



# Fawcett Elementary @ McKinley & Tacoma Public Schools Resources / Information Updates

## Week of March 21, 2022

### Upcoming Dates through March, 2022:

- 🌟 March 25<sup>th</sup>- All School Field Trip to Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
- 🌟 March 28<sup>th</sup>-Report cards mailed home
- 🌟 March 29<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Day Camp @ Camp Seymour
- 🌟 April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>- Spring Break- No School—no Beyond the Bell!

### All-School Zoo Field Trip (\*UPDATED):

This Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, is our all-school fieldtrip to the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. Please ensure your child arrives on time to school this day, as we are boarding the bus shortly after the start of school. Please ensure your child dresses appropriately for the weather and if you have chosen to have your child bring a lunch from home, please have his/her name on the disposable bag. No cash is needed, as the gift shop and food court will be off limits.

If your child's teacher has chosen you as a parent/guardian chaperone, please meet us outside the zoo main doors promptly at 9:45 AM. We will have Fawcett staff outside at that time to get chaperones signed in. If you have questions, please call the main office at (253) 571-4700 prior to Friday.



### All-School Fieldtrip to the Point Defiance Zoo!

**Who:** Preschoolers through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade & All Fawcett Staff

**What:** All-School **FREE** Fieldtrip

**When:** Friday, March 25, 2022 during school hours—please ensure your child is here on time!

**Where:** Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Tacoma

**Why:** To enjoy an all-school culminating activity after our informational writing unit focusing on animals.

#### **Logistics:**

- **PERMISSION SLIPS:** All students need to bring back their completed fieldtrip permission slip prior to March 4<sup>th</sup>. Permission slips will go home with students on Feb 7.
- **BREAKFAST:** All students will continue to have the breakfast option in the morning and will eat breakfast prior to our departure.
- **LUNCH:** All students will get a free bagged lunch consisting of an allergy-friendly WOW sandwich, fruit, veggies & milk. If you would like to send your child with a lunch from home, that is fine too, but he/she will be responsible for carrying it. If so, please pack in a disposable bag, so it can be easily disposed of after lunch. Please mark on the permission slip which lunch your child will choose.
- **CHAPERONES:** Each classroom will need 3 parent/guardian chaperones. Each chaperone will need to drive and meet the class at the zoo main door **promptly** at 10 AM, have volunteer clearance through the district consisting of COVID-19 vaccination proof prior to **March 18<sup>th</sup>** (this needs to be done annually), and are unable to bring additional children. If you are interested in chaperoning within your child's class, please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible. Family members/adults who are not cleared volunteers are not permitted to attend the field trip.
- Students will be assigned a chaperone, whether it is a staff member, their teacher, or a cleared parent/guardian chaperone for the duration of the field trip. These groups will stick together at the zoo and follow all COVID-19 protocols (i.e. mask, physical distancing, etc.).
- **TRANSPORTATION:** All students and staff will ride a bus to/from the zoo. Students will be in an assigned seat and all COVID-19 cleaning protocols will be in place. If you are uncomfortable sending your child on the bus, you can drive your child to the zoo and walk him/her to the front entrance to meet up with your child's teacher at 10:00 AM. If you are opting to drive your student separately, please communicate this to your child's teacher ahead of time. Chaperones will need to drive to the zoo in their own vehicle.
- **ATTENDANCE:** The building will be closed this day, as this is a school-wide fieldtrip. If you do not wish for your child to attend the field trip, please let your child's teacher know, and their absence will be excused for the day.



*If you have further questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or call the main office at (253) 571-4700.*

### **Beyond the Bell (\*UPDATED):**

Beyond the Bell Session 4 began on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and will run through April 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 3:30-5:30 PM, two days per week. This session's course offerings are listed below. Please remember there will be no programs March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> due to early release for Spring Conferences and April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> due to Spring Break.

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

- 🌀 Session 4: March 7-April 22
- 🌀 Session 5: May 2-June 10 (registration will begin April 4<sup>th</sup> and run through April 20<sup>th</sup>)

### **Vaccination Clinics (\*NEW):**

Tacoma Public Schools and MultiCare invite students and families to participate in upcoming immunization events at different TPS sites.

Free back-to-school immunizations are available for students ages 4 and up.

Free COVID-19 vaccines are available for students ages 5 and up, TPS families, and community members.

COVID-19 boosters are available for students ages 12 and up, TPS families, and community members.

Get dates and details here: [TPS Vaccine Events - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](https://tacomaschools.org/TPS-Vaccine-Events)

### **COVID-19 School Guidance Changes:**

Effective March 14<sup>th</sup>, masks will be optional for students and staff.

We encourage you to talk to your child about your expectations for mask-wearing. Please let your child know that others might have a different perspective, and to treat them kindly and respectfully.

In addition to masks being optional, the State Department of Health updated other pieces of its COVID-19 guidance. Physical distancing is no longer required at school. There are also some changes related to students who test positive for Covid and students who were exposed to someone who tests positive. Take a look at our school website for details, and please contact us with questions.

### **Lost & Found:**

Is your child missing any coats, jackets, hats, lunch bags, gloves, or other items? If so, please encourage your child to take a look through our Lost and Found. We have accumulated quite a bit of clothing and accessories and would love to get these things back to their owners!

*\*Thank you to families for labeling items so we can get them to the right owner when unclaimed.*





### **Nurses Can Answer Your COVID-19 Questions, Monday-Friday:**

TPS families and staff can get answers to questions related to COVID-19 by calling nurses from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

Nurses will be able to answer questions about COVID guidance for schools and TPCHD resources. The call center line is 253-649-1240. It's open from 6:30 AM to 6:30 PM, Monday through Friday, through the end of the school year.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please report it to us here at school.

### **COVID-19 Tests:**

All TPS students received two free COVID-19 tests on Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. These voluntary tests are intended to support the health and safety of our community by providing results at home, as soon as symptoms are detected.

A positive result from the iHealth tests can be used to calculate a student's isolation period and determine when they can return to school. Students who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate at home for at least five full days, regardless of their vaccination status.

As of Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, schools are able to accept at-home, rapid antigen negative tests results to shorten quarantine for K-12 students and all staff, as Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD) recently updated their guidance. At-home, rapid antigen tests include, but are not limited to, the iHealth tests given to students and staff. Proof includes a photograph of the negative test result with the following detail in the photo:

- First and last name of the individual tested
- First and last name of the individual who administered the test, if known.
- The test sample collection date

### **Students & Family Members Can Get Free COVID-19 Tests at TPS Sites:**

TPS has partnered with the Department of Health and Premier Medical Group to open a second, walk-in clinic for students to receive a rapid antigen test for COVID-19. This site, at Baker Middle School, will open on Monday, February 28, 2022.

**Where:** Baker Middle School, 8001 South J street, Tacoma, 98408

**When:** 3:30-7:00 PM, Monday-Friday when school is open

**Who:** TPS students, staff and their immediate family members

You can drop into this TPS testing clinic (run by Premier Medical Group) any day school is open. You do not need an appointment. Test results are available online within 15-20 minutes. This is a rapid antigen test.

**Where:** Madison Early Learning Center, 3101 South 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Tacoma, WA 98409

**When:** 1-5 PM on school days

**Who:** TPS students, staff, and their immediate family members

[Learn more about COVID testing options](#)

### Fawcett Building Updates



Check out the latest and greatest updates regarding our temporary home at McKinley, how Fawcett's current building is being utilized by the Fire Department, and to check out preliminary designs for our new building!

[Planning and Construction - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](http://tacomaschools.org)

### Blue Positive Office Referrals:

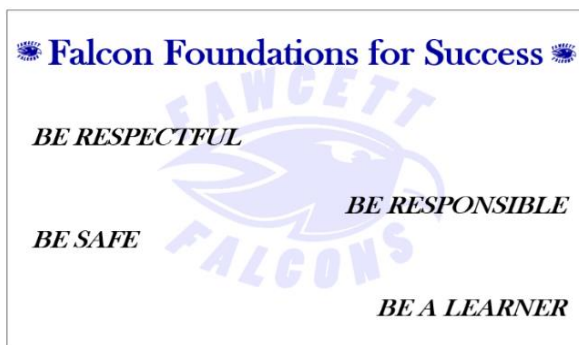
Each week all Fawcett staff members recognize two students with a blue positive office referral. Students can be recognized for exemplifying one, or more, of our Falcon Foundations for Success of: being respectful, being responsible, being safe, and/or being a learner. The staff member will give the blue positive office referral to the student who will keep it at school for the week. During our Friday afternoon announcements (see above), all students who earned a blue positive office referral will be invited to the library where students will get their picture taken to be displayed on our designated bulletin board, get acknowledgement from Ms. Hathaway and/or Mrs. Perkins, earn a \$5 falcon buck, and a token. Each student will then get to take their blue positive office referral home.

### Falcon Foundations for Success:

Each week, each classroom teacher will choose two students from their class who exemplified the falcon focus of the week. Each Friday at 3:00 PM, the weekly student falcons will be announced during our Friday afternoon announcements. Each student will receive a certificate from their teacher and will help Ms. Hathaway during the following Monday morning announcements with the Pledge of Allegiance and Falcon Commitment. Each student will also receive a \$5 falcon buck.

### March: BE RESPONSIBLE

- 21: I get started on my work without prompting.  
28: Teacher's Choice (on being responsible)





### Clothing & Inclement Weather:

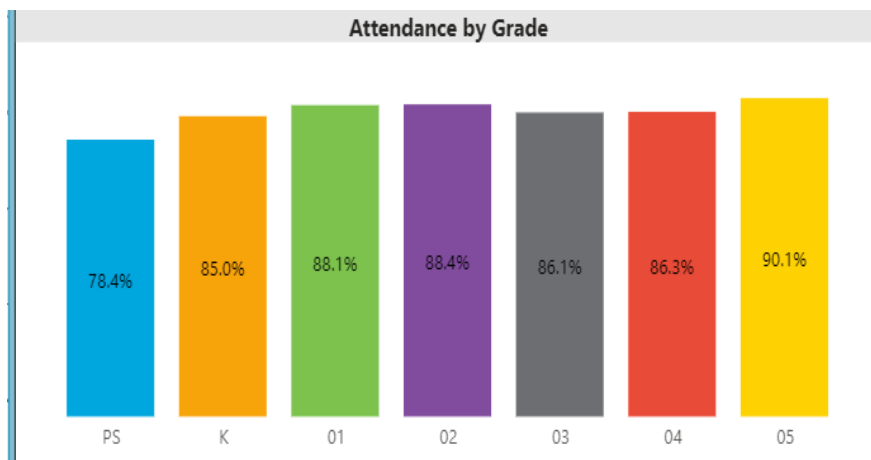
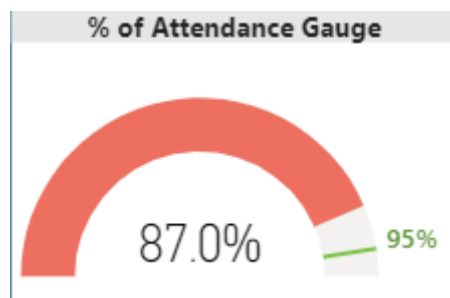
Please do your best to send your child to school each day with clothing based on the projected weather, as we start seeing our weather change. Also, please write your child's name on the clothing so we can ensure it stays with the appropriate student. We do our best to get students outside for recess, 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.

### Breakfast & Lunch Menus:

Daily menus for breakfast and lunch are now available through our school website. Go to either our school website or [www.tacomaschools.org](http://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.



### Weekly Attendance Percentages (School Goal of 95%+):



### Education Career Fair (\*NEW):

Are you or someone you know looking to teach or work in Tacoma Public Schools? Come talk to school district representatives, who will be at the Tacoma Dome this Tuesday, March 22, participating in the Washington Educator Career Fair. Registration is \$40 onsite.

Get more information here: [Washington Educator Career Fair | Tacoma Dome](#)

### Hiring Efforts:

The school district continues to offer \$250 to \$5,000 hiring bonuses to fill key positions, like nurses, LPNs, bus drivers, education support professionals and bus monitors.

We are also looking for emergency substitute teachers and have changed the requirements so more people are temporarily eligible. Substitute pay has also increased to \$200 per day.

Find out more about job openings and hiring bonuses here: [Careers - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](http://tacomaschools.org)

### 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 can reach out to the Tacoma Urban League directly at (253) 383-2007.

### 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](mailto: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.*

### 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:

#### **Student drop off, pick up directions**

- Drop off and pick up students on E. 37<sup>th</sup> St. **(Blue X)**
- Don't park on E. 37<sup>th</sup> St. Please follow the cones and signage placed on E. 37<sup>th</sup> 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.



- 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 37<sup>th</sup> Street **to the north of the school**. Please follow the cones, signs, and staff direction, as there is no parking on E. 37<sup>th</sup> 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. 37<sup>th</sup> Street & E. McKinley Ave. Please adhere to direction of the crossing guard at this location.
- School is out each day at 3:30 PM.
- Please do NOT park on the **sidewalk on G Street, as this is residential parking**.

Thank you for your support, patience, and assistance with this!

### Helpful Websites & Contact Information:

- Fawcett Elementary School website: [fawcettfalcons.com](http://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>



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](https://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.

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](mailto:lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us), 253-571-1252;
- ❖ Title IX Coordinator, Elementary: Christa Erolin, [cerolin@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:cerolin@tacoma.k12.wa.us), 253-571-1318;
- ❖ Title IX Coordinator, Secondary: Eric Hogan, [ehogan1@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:ehogan1@tacoma.k12.wa.us), 253-571-1191;
- ❖ 504 Coordinator: Elementary, Elise Friedrich-Nielsen, [efriedr@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:efriedr@tacoma.k12.wa.us), 253-571-1096;
- ❖ 504 Coordinator: Secondary, Megan Nelson, [mnelson@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto: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 [lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us) or 253-571-1252.

## 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 3 4 5 6          | 1 2 3 4 5 6          | 1 2 3 4              | 1                    |
| 5 6 7 8 9 10 11      | 7 8 9 10 11 12 13    | 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 | 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 | 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)
- School Starts (PreK-K)
- No School (all grades)
- Elementary Only  
Oct. 13 Conferences early release  
Dec. 6 No School
- Middle & High Only (no school)
- Conferences (early release)
- Last Day of School (K-12)
- Last Day of Preschool

For detailed and updated calendars visit: [tacomaschools.org/calendar](http://tacomaschools.org/calendar)

## TPS Land Acknowledgement

Tacoma Public Schools acknowledges that we are on the traditional ancestral and historical lands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.

We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Puyallup Tribe. This acknowledgement serves as a first step in honoring our nearest tribal neighbors and partners who have inhabited this region since time immemorial, and whom we give thanks for allowing us passage to their lands. We shall intentionally create inclusive and respectful partnerships that honor Indigenous cultures, histories, identities, and sociopolitical realities.

