



Einstein News

January 2016
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Einstein Middle School
19343 3rd Ave NW
Shoreline, WA 98177
206.368.4730

Einstein Website
Einstein PTSA Website

Holiday Assembly at Einstein



The school celebrated the season with an assembly before Winter Break.



Einstein Sports in Full Swing

Our Jazz Band Fills the Halls with Holiday Cheer

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More photos on page 3.

The Einstein News, a joint publication of Einstein Middle School and the Einstein Middle School PTSA, is published monthly during the school year. Next issue 2/1/16, deadline 1/21/16. Send text in an email or as a .doc to einsteinmiddleschoolnews@gmail.com.



Frank Halferty Wins WMEA Award

Recently retired Shoreline Music Teacher Frank Halferty has been selected as the 2015 Middle Level Music Educator of the Year by the Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA).

Halferty, who retired this past June after spending the past 22 years teaching and inspiring a love of music at Einstein Middle School, will be presented the award at the WMEA Annual Conference in Yakima on Feb. 13, 2016.

In their letter notifying him of the recognition, the award selection committee noted how impressed they were with Halferty's passion and effectiveness as an educator. They wrote, "The awards committee was impressed with the strength and quality of the work you have done as an outstanding educator, curriculum specialist, composer/arranger and advocate for music education. The impact you have had on students, the community and music education in Washington State has been outstanding."

A member of the WMEA Hall of Fame and 2013 Shoreline Public Schools Teacher of the Year, Halferty is no stranger to prestigious honors. Despite this, he was completely surprised to learn he had been selected for this most recent award. "It's an honor I just wasn't expecting," said Halferty. "I've been fortunate to know and work with many incredible music teachers during my career, so I am truly humbled by this recognition."



Advocacy Day

Join PTA parents, students, teachers and advocates from around the State on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 from 8:00am–3:00pm at the annual PTA Focus Day event. Meet with our legislators and discuss important issues that affect the education of our kids. There will be a carpool/bus from Shoreline! If you are interested, [email Suzanne Gugger](mailto:SuzanneGugger@shorelineschools.org).

Food and Gift Drive a Great Success!

Thank you to all the volunteers and contributors to the Food/Gift drive. Shoreline School District collected and distributed thousands of items to families in need of assistance and helped stock the shelves at Hope Link in Shoreline. The Teen Gift drive was also something to be proud of. If your family needs assistance, please contact Einstein's family advocate: Osbaldo Hernandez, 206-393-4736, osbaldo.hernandez@shorelineschools.org (more about Osbaldo on page 6).

Legislative News

*Suzanne Gugger and Carrie Campbell
PTSA Legislative Chairs*

Statement from State Superintendent Randy Dorn on Every Student Succeeds Act

President Obama signed ESSA into law this morning. Below is a statement from Dorn on this bipartisan effort to do what's right for kids.

OLYMPIA — December 10, 2015 — When President Barack Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) into law this morning, he put states back into the driver's seat when it comes to education. ESSA replaces No Child Left Behind (NCLB) enacted in 2002. And it was long overdue. I applaud Senators Patty Murray and Lamar Alexander for their bipartisan efforts to do what's best for students.

The intent behind NCLB was a good one: to raise standards, hold schools accountable, and eliminate the achievement gap. Most states have come a long way since 2002 as a result of NCLB. But the ultimate goal of NCLB, to get every student performing at grade-level by 2014, was impossible to achieve, in practice.

Under ESSA, states can set their own goals and decide how to intervene in schools that need more support. State plans still must be approved by the Department of Education, but they have been promised more transparency in the process.

That this law was able to make it through the House and Senate, and be signed by the President, is a testament to strong leadership and the desire to put the interest of our nation's students above politics. I hope our state legislators can use this as an example when they come back to Olympia in January to tackle the ongoing lack of full funding for basic education. We need leaders to do what's right for our state's kids.



Principal Fritz's Message Welcome Back!

Welcome back to school and happy 2016! The "E" in Einstein's PRIDE motto stands for EXCELLENCE and January is a great month to focus on what it means to strive for excellence in all we do. Aristotle once said, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

As we welcome a new calendar year we also recognize that we are about half way through our school year. What a great time to help our students focus on those little habits that - when practiced on a daily basis - truly help to create excellence as individuals and across our entire Einstein community.

Here's to a 2016 full of EXCELLENCE!

Luncheon Thanks

Jen Salvione and Rosemarie Cross

A big thank you to all who made the **December Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** a success! A delicious brunch was served! The teachers and staff returned the thanks to all who participated!

Our next luncheon will be February 12, 2016. We will send an email with volunteer sign up opportunity when the students head back to school in the New Year.

Too Sick for School?

Your student wakes up looking flushed, feeling congested or queasy. Do you send your student to school? To make this decision a little easier keep two C's in mind: Contagious and Comfort.

Please keep your student home with following symptoms, which may mean that the illness is contagious:

- Fever above 100 degrees (must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school)
- Vomiting or diarrhea (must be symptom free for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- Sore throat, especially if combined with fever or swollen neck glands
- Heavy nasal congestion or frequent, incessant cough
- Your student has been diagnosed with a contagious virus or infection
- Thick greenish-yellow drainage from the eyes
- Unusual fatigue, paleness, lack of appetite or irritability

Without any of these symptoms, the question becomes whether your student feels well enough to function comfortably at school. Please feel to call the Einstein Health Office at 206-393-4734 if you have questions.

Einstein Jazz Band Spreading the Cheer





PTSA President Kim Ositis' Message

Welcome Back to Einstein!

We hope that everyone had a fun holiday break! Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Food and Teen Gift Card drives! The Shoreline PTA Council served more than 500 Shoreline families at the Holiday Baskets event on December 11.

Have you ever wondered what's going on inside your teen's brain? You are invited to a special information session in the Student Activities Center (SAC) on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 beginning at 6:30pm sponsored by the Einstein PTSA. There will be a short General Membership business meeting to begin the evening followed by a presentation from the Center for Human Services called "Is Anyone in There? Understanding Your Teen's Brain". Refreshments [and childcare] will be provided!

Business meeting topics include electing three members to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2016-2017 and approving the recipients of \$3,500 in PTSA grant funds to help our teachers fund classroom initiatives. The Nominating Committee's work runs from January to mid-March, so it is a short time commitment. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Kim at einsteinpresident@gmail.com.

Opportunity to Shine a Light

Does your student have a male role model that has had a profound impact on his or her life? The PTA Men's Essay Contest, written from a student's perspective, helps to inspire positive male engagement. This can be fathers, uncles, grandpas, brothers, step-fathers, mentors, neighbors, pastors, coaches, and friends. Einstein students compete in the Grade 6-8 division; there is also a Special Artist – Secondary division.

When writing their essays, students can consider many questions including (but not limited to):

- Why is this male role model important in your life?
- What life lessons, ethics, or skills have they taught you?
- Why do you look up to him and appreciate having him in your life?
- How would your life be different without this person?
- How would other kids benefit from having a similar role model in their life?

Essays will be scored on the Common Core Standards for Writing and will be scored on content, organization, language/conventions, and style per the judging form (an example is included as the last page of the application).

The deadline for submission is March 1, 2016 and awards will be presented at the 2016 WSPTA Convention, held May 20–22, 2016 in Yakima.



Einstein Staff celebrating Ugly Sweater Day!

PTSA Board 2015–16

President

Kim Ositis

einsteinpresident@gmail.com

Secretary

Michelle Ryder

einsteinsecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer

Scott Combs

einsteintreasurer@gmail.com

Legislation

Carrie Campbell & Suzanne Guggen

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Mary Crandell & Mel Williamson

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Carrie Campbell

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Way & Means

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Web site

Kim Ositis

einsteinwebsite@gmail.com



Lines from the Library

Anne Dame, Librarian

[Library Website](#)

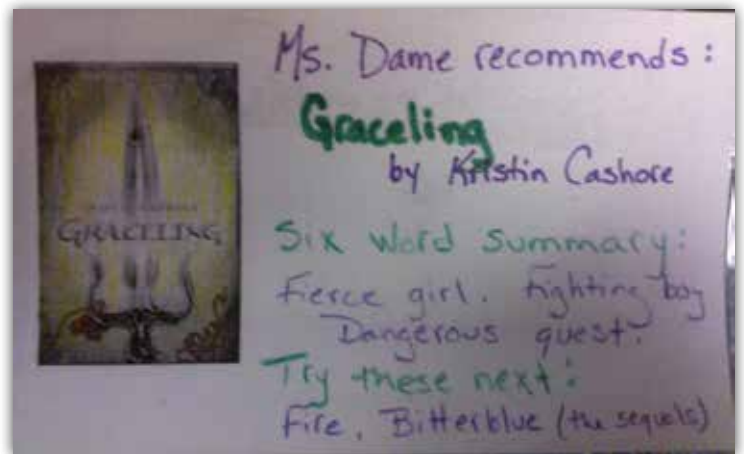
Happy New Year! I hope you all had a fabulous and relaxing break. My mantra was to eat, read, and sleep as much as possible—and luckily I was able to do just that. Plus I spent some time playing with my two (newish) kittens. The break was a great respite for me and I hope it was for you and your family as well. I'm excited about the new year and what it holds for me and the students here. I look forward to working with them and the rest of the staff as we continue to learn and explore lots of different ideas, books, and projects.

I have also set my reading goal for the new year. Once again I will be trying to read 365 books. As of December 14th, 2015, I had read 321 books with a stack of others to read over break. Feel free to ask me if I made it all the way to 365 or not. All of my reviews are on [goodreads.com](#) if you want to see what I read and what I thought of them. My user name is Anne Dame. If you have read something great, please feel free to send suggestions my way!

One way that I stay current on new books for our students is by membership in two different review groups. One meets quarterly and is called WASHYARG (Washington Young Adult Review Group). This group is composed of school and public librarians. Publishers send us brand new books, we take what we think we can read and review before the next meeting. We are able to add all of these books to our collection. I usually get 65–80 books for the Einstein library every year. The meetings are spent sharing reviews about the books we took from the previous meeting. It is a great way to find out what's new, what's hot, and what's not. To the left is a picture of the books I chose from our December meeting.

Several students had been talking to me about book recommendations and they suggested that I create a section for books that I especially enjoyed. I thought that was a great idea, but decided to get some recommendations from students as well.

With the help of the 7th grade students in Ms. Maschman's, Ms. McLaughlin's, and Ms. DiVirgilio's English classes, we created book recommendation cards to hang on the shelves—similar to what you might see at a book store. One of the items on each card is a 6 word summary of the book. This takes quite a bit of thought and creativity—and the students did a great job with it. Here's an example of one of our new book recommendation cards:



Thank you for your support of our library! Please let me know if you have any suggestions or questions. We can always use parent volunteers as well if you ever find yourself with a little extra time on your hands!

Library Staff

Anne Dame, Librarian

Lyn Ching, Library Technician

Robert Dong, Computer Technician



Meet the Einstein Family Advocate

Osbaldo Hernandez, Family Advocate

Hello Families of Einstein,

My name is Osbaldo Hernandez and I am the new Family Advocate for Shorewood High School and Einstein Middle School. It is a pleasure to be able to introduce myself today.

A little bit about me: I was born and raised in Puerto Vallarta Mexico and immigrated to the United States with my family at the age of 12. After graduating from Interlake High School in Bellevue, I attended Seattle University to pursue a degree in public policy and political science.

After graduating from Seattle University, I taught two years of high school social studies in south Texas. After finishing my two years of teaching I returned to Washington to work for U.S. Senator Patty Murray as her immigration representative and I am currently attending the University of Washington to pursue a masters in education policy. Today it is a pleasure to be able to serve and work for the families of Einstein.

I take this opportunity to share that I am here to assist you and the students of Einstein and to let you know that my door is open for all of you.

I am available at Einstein on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday mornings. If you need to reach me, you can call my office at 206-393-4736 or you can send me an email to osbaldo.hernandez@shorelineschools.org and I will be happy to answer any of your questions or help in any way I can.

Thank you and I hope to meet you soon! If you need to talk to me or have questions for me, stop by Einstein or call me to make an appointment. I hope you have an amazing and successful day!



Contact Information

Osbaldo Hernandez
206-393-4736
osbaldo.hernandez@shorelineschools.org
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings

Student Support Team

7th grade Counselor

[Kelley Flatters](#)
206-393-4744

8th grade Counselor

[Lauren Paulhamus](#)
206-393-4743

School Psychologist

[Kathryn Zwack](#)
206-393-4745

Family Advocate

[Osbaldo Hernandez](#)
On campus Wed, Thu & Fri
206-393-4736

School Nurse

[Joni Wishaar](#)
206-393-4734

Security Monitor

[Liz Aspen](#)
206-393-4738



January Sports Starting Soon!

3rd season sports will begin on January 19. 3rd season sports are:
Girls Basketball: 7th and 8th grade girls are eligible to try out
Wrestling: OPEN TO ALL!!!

Please note that ALL athletic paperwork must be completed and turned in to the main office BEFORE attending ANY practice or tryout on January 19. 3rd season sports are a wonderful opportunity for students to get involved, stay active, and show their Tiger pride. Go Tigers!!



Congratulations to Shorewood Volleyball Coach Jen Chartrand on being selected by the Seattle Times as their Star Times All-Area Volleyball Coach of the Year! Chartrand also coaches the Einstein 8th Grade Volleyball Team.



Thank you to Julie Anneberg for these great photos!



Thank you to Kristi Lin for these great photos!



January 2016



January

1/6	WED	Einstein Boys Basketball Game	3:45pm
1/7	THU	Einstein Boys Basketball Game	3:45pm
1/11	MON	Einstein Volleyball Game	3:45pm
1/12	TUE	PTSA Meeting (Staff Lounge)	6:30pm
1/14	THU	Einstein Volleyball Game	3:45pm
1/15	FRI	Season 2 Sports Awards	3:00pm
1/18	MON	No School: Martin Luther King, Jr Day	

February

2/3	WED	Westside Band Festival (EIN Wind Ensemble) Shorewood Main Gym	7:30pm
2/4	THU	End of First Semester	
2/4	THU	SKMEA Middle School Honor Festival	7:30pm
2/5	FRI	No School: Non-Student Work Day	
2/9	TUE	Einstein Girls Basketball Game	3:45pm
2/9	TUE	District Orchestra Festival Shoreline Center	7:30pm
2/10	WED	Band & Orchestra Concert Einstein Gym	7:00pm
2/15–19	M–F	No School: Mid-Winter Break	
2/25	THU	Einstein Girls Basketball Game	3:45pm
2/29	MON	Einstein Girls Basketball Game	3:45pm

Only sport events hosted at Einstein and special events are listed above. The complete sports schedule can be downloaded from the [Athletics Information Page](#) of the Einstein Website.

Lunch Menu

[Here is a link](#) to the district breakfast and lunch menus. Additional information about the district's food services is also available on the [District website](#).

Activity Bus

Information about clubs and other extracurricular activities can be found on the [Activities Page](#) of the website. Students participating in after school clubs or athletics are eligible to take the Activity Bus on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Activity Bus Route 320 – West & South Side

4:45pm	Depart Einstein
4:50pm	Syre Elementary
4:57pm	Richmond Beach Library
5:04pm	Shorewood High School
5:08pm	Highland Terrace Elementary

Activity Bus Route 318 – East & North Side

4:45pm	Depart Einstein
4:50pm	YMCA driveway N 192nd St.
4:53pm	Echo Lake Elementary
4:57pm	1st Ave NE & N 187th St
5:03pm	Meridian Park Elementary
5:10pm	Parkwood Elementary

Einstein Club List

TUESDAY

Jazz Band (H-15) 7:00–8:20am Lane
City of Shoreline Activities (SAC & Gym) 3:00–4:30pm
Newspaper Club (L-4) 3:00–4:30pm Thurber
Tiger Tutoring (Library) 3:10–4:30pm Teeters
GSA (E-11) 3:00–4:30pm Flatters/Zwack (Meets 12/1, 12/15, 1/12, 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/7)
Chess Club (L5) 3:00–4:30pm Paulhamus
International Club (E8) 3:00–4:30pm Wheaton/DiVirgilio
Magic the Gathering Club (L-1) 3:00–4:30pm Mr. Crowley

WEDNESDAY

Anime/Drawing Club (D-11) 3:00–4:30pm Moreno
Video Game Club (A-7) 3:00–4:30pm Riley
The Write Stuff (Library) 3:00–4:30pm Dame (Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month)
Pizza and Books (Library) 3:00–4:30pm Dame (Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month)
Yearbook Club (G2/Art Room) 3:00–4:30pm Baldi
Coding Club (A2) 3:00–4:30pm McDowell

THURSDAY

Jazz Band (H-15) 7:00–8:20am Lane
City of Shoreline Activities, SAC & Gym 3:00–4:30pm
Math Club (A-7) 3:00–4:30pm Riley
TSA/STEM Club (H-6) 3:00–4:30pm Thurber
Tiger Tutoring (Library) 3:00–4:30pm Teeters
Cooking Club (B-14) every other Thursday

FRIDAY

Jazz Band (H-15) 7:00–8:20am Lane