

Netherwood News

December 2020

Edition Three 2020-2021



Hello,

We made it through the first traditional break in the school calendar this past week.

While this time away most likely looked and felt very different for us all this year, we do hope that our NKE community was able to spend some time with those closest to them and to find a moment to relax.

We would like to thank all families that were able to complete the family survey and provide us with insights into what is going well, and how we may find some ways to improve the learning experience this year. As to be expected, there were a variety of responses, but some themes did emerge. The first theme was that we miss the many social aspects of the in person school experience, and would see value in ways to increase peer to peer social opportunities even if done virtually. The second theme was an interest in seeing how we could better differentiate the academic rigor to meet individual needs. Some families need us to reduce the volume of work, or slow the pace of new learning, while others would like us to increase the volume or pace. This is something that can be a challenge when fully in person as well.

With regards to more social opportunities, a committee of staff members at NKE are in the process of planning for grade level specific offerings that we hope to roll out as voluntary experiences for our learners in the new year. With regards to the differentiation of academic work, we are working with the district to add additional tools that teachers will be able to offer to learners and their families. These would be in the form of computer adaptive self-paced tools that can target specific skills for learners to work on.

Recently, the Center for Educational Leadership at the University of Washington shared the results of student surveys they conducted. The theme they noticed in the student responses is that what students want from their educational experience is to be **“happy and proud”**. We think this insight from students is especially instructive to us as we work to deliver the very best learning experience for our students during this unique time in our history. We continue to see the value of moving academic progress forward, but making sure we do it in a way that accounts for the social and emotional side of the children we work with.

We hope that our effort continues to support the growth of our learners, as well as contributes to maintaining a healthy community. We wish the best for all our families during the weeks ahead.

Thanks for your continued partnership with us!

Mr. Kluck

Notes and Reminders

Pick up and Drop Off Reminders

In order to keep our car pick up line moving efficiently and to ensure the safety of every student, staff and family please follow :

- Drive all the way up even if you see your child standing at a particular spot. Students will be walked to their car.
- Please try to stay in your car.
- Have students enter your car through the curbside door.
- Please remember that you are required to wear a mask on school grounds if you leave your vehicle.

Finally, if your child is going home through a different method than they usually do, please email the classroom teacher or send in a note and/or call the office at 835-4191. We will follow the student's transportation plan unless we receive communication from families of an alternative plan. We will not change transportations plans if it is only communicated to school by students.

Asynchronous Work

All students have online work expectations for independent work. While the online expectations differ based on each student, every K - 2 student has activities that are delivered through SeeSaw. Every 3 - 4 student has independent work that is intended for times when students are not live with teachers through google classroom. If you or your child are having any difficulties accessing independent work through these learning platforms, please reach out to your classroom teachers or Maria Rach at mnrach@oregonsd.net.

Reporting an Absence

Please call the attendance line at 835-4100 if your child is going to be absent from school. This would be for both online learning and in person. It is fine to inform your child's teacher of an absence but you must call the attendance line to report the absence. If your child is sick, please leave a voicemail with your child's symptoms. An absence due to a medical appointment (doctor, dentist, orthodontist) will be excused with a medical excuse. Medical excuses can be emailed to jks@oregonsd.net or faxed to 608-835-7827

Virtual Attendance Code

This year if a student does not attend their in person instruction or their live synchronous meets, they would be marked absent. However, if the student completes the independent work assigned to them on SeeSaw or Google Classroom, their attendance code will be changed from absence to virtual attendance.

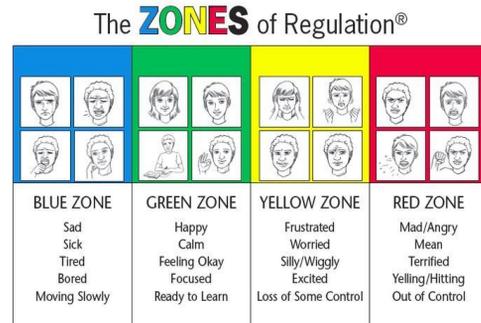
IMPORTANT DATES:

- *December 9--Supply Pick Up for Oregon Online and 3rd and 4th grade Phased Restart(12:00-6:00pm)
- *December 23-January 1, 2021-- Winter Break
- *January 4, 2021--First day back to School
- *January 18, 2021--No School, Teacher Professional Day

Social Emotional Learning

Zones of Regulation

We are continuing with our work on the zones of regulation. Kindergarten students received those lessons at the beginning of the year so they can be up to speed on that language and way of self-monitoring. Here is a great visual that can be helpful when talking with your child about the Zones of Regulation.



This month all families will be receiving a social emotional learning kit in their supply bags or sent home with students. This kit has posters and tools for keeping learners in the green zone. Students know that when they are in the green zone, they are ready to learn. Ask your child what strategies they use to stay in the green zone?

PBIS Update

What is PBIS?

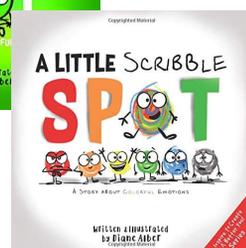
PBIS (**P**ositive **B**ehavior **I**nterventions and **S**upports) is a process for creating school environments that are more predictable and effective for achieving academic and social goals. When we talk about school environments, we are also working really hard to include homes, daycare providers, and other settings this year. Most importantly our PBIS team is focused on ensuring that every student feels like they belong at NKE!

Rainbow Recognitions

In a typical year, we often have classroom and school-wide incentive programs. This year, we will continue that on more of a classroom basis. Teachers will be working with their students to recognize ways students are being safe, respectful, and responsible as they learn either in person or in a virtual setting. Classrooms are working to fill in a rainbow with colored “spots” to earn a reward or incentive. Some of our typical ideas don’t work so well this year, but a few ideas are: pajama day, virtual lunch with the teacher, camping day, hat day, bring a stuffed animal to “class”, virtual field trips, class dance party, etc. We truly are working to create classroom communities that can work together towards common goals by exhibiting positive behaviors.

SEL Lessons

During the month of December students will have two lessons: A Peaceful Spot and A Little Scribble Spot. During these lessons, students will learn about how to manage big emotions. During Guidance this month, students will learn more about the big feelings of impatience, anger and disappointment. Find a time this month to share how you manage your big emotions as a family.



Notes and Reminders

The Oregon School District is continuing its participation in ORCHARDS (Oregon Child Absenteeism due to Respiratory Disease Study), a public health cold and flu study led by Jonathan Temte MD, PhD and Shari Barlow of the UW Department of Family Medicine and Community Health (DFMCH). Research began in January of 2015, and since then the study team has conducted over 2,400 home visits with sick children in OSD. This study is sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and will continue through the 2020-2021 school year.

The usual face-to-face ORCHARDS home visits cannot take place at this time while the novel coronavirus is circulating, but the research team is still dropping off packets for families with sick school-aged children.

Call the study line for more info: 608-265-3164

This is a summary of the family sub-study component: All family members swab themselves with a quick nasal swab on the drop-off day, and 7 and 14 days later. The study team will pick up the specimens the day after each collection and you will receive a \$50 gift card for your participation! The samples will be tested for influenza and SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). We hope you will consider doing the family study because:

1. This is a wonderful way to keep supporting our study, and more broadly, research that contributes to furthering public health knowledge about respiratory illness transmission and the best ways to mitigate the spread of viruses (like COVID-19) in a community.
2. We have local gift cards as payment options, which allows you to save on expenses AND support local businesses!
3. You will receive influenza and SARS-CoV-2 results for you and your family.
4. It's a way to break up the day, and give kids a chance to participate in hands-on science research that can spark conversations about what's going on right now, and the important ways to keep everybody healthy.

If your child becomes ill, your family may be able to participate in the ORCHARDS sub-study if:

- They are a student, grades 4K – 12, in the Oregon School District
- They are experiencing at least 2 of the following cold or flu symptoms - runny nose, stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat, headache, fatigue, cough, fever
- Their symptoms started = 7 days ago

If your family is interested in participating, you may contact the study by calling (608) 265-3164 or emailing: ORCHARDS@fammed.wisc.edu to determine eligibility. More information is available at www.orchardstudy.org and at www.facebook.com/orchardstudy, where we post updates on flu activity, viruses currently circulating in the Oregon School District, and Fun Flu Fact Friday! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Oregon Child Absenteeism due to Respiratory Disease Study (ORCHARDS)



Oregon PTO News

Next PTO Meeting

Please join us at our January meeting on January 12 at 6:30pm virtually at:

<https://epic.webex.com/epic/j.php?MTID=mda39c8fbd7d587b2a7d4233c4dba15a9>

Dine Out for Education

Our next Dine Out will be on Wednesday, December 2 from 10:30 AM-9:00 PM at MOD Pizza in Fitchburg(2960 Cahill Main).

Take out, delivery and pick up are available. Use coupon code GR1654400 at checkout. The PTO will get back 20% of sales!

Operation Joy

Thank you to all who supported the Operation Joy-Winter Gear drive this year. The Oregon, Brooklyn and Forest Edge PTO's were able to provide coats, snow pants, boots, gloves and hats to over 65 students. This is remarkable and very much appreciated!

Get Involved

How can I find out more? Visit our website:
<https://oregonpto.org>

Visit us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/OregonElementaryPTO>

How can I volunteer for PTO events?
<https://oregonpto.org/pto-volunteer-form/> and watch for posts on our website and Facebook page

Subscribe to our emails:
<https://oregonpto.org/subscribe-to-emails/>

Any questions? Please contact Kelly at president_kelly@oregonpto.org.

Library News/Curbside Pick Up

Library Book Request

We wanted to reach out with some information about the Netherwood Knoll Library.

- You can request library books by using the [Book Request Form](#) which is also linked on the [NKE Destiny Discover library](#) page.
- Library curbside pickup/returns for Oregon Online K-4 and Phased Restart 3-4 students are the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month through December (12-6 pm). Please have requests in by the Thursday before each pickup day.
- Library classroom deliveries/returns for Phased Restart K-2 students are the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month through December during the am/pm sessions. Please have requests in by the Thursday before each delivery day.
- Tutorials on how to place Holds on library books and how to use the request system, as well as links to our weekly Storytimes, can be found on our [NKE Library Tutorials & Read Alouds](#) page. This is also linked on our [NKE Destiny Discover library](#) page.
- **Beginning in January**, our curbside pickup will be changing to the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (Jan. 13 and Jan.27) to coincide with building supply pickup dates to limit the number of parent trips to school.

Happy reading!

Mrs. Brauns & Mrs. Niles

Curbside Pickup Dates for December

Library Book Curbside Pickup (for Oregon Online K-4 and Phased Restart 3rd-4th grade)

*Wednesday, December 2nd and December 16 from 12:00-6:00 pm

Supply Pick up for Oregon Online and 3rd-4th grade Phased Restart

*Wednesday, December 9 from 12:00-6:00 pm

(If your student has a sibling who attends K-2 Phased Restart, their bag will be sent home with sibling)