



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

Week of January 17, 2022

MLK Day - No School:

Monday, January 17th, all schools and district offices will be closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Vaccination Opportunities (*NEW):

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 (*NEW):

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 (*NEW):

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.)
- Tor 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)

ISO	LATION 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								

i-Ready Diagnostic Winter Testing:

All students in kindergarten through 5^{th} grade will be taking two important tests in the next few weeks, one for reading and one for math.

Grade levels will be testing on the following dates:

- Tuesday, 1/18: kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades (math) & 4th & 5th grades (reading)
- Thursday, 1/20: 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades (math)
- Make-ups will occur between 1/11 1/21 for any students absent during their scheduled testing day(s)

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
 - o 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!



REMINDER

ALL students must bring their LAPTOP and CHARGER to school EVERY DAY THIS WEEK and NEXT



FAWCET

4th Grade Rainier Scholars Opportunity!:



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.



For more information, please contact your child's teacher or visit: Rainier Scholars | Tacoma - Rainier Scholars

Information sessions for nominated and When Does interested families begin November 30th. Families must attend one information **Recruitment Start?** session before submitting an application. Current 4th grade students of color who are at Who Are We or approaching grade level in reading and math*. Preference will be given to low-income Looking For? 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. If you know students who are ready for a challenge, nominate them for our program! How Do I Nominate Use the QR code below to access the form. a Student? Nominated families will be invited to attend an information meeting and apply. Nomination Form



If your school would like to learn more, contact our Recruitment Director, Nicole Anthony at nanthony@rainierscholars.org or 253.219.7378



on will be avai Spanish translation will be available for <u>both</u> virtual and in-person meetings. Vietnamese and Khmer translation will be available for <u>only</u> virtual meetings

Upcoming Dates through January, 2022:

- January 10th-21st: Reading and Math Winter i-Ready Testing (K-5)
- January 17th: No School for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 28th: TPS Wacky Sock Day

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! <u>Planning and Construction - Tacoma Public Schools (tacomaschools.org)</u>

5th Grade Band/Orchestra at Stewart Middle School Interest:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=iLOhd89aK0m_QmTLsIfQTH8YtBbA5AdNllauDo9u 4EZUN0xaVU5WTFJHWTBWUzQ2NDNCQzdKOEFHOS4u

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
- 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 voterapproved 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

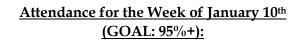
If voters approve Props. 1 and 2, the average four-year tax rate for Tacoma schools is projected to **decrease** due to rising property values (from \$2.72 per \$1,000 of assessed property value to \$2.63 per \$1,000). The cost to the average Tacoma homeowner is projected to be about \$13 more per month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

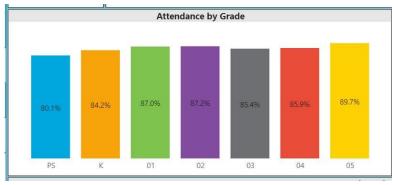
GET MORE INFORMATION

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

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

REMEMBER TO VOTE FEBRUARY 8, 2022. Voters should receive ballots as soon as January 21st.



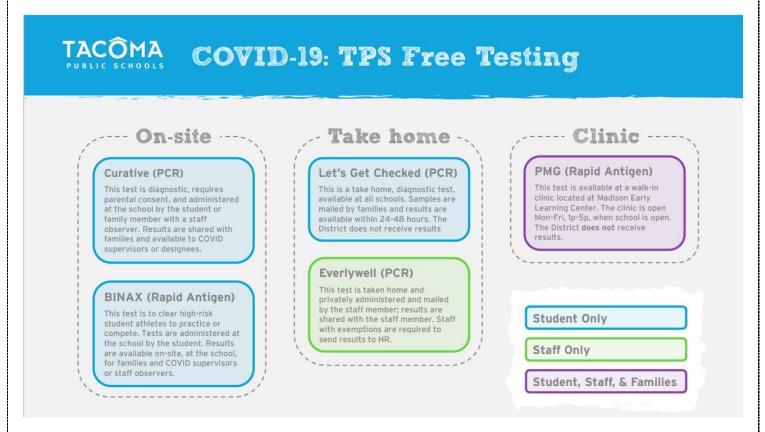




At-Home COVID-19 Test Kits:

We have a way to make testing students for COVID-19 a little easier. This district is offering free test kits that your child can bring home and use to complete a COVID test. Parents/guardians mail in the test sample and receive results by text or email. If your child needs a negative test result to return to school because they are a close contact, you can use these results, which are verified by a lab.

Want a test kit? Contact our front office at (253) 571-4700.



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 for up to 14 days.

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: <u>TPS Vaccine</u> <u>Events - Tacoma Public Schools (tacomaschools.org)</u>

You can also find vaccination opportunities here or contact your primary care provider: <u>https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information</u>

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) and/or Ms. Melinda (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 43rd Street, Tacoma, WA 98409 **When:** 1-5 PM on school days

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 10th. **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 3: January 10-February 18 Session 4: March 7-April 22 Session 5: May 2-June 10

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.

Students Can Create Their Own Rainiers' Jersey Design (*NEW):

Tacoma Public Schools is teaming up with the Tacoma Rainiers to host a jersey design contest for students in grades 3 to 8. The Rainiers ask students to submit unique jersey designs to show what they love about Tacoma. Designers should use the <u>Rainiers' jersey template</u> and submit all contest entries by Feb. 1.

Use this jersey template



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.

Falcon Foundations for Success BE RESPECTFUL BE RESPONSIBLE BE SAFE BE A LEARNER

January: BE A LEARNER

18: I embrace and and take on challenges 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 <u>www.tacomaschools.org</u> 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.

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.



TPS Is Now Hiring!:

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 / Contact 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

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.

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.

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



- 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.
- 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!



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



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. <u>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.</u>

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, Inolan@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 lnolan@tacoma.k12.wa.us or 253-571-1252.

O 2021-2022 Academic Mini-Calendar

SEPTEMBER 21 OCTO							ові	ER	21			NOVEMBER 21									DECEMBER 21								JANUARY 22							
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For detailed and updated calendars visit: tacomaschools.org/calendar

