



## Fawcett Elementary and Tacoma Public Schools Resources & Information Updates from Principal Hathaway

*\*Week of May 10, 2021\**

### **Full-Time Instruction (\*NEW):**

Tacoma Public Schools plans to offer full time in-person instruction five days per week for ALL students next year. Five days of in-person learning won't necessarily look like it did before the pandemic. We will keep you up to date with state health and safety guidelines, so you know what you expect in the fall. As always, the health and safety of students and staff is our highest priority.

For families who do not want their child to attend school in person, we offer Tacoma Online for grades K-12. Tacoma Online will operate as a stand-alone school for the 2021-2022 school year. Students enrolling in Tacoma Online will not have any other assigned school, like they do this year.

### **Free Meals in 2021-22 School Year & Other Meals Updates (\*NEW):**

It was announced this week that all TPS students will receive free meals next school year. We still ask families to apply for free or reduced-price meals for this school year if they haven't already. Families who qualify can receive many benefits, including automatically qualifying to receive funds to buy groceries.

Pandemic EBT cards providing grocery benefits for the current school year are still being mailed. If you have not received your card by mid-May, call the P-EBT Contact Center at 833-518-0282. Please go to [www.tacomaschools.org/nutrition](http://www.tacomaschools.org/nutrition) to learn more and apply.

### **Laptops (\*NEW):**

All students returning to Tacoma Public Schools in the fall can keep their district-issued laptops over the summer. Seniors and students transferring out of the district will need to return their laptop to their school later this year.

Keeping the devices over the summer will allow students to stay engaged with their learning. An example would be with i-Ready reading and math lessons. Students will have access to the same digital tools as during the school year, including Office 365, Teams, and any apps they used for classroom work. No features will be turned off during the summer.



**Ways to Get Involved & Give Input on Next Year's School Budget (\*NEW):**

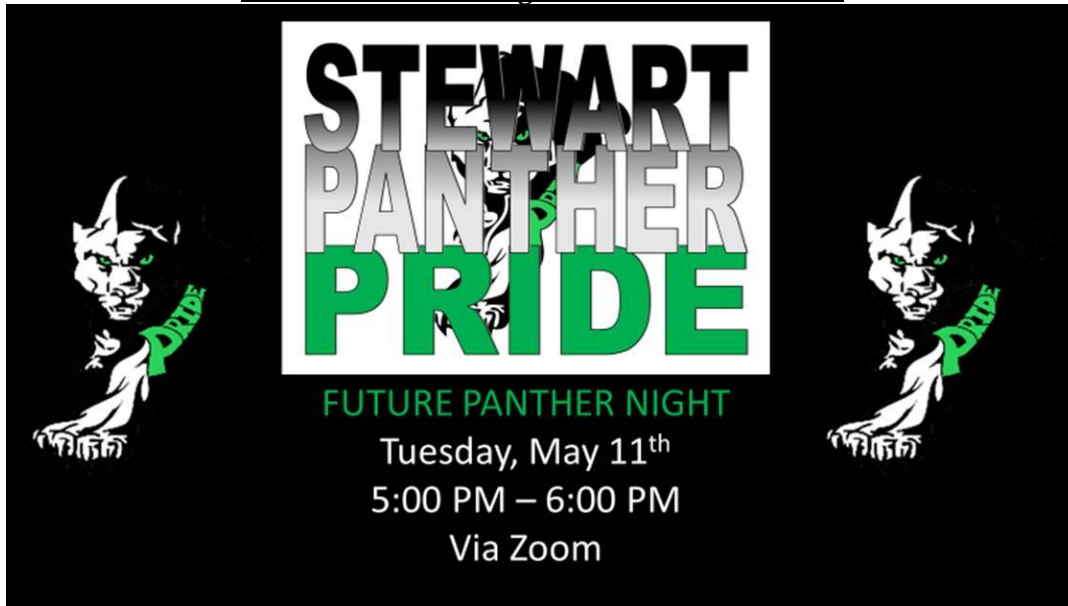
Tacoma Public Schools is currently working on the budget for the 2021-22 school year, which will be adopted this summer by the Board of Directors. There are a few ways for you to get involved and provide input.

First, TPS is currently looking for volunteers to serve on the Budget Advisory Committee.

Second, you can use the district's budget calculator to provide input on how you would allocate funds to different programs.

You can find more information in last week's TPS newsletter and on [www.tacomaschools.org](http://www.tacomaschools.org).

**5<sup>th</sup> Graders Attending Stewart MS Next Year:**



On Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM, Stewart Middle School will be hosting a Future Panther Night for our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students – the class of 2028!

We look forward to you joining us for an informational session where you will:

- Learn about the daily schedule and necessary school supplies;
- Our school uniform;
- Our AVID and ASB leadership programs;
- Sports and after school activities;
- And meet your new principal, Mr. Crider, and assistant principal, Mr. Elford;

Below you will find the Zoom invite for this meeting.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Bernadette Dickson at [bdickso@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:bdickso@tacoma.k12.wa.us).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79403434534?pwd=eDd1N0NBVXIxWkZDWERwK2RaSzZvZz09>

Meeting ID: 794 0343 4534

Passcode: DD9yDA

### Family App (IMPORTANT!):

#### **IMPORTANT: COVID SURVEY REQUIRED BEFORE 9 AM EVERY DAY YOUR CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL IN PERSON!**

You will need the Family App to fill out the DAILY health survey every day your child comes to school. This is a critical step in our safety protocols and is required daily.

Your child will not be able to attend class until this is completed each morning.

Get to the Family App online at: [family.TPSapps.org](https://family.TPSapps.org).

### Health & Safety at School:

Thank you to all of our families who are helping keep our entire student body and our staff healthy. Let's keep it up. Every day you send your child to in-person learning, please remind them to wear their mask, wash their hands frequently, and maintain physical distancing.

Please keep your child home when they're not feeling well. Please call the main office to let us know if this is the case, so we can ensure your child's absence is reported accurately. Completing the COVID-19 daily health survey every day your child is scheduled to attend school is an easy way to note whether they should attend school.

### Social Distancing:

For the remainder of this school year, all of our schools will stick with 6 feet of social distancing across the whole school.

You may have seen in the news that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and our state Health Department issued some new guidance that would allow students to be as close as 3 feet apart in classrooms.

However, the change does not apply to staff members, and it does not apply to students when they are in common areas, like the lunchroom or gym. So for consistency and the health and safety of students, all our schools will continue with 6 feet social distancing.

### Breakfast & Lunch Menus:

Here is where you can find our breakfast and lunch in-person monthly menus by school: [Tacoma Public Schools | My School Menus](#)

### Masks:

When you send your child to school, please ensure his/her mask has two layers. Generally speaking, the blue and white disposable or "surgical" masks have two layers. Not all cloth masks have two layers. Wearing either a double-layered mask or two single-layer masks meets the most recent health guidance.



### Meals:

- ☼ Meal packs can get picked up for the first time at elementary schools from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM; look for signs outside for the pick-up location, which will be on the north end cafeteria door.
- ☼ Meal packs can get picked up at middle schools from 10 AM to 12 PM; the pick-up locations will not change.
- ☼ Times and stops for the Meals-on-Wheels meal delivery program in neighborhoods have changed significantly. The new map and schedule are online at [www.tacomaschools.org/nutrition](http://www.tacomaschools.org/nutrition).

On students' in-person learning days, they will receive their meals in school.

Free breakfasts and lunches will continue to be available to all children up to 18 years old, through the end of the school year, whether students are learning from home or in a school building.

If your child has a food allergy, please also let Mrs. Jones know. We want to do all we can to safely feed our students. Our Nutrition Services team can provide some food substitutes– such as soy milk–for medically necessary needs, but only if families provide a doctor's note, and only on the days that student is learning in-person at our school.

### Transportation:

If you are wondering how and when your child can ride the bus to and from school on their in-person learning days, you can get that information on our website. Go to [www.tacomaschools.org](http://www.tacomaschools.org) and click on the school bus icon. Type in your address to find your child's bus stop and schedule. You can also contact Ms. Kelly at [kpenswi@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:kpenswi@tacoma.k12.wa.us).

### Fawcett Replacement Project Update:

Great news! The Tacoma Public School Board selected the team of Tacoma-based BLRB Architects and Hensel Phelps Construction Co. to design and build the new Fawcett Elementary School. Fawcett is one of 8 school replacements or historic renovations funded by the \$535 million school construction bond voters passed in 2020.

The new Fawcett Elementary is expected to open in 2023. While our new school is under construction, Fawcett students will attend school at the former McKinley Elementary. Fawcett staff and students will use the former McKinley Elementary School campus for the next two school years, as our new school is built.

This spring, we will start packing up our spaces in preparation for the move to McKinley in June. McKinley is at 3702 East McKinley Avenue. Transportation will be provided for students living in the current Fawcett boundary.

For more about our school replacement project, visit the construction website at [Fawcett Elementary - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](http://FawcettElementary-TacomaPublicSchools.tacomaschools.org).

### Free Internet:

Do you need internet access at your home so your child can access classes? If so, you can still receive free internet service for a year. All you have to do is call the Foundation for Tacoma Students at (253) 327-1448 to arrange for installation. Please don't let the lack of internet access stop your child from learning. Take advantage of this free offer.



### Falcon Foundations for Success:

Each week, each classroom teacher will choose two students from their class who exemplified the weekly focus. **Each Wednesday at 11:30 AM**, the weekly student falcons will be invited to a MS Teams celebratory meeting with Ms. Hathaway & Ms. Holcombe to celebrate their recognition.

### May: BE A LEARNER

- 10: I evaluate my work to make sure I turn in my best effort.
- 17: I share my new learning with friends, family, and teachers.
- 24: Teacher's Choice (on being a learner)

### Falcon Foundations for Success

BE RESPECTFUL

BE RESPONSIBLE

BE SAFE

BE A LEARNER

GOOD ATTENDANCE FOR SUCCESS  
**Every Minute**  
**in School Counts**



### **Good Attendance**



is missing **not more than 1 day** of school per month, whether **excused** or unexcused

2 out of 3 students  
with good attendance



**read well** by the end of 3rd grade\*



Research shows **96%** of students who read well at the end of 3rd grade

**graduate** high school.\*\*

### Weekly Student School-Wide Attendance:

Each week, whether in remote or in-person learning, our daily school-wide attendance goal is **95%**.

This week's school-wide attendance (preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) percentage was **89.8%**.

### Fawcett Elementary School Facebook Page:

If you haven't already, I would like to encourage you to "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](http://www.Facebook.com/FawcettFalcons)

### Helpful Websites:

- 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/>

\*Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes, Applied Survey Research, May 2011.  
 \*\*Double Jeopardy, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2011.

**TACOMA**  
 PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
 EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

*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, Cari Ake, [cake@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:cake@tacoma.k12.wa.us), 253-571-1225.
- ❖ 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](mailto:lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us) or 253-571-1252.*