



## **Easton School District No.**

**28**

P. O. Box 8  
1893 Railroad Street  
Easton, Washington 98925

September 18, 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians, Staff, and Community Members,

School is happening at Easton! We are happy to welcome back Easton School students/families and we are eager to see you all in person when it is deemed safe to do so. We can't wait to show off our amazing school and staff to new students and families. Easton is a close-knit school community that operates much like a big family, as you will soon experience.

We have started in a Remote Learning model and both students/families and our school staff have been working hard to make sure that every student is connecting to instruction via regular zoom meetings and getting materials they need to help them be successful in this online, remote learning environment. All students have Chromebooks provided to them and we were able to provide hotspots for many families to help with internet connectivity, courtesy of generous donations from the Suncadia Community Fund and the Shoemaker Foundation.

The goal for these first few days was for staff to assist students and families with getting connected with all their teachers and into their classes. We are using Moby Max curriculum to assess skills for students through standards-based assessments. Middle and high school students also utilized Quill for grammar and language testing. This data will help teachers support student skill development as they move through the course materials. While there have been some technical challenges, both students/families and teachers have been patient as well as creative in learning together to make the best of our Remote Learning model.

In celebration of our students' success, the top four scorers in the math assessment have already received a virtual donut party. Kaylin Aper, Fisher Bailey, Jessiah Fobes, and Zealand Segelstrom led the pack with their amazing math skills. Way to go! We are planning other creative ways to celebrate our learners, so stay tuned. Cece Badda has sent home PE equipment for students to use during remote learning, as well. When the smoky air clears up, remember to get outside and play, take a walk, or ride your bike during the day.

Breakfast and lunch deliveries started this week. Easton School is participating in a program where all students are eligible to receive free breakfast and lunches, regardless of household income. On Wednesdays, food will be available for pick up according to the following schedule:

- 8:00 a.m. - Students who live in or near Easton – Pick up at the back door of the Easton School kitchen.
- 8:30 a.m. – Students who live at or near Snoqualmie Pass – Pick up at the Chevron station.
- 9:15 a.m. – Students who live in Cle Elum, Roslyn, and Ronald – Pick up at the Bullfrog Roundabout/Pittsburgh St.

Over the summer, we had some staffing changes occur. Sara McCoy retired after many years in education and Sydney Kretschman moved from teaching 6<sup>th</sup> grade to teaching our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Marchel Allenbaugh moved into the 6<sup>th</sup> grade position and we have hired Jessica

Lewis for the 7-12 grades English position. Ms. Lewis is a second-year teacher with teaching endorsements in middle and high school English and Social Studies and k-12 Music. Having three teaching endorsements is quite the accomplishment for a second-year teacher and we are really excited to have her on our staff. When asked to share how the start to her school year at Easton has been so far, she replied “exciting & new” and “it’s been an adventure” getting to meet her students online instead of in-person. She is working hard with her students to build a classroom community online. She says some of her students seem kind of shy still but she is trying to meet one on one with them to help them feel more comfortable. She likes to read in her spare time and is eagerly looking forward to the day when she can teach her students in person.

Lyn Cox moved onto a teaching position in another school over the summer, and April Simonson agreed to teach our science classes as we continue our search for a science teacher. We are very appreciative of Mrs. Simonson stepping up to help us. She knows our students well, as a substitute teacher for Mrs. Badda and Mrs. Cox and others over the years, as well as being an Archery Team parent and community member. She is glad to help out and is excited to see the student faces on Zoom and hear their voices again. She mentioned that they have been laughing a lot these past few days, as they work through technical issues with computers and internet connections, general problem solving, and sharing stories of summer and hopes for the school year. She said that she is looking forward to the time when students will be back in school in person.

We thank you parents, for your patience, grace, and support during this unprecedented time in our history. We have had a strong showing of students for the start of the school year. As the glitches are getting worked out, teachers will be asking students to engage and contribute more during their zoom meetings and to complete and turn in more evidence of their learning. Please continue to encourage students to connect with their teachers at scheduled times. Please reach out to us as needed. We are all working hard to provide quality instruction and support to our students. Next week, we will provide an update with our transition to Schoology, a new Learning Platform we will be using K-12 that will be a “one-stop shop” for log-ins, educational resources and instruction.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bechtholdt  
Easton School Principal

Patrick Dehuff  
Easton School Superintendent