



Jag Chronicle

Attendance Does Matter

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Parents:

Safety is always our first priority here at JMS. Remember to drive slowly through the parking lot as students and staff are crossing to enter the building. Absolutely NO U-TURNS- this is a safety concern and leads to congestion.

Students Riding Bikes or Scooters:

Please walk your bike or scooter once you reach the school campus. This ensures your visibility. Remember, crosswalks are for pedestrians.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance has been shown to increase student success at school.

If teachers are to take full advantage of the time allotted for instruction, teachers need to have students be present, on time, and on task. Once a teaching moment is lost, it is lost forever.

Time involved in reviewing missed materials, distractions from students entering the classroom late, and time spent in record keeping for attendance purposes is non-productive in terms of teaching and learning. Habits of absence and tardiness can affect work performance when these youngsters become adults.

Excused Absences

The following are valid excuses for absences from school:

- Participation in a district or school approved activity or instructional program
- Illness, health condition or medical appointment
- Family emergency
- Religious or cultural purpose Court, judicial proceeding or serving on a jury
- Post-secondary, technical school or apprenticeship program visitation
- Absence directly related to the student's homeless status
- Absence resulting from a disciplinary/corrective action
- Principal (or designee) and parent, guardian, or emancipated youth mutually agreed upon approved activity

The school principal (or designee) has the authority to determine if an absence meets the above criteria for an excused absence.

Unexcused Absences

Any absence from school for the majority of hours or periods in an average school day is unexcused unless it meets one of the criteria above for an excused absence.

Why?...Because It's the Law

A parent/guardian conference shall be scheduled after multiple unexcused absences.

After the *seventh* unexcused absence (or *thirty-six* class periods) during any month or the *tenth* unexcused absence (or *fifty-four* class periods) during the school year, the school district will file a petition with the juvenile court alleging violation of RCW28A 225.010 by the parent and/or the child. (BECCA Bill) This also applies to excessive absences, excused or unex-

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Jefferson Calendar

JANUARY

- 1/4 Early Release 11:05 AM 1,2,3
- 1/5 Band Concert @ JMS 7:30pm
- 1/9 ASB students
- 1/16 No School - Martin Luther King Day
Temperance and Good Citizenship Day
- 1/23 JSSO Meeting 5:30 PM @JMS
- 1/25 Reach Play 6:30
- 1/26 Activity/Group Photos @JMS
- 1/27 Early Release 11:05 AM
2nd Quarter Ends
- 1/30 Winter Sports Begin (Boys Basketball/Girls Soccer)



FEBRUARY

- 2/1 Early Release 11:05AM—No Sports after school
- 2/2 ASB Meeting 9:10 AM
- 2/3 Activity Night 6:30-8:30PM @ JMS
Make –up sports practice after school
- 2/7 Sports Parent Information Meeting 4:15PM JMS Large Gym
- 2/20-2/21 Midwinter Break – No School
- 2/28 JMS Orchestra concert at CHS 7:30 PM

LOST & FOUND

Is your student missing hoodies, tee shirts, coats, lunchboxes etc? Chances are they are waiting to be discovered in our ever growing, overflowing lost and found! Please remind your students to come look, or come by yourself to check out the lost and found.

College Bound Scholarships

The College Bound Scholarship is a program for low income youth who might not consider college because of the cost. Students sign a pledge in the 7th or 8th grade to be good citizens, graduate high school and gain admission to college. If their families meet the income requirements - and the students have fulfilled the pledge - then the state will cover the cost of tuition (at public institution rates) at a public or private university, community or technical college or private career college.

See the Web site for applications: www.hecb.wa.gov/collegebound. Brochures are available in the office at JMS.

NEWS FROM THE HEALTHROOM

It's that "sniffing, sneezing, coughing" time of year again when we start to see many students coming in complaining about not feeling well. As with every year when we return from break, we share our colds and flu and keep the health room very busy. I would like to remind parents that if your child isn't feeling well, even if they do not have a temperature, please keep them at home rather than sending them to school with the hope that they will feel better. (Usually 24 hours of rest and fluids does the trick.) This will help keep the "sick germs" from infecting other students, and parents will not have to leave work to pick up sick children.

Also, if you would like your student to have a pain reliever at school (such as Tylenol/ibuprofen) you must complete a medication authorization form, (obtained from the office), with your signature and the doctor's name. We will fax this to your doctor for his authorization.

PLEASE NOTE: The Jefferson health room is not staffed with a nurse full time.

SNOW BULLETIN

It is that time of year again when severe weather and snow causes late starts and school closures. We have posted on our website a letter from the superintendent about emergency route changes for the busses serving our schools.

(http://osd.wednet.edu/media//pagefiles/2015-2016_snow_bulletin_and_emergency_routes.pdf)

The school district will inform families using our website and phone messaging system as soon as any changes are made. We do encourage families to monitor local radio stations (such as Mixx 96.1) and local television stations for school closure information as well.

Parents Help Jefferson Through The JSSO

JSSO 2016 - 2017 Volunteer Positions

President - Katie Hurley
 Treasurer - Sherrie Smith
 Asst. Treasurer - Michelle Grippo
 Secretary - Kristen Westlund
 Volunteers - Maria Anderson
 Store Buyer - Pati Koong
 Teacher Appreciation - Kristen Westlund
 Yearbook - Rebecca Cornelius

JSSO meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Jefferson Staff Room. All Parents and Staff are welcome!

Upcoming volunteer opportunities include Activity Night (February 3, 6:15-8:45 pm), Teacher Appreciation (last week of March) and daily in the Student Store. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to JeffersonJSSO@gmail.com.

Early Release Dates

Calendar Information -

Jefferson events are posted on our website at Jefferson.osd.wednet.edu .

Olympia School District information, including the school year calendar is available at osd.wednet.edu .

Early Release Days: School will begin at 8:00 AM and release at 11:05 AM. Buses will transport students home early on these days. Early Release Wednesdays are set up so that OSD teachers have time for collaboration. On the following days school will release at 11:05AM: January 27, February 1, March 1, May 3, and the last day of school, June 21.

JMS Newsletter

In an effort to conserve resources for schools, JMS doesn't mail the newsletter home. The newsletter is posted on the JMS webpage (<http://jefferson.osd.wed>), and we will have copies available in the office. If you would still like a copy mailed to you, please contact the office