



**Fawcett Elementary
@ McKinley &
Tacoma Public Schools
Resources / Information
Updates from
Principal Hathaway**

Week of October 25, 2021

Halloween Costumes & Candy (*NEW):

Each classroom teacher will communicate with students and families if costumes are allowed at school. If so, please ensure that there are no toy weapons attached to the costume, that shoes are supportive for recess and/or PE, and that there are no masks, as we need to visibly see each child's face (except for the mandatory face mask).

Also, we respectfully ask that you send your child with no more than ONE small piece of candy in his/her lunch only. This small piece of candy can supplement his/her school lunch.

Individual Picture Retakes (*NEW):

If your child missed our Leo's individual picture day, Leo's will be back for picture retake day on October 29th.

Bus Behavior & Bus COVID Requirements (*NEW):

If your child rides the school bus, please remind him/her to wear a mask and sit in his/her assigned seat on the bus. Both of those actions can help limit COVID-19 exposure on the bus. When students follow these rules, they also reduce the chance of missing school. When someone diagnosed with the virus rides a school bus, staff must investigate whether anyone near them is considered a close contact.

If clear bus video footage is not available, as there are cameras on all buses, and the assigned seating chart has not been followed with fidelity, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department considers everyone on the bus a close contact and requires them to quarantine.

Our goal with these bus rules is to keep students and drivers safe and reduce the number of days students miss school. The rules are enforced similar to other bus behavior requirements.

Vote Reminder (*NEW):

Please remember to vote by election day, Nov. 2. Every vote counts!

You can drop off your ballot at a drop box or mail it in. For more information on this election, please visit the Pierce County website at www.PierceCountyElections.org

Fall SBA 4th & 5th Grade Testing:

4th & 5th graders will take the math and ELA SBA test in October, per state requirements. This will include one day of math and one day of ELA testing for each grade. Here are our upcoming SBA testing days for 4th & 5th grades:

- ☼ ****Make-ups will be the week of October 25th for any students absent last week's two days of testing**

Please help us with the following to ensure your child does his/her best on the test:

- ☼ Bring his/her charged TPS laptop and charger
- ☼ Be on time for school
- ☼ Get a good night's sleep
- ☼ Eat a good breakfast
- ☼ Positive self-talk
 - Take your time
 - Check your work
 - Persevere
 - Read the directions and passages multiple times
 - Use scratch paper to solve the problems, look for errors, and show thinking
 - Listen carefully to the directions on the computer and from the teacher
 - Use the tools appropriately (computer, headphones, pencil, scratch paper, etc.)
 - Stay focused
 - Do your best on the test!



Clothing & Inclement Weather (*UPDATED):

Please do your best to send your child to school each day with clothing based on the projected weather, as we start seeing our weather change. Also, please write your child's name on the clothing so we can ensure it stays with the appropriate student. We do our best to get students outside for recess, and do not have a covered area here at McKinley, so thank you in advance for planning appropriately.

Also, please try your best to have your child wear appropriate shoes for PE and recess.

Beyond the Bell:

Are you looking for information about childcare, clubs, sports, field trips? Families can register now for Beyond the Bell and find "Pay What You Choose" activities at all elementary and middle schools.

Everything is all in one place. Go to our school's website or the TPS Family App to register. Beyond the Bell programs are for elementary schools, and Club beyond is for middle school activities.

Our Beyond the Bell coordinator is Jennifer Boutell. Her email address is: jboutel@tacoma.k12.wa.us and Google Voice # is (541) 224-6923.

Session 1: ends October 29

Session 2: November 8-December 10 (registration is open until October 27th) – transportation will be provided!

- ☼ **OPTIONS: Culture Club with Asia Pacific Cultural Center, Her Village with Village Life, and cross country**

Session 3: January 10-February 19

Session 4: March 7-April 22

Session 5: May 2-June 10



Holiday Help:

Would your family benefit from support this holiday season? We are excited to announce that due to a strong community partnership, we are able to offer holiday help to our Fawcett community. We would like to be able to provide each Fawcett student in need a minimum of 2 gifts this holiday season.

If your family could use assistance this season, please visit bit.ly/FawcettHoliday2021 and fill out the request form. Be sure to submit it by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021. All information collected will be kept confidential between our family liaison, your family, and the Holiday Help coordinator.

Our Holiday help coordinator will reach out to you by November 4, 2021 to let you know if we will be able to support your family this holiday season.

Please watch for further communications from Fawcett if you would like to support any Fawcett students as a part of this effort.

Breakfast & Lunch Menus (*UPDATED):

Daily menus for breakfast and lunch are now available through our school website. Go to either our school website or www.tacomaschools.org and select the "Meals" button. From there, you can select our school on the menu page and find the items we're serving. More food options are beginning to come back. While there are still some supply chain issues, we are starting to see more fresh fruits and vegetables in the cafeteria, along with more freshly cooked food and less prepackaged food served. Menus are still subject to change, but this is a good step forward.

Free Home Internet:

If you are interested in free home internet, a new resource is available. In partnership with Comcast, the Tacoma Urban League is sponsoring free, high-speed internet for families who qualify. For more information, parents/guardians or students can reach out to the Tacoma Urban League directly at (253) 383-2007.

When to Keep Your Child Home:

TPS would like to share the following expectations to continue doing our best to keep our entire school community healthy. If your child has ANY of these symptoms, he/she should stay home from school:

- ☼ Fever of 100.4 or higher
- ☼ Cough
- ☼ Loss of taste or smell
- ☼ Shortness of breath
- ☼ Fatigue
- ☼ Headache
- ☼ Muscle or body aches
- ☼ Sore throat
- ☼ Congestion or runny nose
- ☼ Nausea or vomiting
- ☼ Diarrhea

When they can return to school is based on their specific symptoms. Please visit our district website: www.tacomaschools.org to find a guide to when to safely send your child back to school.

Upcoming Dates through December, 2021:

- 🌀 October 25-29th: Fall Spirit Week (see below)
- 🌀 October 29th: Individual Student Picture Retakes (see above)
- 🌀 November 11th: NO SCHOOL due to Veterans Day
- 🌀 November 24-26th: Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL
- 🌀 December 6th: NO SCHOOL – Elementary Trimester Break
- 🌀 December 7th: 2nd Trimester Begins
- 🌀 December 17th: Hearing/Vision Screening Day
- 🌀 December 20th-31st: Winter Break (school resumes on January 3rd)



2021-2022 Academic Mini-Calendar

SEPTEMBER 21	OCTOBER 21	NOVEMBER 21	DECEMBER 21	JANUARY 22
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4	1
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29
	31			30 31
FEBRUARY 22	MARCH 22	APRIL 22	MAY 22	JUNE 22
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
27 28	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30

- School Starts (1-12)
- Elementary Only
- Conferences (early release)
- School Starts (PreK-K)
- Oct. 13 Conferences early release
- Last Day of School (K-12)
- No School (all grades)
- Dec. 6 No School
- Last Day of Preschool
- Middle & High Only (no school)

For detailed and updated calendars visit: tacomaschools.org/calendar

TPS Is Now Hiring! (*UPDATED):

The school district is now offering \$250-\$5,000 hiring bonuses to fill key positions:

- Nurses (\$5,000)
- LPNs (\$3,500 for licensed)
- Bus drivers (\$3,500 for CDL Class B certified, \$2,500 for non-CDL Class B certified)
- Paraeducators (\$500)
- Bus monitors (\$500)
- Nutrition services (\$500). No high school diploma or GED required. District offering incentives to obtain GED.
- Noon-hour supervisors (\$250)
- School support / contract tracing (\$250)
- We are also looking for emergency substitute teachers and have changed the requirements so that more people are temporarily eligible. Substitute pay has also increased to \$200 per day.

Find out more and apply at <http://www.tacomaschools.org/jobs>.

Late Start Wednesdays:

Our Wednesday 1-hour late start schedule has started. On these days, school will start at 10 AM and there will be no supervision prior to 9:50 AM. Bus routes will be delayed by one hour.

Volunteers:

We are ready and pleased to welcome volunteers back in schools. As always, volunteers must participate in a screening and background check, which needs to be completed annually. They must also follow all health and safety guidelines, including wearing a mask and social distancing. And this year, volunteers must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and show proof of that vaccination.

The new vaccine requirement includes two potential exemptions - a qualifying medical exemption or sincerely held religious exemption. If you are seeking an exemption to volunteer, please see how to do that at www.tacomaschools.org or in the district's Sunday newsletter from 9/12/21.

Student COVID Testing Now Available:

Starting September 20th, students who show symptoms of COVID-19 in school can take a free, voluntary test to confirm whether they have the virus. Parents/guardians must give permission for their child to take the test. Results will be reported back to you and the school within 24-48 hours, at which time appropriate quarantine and contact tracing protocols can start, if needed.

To keep others healthy, please keep your child home if they are sick, have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or have tested positive for COVID-19.

Take a look as a young TPS student shows how easy it is to take the COVID test at school:

[Story Detail - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](http://www.tacomaschools.org)

End-Of-Day Transportation:

If your child is new to riding the bus or your family is new to Fawcett, please email Ms. Kelly your child's name and address and she will get the bus set-up. Times and locations will be available for you to view the end of August. Her email is:
 kpenswi@tacoma.k12.wa.us.

****It is vital, if your transportation changes, please call the main office to inform the school. With this information, Ms. Kelly or Ms. Lori will communicate this important information to your child's teacher, so he/she gets on the bus or picked up accordingly.*

Temp Stops:	Bus #	A.M Pick-UP	P.M Drop-OFF
E E St & E 54th St - SEC	21	8:39	3:40
E Tanglewood Av & E C St - NEC	21	8:41	3:42
Fawcett Av & S 58th St - NWC	21	8:34	3:45
S 58th St & A St - SWC	21	8:36	3:47
A St & E 62nd St - SEC	21	8:30	3:51
E D St & E 62nd St - NWC	58	8:29	3:42
E D St & E 65th St - NWC	58	8:33	3:44
E E St & E 69th St - SWC	58	8:36	3:46
A St & E 68th St - SEC	81	8:37	3:53
A St & E 65th St - SEC	81	8:39	3:56
Pacific Av & S 60th St - NWC	81	8:31	3:41
S C St & S 63rd St - NWC	81	8:33	3:43
S C St & S 67th St - NWC	81	8:35	3:44
Tacoma Av & S 65th St - SEC	81	8:27	3:47
Tacoma Av & S 61st St & SEC	81	8:29	3:49
S J St & S 63RD ST *SEC	14	8:32	3:44
S 64TH ST & S M ST *NEC	14	8:33	3:45
S 70TH ST & S L ST *NEC	14	8:36	3:47
S 70TH ST & S J ST *NEC	14	8:36	3:48
866 S 64TH ST	14	8:39	3:50
TACOMA AVE S & S 72ND ST *NEC	68	8:32	3:47
S 68TH ST & TACOMA AVE S *NWC	68	8:34	3:49
S PARK AVE & S 67TH ST *SEC	68	8:35	3:51
S PARK AVE & S 64TH ST *SEC	68	8:36	3:53
S PARK AVE & S 56TH ST *SEC	68	8:38	3:56
4513 A ST - LYON ES DAYCARE	68	8:42	3:40

Student Learning During Quarantine:

Students who cannot attend school because they have COVID-19 or are required to quarantine will learn from home using lessons and support materials provided by their teachers.

TPS has developed learning plans for various remote-learning scenarios - including small groups or entire classes - for students missing in-person school for up to 14 days.

[Get more details on the learning plans here.](#)

Immunizations & Vaccinations:

More free school immunization and COVID-19 vaccination opportunities are now open to you and your family. It is so important to get those school immunizations complete. If your child received immunizations over the summer, make sure to update our school nurse. Students without required immunizations or a valid exemption will not be allowed to attend school, as the law requires.

A COVID-19 vaccine is not required for students to attend school, but they are available for free to those 12 and up, and that includes students and families. Get more details on our website or in that Sunday newsletter on 9/12/21.

Contact Tracing Process:

Our district works in partnership with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to conduct contact tracing to determine if anyone may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. The health department determines who is a close contact and gives specific dates for isolation or quarantining and returning to school. The district then provides the school COVID supervisor, with communications to notify the family of the student who is deemed a close contact.



Close contacts who are fully vaccinated are not required to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.

They are encouraged to get tested 3-5 days after exposure. If your child is identified as a close contact



and is vaccinated, you must show proof of vaccination to your school to return to school.

- Close contacts who are **NOT fully vaccinated are required by the health department to stay home for a total of 14 days past the date of exposure.** If you choose to have your child tested before they experience any symptoms and the test is negative, they must still quarantine for the entire 14-day period.

Those who are not close contacts but have been in the same classroom or workspace as someone who is COVID positive, are also provided notifications when there is a positive case. Additionally, TPS also publishes information on the district website each time there is a COVID case in a school or district office.

Before & After School Camp Registration:

MetroParks Before and After School Camp Registration for November 1st-December 17th will be available on October 7th for currently registered families. Registration will be open to the public on Monday, October 11th. Registration will close on Wednesday, October 20th.

- MetroParks Before and After School Camp Sites are **Arlington, Lyon, Fern Hill, Larchmont, and Reed.**
- Please note that rates have changed on our registration to reflect the 7-week session (This is based on our monthly rates of \$450 for full time care and \$225 for part-time care).
 - Full time Camp – AM/PM Mon-Fri- \$675 (7-week camp)
 - Part Time Camp- AM ONLY Mon-Fri \$338 (7-week camp)
 - Part Time Camp- PM ONLY Mon-Fri \$375 (7-week camp)
- Please note that **MetroParks Before and After School Camps will be CLOSED on the following days:**
 - November 11th-Veteran's Day
 - November 24th-26th -Thanksgiving Break
 - December 6th -Trimester Break
 - December 20th - January 2nd- Winter Break
- Families can apply for financial assistance and receive up to 75% off our rates. Families must complete the application and be approved **BEFORE** registering for camp. Forms can be emailed to reg.support@tacomaparks.com.
- Link to register: <https://www.metroparkstacoma.org/before-and-after-school/>

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tiffany Lemmon, the Out of School Time & Childcare Coordinator, via email at: tiffany.lemmon@tacomaparks.com or call 253.719.9472.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up & Bus Zone:

It is important, for the safety of all, and to be cognizant to the McKinley neighbors, to follow these important drop-off / pick-up expectations:

- There will be no supervision in the morning prior to **8:50 AM** on M/T/Th/F. On Wednesdays, no supervision prior to **9:50 AM**.
- Drop-off and pick-up will occur on E 37th Street **to the north of the school**. Please follow the cones, signs, and staff direction, as there is no parking on E. 37th Street (directly north of the school) or on the curb closest to the school on E. McKinley Ave., as that is where our busses will pick-up/drop-off.
- E. McKinley Ave. (on the school side) will be for busses **only**. Please do not drop-off, pick-up, or park here.
- The only crosswalk will be on the corner of E. 37th Street & E. McKinley Ave. Please adhere to direction of the crossing guard at this location.
- School is out each day at 3:30 PM.

Student drop off, pick up directions

- Drop off and pick up students on E. 37th St. (**Blue X**)
- Don't park on E. 37th St. Please follow the cones and signage placed on E. 37th St. during drop off and pick up times.
- Avoid dropping off or picking up your student in the front of the building on E. McKinley Ave. This area is reserved for buses only.



Fawcett Replacement Project Reminder:

For more about our school replacement project, visit the construction website at:

<https://www.tacomaschools.org/departments/pc/school-construction/current/fawcett>

Fawcett Elementary School Facebook Page:

If you haven't already, please "Like" our Fawcett Elementary School Facebook page, as we are frequently adding a variety of additional resources, tips, ideas, and opportunities: www.Facebook.com/FawcettFalcons. Please know, if you have questions regarding anything posted on our Facebook page, we encourage you to call the main office to ask, or email, instead of messaging or posting on our page. This will get you the quickest response.

Helpful Websites & Contact Information:

- Fawcett Elementary School website: fawcettfalcons.com
- Fawcett Elementary School Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fawcettfalcons/>
- Tacoma Public Schools: <https://www.tacomaschools.org/>
- Main office phone number: (253) 571-4700
- Fax number: (253) 571-4754
- Address @ McKinley: 3702 E McKinley Ave, Tacoma, WA 98404
- Fawcett Elementary School Schoology page: <https://tps.schoology.com/school/2909062765>

Tacoma Public Schools 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:

- ❖ Civil Rights Coordinator: Lisa Nolan, lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us, 253-571-1252;
- ❖ Title IX Coordinator, Elementary: Christa Erolin, cerolin@tacoma.k12.wa.us, 253-571-1318;
- ❖ Title IX Coordinator, Secondary: Eric Hogan, ehogan1@tacoma.k12.wa.us, 253-571-1191;
- ❖ 504 Coordinator: Elementary, Elise Friedrich-Nielsen, efriedr@tacoma.k12.wa.us, 253-571-1096;
- ❖ 504 Coordinator: Secondary, Megan Nelson, mnelson@tacoma.k12.wa.us, 253-571-1003.
- ❖ Mailing address: P.O. Box 1357, Tacoma, WA 98401-1357.
- ❖ If you have questions regarding this nondiscrimination statement and its use, please contact me at lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us or 253-571-1252.

