

# Pioneer Press – First Edition!

September 2015



## Principal's Note

On behalf of the instructional staff and myself, we take this opportunity to welcome you and your child(ren) to Pioneer Elementary school. As many of you are aware, Randy Weeks, former and much loved Pioneer Principal, will not be here for this school year. I am humbled to be entrusted as the interim (one year) principal and promise to do my best for the students and Pioneer community. Thank you for your support!

Linda Heade, Principal

## Welcome to New Staff!

We welcome our new Pioneer instructional staff: Cecelia Hernandez, SSC (school psychologist); Rhonda Jernigan, Special Education Teacher; Karen Berets, K-3 General Music; Laura Churgin, Para-Educator; Joanne Seaburg, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band; Joel Peach, Speech; Cindi Walker, Nurse.

## Upcoming September & October Events

**September 22**                      **Pioneer Elementary Curriculum Night**

**September 25**                      **Student/Staff Picture Day**

## Daily Schedule

**Full Day K, Grades 1-5**    **8:30 am – 2:52 pm**

Students can arrive at school at 8:15 am. They will go directly to the gym where supervision will be provided. Breakfast is served from 8:05 – 8:25 am.

**AM Kindergarten**                      **8:30 am – 11:10 am**

**PM Kindergarten**                      **12:10 pm – 2:52 pm**

## Pioneer PTA is Awesome!



The PTA's September 3, ICE CREAM SOCIAL was a hit! Thank you to PTA President, Beth Marchand, and her wonderful and hard working PTA Board members for providing this important school community event. We look forward to all the many special events and activities this organization provides to Pioneer Elementary.

## School & Staff Safety are #1 Priority District-Wide

As we begin this school year, we want our community to know that the Olympia School District continues to place STUDENT & STAFF safety as a #1 priority. **The district administration requires ALL guests entering school buildings to come to the school office, sign-in, and be given ID to wear while visiting our school.** We ask that you support us by complying with this safety protocol. Please know that only the main front entrance doors will be unlocked during the school day.

## Parking Lot Safety and Bus Transportation



Adults dropping off & picking up children, please follow the directions from the school staff on duty before and at dismissal. **PLEASE DO NOT HOLD UP THE PICK-UP LANE & OBSERVE THE "NO" CELL USE SIGN.** Pioneer has a tremendous number of adult drivers, and we do our best to keep the traffic moving through. For student safety, we ask that you remind your child(ren) to **NOT** cross traffic or walk down the parking lot to get to your car, but wait until you pull up to the front of the school.

Please never leave your car unattended in the drive-through area. **Park only in designated parking spots.** Right turns only out of lots during drop off and pick up times. **THANK YOU!**

Students riding the bus: Teachers will walk their students to the bus zone, and a staff member will assist them to their assigned bus. Pioneer will be using an ID system for K-1 students that includes colored wrist bands, as well as a list of student names for the bus drivers to reference. Please do not hesitate to notify the school office of any problems regarding bus transportation. **Olympia School District Transportation Office: 360-596-7700**

## An Important Message from the Olympia Police Department

As we begin the 2015-2016 school year, the Olympia Police Department would ask that you consider a few things when dropping off your children in the morning and picking them up after school. While en route to our school locations, please be aware of the posted school zone speed limits, crosswalks, crossing guards (adult & children on duty as crossing guards), school buses, look for safe/legal parking locations to reduce traffic congestion, and be respectful of others' property. **Be safe, have a great school year, and we look forward to working with you to improve traffic safety and congestion.**

SRO OFFICER FOR PIONEER ELEMENTARY AND OLYMPIA HIGH SCHOOL

We are happy to once again have Olympia Police Officer Tim Bronson available to assist our school, as well as our neighbor, Olympia High School. Officer Bronson will be visiting our campus periodically to reacquaint himself to staff and students.

## Future of the Pioneer Press

We are considering publishing the Pioneer Press during the first week of the month. In order to conserve precious resources, we prefer to use technology for this communication. If you would like to receive a paper copy, please let our office know.