

Rainier School District Newsletter

P.O. Box 98, Rainier, WA 98576

Serving the Patrons of the Rainier School District #307

www.rainier.wednet.edu

Vol. 38 No. 1

September 2021



Due to the recent increase of COVID cases in Thurston County, the Health Department has asked us to be cautious about holding large gatherings. In keeping our ultimate goal of conducting in-person learning five days a week in mind, we have made the decisions to make some changes to our Open House on Wednesday, September 1st. In order to alleviate the risk of having large numbers of visitors show up at once, we are asking that families conduct their visits at the designated times in the calendar below based off their last name. We do understand that this may not be ideal for everyone but it is important to us to give the opportunity for our students and families to visit their classrooms if they choose. If you are planning on attending, we ask that everyone please wear a mask and be conscientious of spacing while in the buildings.

Rainier Preschool, Elementary School, Middle School and High School

Open House: Wednesday, September 1st 4:30 – 6:00 pm

4:30-4:50: Students with the last name: A-E

4:55-5:15 Students with the last name: F-L

5:20-5:40: Students with the last name: M-R

5:40-6:00: Students with the last name: S-Z

We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause and we do appreciate your flexibility. If you have any questions or concerns we encourage you to contact the building that your child attends.

Thank you,

Rita Meldrum

Rainier Elementary Principal

meldrumr@rainier.wednet.edu

360-446-4020

John Beckman

Rainier Middle and High School Principal

beckmanj@rainier.wednet.edu

M.S. 360-446-2206, H.S. 360-446-2205



RAINIER SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Home of the Cougars, Mountain Lions, and Mountaineers”

Welcome Back to the 2021-2022 school year!

Dear Rainier Community,

I hope you had a relaxing summer. I am looking forward to working with you all again this year. As we embark on this new school year, I look forward to seeing the hallways and classrooms filled with staff and students coming to school 5 days a week and with as much normalcy as we can provide.

I realize a major concern in our community is surrounding the topic of mask wearing.

Under the authority of [RCW 43.06.220](#), the Governor has broad emergency powers, and they have the power of law! We must keep everyone safe and we must follow the mask requirement of all school employees, volunteers, visitors and students during school, when students are present.

Please review the new [Department of Health Guidance](#) for schools and continue to monitor our [2021-22 School Year Info](#) page for the latest updates.

The District is not requiring vaccinations for COVID-19 at this time. While vaccination against COVID-19 is not a requirement for in-person learning for K-12 schools, it is the strongest protective measure against the virus and available to individuals 12 years and older.

On September 1st from 4:30-6:00, we will host an open house for students and families. Everyone will be required to wear a mask when entering the building. For more detailed information on open house, lunches, lockers, school supplies, protocol for entering the buildings and any other concerns you may have, please contact your child's school.

We will continue to have COVID-19 tests available for staff and students on a volunteer basis.

Serving as the superintendent of the Rainier School District is an honor and a responsibility that I take very seriously. I am dedicated to ensuring the Rainier School District continues to develop as a cutting-edge school system. I believe great schools occur only when students, parents, the community and staff work together. This requires a willingness to truly listen to one another, see creative solutions and stay focused on what's best for kids.

I look forward to working with you all on our journey towards educational excellence!
Thank you and I hope you all have a great school year!

Sincerely,

Superintendent Bryon Bahr



Rainier Elementary School Cougars

Principal Rita Meldrum

(360) 446-4020

Fax (360) 446-4022

Dean of Students Ben Sheaffer

WELCOME

Rainier Elementary would like to welcome new staff members:

Heidi Collins to Social Emotional Learning

Kate Gurnsey to STEM

Shasta Lofgren to 3rd Grade

Rebecca Edwards to 5th Grade

Kelsey Mahan to 5th Grade

Paraprofessionals

Sharon Avery

Krista Alwine

Shana Burk

Stephanie Rickert



Picture Day!

Student pictures will be taken on
September 14, 2021

The Rainier Elementary Booster Club

Welcome Cougar parents and students to the
2021-2022 school year!

The Booster Club is always excited to see new and returning parents.

The Booster Club's primary role is in volunteering time and raising resources to help enhance our students' experience and provide fun and interesting activities for our families. The norms we have established echo Rainier Elementary's mission statement

"Our mission is to help them grow academically, socially, culturally, emotionally and physically so they will be prepared for a rapidly changing society. The ultimate goal of our school, parents and community is the development of responsible citizens."

If you are interested in joining or would just like some more information on how you can get involved, please contact:

Jennifer Ziemathis - jziemathis@fairpoint.com

Bobbie Kinahan - mrskinahan@yahoo.com

Joanne Franklin - joannekay73@gmail.com

**Next meeting is September 13, 2021
at 6:30pm**

Location will be announced later

Please fill out a volunteer form, background checks are required each year.

Ground Breaking!!

Construction has began on the site that will soon house two new portables at the elementary. The portables will provide classrooms for our three 5th grade classes and one 4th grade.



Rainier Middle School Mountain Lions



Principal John Beckman

(360) 446-2206

Fax (360)446-2208

Dean of Students Kristin Robinson

2021-2022 ASB Officers

President—Jazzlyn Shumate

Vice President—Dorien Cano

Secretary—Jeanice Kitchens

Treasurer—Thomas Sprouffske

Student Rep—Ryleigh Cruse

Sergeant of Arms—Madison Mounts

RAINIER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Have you wondered who we are?

We are volunteers!

We provide an opportunity to connect with incredible humans through volunteering. We raise money for our Rainier Students and Staff through our ANNUAL AUCTION FOR EDUCATION!

In 2021 we supported 18 past Rainier Graduates with renewal scholarships, 8 graduating Seniors that applied and interviewed for an initial scholarship. These scholarships totaled more than \$21,000.00!!

ALL RAINIER STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP!

The REF meets monthly. Our meetings are now the **2nd TUESDAY of every month.**

We meet in the REF room, (portable by the football field) and we also meet on Zoom. You have a choice to join us in person or online!

Please join us for our OPEN HOUSE to find out who we are, how your student can participate to earn a scholarship and how you can make a difference.

REF OPEN HOUSE: OCTOBER 12TH 6:00-7:00pm REF ROOM, portable behind the high school!

We look forward to connecting!

FUTURE MEETING DATES: 6:00 -6:30pm

Oct 12th

Nov 9th

Dec. 14th

IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER!

2022 AUCTION FOR EDUCATION MARCH 26TH



Rainier High School Mountaineers

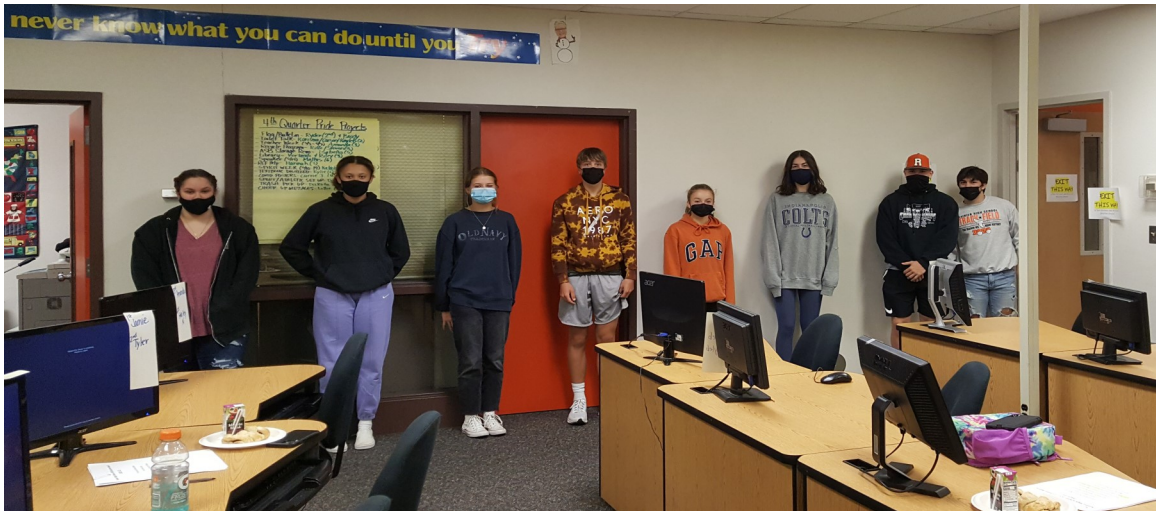
Principal John Beckman

(360) 446-2206

Fax (360)446-2208

Dean of Students Kristin Robinson

Rainier High School 2021-2022 ASB Executive Board



President—Selena Niemi
Treasurer—Faith Boesch

Vice President—David Cano
Assistant Treasurer—James Meldrum

Secretary—Madalyn Wilson

ASB Representatives—Lilly Guerra and Janess Blackburn

Rainier High School Cheerleaders

Alisha Adamski
Madi Edminster
Alycia Halpin
Riley Osborne
Madalyn Wilson

Denali Blizzard
Gabby Green
Modestie Jackson
Jessie Uch
Emily Ziemathis

Coach Mariah Frost



Out of District Students

Students living out of the Rainier School District borders must complete an Inter-District Transfer **EVERY YEAR**. Please contact the school district you live in to start the paperwork for the 2021-2022 school year.

Returning out of district students will not be assigned classes until this paperwork is completed.

Volunteers of Rainier School District

Rainier School District, in keeping with state law, requires a Washington State Patrol background check on all volunteers.

If volunteers are allow this year, Covid guidelines would need to be followed. You would need to fill out a volunteer form and background questionnaire then return it to any of the schools or district office. Please allow plenty of time for the background check.

All adults must have a background check each year and it must be on file before volunteering!

Food Service Department

All children need a healthy meal to learn!

We are please to announce that all meals will be free again this year to all our students.

We strongly encourage all parents to submit a Free & Reduced Meals Application. Completing an application only takes a few minutes and parents only need to do one for the entire family. Even if you don't think you will qualify, please submit a form. All eligible forms count! When eligible forms are not submitted it means a lost of resources for our students.

2021-2022 Free or Reduced Meal Applications can be found on our website at www.rainier.wednet.edu or click on the link below.

2021-2022 [Free or Reduced Meals Application](#)

Asbestos Management

Rainier School District is required to inform the public about asbestos in the schools annually. Rainier has an asbestos management plan that is kept at the District Office and can be viewed Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm. The district designated person can be contacted at the Rainier Maintenance Office at (360)446-7403.

Rainier School District #307

Superintendent: Bryon Bahr

Board of Directors:

Chairperson Jerry Sprouffske, Rebecca Stillings, Cherie Davis, Dana Spivey and Amanda Siemandel

Important Phone Numbers

District Office: 360-446-2207

Transportation: 360-446-2209

Elementary School: 360-446-4020

Middle School: 360-446-2206

High School: 360-446-2205

Food Service: 360-446-2207/360-446-9133

Special Education: 360-446-7406

Child Find

Rainier School District is committed to addressing the unique needs of students with disabilities ages Birth through 21 residing within the boundaries of the Rainier School District. This includes children with disabilities enrolled in private, including religious schools, as well as children who are homeless (if your family is living in a temporary situation, you may contact the district where you are currently staying for a screening). Disabilities can be in any one of several areas that ultimately affect a child's learning, such as the ability to think, to express oneself, to see or hear clearly, to get around or understand instructions given.

Birth to 5 children have access to free developmental assessment. Areas could include:

- approaches to learning
- physical/motor
- social/emotional
- cognitive
- communication and language
- literacy
- math/numeracy
- sensory function
- temperament
- behavior
- specific disabilities such as autism

If you have a child who you think might have a disability requiring special education instruction or significant accommodations at school or if you know of such a child, please feel free to contact the Rainier School District Special Education Office at 360-446-7406 ext 1210 or P.O. Box 98, Rainier, WA 98576

Career & Technical Education

Career and Technical Education

Rainier School District

Non-discrimination Policy in addition to RSD Policy 5010

Rainier School District offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Robotics and Industrial Arts under its open admissions policy.

Admission to these programs is based on a desire to be in the program.

Rainier School District 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. For more information about CTE course offerings and admissions criteria, contact Sandra Rossmailer, 308 Second Street W in Rainier, WA 98576. Lack of English language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in career and technical education programs.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Kristin Robinson at the high school—PO Box 98, Rainier, WA 360-446-2205 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator John Beckman at same address and phone number.

Rainier School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational (CTE) programs.

El Distrito Escolar de Rainier School District no discrimina en sus programas o actividades por motivos de sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, condición de veterano de guerra o grado militar, orientación sexual, expresión de género o identidad, discapacidad o uso de perro guía entrenado o animal de servicio, y ofrece igualdad de acceso a los Boy Scouts y a otros grupos de jóvenes especificados. El empleado mencionado a continuación ha sido designado para atender consultas y quejas de supuesta discriminación:

Title IX Coordinator, Kristin Robinson at the high school—PO Box 98, Rainier, WA 360-446-2205 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator John Beckman at same address and phone number.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible student") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parents or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. To amend a record, the parent or eligible student should write to the school principal (or appropriate official) clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request the school discloses education record without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. {NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or eligible student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.}

The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office

US Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington DC 20202-4605

Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

The Rainier School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. The Rainier School District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.

Questions, concerns, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding ADA may be forwarded to:

Rainier School District #307
Kim Sackett, ADA Coordinator
PO Box 98
Rainier, Washington 98576

Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs or services of the Rainier School District are requested to make their needs and preferences known to the ADA Coordinator.

Parents right to information regarding their child's teacher or paraprofessional as required by Every Student Succeeds Act, for schools receiving Title I funding.

Rainier School District complies with the regulations set forth in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Title I, Part A is a federal program designed "To provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps." Title I, Part A can support early learning and Kindergarten to grade 12. Title I, Part A programs and services provide customized instruction and curricula that helps these students meet academic standards and take an active, engaged interest in what they learn and can do. As the oldest and largest federal education program, Title I, Part A programs build equity of opportunity for children whose struggles often keep them on the academic sidelines. One-third of the public schools in Washington State operate Title I, Part A programs, providing academic services to over 350,000 students annually.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) replaced No Child Left Behind (NCLB) on December 10, 2015. It is the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). ESSA will be fully operational in school year 2017-18.

Teacher/Para Qualification: Parents' Right to Know: Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications LEAs and schools inform the parents of Title I, Part A students that they may request, and the LEA and schools will provide, certain information on the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals providing services to the child. [ESSA Section 1112(e)(1)(A)].

Limited State Certification & Licensure: The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 requires schools who receive Title I, Part A funds to notify parents or legal guardians when their child has been taught for four consecutive weeks by a teacher who has not met state certification/licensure requirements [ESSA Section 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)].

What qualifications must a staffer meet to be in a Title 1, Part A program? Teachers: Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), enacted on December 10, 2015, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) definition was eliminated and is no longer a federal requirement.

In May, 2016, LEAs were advised to follow state certification and licensure requirements and state assignment policy to be in compliance during the transition from NCLB (No Child Left Behind) and the implementation of ESSA. This requirement applies to all teachers.

Paraeducators: Paraeducators in schools that operate a Title I, Part A schoolwide or targeted assistance programs must continue to meet federal standards used under ESSA and are explained in the Title 1, Part A Guide to Paraeducator Requirements.

Citizen Complaints-Federal Programs: Complaints that Allege Discrimination-Equity & Civil Rights.

Complaints Related to Federal Programs—A citizen complaint is a written statement that alleges a violation of federal rule, law or regulation or state regulation that applies to federal program.

1. Anyone can file a citizen complaint.
2. There is no form.
3. There is no need to know the law that governs a federal program to file a complaint.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Rainier School District #307 is committed to a positive and productive education and working environment free from discrimination, including sexual harassment. The district prohibits sexual harassment of students, employees and others involved in school district activities.

Sexual harassment occurs when: submitting to the harasser's sexual demands is a stated or implied condition of obtaining an education or work opportunity or other benefit;

submission to or rejection of sexual demands is a factor in an academic, work or other school related decision affecting an individual;

unwelcome sexual or gender-directed conduct or communication interferes with an individual's performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Sexual harassment can occur adult to student, adult to adult, male to female, female to male, male to male and female to female.

The Rainier School District will take prompt, equitable and remedial action within its authority on reports, complaints and grievances alleging sexual harassment that come to the attention of the district, either formally or informally. Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement and suspected child abuse will be reported to law enforcement or Child Protective Services.

Engaging in sexual harassment will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff, and contractors. Anyone else who engages in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities, will have their access to school property and activities restricted as appropriate.

Retaliation against any person who makes or is a witness in a sexual harassment complaint is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. The district will take appropriate action to protect those involved.

Child Find

Does your child have a recorded history of/or have a physical, mental or developmental impairment or a disability that has a major impact on learning, walking, vision, hearing, breathing, working, and caring for oneself or performing manual tasks? Even if your child does not have a disability, does your child possess certain characteristics that would somehow cause others to treat him or her as if they did have an impairment?

If you answer yes to either of the above questions, your child may be eligible for special education, related services and/or specialized education accommodations.

The regulations to determine eligibility are:

Individual with Disabilities Educational Act

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

If you would like to make your child a focus of concern or to refer your child for screening, please contact the Special Services Office at the number listed below. Children from birth to age 21 may be eligible for specialized programs.

Rainier School District #307 Special Services, 360-446-7406

Dangerous Weapons Policy

The legislature passed a law designed to protect students and school staff from the threat posed by guns, knives, and other dangerous weapons on school campuses. The law states that any student who has in his or her possession potentially dangerous weapons on school property will be subject to expulsion from all public schools in the state of Washington. We have not experienced the tragedies and other types of problems some schools have faced because of the presence of dangerous weapons. We do, however, have students who routinely carry pocket knives to school. PLEASE LEAVE THEM AT HOME. Rainier schools are committed to providing a safe place to learn and work. We also do not want any of our students to forfeit their opportunity of attending Rainier or any other public school. **DO NOT BRING ANY POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS WEAPONS OR ANY ITEM WHICH SIMULATES A DANGEROUS WEAPON TO SCHOOL OR ANY SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENT.**

We also take seriously any form of verbal threat such as: "I am going to get a gun and shoot you," or "I'm going to bring a gun to school," or "I have a bomb." We treat these actions as though they were real threats and school officials will take appropriate measures to ensure the safety and well being of other students and staff. **DO NOT SAY AS A JOKE ANY THREATENING WORDS THAT COULD BE MISTAKEN FOR THE REAL THING.** Students will receive appropriate discipline when using words of a threatening nature. Bringing a dangerous weapon to school will result in a one year mandatory expulsion. If you have any questions regarding this law and district policy, please contact the school principal. RSD #307 Policy:4210 Section: 4000—Community Relations.

Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

Rainier School District 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 employee(s) have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination.

Rainier School District's Coordinators; Title IX-Kristin Robinson
504-John Beckman, ADA & Bilingual-Kim Sackett.

Release of Student Records

The following directory information may be released by the district unless a student's parent requests in writing that such information not be released:

1. The student's name, address and telephone number.
2. Date and place of birth.
3. Major field of study.
4. Participation in officially recognized activities and sports.
5. Weight and height of members of athletic teams.
6. Date of attendance.
7. Degrees and awards received.
8. The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

At least once a year, parents shall be notified of their rights to request that a student's directory information not be released without their prior consent.

Vandalism and Property Damage

Students who destroy, injure, steal, or vandalize school property or the property of others will be required to pay for losses or damages.

Grades, diplomas and transcripts of students may be withheld until damage charges have been paid by the student or student's parents or guardian.

The defacing or writing on school private property under school jurisdiction is prohibited. The student shall be subject to suspension or other disciplinary action. This section is governed by RCW 28A.87.120.

Student Grooming and Dress

The primary responsibility for school dress and grooming rests with parents and guardians of our students. The school's responsibility is not to permit dress and grooming which is disruptive to the educational process or to the health, safety, or propriety of our students. The principal will determine if questionable attire is acceptable. Specific dress requirements include:

1. Shoes must be worn at all times. No heellies, cleats, slippers or flip flops. They are not safe.
2. Hats and sunglasses may be worn to and from school only, not in the building.
3. Students will be fully clothed from shoulder to mid thigh. Skin tight clothing, spandex, leotards, cycling shorts, short shorts, short skirts and tops exposing the midriff are not adequate clothing. Pants, jeans and slacks that are large enough to fall over the hips and expose under garments are not acceptable and need to be kept up with a belt. Tank tops with large arm holes and/or spaghetti straps are unacceptable.
4. Dress that portrays profanity, illegal or inappropriate Innuendo, acts or substances (drugs/paraphernalia, alcohol, tobacco), is gang related (altered clothing, gang colors, sagging pants, bandanas, etc.), or otherwise creates an impression of disrespect to religion, sex, or ethnicity is prohibited.

Students in violation of the above dress standards may be held out of class or sent home to change. Tardiness or absence because of dress code violations will be unexcused.

**A Safe Ride to School
Rainier School District 2020-2021**

Dear Rainier Families,

I hope you had a fantastic summer. Our Transportation Department is made up of excellent people who are ready to serve our community for 2021-2022 school year. I am very proud of the job they are doing everyday. My focus remains on the safe transportation of our students, and people who love what they do, and take pride in it.

We will continue to utilize the system for supporting, tracking, and communicating student behavior on the bus. The details of this system are outlined in the following document.

I am looking forward to another exciting school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 446-2209.

Bob Marney, Transportation Supervisor

Getting Started

You can find out which bus your child should ride, or the times and location of your child's bus stop by calling our Dispatcher at 360-446-2209.

General Information

School bus routes are planned to provide the safest, most efficient and cost effective service under all weather and road conditions. Students typically ride the bus 30 to 60 minutes each way. Riding times may occasionally be longer due to unforeseen circumstances.

Students should utilize the bus stop closest to their residence. Those who need to be dropped off at a location other than their original stop must have special permission, which may be granted after the parent/guardian has notified the school office. Your student will then be given a bus pass from the office and they will need to give this pass to the driver. These bus passes are valid for one day or a specific period of time that is listed on the pass.

Video Monitoring

Starting with the 2012-2013 school year, all of the Rainier School District buses will utilize video monitoring. Any students or adults riding the bus may be recorded. This measure is taken to help ensure the safety of our students.

In the Morning

Students need to be at their designated bus stop no later than five minutes before the scheduled pick-up time. When they see the bus coming, students need to form a line starting well back from the edge of the road. Unfortunately, buses cannot wait for students who are not at the bus stop.

After School

When the school day ends, students need to go to their buses without delay. The buses will be pulling away from campus approximately 5-7 minutes after the dismissal bell rings.

Student Management

Student management procedures are designed to help ensure that each child has a safe, positive experience on our buses. Involving parents/guardians at the start of a discipline issue helps decrease the chance of more serious disciplinary problems, which may result in suspension from transportation services. Therefore, it is important that the schools have updated phone numbers for parents/guardians.

Rules and Regulations

Students are expected to follow the same general rules at bus stops and on the buses, as they are in the classroom. Students who misbehave may lose their bus riding privileges.

1. For the safety of everyone on the bus, students must comply with the directions of school personnel while riding on the bus.
2. Students must remain seated while riding on the bus.
3. Water is the only thing that students may eat or drink while riding on the bus.
4. Students may not transport balloons, glass objects, or animals on the bus.

5. Students must remain clear of the main aisle while riding on the bus.

6. Students must keep their hands, feet and heads inside the bus at all times.

7. If students are using electronic equipment while riding on the bus, it must not disrupt the driver or others.

Progressive Discipline

When students are out of compliance with the Rules and Regulations for riding on the school bus, they will receive progressive discipline according to the chart listed in Appendix A. Each instance of progressive discipline will remain on the student's record for a period of two months.

Extreme Behaviors

Certain extreme behaviors, including but not limited to the following, will result in immediate suspension from the bus.

- Refusing to comply with school personnel
- Possession or use of alcohol or drugs
- Fighting or assault of others
- Smoking or chewing tobacco
- Spitting
- Vandalism
- Possession of a weapon
- Making racist, sexist, or discriminatory remarks or actions
- Bullying

Bus Service During Bad weather

Parents/guardians need to plan for changes in bus schedules and routes during snowy/icy conditions. Changes in district operating hours or bus service are announced on the Public Schools Emergency Communication System at www.schoolreport.org and on the district website at www.rainier.wednet.edu. This same information is also broadcast to all major local television and radio stations. You can set up a custom email or text notification by visiting www.schoolreport.org and signing up for their free notification service. Every effort is made to get information out to families as soon as possible, however sometimes conditions may change. If the start of school is delayed, please check back later that morning to see if changing conditions forced the district to go ahead and close for the day.

Questions

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Transportation Department	360-446-2209
Rainier Elementary School	360-446-4020
Rainier Middle School	360-446-2206
Rainier High School	360-446-2205
Rainier District Office	360-446-2207

Appendix A—Progressive Discipline

Verbal Warning

Driver will verbally remind the student of the rules and expectations.

Driver may choose an assigned seat.

1st Write-Up

Driver will verbally remind the student of the rules and expectations.

Principal/Transportation Supervisor will contact parents/guardian via telephone (may leave message).

A copy of the write-up will be mailed to the parent/guardian.

Driver may choose an assigned seat.

Principal may take corrective action at school.

2nd Write-Up

Driver will verbally remind the student of the rules and expectations.

Principal/Transportation Supervisor will contact parents/guardian via telephone (may leave message).

A copy of the write-up will be mailed to the parent/guardian.

Driver will choose an assigned seat.

Principal will take corrective action at school.

Suspension

Same items as above

Driver will complete video request form.

Transportation Supervisor and Principal will coordinate the length of the suspension.