

Parent Link 9-1

Good Evening Bell-Graham Families

These first few weeks of school can be challenging. As adults, we are often slow to get back into the routine of our jobs after a wonderful vacation. During these first weeks of school, teachers are spending the necessary time to establish strong learning communities. This means a great deal of practice on navigating hallways, transitioning from one activity to another and working collaboratively with an assortment of classmates. As groups of 25-28, our classes are working to know each other's strengths, interests and work styles. All of this work and information is essential to support the level of instruction that will occur throughout the school year. As an educator, I marvel at the work of our teachers on a daily basis. Think about the task that faces them each day and reflect on the look of joy you see in your child's face as they share their new learning with you.

One support our staff receives are periodic professional development days. During our School Improvement and Institute days, we hone our craft as instructors. We use this time to work in grade and cross grade level groups to learn new instructional strategies and determine next steps for our learning. In addition to these full days, we meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC's), each Wednesday from 7:40-8:20. Our PLC time ensures we are reflecting and responding appropriately to the needs of all learners. Nonattendance days may be difficult for families. We want you to know we value our time as learners and use it fully to ensure every student at Bell-Graham meets their full learning potential.

A note from the Nurse: A note on the prevention and treatment of lice has been placed on the BG website. Please review and seek support from our school nurses if you have questions.

Curriculum Nights will follow the same format as last year. We will be holding classroom sessions twice each evening separated by a short break allowing time to make space in the parking lot. You need only attend one session with your child's teacher. For families with children in multiple grades, you might attend one grade level presentation during the first session and another the second. Those with only one child at Bell-Graham can choose either the 6:00 or 6:35 presentation. Parking is available behind the school on Curriculum Nights. Our schedule will be as follows:

6:00-6:35 classroom presentation

6:35-7:00 classroom presentation

Curriculum Nights will be held on:

Wednesday September 7: 1, 3 and 4 grades

Monday September 12: K, 2 and 5 grades

Please let me know how I may assist you and your child have a successful school year!

Patti Palagi

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