



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

\*Week of April 26, 2021\*

**Virtual Family Math Game Night (\*UPDATE):**

If you completed the survey to RSVP for our Virtual Family Math Game Night on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 PM, your kit of materials and supplies that you will need for our evening event will be sent home with your child this week. Mrs. Stephens will give students in cohort A the supplies on Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and students in cohort B on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mrs. Stephens at (253) 571-4733.

**Upcoming Staff Appreciation Week:**

As many of you may know, "Teacher Appreciation Week" is quickly approaching during the week of May 3-7, 2021. Traditionally at Fawcett, because all of our staff members are "ALL in for ALL students", we acknowledge **all** staff members during this week and call it "Staff Appreciation Week".

We are reaching out to our community to show our gratitude to the educators who, throughout the year have helped inspire, shape, and encourage our children. We are looking for your support to treat our staff members with the following items throughout the course of the upcoming appreciation week. If you are interested in donating any of the items below, please email Ms. Hathaway at [ehathaw@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:ehathaw@tacoma.k12.wa.us) so we can coordinate a drop-off day/time at school. **Please communicate what you would be willing to donate and bring in this item(s) by Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.**



The items we are looking for donations include:

- Canned sparkling flavored water (i.e. La Croix, Bubly, San Pellegrino, etc.)
- Canned or bottled drinks (i.e. iced coffee, bottled water, soda, etc.)
- Individual bags of snacks (i.e. trail mix, chips, granola bars, pretzels, protein bars, cookies, fruit snacks, popcorn, nuts, etc.)
- Individual bagged veggies
- Individual packaged refrigerator items (i.e. hummus, cheese, guacamole, dips, etc.)
- Individual fruit that has a peel (i.e. bananas, oranges, etc.)
- Individually bagged/boxed candies or chocolates (i.e. Starburst, M&M's, Snickers, etc.)

In addition to these requested items, please feel free to reach out to any staff member with a positive note, card, drawing, or other gesture. If you would like to email us any compliments or praise of specific staff member(s), we will share this, as well.

*Thank you so much for your help supporting and acknowledging our awesome Fawcett staff!*

### **Get Help Learning to Talk to Children About Racism & Police Violence (\*NEW):**

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, a jury convicted former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin of the May 2020 murder of George Floyd in a highly publicized national case. This news, and the issues and feelings surrounding it, can be difficult for children to understand or process.

If you would like some resources that can help you have age-appropriate conversations about the verdict, racism, and police violence, please take a look at the district's newsletter emailed to you on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Apply for Free or Reduced-Price Meals:**

If you have not already applied for free or reduced-price meals, please consider it. Meals are free for all our students this year, but there are many benefits associated with being eligible for free or reduced-priced meals.

For example, children eligible for free or reduced-price meals are automatically qualified to receive "Pandemic EBT" grocery benefits worth hundreds of dollars per child. Newly qualifying families will receive grocery benefits retroactive to September and more dollars will be added through the summer, as well.

Qualifying families can also access other services, like discounted Internet broadband. Our school also receives additional funding based on the number of students who qualify.

If you were not eligible at the beginning of the school year, but your situation has changed, you may now be eligible. Find a link to the application at [www.tacomashools.org/nutrition](http://www.tacomashools.org/nutrition) or the TPS newsletter sent via email on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **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](http://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.

### **Incoming Kindergarten Registration for the 2021-22 School Year:**

Do you have a child who will be in kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year, or know of someone who does? If so, please fill out an enrollment application online in March, so we can ensure we have accurate staffing for the 2021-22 school year. The challenges and changes this past year have made planning difficult, but now is the time to enroll for kindergarten in the fall. We have space for you.

Each spring, Tacoma Public Schools looks at enrollment for the following year to determine how many teachers and support staff are needed. Enrolling now also helps students and families prepare for the transition to kindergarten. Each elementary school invites incoming kindergarten students to participate in Jumpstart events at their school during the summer.

### **How to enroll (please note first-time users will create an account):**

The Tacoma Public Schools enrollment application is online at: [New Student Enrollment \(Pre-K-12\) - Tacoma Public Schools \(tacomaschools.org\)](https://www.tacomaschools.org/enrollment), but there are a few things you'll need before logging in:

- Two documents to verify your address
- Student vaccination records
- A birth certificate for students entering school for the first time

### **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](https://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.

#### April: BE SAFE

26: Teacher's Choice (on being safe)

### **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 **89.86%**.

### 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](https://www.facebook.com/FawcettFalcons)

### Helpful Websites:

Fawcett Elementary School website: [fawcettfalcons.com](https://www.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.*