

Si desea esta información en español
llame al 676-6456.



CONTACT US

Attendance: 647-6877
Main office: 676-4886 x2
Counseling: 676-4886 x3
Athletics: 676-4886 x7



OFFICE HOURS

Main office: 8:45 - 4:30
Attendance: 8:45 - 4:30
Counseling: 8:45 - 4:00



KULSHAN Connect

KULSHAN MIDDLE SCHOOL • 1250 KENOYER DR, BELLINGHAM, WA 98229 • 360-676-4886

MAY 2016



Student artwork on display at Vital Climbing Gym

UPCOMING DATES

- MAY 6**—Football B @ KMS 4:30pm
- MAY 10**—Cross Country Meet @ KMS 4:30pm
- MAY 11**—Girls Basketball 7A @ FMS 4:30pm
- MAY 11**—Girls Basketball 7B @ FMS 5:15pm
- MAY 11**—Parent Info Night for incoming 6th grade families @ KMS 7pm
- MAY 12**—Football A @ WMS 4:30pm
- MAY 13**—Football B @ WMS 4:30pm
- MAY 17**—Cross Country Meet @ FMS 4:30pm
- MAY 17**—PTSA Meeting @ KMS 6:15pm
- MAY 18**—Girls Basketball 7B @ FMS 4:30pm
- MAY 18**—Girls Basketball 7A @ FMS 5:15pm
- MAY 19**—Football A @ KMS 4:30pm
- MAY 20**—Football B @ KMS 4:30pm
- MAY 24**—Football A @ FMS 4:30pm
- MAY 24**—Girls Basketball 7A @ KMS 4:30pm
- MAY 24**—Girls Basketball 7B @ KMS 5:15pm
- MAY 24**—KMS Orchestra Concert @ KMS, 7pm
- MAY 27**—Football B @ FMS 4:30pm
- MAY 30**—NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day
- MAY 31**—KMS Band Concert @ KMS, 7pm

A Note from the Principal



Student, Family, and Community Engagement

Bellingham is a fabulous community. It seems that every time we ask for something, there is a community partner magically appearing with our wish.

One great example: our 7th grade students are learning about Washington State economy and industry, so our teachers networked with local industries to add a wide variety of guest speakers into our schedule. This month alone, we are welcoming a police officer, two nurses, a bee keeper, a forest ranger, a computer tech expert, a manufacturing rep, a bike store owner, a scuba

diver, a Coast Guard crewman, and the former president of Boeing. By hearing about first hand experiences from experts, our students build real-world connections to their learning.

We make a focused effort at Kulshan to recruit and build relationships with community agencies. We currently have 49 volunteers from 27 local agencies who serve our school in a variety of capacities. Some are guest speakers, others are counselors, directors, teachers, and musicians. To celebrate these community partners, we are hosting our first annual Kulshan Community Partner Thank You Breakfast on Wednesday, May 25th. Our aim is to take a few minutes to thank

our local volunteer agencies who support our school, teachers, and students.

The Bellingham Promise asks us to build authentic partnerships with our community. What does this look like in our school? It's a WWU student teacher working with a small group of 6th graders in a literacy circle. It's WTA passing out free bus passes to our 7th graders. It's the New Wilderness Project connecting music to justice at our MLK Jr. assembly. It's every middle schooler screening a documentary at the Pickford Film Center.

Thank you, Bellingham, for helping us fulfill our Promise.

With Thunderbird Pride,
Meagan Dawson, Principal

FREE WTA Bus Pass for 7th Grade Students

Thanks to a grant from the Washington State Department of Transportation all 7th graders in Whatcom County were eligible to receive a free quarterly WTA bus pass. Students learned how to plan a bus trip and how to safely ride the bus from WTA and Smart Trips staff. Whatcom Smart Trips created an online trip planner that highlights lots of fun destinations that are accessible via the bus, you can find it at tinyurl.com/7thgradebus



It's not too late for your 7th grader to get their free pass, however they will need to pick it up at the Smart Trips office downtown. Call Susan at 676-6974 to schedule a time to pick up the pass. You can also visit www.ridewta.com/7thgrade to watch a recording of the in-class presentation, just in case your student forgot any of the information they learned.

PTSA Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, May 17 @ 6:15pm in the Kulshan Commons. We will enjoy a delicious dessert and discuss next year's new fundraising approach. All are welcome!

2016-17 Registration

If your student will not be attending Kulshan next year, please contact us so we can adjust our records and support your student in getting registered elsewhere. If you have any questions regarding registration materials, please contact Heather Steele, KMS Registrar at 360-676-4886 x4705 or heather.steele@bellingshamschools.org.

Peer Mentoring Available at Sehome High School

Sehome High has a wonderful Peer Mentoring program that meets during Anchor class on Wednesdays. Currently we have over 100 students meeting each week. We use this time for important discussions, enjoying a snack, and working on being a successful part of Mariner life. If you would like to be a part of the mentoring program next year please see your school counselor for an application or contact Amy Brewster for any questions. amy.brewster@bellingshamschools.org

W.O.M.

May Word of the Month: **COMMITMENT**

kə'mɪtmənt/ *noun*. the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity, etc. Synonyms: dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, faithfulness, fidelity

iRules For Parents, From Their Children

—Janell Burley Hofmann, *Huffington Post*, May 2, 2016



Below is a collection of iRules elementary school children think their parents should follow. I gathered their thoughts and ideas on this topic and read it aloud to their parents during an evening presentation. We all had to take a big, deep, reflective breath when it was through.

This list should not be used as a tool for parent guilt or shaming, but instead as a beautiful and powerful reflection on how much our children love, need and want us.

iRules For Parents:

1. Whatever rules you think are important for me, should be important for you too.
2. When I ask for help, please help me.
3. Don't text and drive.
4. Do something productive!
5. Eat a meal without staring at your device.
6. Don't work so much.
7. Have some tech free time.
8. Know how much time you are spending on your screen. Limit your time.
9. Come outside and play with me.
10. Listen to me.
11. Talk to me.
12. Go to sleep.
13. See me. In my eyes.



Join us for the Allied Arts 16th Annual Children's Art Walk

FRIDAY, MAY 6TH 6-8pm

Our **OPENING RECEPTION**, featuring live music from Kulshan students, beverages and food, will take place at *Vital Climbing Gym* at 6pm.

KMS Art will be on display at Vital Climbing Gym and the Culture Café the entire month of May!

Vital Climbing Gym: 1421 N State St. Bellingham WA
Culture Café: 210 Chestnut St. Bellingham, WA

8th Grade Celebration!

June will be a busy month for our 8th graders! Mark your calendars for the following 8th grade events:

- Monday - June 13: WWU Rec Center Field Trip
- Tuesday - June 14: 8th grade Celebration
Kulshan Commons, 2:00pm, families welcome!
- Tuesday - June 14 8th grade Dance
Kulshan Commons, 7:00pm

More information coming in the following weeks - be sure to check email and regular mail for updates!

Summer Activities

Bellingham Girls Rock Camp (BGRC) is a week long day-camp for girls ages 8 to 17. In one week, Rock Campers get a crash course in writing songs, playing an instrument, collaborating with a band, live stage performance, and do-it-yourself audio recording. Campers do not need to have any musical experience, and instruments will be provided! More information about coming to camp is available online at www.bgrc.org or by emailing info@bgrc.org. This event/service is sponsored by Bellingham Girls Rock Camp, a registered nonprofit organization. It is not sponsored by the Bellingham School District. The district assumes no responsibility for this service or conduct or safety during the event.

Week-long summer camps for youth 9-14 at the **Community Boating Center in Fairhaven**. Adventure Sailing Summer Camps, Intermediate Sailing Summer Camps, and Sail & Paddlesports Summer Camps are a great way to learn about water safety, have fun, enhance your sailing and paddlesport skills, and make new friends. Camps run Monday-Friday starting June 20th, visit our website for more details: www.boatingcenter.org

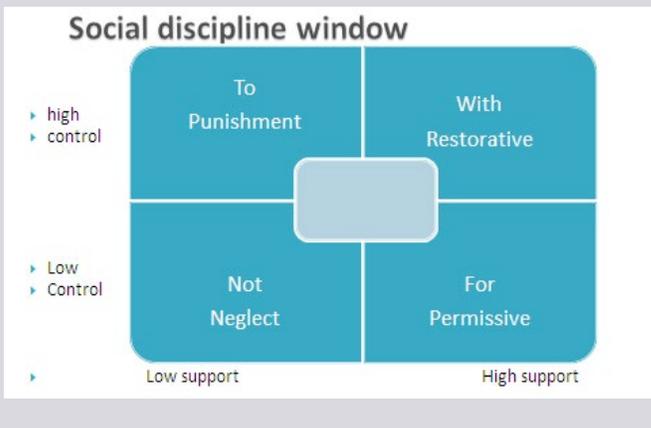
Restorative Practices

—Kevin Terpstra, Counselor

As a building and district we've been exploring restorative practices with students. When students make mistakes (like we all do), how can we use those mistakes as a learning opportunity and restore any damage that has occurred? How can we improve our capacity to build community? How can we build empathy skills and make things right?

You might hear your students talk about participating in classroom circles where they could help build classroom community. Sometimes we use circles for healing when discipline issues happen. Below is a graph illustrating potential discipline outcomes. Our aim is the upper right quadrant, to work with students (not for, to, or neglecting them) while maintaining both high levels of support and clear boundaries.

As a father of two small boys ages four and five, I've also found this concept helpful as a parent. Thanks for sharing your kids with us and enjoy the rest of the year.



BELLINGHAM ENERGY PRIZE!

Save Energy,
Build a Sustainable Future and
Win a Few Million...

Bellingham Public Schools is partnering with the city and other community groups to win \$5 million for community conservation efforts from the Georgetown University Energy Prize!

You can help both at home and at school. Kilowatt Kitty says start saving meow!

5 things to help reduce energy:

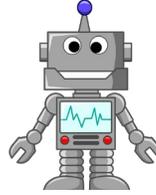
- Turn off lights when you leave a room. Run your clothes and dishwashers with full loads
- Don't heat an empty house. Turn down when you sleep or leave
- Unplug chargers or electronics where possible or use a conserve switch or 'smart' power strip
- Turn off computers and game consoles when not in use
- Go to the **URL below** for more tips and rebates, plus a chance to get free utilities for a month



bellinghamenergyprize.org



Kulshan Middle School Clubs



Students may join a club already in progress at any time.

Club	Meeting Days	Time	Advisor	Room
Homework Club	Tuesday - Thursday	3:45-4:30 PM	Nelson / Adams	210
Choir	B Days	8:15-9:00 AM	Short	404
Beginning Crochet	Tuesdays	8:15-9:00 AM	Victoria Hendricks	307
Symphony Club	Tuesdays	8:15-9:00 AM	Rosen	404
Mathletes	Tuesday & Thursday	8:00-9:00 AM	Burnett	201
Chess Club	Wednesdays	3:45-4:30 PM	Tiger	Library
Yearbook	Thursdays	8:00-8:45 AM	Steele	Library
Jazz Band	A Day Thur or Fri	8:15-9:00 AM	Rosen	404
Improv Club	Fridays	8:00-8:45 AM	Neuman	Commons / Stage
RAKE	Mondays	8:15 AM	Neuman / Adams	204
8th Grade Coffee House	Fridays	8:00-9:00 AM	Wooding / Thran	100 Hall
Morning Gym	M W F	8:00-9:00 AM	Stamey	Gym
Engender Alliance	1st & 3rd Wednesdays	4:00-5:00 PM	Abernathy	308
Creators & Innovators for Girls!	Fridays	4-5:30 PM	Vaughan	Computer Lab

2015-16 KMS Staff Extension List

360-676-4886, option 7

Enter the 4 digit extension number of the staff member you wish to leave a message for.

Name	Phone	Position	Room #
Administration			
Dawson, Meagan	4889	Principal	Office
Abernathy, Michelle	4701	Assistant Principal	Office
Staff			
Bailey, Dan	4734	7th Sci/SS	304
Bennett, Julie	4743	8th Science	403
Berreth, Bryan	4721	7th Math	201
Beymer, Mark	4722	7th Math	202
Christiansen, Pippin	4781	Spanish/8th LA	Port A
Cook-Desler, Nicky	4752	Librarian	Library
Cosgrove, Tim	4729	7th LA/SS	209
Dickinson, Emily	4761	SPED	200
Donner, Laura	4782	Read 180	Port B
Engstrom, Erin	4716	8th LA	106
Everett, Glenda	4723	6th SS	203
Forslund, Criss	4733	6th Sci/SS	303
Frimml, Jennifer	4725	6th LA	205
Hendricks, Rob	4737	8th Math/STEM	307
Hiebert, Rick	4758	PE	GYM
Horsburgh, Chelsea	4717	Life Skills	107
Ingersoll, Elizabeth	4727	6th Math/SS	207
Johnson, Tom	4728	6th Sci/SS	208
Katir, Kimberly	4738	8th Math	307
Leggitt, Gretchen	4741	Art	401
Lingbloom, Tommy	4726	6th Math	206
Lupo, Pete	4715	8th LA/AVID	105
Macleod, Matt	4736	7th SS/AVID	306
Malkovich, Sarah	4716	8th Sci	301
Michel, Diane	4759	PE	GYM
Mueller, Laurie	4735	7th Sci/SS	305
Neuman, Madeleine	4724	6th LA	204
Nguyen, Minh	4736	7th SS/AVID	306
Pauls, Terry	4782	SPED	--
Rosen, Penny	4744	Orch./Band/Music	404
Schoolcraft, Jodie	4730	7th LA/SS	210
Terpstra, Kevin	4772	Counselor	Couns.
Thran, Jeff	4714	8th SS	104
Tiger, Aaron	4771	Counselor	Couns.
Vaughan, Tara	4738	8th Math	308
Weston, Ronni	4732	SPED	200
Wooding, Joe	4713	8th SS	103

Name		Position	Room #
Secretaries			
Bach, Jeanne	6877	Attendance	Office
Newbauer, Jennifer	4707	ASB/Athletics	101A
Schuitema, Cindy	4702	Principal's Secretary	Office
Steele, Heather	4705	Registrar	Couns.
Para Eds			
Carter, Carin	4717	Life Skills	107
Friedman, Paula	4752	Library / Student Sup.	Library
Hagin, Josh	4717	Life Skills	107
Hayes, Molly	4717	Life Skills	107
Keller, Marnie	--	Student Sup.	--
Nelson, Natalie	4708	Student Sup.	101B
Steensland, Elizabeth	--	Student Sup.	--
Custodians			
Fleming, Julia	4755	Custodian	--
Ho, Dung	4755	Custodian	--
Ho, Thanh	4755	Head Custodian	--
Cafeteria			
Bertschinger, Julie	4756	Cook	Kitchen
Jones, Lisa	4756	Cook	Kitchen
Litovchenko, Olga	4756	Cook	Kitchen
Manzhosov, Gulnara	4756	Cook	Kitchen
Porter, Pam	4756	Cook	Kitchen
Schoonover, Jackie	4756	Lead Cook	Kitchen
Itinerant			
Adams, Danielle	4708	Communities in Schools	101B
Brice, Jenny	--	OTTP	--
Cummins, Barb	4773	Nurse	Couns.
De Burgo, Juliana	4753	Speech	Library
Keegan, Ann	--	Psychologist	Library
Spitzer, Sarah	4776	ELL	306B

Email addresses for staff are as follows:
firstname.lastname@bellingshamschools.org

Note: Email information is not considered confidential.
 (Staff list is subject to change at any time)

Kulshan Communication

Webpage

Our school webpage can be found at <http://kulshan.bellinghamschools.org/>. The school webpage is your go-to source for valuable information. The drop down menu at top includes tabs such as Families which includes all you need to know about Skyward access, online lunch payments, standards based grading, report cards, PTSA, and more. Sports seasons and schedules as well as registration and physical forms are under Activities and Athletics. The Teachers tab includes links to sixth, seventh and eighth grade web pages, course descriptions and teacher information. You can even access Kulshan's catalog of books online under Library. Check it out!

Daily Bulletin

The daily bulletin is read each morning over the intercom system. This is how we communicate upcoming school sports and activity information to our student body. The daily bulletin is also linked to Kulshan's home page each day.

Email

Staff emails can also be accessed via the Kulshan Middle School web page at <http://kulshan.bellinghamschools.org/>. If you know the name of the person you wish to reach emails are as follows: `firstname.lastname@bellinghamschools.org`.

Bus Routes

Bus routes and pick up and drop off times can be found by clicking on the Bus Route link on the Bellingham Public School home page or online at www.infofinderi.com/tfi/address.aspx?cid=BSD46M4MGX2Q.

Newsletter

Kulshan creates a monthly newsletter, Kulshan Connect, with information about current and upcoming school activities. The newsletter is emailed to families that have an email address in Skyward and is posted on our school webpage. Sixth and seventh grade teachers also send out a weekly email newsletter highlighting what is happening in the classroom.

Skyward Family Access

Skyward Family Access is an online program where you can track student progress, lunch choices/balance, attendance and more. You can access your student's district information by using the link on our website.

Phone Calls for Staff

Calls for teachers go directly to their voice mail. Please dial 360-676-4886 and when prompted choose option 7 then enter the 4 digit extension number of the person you wish to leave a message for.

Phone Calls for Students

Reminders and/or information regarding appointments and after-school activities should be given at home whenever possible. The office staff will deliver messages only in the event of an emergency. Non-emergency messages, especially those relating to after school activities are given to students at 3:30. We appreciate your cooperation in limiting the number of messages to students throughout the day.

School Messenger

School Messenger is a quick alert messaging service that the Bellingham School District and its schools use for emergencies, weather-related closures/delays, attendance, important school announcements and other general news. We encourage you to sign up on School Messenger to manage home phone numbers, cell phones, second households etc., and how and when you would like to receive information. If you haven't already, please take a moment to sign up for School Messenger by accessing the link at left on our school website.

The Stamp System

Grade level teachers will communicate more information on this important school to home daily communication which allows you to see if your sixth or seventh grade student is doing his/her job in class. Students receive a blue stamp daily for completing work, effort, practice, and participation. A red stamp is given when an assignment is late, but still counts as completed. Students should consistently have four stamps a day every day.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find a copy of the student handbook?

The student handbook is accessible to all students at school and is also accessible from home through our school website under Students. The handbook is a valuable resource containing information about scheduling, activities, transportation, behavior, cafeteria, athletics, etc.

What do I do if my student will not be at school today?

When your student is absent from school, please call the Attendance Secretary at 360-647-6877. Please leave a message on the voicemail letting attendance know your student's name, reason for absence and whether or not you are "excusing them."

My student is going to be late—what should I do?

When students are arriving late to school, please send a note with them. Upon their arrival, students must report to the main office with a parent/guardian signed note. Students without notes will have until the following morning to bring one. Lack of a note will result in an unexcused tardy.

I have to pull my student out of school early—what should I do?

When students need to leave school early, please send a signed note with them the day they need to leave early. Students take the note to the main office first thing in the morning in exchange for a "permission to leave" slip. This slip is shown to the teacher and your student is allowed to leave class. Students must be picked up and signed-out from the main office.

How do I get homework for my student if they are absent?

The best way for students to get makeup work is to email teachers directly. Teacher emails can be found on the school website and via Skyward Family Access. Homework, when available, may be emailed to you or hard copies may be picked up from the main office.

I need to drop something off for my student—where do I go?

Deliveries for students may be dropped off in the main office. It is the student's responsibility to check in with the main office for his/her items. If a student is not aware a delivery is coming, office workers, when available, will deliver a notice to the student that items are available for pick-up. NOTE: Birthday or special occasion flowers and balloons will not be delivered to students during the school day. We encourage parents to give flowers/balloons at home rather than at school. Please know that balloons are not permitted on school buses.

What and where are counseling and student services?

The counseling and student services offices are located in the 100 Hall. Counselors are available to support students in their academic and social/emotional development. They provide classroom, small-group, and individual guidance on a variety of topics. Counselors are also available for consultation with parents/guardians. For an appointment with one of our counselors, please contact the Registrar or one of the counselors directly. The Registrar is available to answer questions regarding registration and withdrawal, student records and scheduling.

What if my child is being bullied or harassed?

We encourage students to speak up if they are being bullied, and we encourage you to notify us if your child shares the he/she is being picked on or bullied here at school, so that we can take action. Students receive training about bullying and harassment every year. Student who are being bullied have a variety of options here at school:

- Stand up for themselves by using their words to tell bullies to stop
- Let teachers know
- Let school counselors know
- Talk with the assistant principal or principal

What if my child is bullying or harassing someone else?

We take bullying and harassment very seriously and have a hierarchy of responses here at school. The usual progression of discipline (depending on the severity of the bullying/harassment) looks like this:

- Warning and problem-solving with assistant principal and/or counselor
- Detention
- Suspension—short term
- Suspension—long term
- Expulsion—In cases of extremely severe and ongoing harassment of another student(s)