemented:

- Stop and Think—This step is a self-control, impulse-control, and/or self-management step designed to teach students to take the time necessary to pause and think about how they want to handle a situation.
- Are You Going to Make a Good Choice or Bad Choice?
 —This step prompts and motivates students to make good choices.
- 3. What are Your Choices or Steps?—This step is where teachers teach the specific "skills scripts" for each Stop & Think skill so that students learn and are able to demonstrate their "Good Choices" —that is, their prosocial skills in the next step more independently and automatically.
- 4. Do It!—This step occurs as students actually carry out their plan, implement the social skill chosen, and then evaluate whether or not it worked.
- 5. Good Job!—This step prompts students to positively reinforce themselves for appropriately responding to a situation and successfully utilizing a social skill. Positive self-talk is important for motivation and fosters independence.

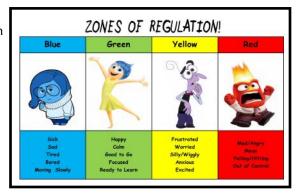
ZONES OF REGULATION

Greywolf students are also learning about being in different ZONES OF REGULATION.

The different ways we feel can be categorized into four concrete zones, with GREEN being the best learning zone.

- BLUE ZONE: able to get to green with some effort and/or time (may feel sad, bored, tired).
- GREEN ZONE:

 able to make good decisions and solve problems (may feel calm, happy, focused).



- YELLOW ZONE: able to get to green with some effort (silly, little to medium excited, frustrated)
- **RED ZONE:** stop, take a break (may feel very excited or angry with lots of energy).

The Zones curriculum provides strategies to teach students to become more aware of, and independent in, controlling their emotions and impulses and improving their ability to problem solve conflicts.

Please ask your child about the different zones. We invite you to bring these strategies into your home.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about either of these strategies you are welcome to contact our school. 360-582-3300 or greywolf@sequimschools.org



HEALTH ROOM Phone Number: 360-582-3305

Accident insurance - The Sequim School District does not provide medical insurance coverage for school accidents. Parents are responsible for their child's medical bills if their child gets hurt during school activities. Student accident insurance is available to purchase to help you pay those bills. Application forms are sent electronically to family e-mails in September. Health Services staff can help you sign your child up with WA State Health Insurance.

Immunizations - There are required immunizations for school attendance. Please contact the school district nurse or your health provider for questions.

Greywolf Health Clerk: 360-582-3305

District Nurse: 360-477-7728

Medication at school - Any child taking medication at school must have on file in the health office an Authorization for Medication at School form signed by the parent and the physician, each school year. We cannot give any prescription or over the counter medication (including cough drops) without a doctor's order with directions to the school nurse. Bring the medication in the original bottle and your completed forms to the **health room** for processing. Adults should always deliver medication to school – it should never be sent with the child. All medication is kept in the school health room.

The use of crutches or wheel chairs at school, requires specific information from your doctor. Please contact the school health room or nurse before your child returns to school.

Illness or FEVER / COVID-19 - If your child is absent from school because of illness, he or she should not return to school until fully recovered. Under normal conditions: The child should not attend school for at least 24 hours after his or her temperature has returned to normal or vomiting and diarrhea have ceased.

Please, notify the office when your child will be absent with a note or a call, 360-582-3300.

Guidance to Prevent and Respond to COVID-19 in K-12 Schools and Child Cares.

 Click this link for the latest information from

Washington State Department of Health.



To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the Sequim School District offers free at home Covid-19 test, available in the Health Room. For more information please contact the Health Room at 360-582-3305.

GREYWOLF W

GRADES 1 AND 2 - BEGINS SEPT. 06, 2023

Please call, 360-582-3300, to schedule appointments of



ELCOME BACK

KINDERGARTEN BEGINS SEPT. 11, 2023

r drop by and ring our door bell! We are here for you.



PLAYGROUND EXPECTATIONS

- Students should follow the SSD Big THREE.
- Students should wear proper shoes. Please, no flip flops, skate shoes or roller blades are permitted. If shoes are an issue, we may be able to help, please call our office.
- Leave personal toys at home.
- Dress appropriately for changing weather conditions. Recess is usually held outside except in severe weather.

The purpose of recess is to move, play, and to participate in social interactions during an unstructured break in the school day. All recess experiences should be <u>safe</u> and comfortable for each student. Conflicts often do arise during unstructured and high energy activities and each student has the <u>responsibility</u> to handle his or her conflict in a <u>respectful</u> manner; as to align with the school expectations. When students do not handle their recess interactions in a safe manner, or they do not keep their energy in a level of control, they may be placed in a more structured recess placement with adult supervision.

PLAYGROUND EXPECTATIONS Safety Rules

Climbing Toys

- Use all equipment as it was built to be used.
- Monkey bars are for hands going across (no climbing on top).
- Jump only from a height no taller than you.
- Tag is to be played on the field only.
 Tag games should be appropriate for GWE.

<u>Swings</u>

- Use all equipment as it was built to be used.
- Sit on the swing and swing straight.
- Take turns-25 swings equal a turn (if someone is waiting).
- Leave the swing when your feet are on the ground.



PLAYGROUND EXPECTATIONS Safety Rules

<u>Slides</u>

- Use all equipment as it was built to be used.
- Slide sitting down, feet in front of you.
- Go down the slide feet first only.
- One person on the slide at a time.

Climber Toys

Walk when you are on the big toys.

Wall Ball/Pickleball

- To be played on the west or south outside wall of gym.
- Group Wall Ball– westside of gym only

Field

- Play tag, football, soccer, and kickball only in the field.
- Two finger touch or tag below the neck.
- Approved tag games only. Check with playground supervisors to approve your game.

<u>Tetherball/Four Square</u>

After three wins, the winner goes to the end of the line.

Hard Blacktop Equipment

- Use all equipment as it was made to be used.
- Hula hoops and jump ropes stay on the hard surface blacktop area.
- Balls stay on the hard surface blacktop or the field.





SCHOOL LUNCHES (Sodexo 360-582-3432)

Lunch Times

Kinder 11:20-11:50pm 1st Grade: 11:55-12:25pm 2nd Grade: 12:30-1:00pm

Menus are sent home each month. Breakfast and lunch are served every day with a variety of menu items available.

- Breakfast & Lunch
 FREE to all students enrolled in the Sequim School District
- Charge/Pay for ala carte items such as "milk only"

Free & Reduced lunch forms - Forms are available through Family Access or paper copies in our school office. Digital (Info Link) applications need to be submitted every year preferably by the end of September. You may apply any time during the year if circumstances change.

**** Both Breakfast and Lunch are offered free of charge to our families this year. It is still imperative to our district that our families fill out the Family Income Survey. Much state funding for schools is based upon this data. Please take a few minutes to log into Skyward to fill out the survey.

If you need help, call 360-582-3300 or greywolf@sequimschools.org and we can reset your Skyward account.



Menus can be found on the sequim School District website located under "Departments"

FOOD SERVICE

2023/2024 School Year

The Sequim School District is participating in two separate National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs called Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) & Provision 2. These programs allow all children who attend school in person to eat breakfast and lunch at no cost to families. All students enrolled in Greywolf Elementary, Helen Haller Elementary, Sequim Middle School, Sequim High School, and Olympic Peninsula Academy are entitled to FREE meals on school days throughout the 2023/2024 school year.

We will no longer be collecting Free and Reduced-Price applications, instead, we must collect the Family Income Survey. The Family Income Survey is used to capture information and ensure the district/school receives all of the funding it is entitled to for other state funded education programs. Without this information, our schools could lose important state funding for educational programs that our students are entitled to. Depending on your household income, your family may also be eligible for other benefits and waived fees, which is determined by completing and submitting the Family Income Survey.

What You Can Do

Please take a moment to complete the Family Income Survey (one survey per household) and return it to your child's school or the District Office, 503 N. Sequim Ave, Sequim, WA, 98382. Households may submit a Family Income Survey at any time during the school year. Household members do not need to be U.S. citizens to submit the Family Income Survey.

We're excited to offer no-cost meals to all students and appreciate your help. If you have any questions, please contact the Sequim School District Office: (360) 582-3260.

DOES YOUR CHILD WALK TO SCHOOL? *** Notify the office if they do walk to school ***

Please review with your child safe walking habits and routes. If our office is notified, a **crossing guard is available at our North Entrance** located at Carlsborg near Jenifer Crt. fifteen minutes before and after school. Students may not cross anywhere but in designated crosswalks.

Plan a safe route to school. Go over the route with your child, explaining traffic hazards and the safest places to cross the streets. Select the most protected and safest route. Please utilize our **North Entrance** with our safety-crossing guard.

The following simple rules must become a part of your child's thinking in order to prevent accidents. Teach your child to...

- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic, when there is no sidewalk.
- Walk single file as far off the edge of the road as possible where there are no sidewalks or pedestrian-bicycle paths.
- Cross streets only at designated crosswalks.
- Stop! Look both ways! Be sure the way is clear before crossing.
- Stop! Check behind the car that might be coming up to the corner to make a right turn.
- Walk do not run straight across the street.
- Do not walk out from behind parked cars.
- Obey adult guards, traffic control signals, and signs.
- Always play away from traffic.
- Be extra alert on rainy, dark, icy, foggy or snowy days.
- Wear light colored clothing or make use of reflectorized tape on clothing to be seen readily by drivers on dark days.
- Always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle.

NEW waiting areas for parent/student walking to and from school: (See map on page 26.)

- North wing... Students will wait with staff until called to parents.
- North Looper Lane #1 entrance near cross walk- Parents wait.

Please call 360-582-3300 when at the main entrance and someone will be greet you there.



DO YOU DRIVE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL?

Please DO NOT arrive early.

Greywolf is very congested just before and after school.
7:45am is the earliest they can arrive
Student pick-up begins at 2:55 for Kindergarten and 3pm grades 1&2
(Mon-Fri.)

Main Parking Lot North side (Straits) is Park and Pick-up. Small Parking Lot South side (Mountains) is Looper Lane.

Please follow these directions:

- Please, do not come early for pick up and drop off. Coming early does not help our looper lane. Please come to Greywolf at or even a little after drop-off and pick-up time. We are all in this together!!!!
- 2. Parking lot traffic is one way.
- 3. Always pull ahead, as far as possible, all the way up to the painted blue lines along the sidewalk/curb. This is a **No passing ZONE**.
- 4. Please follow the directions of our staff. If they ask you to pull up, please pull up!
- 5. Children should exit and enter your car directly from the sidewalk.

KEEP

- Please do not leave your car unattended at any time or get out of your car while in the looper lane. This can really impact and slow our looper lane down.
- 7. Please do not pass other cars in the looper lane after your child has loaded or unloaded. Some students enter the car from the driver's side and we need to keep kids safe.
- 8. If you are waiting on Carlsborg Road to turn into
 Greywolf be AWARE there are YELLOW school buses and
 a BLUE B&G Club bus waiting to turn in as well; please give them the right of way, and allow them to turn in first.
- 9. Please consider the bus, if possible, 360-582-3274

Go slow – be aware — use caution— be patient — don't use your cellphone — stay safe – buckle up.

Thanks so much for working with us to make this busy time of day fast and friendly!

Hablamos Espanol! We Speak Spanish!

Estamos emocionados de presenter a nuestra secretaria nueva, la Sra. Sandra Carlson!

La Sra. Carlson esta disponible para ayudarles para responder sus preguntas. Le puede llamar o mandar un email:

- 360-582-3304
- scarlson@sequimschools.org

O usted puede ir a la escuela para hablar con ella en persona. Es importante poder apoyar la comunidad con su Espanol y ella esta contenta de poder ayudarlos en Greywolf



TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Phone Number: 360-582-3274

Bus route information - Information will be posted on the school district web site. Be sure your child knows how they are going home and the name of their bus – don't assume they know. If you are unsure of the bus stop/time, you can contact the bus garage at 360-582-3274.

Bus Safety Rules - The bus garage will distribute bus safety rules to each child who rides a bus. Bus slips will be issued for students not following rules which may result in the loss of riding the bus.

Pink Slip Information - Pink slips are used to notify students, teachers and office staff of changes in plans or routine for students. They are also used as bus passes and bus drivers will not let a child ride any other bus except his own without a pink slip. If a child is doing anything other than what he/she normally does, he/she needs a pink slip. (Examples: Picked up from school instead of riding the bus, getting picked up early, doctor appoint-



ments, going to Boys & Girls Club, etc.) We are happy to send home extra Pink Slips with your student, just call the office. If a child has a change of plans for the day, please complete ALL sections of the pink slip, including BUS STOP and send it with him/her in the morning.



<u>Changes to afterschool plans by 2:00pm</u> in the day really help us out!

Thank you for your support.

- 1. **After school plans should be made prior** to coming to school and Pink Slips should be arranged though our office.
- 2. **Slips MUST be completed before 2:00PM.** To guarantee delivery please make a plan for your child's afterschool activities and stick with that plan if possible.

Greywolf Elementary makes a special effort to ensure that all students fully benefit from their education by attending school regularly.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school, college and work.



WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

We miss your student when they are gone and we value their contributions to our school. We would like you to help ensure that your student attends regularly and is successful in school. If your student is going to be absent, please contact our office at 360-582-3300. You may also send a note within 5 days of your child's return to school. Please provide a doctor/dentist/appt note to excuse your appointments when picking up a student early or dropping off late.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

We know that there are a wide variety of reasons that students are absent from school, from health concerns to transportation challenges. There are many people in our building prepared to help you if you or your student face challenges in getting to school regularly or on time. You can contact our principal, student support staff, or your child's teacher. We promise to track attendance daily, to notice when your student is missing from class, communicate with you to understand why they were absent, and to identify barriers and supports available to overcome challenges you may face in helping your student attend school.

In the Sequim School District we have established the following attendance rules (that will help you ensure your student is attending regularly. School attendance policies and procedures can be found at this link Sequim School District link, Policy No. 3122 on the school's webpage or are available in paper form at the school's front office and the Sequim branch of the North Olympic Library System. Questions? Please call us at 360-582-3300.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required immunizations.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.



- Keep in mind that 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 teachers, office, and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Child Find: Is a process designed to locate children, birth through age 21, with a suspected disability to evaluate and identify a need for special education and related services. For more information: 360-582-3402.

Sequim School District conducts specific activities for the purposes of locating, evaluating and identifying students of ages birth to 21 with suspected disabilities and who reside within the district's boundaries. This includes students attending private schools.

Approximately 10 to 15% of all children have a disability which hinders their educational development. Early identification of disabilities assists parents, students and schools in the design of appropriate educational services.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION continued

OSPI website information link for the following chart: https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support-programs/attendance-chronicabsenteeism-and-truancy/improving-attendance-districts-schools



Sequim School District No. 323

Engage Empower Thrive

503 N Sequim Ave, Sequim, WA 98382 Telephone: (360) 582-3260, FAX: (360) 683-6303

Full details, are on our website School Board Policies-Procedures Section, 3000-Students Excused and Unexcused Absences 3122 & 3122P

Excused & Unexcused Absences

Policies and Procedure 3122

Excused

- Physical health or mental health symptoms
- Illness/injury
- In health room/school office
- Disciplinary action
- Various medical appointments
- Family emergency
- Cultural /religious observance
- Court/legal
- Post-secondary interviews &
- Search & rescue
- Military/active duty
- Migrant, homeless or foster care dependency status
- Safety concerns
- Pre-arranged educational plan
- School functions/testing
- Extracurricular activities
- Lack of instructional tools, including internet

Excused

When the district is required to provide synchronous and asynchronous instruction due to emergency closure, absences due to the following reasons are excused:

- Student illness, appts. or health condition due to COVID-19, or other conditions related to school closure
- Caring for a family member who has illness, appts. or health condition due to COVID-19, or other conditions related to school closure
- Student's family obligations or parent's/guardian's work schedule during regular school hours that are temporary due to school closure, until other arrangements are made

Unexcused

- Any absence not excused within 5 school days of the day absent
- Truant- skipping, refusal to be in class, not permitted to leave
- Absent for no valid excused reason
- Picked up for no valid excused
- Pre-Arranged Educational Plan not completed and turned in within 5 days of return date.
- Teacher entered absence when not present in class (will appear as 'w' in skyward)

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/ support-programs/attendance-chronic-absenteetsm-and-truancy

Monthly Interventions

After 5 excused - Elementary students will have a conference (by phone, virtual meeting or in person) and after every 5 after that—a check-in meeting. Not required if prior notice given, if a doctor's note has been provided and there is a plan is in place to ensure the student will not fall behind in their coursework.

UNEXCUSED Absences

Every unexcused absence - auto call to phone number on file 3 unexcused absences - Conference with school staff (by phone call or email) to discuss attendance barriers

5 unexcused absences - A truancy letter sent to address on file from school administrator 6 unexcused absences - Truancy Intervention Agreement meeting, WARNS assessment for MS & HS

After 7 unexcused absences - Court truancy petition filed requesting a STAY, Community Engagement Board (CEB) meeting required.

Current School Year Interventions

If continued unexcused absences after CEB meeting, and/or CEB agreed upon goals not followed, STAY will be lifted and court will take over jurisdiction.

15 unexcused absences in a school year - Court truancy petition filed requesting a STAY, Community Engagement Board (CEB) meeting required.

Sequim Elementary PTA

Parent Teacher Association - Our PTA is a big part of our Greywolf & Helen Haller Elementaries. The PTA sponsor fundraisers and activities <u>at both</u> schools throughout the year. Anyone can join and EVERYONE is welcome. Annual dues are \$10 to be an active voting member. Forms are available in the office. Meetings are at 6pm the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Helen Haller Library.

Officers for 2023-2024

President: Erin Hiner Secretary: Carrie Johnson VP: Ali Hueter Fundraising: May Smith

Treasurer: Ginger Voyles

SequimElementaryPTA@gmail.om * Phone: (360) 504-6810

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE PTA

- Box Tops for Education. The Box tops app makes it easy to earn cash for our school. Download, purchase Box Top products, then scan your receipt. www.boxtops4education.com
- 2. **Volunteer:** There are various opportunities to volunteer throughout the year. Join a committee and help plan events, or help the day of event!
- Annual Holiday Bazaar: Held each year at Greywolf, support by having a booth to sell, help at concessions, or organize the raffle. Dates this year are December 2-3.

PLEASE GET INVOVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) is a family and community engagement educational initiative. There are 2 primary goals of the WATCH D.O.G.S. program. If interested please contact **Top Dog: Tim Havel.**



- 1. To provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important.
- 2. To provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

Who are WatchDOGS (Dads Of Great Students)?

WatchDOGS are fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other father-figures who volunteer for at least one day each year at an official WATCH D.O.G.S. ®

Language of Hope

Old, negative labels

- Rebellious
- Demanding
- Emotional Roller-coaster
- Perfectionist
- Negative
- Irrational
- Whiny
- Disobedient
- Manipulative
- Has to have own way
- Obstinate
- Resistant
- Bossy
- Temperamental
- Mouthy
- Lazy
- Daydreamer

New, positive labels

- Independent
- Persistent
- Sensitive
- Holds high standards
- Analytical
- Creative
- Expressive
- Strong
- Charismatic
- Committed to his/her own goals
- · Not easily swayed, confident
- Focused
- Future Manager
- Whimsical
- Honest & forthright
- · Easy going, confident
- Thinker (Einstein –like quality)



10 Things Parents Can Do At Home To Believe, Connect and Time Travel In Celebration Of Kids At Hope

- 1. Write letters to your children that describe all their talents and skills.
- 2. Recite the Kids at Hope pledge and the Treasure Hunter pledge during dinner.
- 3. Ask your children to name the caring adults in their lives (including you).
- 4. Help your children figure out what years they will graduate from high school and college and prominently display those dates as "Graduating Class of ______."
- 5. Ask your children what they want to study when they go to college. Remind them that they get to choose the subjects in college.
- Talk to your child about your hobbies and ask your child what hobbies they would like to have as an adult or start a new hobby with your child such as walking, hiking or biking.
- Talk to your child about "service to others"; choose a project you
 can do together to help someone such as picking up trash or doing
 a good deed for a neighbor

8. Have your children draw a picture of their future home and family. Ask them where they want to live, what kind of parents they think

they will be, etc.

 Ask your children to think of three careers that they might like to have as adults and talk about what they need to do to get ready for those careers.



A Few Ideas for Parent/Guardian/Anchor Family Members

As a parent or guardian, you can help your child feel Hope! We at school are excited to partner with you to help your child "time travel," or vision forward, to four destinations – Home & Family, Education & Career, Hobbies & Recreation, and Community & Service. There are thousands of things you can do to be an Anchor Family Member; here are a few simple ideas for adults and kids to do together in each of life's destination points to get you started.

Home & Family

- Ask your child to help you with cooking (also boosts math skills)
- Write letters/cards to family members
- Create your family tree use pictures for easy reference
- Design and create a model of a house or room of the future

Education & Career

- Talk with your child about goals for the school year highlight strengths
- Talk about your career, what you do, who it helps, what you like about it
- Share good experiences you've had at school and talk about the importance of finishing school
- Identify and talk about three interesting careers

Hobbies & Recreation

- Visit a museum
- Play a game Candyland, Go Fish, Old Maid, Chess, etc.
- Share your hobby with your child
- Go for walks and learn about forest plants
- Write a book about a vacation

Community & Service

- Clean out the closets. Donate old/outgrown clothes and toys
- Assist an elderly person together wash a car, pull weeds, etc.
- Donate to a food bank
- Have a lemonade stand and donate the funds to charity
- Talk to your children about how you volunteer and give back;
 let them know how you may have benefitted from others



A few helpful/fun websites...

- Pbskids.org games, videos, activities featuring fun characters
- Crayola.com games, coloring pages, etc.
- Nickjr.com favorite Nick Jr. activities from arts and crafts to recipes
- iTunes.com there are many kid friendly apps available on iTunes and iPhone
- Parenting.com helpful tips for parents
- Educatingkids.com rates games, including video games, toys and more.





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

El Distrito Escolar de Sequim no discrimina en ningún programa o actividad por motivos de sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, estado de veterano o militar, orientación sexual, expresión o identidad de género, discapacidad o el uso de un guía para perros o animales de servicio y proporciona el mismo acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos de jóvenes designados. Los siguientes empleados han sido designados para manejar preguntas y quejas de supuesta discriminación: Título IX, y Coordinador de Cumplimiento de los Derechos Civiles: 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

Kid's At Hope Pledge

I am a kid at Hope.
I am talented, smart and capable of success. I have dreams for the future, and I will climb to reach those goals and dreams everyday.

ALL children are capable of success.

NO EXCEPTIONS!



A Parent's Pledge
I am an Anchor Parent.
I believe my child is talented,
smart, and capable of success.
I am committed to
helping my child reach their goals
and dreams. I believe that my
child will succeed.
NO EXCEPTIONS!

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