

**Lafayette Elementary School**  
**2645 California Ave SW Seattle, WA 98116**  
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**Jo Lute-Ervin, Principal**  
**Karmen Nordhogen, Assistant Principal**

**September 14, 2011-----Bulletin 1**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Sept. 15	Thursday	Kindergarten & Room 14 Curriculum Night (6:30-8:00p.m., <i>Adults Only</i> )
Sept. 19-Oct 14		MAP Testing Begins
Sept. 22	Thursday	PTA Meeting (7:00-8:00pm, Library)
Sept. 27	Tuesday	Walk-A-Thon Assembly (TBD)
<b>Sept. 28</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>EARLY DISMISSAL (1:35p.m.)</b>
Sept. 28 – 30		Camp Colman (4th Grades Only)
Oct. 3 – 28		DRA Testing (2 <sup>nd</sup> grades only)
Oct. 4	Tuesday	Individual School Picture Day
Oct. 5	Wednesday	PTA Board Meeting (7:00-8:00pm, Library)
<b>Oct. 6</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Spectrum Application Deadline (See attached flyer)</b>
		Curriculum Night (Grades 1 thru 5 only, 6:30-8:00p.m., <i>Adults Only</i> )
Oct. 7	Friday	Field Trip (Children’s Theatre, Kindergarten’s & 1 <sup>st</sup> grades, 10:30am)
Oct. 12	Wednesday	Student Council Meeting (12:25pm, Library)
Oct. 13	Thursday	PTA Meeting (7:00-8:00pm, Library)
<b>Oct. 14</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS (Professional Dev. Day)</b>
Oct. 20	Thursday	Field Trip (Children’s Theatre, 1 <sup>st</sup> grades only, 11:30am)
Oct. 21	Friday	Walk-A-Thon
Oct. 24	Monday	Field Trip (Olympia, 5th Grades Only)
Oct. 25	Tuesday	Field Trip (Children’s Theatre, Room 26 only, 10:15am)
<b>Oct. 26</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>EARLY DISMISSAL (1:35p.m.)</b>
Oct. 28	Friday	Creepy Crawly Tea (2 <sup>nd</sup> grades only)
Oct. 31	Monday	Field Trip (Spider Safari at Camp Long, Room 26 only)

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**“THANK YOU” JUST ISN’T ENOUGH...**

Thank you so much to all of you who participated in the summer activities that have brought a new freshness to our school! We are so grateful for all of the foresight, creativity, hard work and determination it has taken to rejuvenate our playground, our hallways, and our overall community. Fortunately (or unfortunately?) there are too many to name, but there are a few standouts for sure: Deborah Hazlegrove, Holly Grambihler, Sean Reynolds, Laurie Utterback, Gretchen DeDecker, Mary Kevane and the folks from ING Direct and numerous others who worked tirelessly to achieve this awesome vision. We thank you deeply....

**TESTING SCHEDULE FOR FALL**

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) begins on **September 19-October 14**  
DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment) begins on **October 3-October 28** for all second graders.  
Please contact Karmen Nordhogen ([kknordhogen@seattleschools.org](mailto:kknordhogen@seattleschools.org)) the school’s Testing Coordinator for further questions.

**INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PICTURE DAY (10/4/11)**

Our photographer will be at Lafayette on **Tuesday, October 4, 2011** to photograph the students. **The payment envelopes will be sent home soon.** Please return the payment envelopes to your child’s teacher as soon as possible, prior to picture day. Thanks.

**PUYALLUP FAIR TICKETS**

We have a few Puyallup Fair Tickets for **Lafayette students only**. If you would like one, please contact the front office. Please note that these are not for siblings or friends, only Lafayette students.

**ROOTS OF EMPATHY** [www.rootsofempathy.org](http://www.rootsofempathy.org).

Lafayette Elementary is pleased to continue the Roots of Empathy program in all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms this year. This program aims to enhance the social and emotional skills of students. At the heart of this program are monthly visits by a neighborhood parent/baby in the classroom. If you are going to have a baby 2-4 months old when the program starts in October and are interested in volunteering for this rewarding program, please contact Linda Filley-Bentler at [lindafilleybentler@gmail.com](mailto:lindafilleybentler@gmail.com) or (206) 933-1109. The commitment is 40 minutes for nine visits about once a month, and we can work around your schedule.

**KINDERGARTEN & ROOM 14 ONLY CURRICULUM NIGHT (9/15/11)**

6:30 – 6:55p.m. A report from the Principal

7:00 – 8:00p.m. Time with your child's teacher

This is an ADULTS ONLY evening. Students should not accompany their parents. This night you can find out how to volunteer in your child's classroom; major projects for the year; field trip information; how the class is run; what to expect this year; kindergarten standards; get your questions answered and more!!! Our expectation is that 100% of parents will attend. If you cannot attend, please let your child's teacher know.

**CURRICULUM NIGHT FOR GRADES 1 THRU 5 (10/6/11) (With the exception of Room 14)**

6:30 – 6:55p.m. A report from the Principal

7:00 – 7:45p.m. Time in the classroom

7:50 – 8:00p.m. Meet our Specialists

Each Specialist will be in his/her classroom to meet you and discuss their program. If you cannot attend, please stop by and pick up a handout that describes the program. The following Specialists will be available – Laurie Belfor (P.E.), David Zwiren (Technology), Melia Scranton (Fine Arts), Aaron Swartzman (Movement), Linda Nakagawa (Library).

To provide you with high quality presentations we are trying just one session this year. This means that if you have more than one child in grades 1-5, parents would need to split up to cover more than one classroom or attend just one session and then pick up handouts from the other classroom. In the past when we have offered 2 sessions, the second session has been very sparsely attended and the first session has been cut off in order to start the second session (for a very few people). This is the rationale behind going to just one high quality session. We've also added the Kindergarten-only Curriculum Night to better serve our parent community. We look forward to seeing 100% of our parents. Please be sure to sign in, in your child's classroom. The Grade 1-5 Curriculum Night is an ADULTS-ONLY event. It is not an appropriate event for students. See above for topics to be covered.

**5th Grade Parents** – AIDS Education: This year 5th grade parents/guardians will have the opportunity to view the state-approved AIDS education curriculum materials during Curriculum Night (10/6/11). State law requires that students have AIDS prevention lessons annually and that parents receive the program in person if they wish to have their child excused from these classes. If you would like to see these materials, they will be available for review at Curriculum Night. Please see your child's 5th grade teacher.

**FAMILY HANDBOOKS**

If you have more than one child enrolled at Lafayette, and received 2 Family Handbooks via the First Day Packet we are asking that you return any extras to the front office. Thank you for your help on this.

**MARKING STUDENT ITEMS/LOST AND FOUND**

It is very helpful to label your child's lunchbox and coat in the event an item is misplaced. Our Lost and Found is located in the West Wing. Missing lunchboxes are displayed on the bench under the Community Board in the main entry.

### **NEXT YEAR'S LAFAYETTE AUCTION PARTY**

Last December's "It's Our Turn to Swing" auction was so much fun! We've decided to have another one. Mark your calendars for "The Raisin' O' the Green" on **Friday, March 17, 2012** at the Hall at Fauntleroy! All funds raised will benefit the Lafayette PTA. You can follow the auction on Facebook by searching for **Lafayette Elementary Auction 2012**. If you have questions or would like to join the auction team, please contact Laurie Utterback at [luckie@biancadavis.com](mailto:luckie@biancadavis.com).

### **PTA'S NEW AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

New to Lafayette? Wondering what in the world the Walk-A-Thon is or what else to expect in the coming year? We have a friendly group of folks who want to help welcome you to the school and answer your questions! New Kindergarten families, your ambassadors are including a flyer with this bulletin for your information. The Kindergarten Ambassadors are:

Mr. Bell's Room:	Sandi Buchanan	<a href="mailto:sandibuchanan@comcast.net">sandibuchanan@comcast.net</a>	933-1065
Ms. Hebert's Room:	Gina Allen	<a href="mailto:rdgina@yahoo.com">rdgina@yahoo.com</a>	938-3336
Ms. Boyll's Room:	Patti Bunting	<a href="mailto:pattibunting@comcast.net">pattibunting@comcast.net</a>	768-0493
Mrs. Price's Room:	Rachel Brooks	<a href="mailto:brooksrachel@comcast.net">brooksrachel@comcast.net</a>	937-0107

For all our other new families in other grades, privacy policies keep us from being able to contact you directly at this time, but if you'd like to connect with your ambassador please contact Emily Swanson at 935-8898 or [emilyds@comcast.net](mailto:emilyds@comcast.net).

### **LIKE ROBOTS AND MORE? JOIN LASER – Lafayette Science, Engineering & Robotics**

Lafayette has a new club for kids (1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup>) who want to design, build and test things, while learning teamwork and having fun. LaSER (Lafayette Science Engineering & Robotics) gets off to a fast start this month by forming teams for the international FLL and Jr. FLL robotics competitions, based on LEGO robotics kits. Mentors will group kids into 3 or 4 teams, roughly by age. After regional FLL and Jr. FLL events in November and December, LaSER will explore other ways of designing and building things (possibly laser cutting, 3D printing, game programming, etc...) There will be an activity fee for this club (yet to be determined), but some scholarships are available. Available spots are limited by space, number of mentors, equipment availability and registration deadlines. To express your interest, please mail Matt Jensen at [matt@mattjensen.com](mailto:matt@mattjensen.com) as soon as possible (if you have not already contacted anyone about the club).

### **WANT TO MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE WITH A FEW HOURS OF YOUR TIME?**

Interested in getting to know people in the West Seattle community? We still need parents to volunteer to contact local businesses for Walk-A-Thon sponsorships. We've got a great packet that has everything you need to make this job easy. Many businesses have sponsored us enthusiastically year after year and are eager to do so again! If you're interested, please contact this year's Procurement Chair, Mark Johnson at 206-290-2928.

### **WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO STUDENTS AT LAFAYETTE?**

Take a quick Washington State PTA survey (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JJK9WVD>) and let us know. Washington State PTA lobbies on behalf of all members for the well-being and education of Washington youth. Delegates will be meeting this October to adjust our 2-year platform see: [http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/association\\_position/index.html](http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/association_position/index.html)). We are gathering feedback for them. Your opinion matters! It will help shape our advocacy for the next year. But hurry – *the survey closes Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>*. Questions? Please contact Lisa Schubert, Lafayette PTA Legislative Chair ([schubes14@gmail.com](mailto:schubes14@gmail.com))

### **WALK NOW FOR AUTISM SPEAKS**

Autism affects 1 in 110 children and it touches our Lafayette community every day. What can we do about it? We can come together as a team and show our solidarity as a community. We have a team to walk on **Saturday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>**. The walk is at **Seattle Center – Center Square and starts at 10:00a.m.** Wear a Lafayette t-shirt if you can and meet us at the fountain. If you are going to join our team, go to [www.walknowforautismspeaks.org](http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org) and register with our team name of **The Awesome Amazing A-Team**. Questions? Contact Courtney at [comartorana@seattleschools.org](mailto:comartorana@seattleschools.org).

### **SPANISH CLUB**

Spanish Club is back! (See attached flyer for further details.) If you are interested in having your child join Spanish Club please email Courtney at [comartorana@seattleschools.org](mailto:comartorana@seattleschools.org) or complete the attached flyer and return it to the office.

Dear Parents;

We want to make sure communication is clear for the beginning of this school year, and to that end we need to let you know about some logistic issues at Lafayette. We currently have an enrollment of over 560 students for the 2011/2012 school year. This is definitely going to make moving throughout the building challenging. Below are some expectations as we go into the 2011/2012 school year.

### **Start/End Times**

Lafayette will start at 9:30a.m., and end at 3:35p.m. This is a change from the 2010/2011 school year.

### **Student Drop Off and Pick Up**

We have started a new procedure for arrival, recesses and dismissal. **Starting at 9:10a.m.** all students should be dropped off on the playground, and teachers will pick students up from their classroom lines after the bell rings. Students may go to the lunchroom for breakfast, and return to the playground afterwards. **Students will no longer be dropped off or picked up on California Ave.** Please drop off and pick up students on the playground on Lander St., just south of the school. **Dismissal time is 3:35p.m.**

Supervision for students on the playground begins at 9:10a.m. **Students should not arrive before then.** Students should remain on the playground until the bell rings. On cold or wet mornings, students may be in the cafeteria, starting at 9:10a.m. Entrance to the cafeteria is on Lander. **Please do not use the front doors on California Ave.** Building hallways are to be clear of students and parents until the first bell rings in the morning, so that teachers may prepare/plan for the day and pick up students from the playground.

The area behind the school, by the portables, is not safe due to students and staff who may be walking in the area. Student drop off and pick up is prohibited in this area.

### **Kindergarten and Hiawatha Dismissal**

All kindergarten children will be dismissed at 3:30p.m. to allow parents to pick them up before the other grades are dismissed. Kindergarten rooms 1 and 2 students should be picked up in the garden area, and room 9 and 10 and those whose daycare is Hiawatha in the cafeteria all year long.

### **Hallway Protocols**

Lafayette is a large school. As you probably noticed on the first day, it was nearly impossible to have parents walk their child to the classroom. Starting **Monday, Sept. 12**, parents need to drop off their child as noted above. **In other words, starting Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> parents may not walk their student(s) to class.** We will have staff available to assist primary-aged students get their items unpacked, into their locker, and to class. This protocol not only allows us to start school on time, but to teach independence simultaneously. If a parent needs to go down the hall in the morning (e.g. to deliver a birthday treat or a classroom project, or because he/she has an appointment to talk to a teacher) he/she must sign in and get a pass from the office.

### **Parents at Lunch/Siblings on the Playground**

We love to have parents join their children for lunch from time to time. The exception to this is for kindergarten parents. We ask that parents of kindergarteners wait until October to join their child for lunch. This allows us time to teach your child the cafeteria rules and procedures. If you plan to come to eat lunch with your child, please sign in and get a badge before going to the cafeteria. A reminder also, that siblings may come and eat lunch too, but siblings **may not** be out on the playground during recess. If your child is buying milk, please make sure there is money in his/her lunchroom account or they have cash on them.

Thank you for helping us to keep Lafayette a safe place to be and learn!