



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

### **Week of January 24, 2022**

#### **COVID-19 Tests (\*NEW):**

All TPS students will receive two free COVID-19 tests. The tests are voluntary and will go home with students on **Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**. These 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.

However, iHealth is not a lab-verified test, so it can't be used to shorten the quarantine period of someone who is identified as a close contact to a COVID-positive person. TPS is working with health authorities for updated guidance on this topic.

All staff will receive iHealth tests, as well. Get more information here: [Story Detail - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](https://www.tacomaschools.org/story-detail-tacoma-public-schools)

#### **Vaccination Opportunities:**

Tacoma Public Schools invites our students (5+), their families, and school staff and their families, to get a free COVID-19 vaccine or booster shot at upcoming clinics at a TPS site. Boosters are for those 12 and older.

No appointment is required. [Get locations and dates](#)

#### **Help TPS Support Student Success:**

How can we best support your student's academic success? TPS is working to strengthen partnerships between schools and families in order to help children perform better in school.

Please consider participating in the short survey below. Your interests will help guide the district's family engagement activities.

[Complete the survey](#)

### **Changes to K-12 Isolation & Quarantine Guidance Related to COVID-19:**

The state Department of Health and the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department recently recommended changes to COVID-19 guidelines, including reducing the number of isolation and quarantine days.

#### **Changes in isolation**

Students who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate at home for at least five full days, regardless of their vaccination status.

They can return when the following criteria are met:

- 5 full days since symptom onset, or the positive test sample was collected; and
- No symptoms are present, or symptoms are improving; and
- No fever without the use of fever-reducing medications within 24 hours of returning.

#### **Changes in quarantine**

Students who are close contacts may or may not have to quarantine. Close contacts don't have to quarantine if:

- They are fully vaccinated and do not have symptoms. They are still encouraged to get tested 5-7 days after exposure. (For students 18 and older, full vaccination includes a booster dose at least two weeks prior to exposure.)
- Or they tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and do not have symptoms.

Close contacts can shorten quarantine if they are not vaccinated but receive a lab-verified, negative COVID-19 test no sooner than five days after exposure.

Close contacts must complete the full, 10-day quarantine if they have not received the vaccine and don't have a lab-verified, negative COVID-19 test.

Close Contacts living in same household as an individual who tested positive:

- If the student is fully vaccinated and does not have symptoms or they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and do not have symptoms, they do not have to quarantine.
- If not, and if the positive individual is able to fully isolate from the student (e.g. separate bathroom, no shared spaces, no interactions), they must quarantine for at least 5 full days and can return to school with a lab-verified, negative COVID-19 test on day 6. They may test no sooner than day 5. If they choose not to test, they may return to school on day 11 so long as they have not developed symptoms.
- If not, and the positive individual is NOT able to fully isolate from the student, they must quarantine for 10 full days and may return to school with a lab-verified, negative COVID-19 test on day 11. They may test no sooner than day 10. If they choose not to test, they must quarantine for 15 full days and may return day 16 so long as they have not developed symptoms.
- If another household member tests positive sometime in this timeline, the timeline resets to the new positive COVID-19 case.

#### **Preschoolers and children in childcare**

Please note, students in preschool and childcare must quarantine 14 days after exposure, according to guidance from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

#### **Recently isolated or quarantined?**

If you received an isolation or quarantine notice from Tacoma Public Schools from Jan. 1-10, your child may be able to return to school sooner than originally indicated. See this chart and contact your school's Covid Supervisor with questions.

Get more details here. [Story Detail - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](https://www.tacomaschools.org/story-detail-tacoma-public-schools)

ISOLATION WINDOWS		QUARANTINE WINDOW			
Date of COVID positive test	Return if symptoms improving and fever-free for 24 hours	Date of exposure	Earliest date eligible for testing	Return to activities with NEGATIVE test	Return to activities if NO TESTING
1/1	1/7	1/1	1/6	1/7	1/12
1/2	1/8	1/2	1/7	1/8	1/13
1/3	1/9	1/3	1/8	1/9	1/14
1/4	1/10	1/4	1/9	1/10	1/15
1/5	1/11	1/5	1/10	1/11	1/16
1/6	1/12	1/6	1/11	1/12	1/17
1/7	1/13	1/7	1/12	1/13	1/18
1/8	1/14	1/8	1/13	1/14	1/19
1/9	1/15	1/9	1/14	1/15	1/20
1/10	1/16	1/10	1/15	1/16	1/21
1/11	1/17	1/11	1/16	1/17	1/22

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band/Orchestra at Stewart Middle School Interest:**

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=iLOhd89aK0m\\_QmTLsIfQTH8YtBbA5AdNllauDo9u4EZUN0xaVU5WTFJHWTBWUzQ2NDNCQzdKOEfHOS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=iLOhd89aK0m_QmTLsIfQTH8YtBbA5AdNllauDo9u4EZUN0xaVU5WTFJHWTBWUzQ2NDNCQzdKOEfHOS4u)

**Upcoming Dates through January, 2022:**

- ☼ January 28<sup>th</sup>: TPS Wacky Sock Day
- ☼ January 31<sup>st</sup> – February 11<sup>th</sup>: APEX Fundraiser---more information to come!

**TPS Wacky Sock Day (\*NEW):**

Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> is Wacky Sock Spirit Day in all Tacoma Public Schools. Students and staff are encouraged to wear wacky or mis-matched socks. District spirit days like this are a chance for students and staff to have little fun, be silly and learn about each other, creating a sense of belonging and cultivating strong relationships.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Rainier Scholars Opportunity!:



RAINIER  
SCHOLARS  
TACOMA

**Do you know a 4th grader  
who loves to learn?**

**Rainier Scholars - Tacoma** partners with families of color starting in elementary school, providing academic enrichment and comprehensive support until the student graduates from college.



In their first three years of Rainier Scholars, students will participate in Summer Stretch Academies designed to challenge them with engaging content, bolster their academic skills and build on their foundation of cultural identity and resiliency — all designed to prepare students for success in advanced learning classes.



During the school year, students and families are supported by an Academic Counselor, social/emotional learning, parent workshops and community- building events.



**When Does  
Recruitment Start?**

Information sessions for nominated and interested families begin **November 30th**. Families must attend one information session before submitting an application.

**Who Are We  
Looking For?**

Current 4th grade students of color who are at or approaching grade level in reading and math\*. Preference will be given to low-income and first generation families.

*\*Rainier Scholars acknowledges that many students may not have made as much progress last year during the pandemic and we will be modifying our programming accordingly.*

**How Do I Nominate  
a Student?**

If you know students who are ready for a challenge, nominate them for our program! Use the QR code below to access the form. Nominated families will be invited to attend an information meeting and apply.



**Nomination Form**

[shorturl.at/lyfR](https://shorturl.at/lyfR)



RAINIER  
SCHOLARS | TACOMA

<https://www.rainierscholars.org/rainier-scholars-tacoma/>

If your school would like to learn more, contact our Recruitment Director, Nicole Anthony at [nanthony@rainierscholars.org](mailto:nanthony@rainierscholars.org) or 253.219.7378

## 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 \(tacomaschools.org\)](https://tacomaschools.org)



**Proposition 1: Educational Programs & Operations Replacement Levy &  
Proposition 2: Technology Improvements & Upgrades Replacement Levy:**



We believe *every* child deserves an excellent education and the opportunity to **achieve their full potential**. Tacoma Public Schools is committed to providing that high-quality education in every school so ALL students – regardless of background or neighborhood – can do just that.

Soon, you will have an important choice to make on **Proposition 1: The Educational Programs & Operations replacement levy**, and **Proposition 2: The Technology Improvements & Upgrades replacement levy**.

If approved, Proposition 1 would fund 15% of the school district's operations. Proposition 2 would fund technology access for all K-12 students. Both levies would replace expiring levies that impact every Tacoma Public Schools student in every neighborhood.

Props. 1 and 2 will directly impact Fawcett Elementary School in the following ways:

**PROP. 1 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & OPERATIONS REPLACEMENT LEVY:**

**Teachers, Books and Basics**

- ✳ Teachers, nurses, counselors, librarians, paraeducators, and special needs staff, equaling about 500 staff members
  - For example, the state funds 46 of our paraeducators; the voter-approved levy funding adds another 36 paraeducators to serve our students. The state funds 54 school counselors; the voter-approved levy adds another 29 counselors to serve our students.
- ✳ Up-to-date textbooks and instructional materials, including math and reading

**Health, Safety and Security**

- ✳ Maintenance on plumbing, heating, and ventilation systems for clean air and safe water
- ✳ Maintenance on aging roofs and for earthquake safety
- ✳ Improvements to school safety and security, fire alarm systems, and 911 communications

**Educational Programs for Every Child in Every Neighborhood**

- ✳ Special needs programs and improved accessibility for students and staff with disabilities
- ✳ Preschool and after-school programs
- ✳ Programs for high-achieving students and college entrance exams for all students
- ✳ Arts, music, athletics, extracurricular activities, and career and technical education programs.
  - For example, the state provides no money for athletic programs. In a typical year, the voter-approved levy provides \$4 million for athletics.

**PROP. 2 TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS & UPGRADES REPLACEMENT LEVY:**

**Access to Technology & Up-to-Date Learning Tools for Every K-12 Student**

- ✳ Expanded technology access and laptops for every K-12 student and staff member to use at school and at home
- ✳ Staff training and software, and online learning tools for teachers and students

**Safety, Security and Privacy Protection**

- ✳ Increased computer safety, security, and privacy protection for all students and staff

**Keeping Students on Track**

- ✳ Online systems for students, teachers, and parents to monitor academic progress, attendance, homework, and credits, keeping students on track for high school graduation



### **COSTS – Not a Tax Rate Increase**

If voters approve Props. 1 and 2, the average four-year tax rate for Tacoma schools is projected to **decrease** due to rising property values (from \$2.72 per \$1,000 of assessed property value to \$2.63 per \$1,000). The cost to the average Tacoma homeowner is projected to be about \$13 more per month—\$9.43 per month for Prop. 1 and \$3.63 for Prop. 2.

### **GET MORE INFORMATION**

If you would like to learn more about Proposition 1 and Proposition 2 on the February 8<sup>th</sup> ballot, please visit [tacomaschools.org/vote](https://tacomaschools.org/vote) or call the TPS Public Information Office at 253-571-1015. [February 8, 2022 Election - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](#)

Pierce County will mail ballots January 21<sup>st</sup>. If you are not already registered to vote, online registration is available at [piercecountywa.gov/elections](https://piercecountywa.gov/elections) until January 30<sup>th</sup>.

**REMEMBER TO VOTE FEBRUARY 8, 2022. Voters should receive ballots as soon as January 21<sup>st</sup>.**

### **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.

### **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. Contact your child's teacher, if this is the case.

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

### **COVID Vaccinations & Boosters:**

Tacoma Public Schools and our partner organizations are hosting events where people 5 and older can get COVID vaccinations, and those 18 and older can get the booster shot. Get more information here: [TPS Vaccine Events - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](#)

You can also find vaccination opportunities here or contact your primary care provider:

<https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

Other Additional Resources/Information:

- 🌀 [Recipients and Caregivers 5-11 years of age \(fda.gov\)](#)
- 🌀 [FDA Authorizes Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for Emergency Use in Children 5 through 11 Years of Age | FDA](#)
- 🌀 [Comirnaty and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine | FDA](#)

If a student has been COVID-19 vaccinated, it would be helpful to please send a photo of the vaccine card to Ms. Kelly ([kpenswi@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:kpenswi@tacoma.k12.wa.us)) and/or Ms. Melinda ([mharo@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:mharo@tacoma.k12.wa.us)).

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

TPS has formed a new partnership to offer a free and easy way for students and their immediate family members to get tested for COVID-19. You can drop into the new 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.

**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 & their immediate family members

### **Beyond the Bell:**

Registration is now closed for session three of Beyond the Bell. This session will begin January 10<sup>th</sup>. **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 3: January 10-February 18

Session 4: March 7-April 22

Session 5: May 2-June 10

### **Blue Positive Office Referrals:**

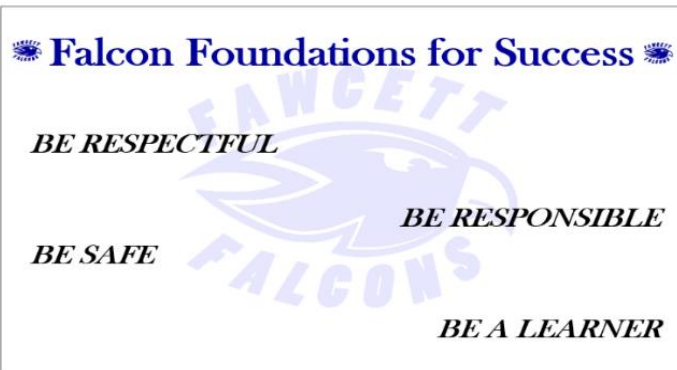
Each week all Fawcett staff members recognize two students with a blue positive office referral. Students can be recognized for exemplifying one, or more, of our Falcon Foundations for Success of: being respectful, being responsible, being safe, and/or being a learner. The staff member will give the 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.

#### **January: BE A LEARNER**

24: Teacher's Choice: (on being a learner)



### **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.

### **Bus Behavior & Bus COVID Requirements:**

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.

### **Hiring Efforts (\*UPDATED):**

The school district continues to offer \$250 to \$5,000 hiring bonuses to fill key positions, like nurses, LPNs, bus drivers, paraeducators 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://www.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 or students 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:

- ☼ 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.
- ☼ We have received multiple calls from the neighboring McKinley community requesting that families do NOT park on the **sidewalk on G Street**. Thank you for your assistance with this!

#### **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.



### 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	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 (K-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](https://tacomaschools.org/calendar)

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

## 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.

