

Bulletin for Responsible Scholars, **March 24, 2017**

Welcome to Eckstein.
We are creating a Community of Lifelong Learners!

SCHOOL HOURS: 8:45a.m. – 3:15p.m.

BUILDING HOURS: 8:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.

Students should not arrive before 8:00a.m.

All Parents/Guardians and Visitors must check in at the Main Office Upon Entering the Building

Mar 25	Eckstein Solo & Ensemble, All Day
Apr 3	Eckstein Choir Parent Meeting, 7:00p.m., Little Theater
Apr 3	Eckstein Band Parent Meeting, 7:30p.m., Room 118
Apr 4	Eckstein Orchestra Parent Meeting, 7p.m., Room 117
Apr 6	Eckstein Top Ensembles Performance, 7:30p.m.
Apr 8	Eckstein Rummage Sale— Moved to Apr 22
Apr 10-14	Spring Break, No School
Apr 17	Eckstein PTSA Board Meeting, 7:00p.m. Library
Apr 22	New Date ~ Eckstein Rummage Sale
Apr 24-28	**Smarter Balance Testing – Language Arts
May 1	Eckstein Choir Parent Meeting, 7:00p.m., Little Theater
May 1	Eckstein Band Parent Meeting, 7:30p.m., Room 118
May 8	Eckstein PTSA Board Meeting, 7:00p.m. Library
May 10	District-wide 2-Hr Early Dismissal
May 16	Eckstein Orchestra Parent Meeting, 7p.m., Room 117
May 19-20	Eckstein Musical Performance
May 25	Eckstein Science Night, 6-8:00p.m.
May 29	Memorial Day, No School
June 1	District wide 2 Hr Early Dismissal
June 5	Eckstein Choir Parent Meeting, 7:00p.m., Little Theater
June 5	Eckstein Band Parent Meeting, 7:30p.m., Room 118
June 8	Eckstein All Bands Concert, 7:30p.m.
June 12	PTSA General Meeting, Eckstein Library 7:00 pm
June 12	Combined Choir Concert 3 @ Roosevelt
June 13	Eckstein Orchestra Parent Meeting, 7p.m., Room 117
June 15	Eckstein Jazz Concert/Swing Dance, 7:30p.m.
June 16	Eckstein Orchestra Spring Concert, 6:00p.m.
June 22	8 th Grade Promotion
June 23	8 th Grade Argosy Cruise
June 26	UPDATED ~ Last Day of School, District-wide 1-Hr Early Dismissal

**** = New from last printing**

Eckstein Website: <http://ecksteinms.seattleschools.org/home> If you are already receiving the Bulletins directly to your Inbox, you do not have to re-enroll. If you are new to Eckstein or have changed your email address you need to sign up for Parent Emails and other important announcements that go directly to your inbox. Click here to enroll [Subscribe to Eckstein Parent Emails](#)

Orchestra News: [Eckstein Orchestra Website](#)

Band News: [Eckstein Band Website](#)

Choir News: [Eckstein Choir Website](#)

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent & Guardians -

Thank you for participating Eckstein's Student-Led Conferences! The conferences were well-attended and we received lots of positive feedback about the good interaction between students and parents.

We heard from some parents and guardians that you would also like a chance to meet with your child's teachers to receive information about your student directly from them. Because each teacher has 150-160 students and there are 980 students in the school, it is not possible to schedule a traditional parent-teacher conference for each student at Eckstein, but our Building Leadership Team is discussing other options such as scheduling a day in the fall for drop-in conferences with teachers.

Please remember that you can always contact your student's teachers directly to arrange a conference before or after school. Teachers do need some advance notice because they often have study groups, teacher meetings or IEP meetings outside of school hours, but they are always willing to meet with you. We appreciate your feedback and proactive ideas to make our conferences better, so please continue to share your ideas.

Eckstein students will begin the English/Language Arts portion of the Smarter Balance Assessments on April 24th during their Language Arts class period. Please try to avoid appointments or absences during the testing week and help your students arrive at school well-rested so they can do their best work!

Have a great weekend.

Treena Sterk
Principal, Eckstein Middle School
[#principalsterk](#)

Ensuring the academic, social and emotional growth and success of each student.

****Help Needed! Volunteers are needed to help with Eckstein's "Packs for Kids" weekend food program.**

This is a very rewarding volunteer job. Volunteers sign up online to either help pack food bags for about one hour on Thursday evenings or help distribute the food bags for 1-1/2 hours during Friday lunch. To volunteer, please contact Valarie at vgroves@gmail.com or Gail at gailejoseph@gmail.com.

****Spring Sports Team Pictures – 3/30 at practice:** Please have your students bring their jerseys for the yearbook team pictures on Thursday, March 30th during practice. Unified Soccer team photos will be on Wednesday, March 29 at practice

****Yearbook Update:** Only 150 yearbooks left to order. We will keep orders open until we run out. But then there will be none left to get. Don't wait to order your students yearbook. Last year over 40 people who waited were too late. Please bring a \$30 in cash or check to the main office to order a yearbook. A list of those who have already reserved a copy is located on the wall outside the main office.

****The Eckstein Garden Group will host a monthly weekend work party.** The next one is in April, date and time TBD. All families and staff are welcome; no experience or tools required. We will start in the Courtyard Garden near the portable. Contact kanderson98115@outlook.com for more information or to RSVP.

Eckstein 2017 Summer Music Program: The Summer Music Program at Eckstein for incoming 6th graders will be June 27th to July 14th this year. It's a great deal for a half day camp at only \$90.00. Click on the link [Summer School Permission Form](#). 6th grade musicians also need to meet briefly with Mr. Escobedo prior to the beginning of the school year. Click [Interview Statement](#) about details on the interview process.

If you find binders during your Spring Cleaning, bring them to Eckstein (Main Office): If you have any new or gently-used 2½ -3" binders, our students can really use them. Please drop them off in the Main Office.

Does your child need help on their 7th Grade Science Research Project? There is help available after school in Ms. Aboel-Nil's room 108 every Monday from 3:20 to 4:30 starting March 20 and ending April 25. Have your student get help on researching their project, CER paragraph and much more. Metro Bus tokens will be provided.

Your Student's 2017-18 School Assignment: Next year's assignments are available online in the [Assignment Lookup Tool](#) on the Seattle School District Website. You just need your student's student ID number and their birthdate. Please remember that your student's school assignment may have changed due to new school boundaries and the opening of the District's new middle school, Eagle Staff. School Choice forms may be submitted until May 31, 2017, but forms submitted after February 24 do not receive tiebreaker priorities.

Eckstein Science Night May 25: The Science Department is asking for parent volunteers to help out on Science Night. We need parents to monitor classrooms for an hour between 6pm to 8pm on May 25. We are also looking for people who would like to share their expertise and interest in science and engineering with the Eckstein Community. Please consider staffing a booth or leading hands-on activities for our students. If you are interested in volunteering to help with monitoring rooms, please contact Mrs. Young in the main office. Her email is Young, LauraLeigh llyoung@seattleschools.org. If you are interested in leading a hands-on activity, please contact Teresa Alsept at tialsept@seattleschools.org.

Girls Who Code Coding Club: Women at Google would like to invite your girls to attend a [Made with Code](#) Party at the Seattle Google Office on May 1st 2017! Code touches every part of the world, No matter what you want to be when you grow up, a fashion designer, teacher, dancer, rock star, actress or gamer... code and Computer Science skills can help you get there. Join us for a fun intro on how to get started using code to build a better world. At the party, you will:

- Meet and hear from women coders who are creating a better future
- Discover how code and CS skills and help you pursue your interests
- Teams of two get to start coding with this [coding project](#)

This event is free to attend, and encourage girls ages 11-14 to sign up. We will have pizza and refreshments served, and it will be at the local Seattle Google office. If you have any questions contact the club facilitator, Adam McDonald – admcaldonald@seattleschools.org

[RSVP HERE](#)

[REQUIRED RELEASE WAIVER](#) please review and sign, this can be turned in at the event. Each student must bring a signed copy of this to the event.

Ms. Alsept needs TWO more chaperones for the fieldtrips to Alki Beach on March 28 and 30. Volunteers only need to go one day from 9:30 to 2:00. If enough chaperones aren't found, the fieldtrip will need to be canceled. Please help if you're able. If you would like to volunteer or have questions about the field trip details, please contact Ms. Alsept (tialsept@seattleschools.org). If you have questions about the chaperone clearance forms, please contact LauraLeigh Young (llyoung@seattleschools.org).

Whitman and Eckstein Japanese students are hosting a FREE electronics recycling event: FREE & EASY Electronics Recycling Event. Saturday, March 11, 2017, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Whitman Middle School (9201 - 15th Ave. NW 98117). You just need to get it into your car. 1Green Planet employees will meet you at the Whitman front parking lot and unload your car and do all the sorting. View attached [flyer](#) to see what items qualify; here's a few. Computers, laptops, printers, small appliances, washer/dryers, water heaters, stereos, speakers, bicycles, BBQs etc...1Green Planet will also provide Document Shredding for a \$5 fee for any volume. You will be asked to provide a donation to the Scholarship fund for the Whitman and Eckstein Japanese Exchange program. Students will travel for a two week Japan Exchange trip this year in July to experience international travel, home stay with their sister school students, attend a local middle school, while using their acquired Japanese language skills. Kurt Thompson, Japanese Teacher

For Current 6th and 7th Graders ~ Eckstein Subject Selection Sheets for the 2017-2018 School Year were due into the Main Office by 2/15/17. A number of forms are still out. Please get them in ASAP. Please help your student complete the form by prioritizing their selection, signing the form and returning it to the school. If the form is misplaced, you can download the forms: [7th Grade Subject Selection Sheet for 2017-18](#) and [8th Grade Subject Selection Sheet 2017-18](#)

Girls Who Code Coding Club. This free club is for any female 6th-8th grade Eckstein student interested in Computer Science. Girls Who Code is a national non-profit working to close the gender gap in technology. Girls

learn to use computer science to impact their community and join a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models. The club will meet every Tuesday after school from 3:30-5:00 in room 132. If you have a student who is interested encourage them to attend a club meeting and fill out a permission slip (these can be found in room 132). If you have any questions contact the club facilitator, Adam McDonald – admcdonald@seattleschools.org

Calling all 7th grade parents . . . Pay it FORWARD: As we head into the 2nd semester, we are starting to plan the end-of-year promotion for our 8th grade students and are looking for some 7th grade parents to help as volunteers. Before you know it, your own students will be 8th graders, and won't it be nice to be able to sit back and enjoy their promotion without having to worry about volunteering on this special day? Volunteers are needed in the following areas for the 8th grade promotion, which will be Thurs, June 22 from 6-7 pm:

- Auditorium Decorations (4-6 people)
- Reception Decorations in cafeteria (4-6 people)
- Cake and drink setup for the reception (3-4 people)
- Folding and assembling programs (1-2 people)

If you are available to help, please contact Ms. Anderson, Asst. Principal & 8th Grade House Administrator, at jaanderson@seattleschools.org. Thank you!

New PTSA forming at Robert Eagle Staff Middle School for Fall 2017: If you are one of the Eckstein families impacted by the new middle school boundary changes and will be attending Robert Eagle Staff Middle School, a group of parents are in the process of creating Friends of Robert Eagle Staff Middle School PTSA and want you to have the following information. They will be having kickoff PTSA meetings at the end of Marni Campbell's community meetings, which are TENTATIVELY scheduled for: March 21, April 6, April 25 - all the community meetings start at 6pm (PTSA at ~7:30) at the John Marshall building (520 NE Ravenna Blvd)

They are also encouraging future Eagle Staff families to complete the PTSA planning survey at <https://goo.gl/forms/4Iqc5ebCZejtqBFD3>.

Volunteers are also working to set up sports teams and the music support program as they hope to have a fully operational middle school on day one.

If you have questions, want additional information or if you'd like to help, you can email the PTSA at resmspta@gmail.com.

Here are additional links to their SPS and Facebook pages:

- SPS webpage https://www.seattleschools.org/directory/middle_schools/robert_eagle_staff/
- Friends of Eagle Staff MS FB group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1061858050546469/>

Bands Summer and Fall Flower Bulb Fundraiser is now underway! Dutch Mill Bulbs are high quality, guaranteed to bloom, and reasonably priced, but even better, our band program gets 50% of every purchase! It's a great way to support our talented Eckstein musicians while making your garden look terrific.

Order here: <https://groups.dutchmillbulbs.com/shop/?affiliates=ecksteinmiddleschoolband>

Eckstein Band Calendar – Updated 1/9/2017: Click [HERE](#)

Time to start hoarding for the Band Program Rummage Sale coming up in April! Please hang on to those White Elephant gifts you got over the holidays; we'd love to have them! It's also a great chance to get started on a little early spring cleaning and decluttering. More details coming soon.

“13” The Musical: Questions email ecksteinmusical@gmail.com

- Rehearsals:
 - February 28-March 30, Tues, Weds, Thurs. 3:30-5:00p.m.;
 - April 3-28, Mon-Thurs, 3:30-5:30p.m.;
 - May 1-Performance: Mon-Fri, 3:30-5:30p.m.
- Performance Dates: May 19th and 20th: 7:30p.m.

Bridge for Youth ~ New Offering for the YMCA After-School Program: This year the American Contract Bridge League and Eckstein are offering free “Learn to Play Bridge” classes for all students after school on Tuesdays. Kids will learn logic, reasoning, partnership and communication skills. Last year, National championships were held in Washington DC and World championships in Italy. Questions, contact Assistant Principal Ron Timmons at retimmons@seattleschools.org. Click [HERE](#) for the registration form.

Reminder to all visitors to Eckstein Middle School: Please remember that all visitors, volunteers, parents, former students, guests, etc., need to immediately report to the Main Office, sign in, state your business and wear a visitor or volunteer badge each time you visit Eckstein Middle School. This is for the safety and security of our students, staff and visitors according to District and state regulations. Even if you are picking up or meeting your students afterschool, please wait outside or by the Main Office until school is dismissed. We have had several people wandering the school and in order for our security person to make sure we know who you are, we need you to adhere to these requests. Thank you.

Semester 2 After-School Program: The YMCA coordinates all after-school activities and clubs at Eckstein. The programs will be on-site at Eckstein and will run Monday through Thursday from 3:25p.m. – 5:15p.m. Click [HERE](#) to download a registration form and find out more information about what is offered. Questions, contact University Family YMCA at 206-524-1400 or email universityprograms@seattlymca.org.

Parents & Guardians: Please help us keep students safe by DRIVING SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY around the school. It is NOT SAFE to let your student get out of the car in the “No Stopping” zone on 30th Ave NE or across the street from the school on NE 75th St. There have been some dangerous near-misses in the mornings caused by inattentive drivers or by students dashing across the street mid-block. We urge you to remind your student to always use the crosswalk, not to text while walking and to make eye contact with the driver before crossing in front of a stopped car. We know everyone is scrambling to get to school and work on time in the mornings, but it is not worth risking an accident to gain a few extra minutes!

See Section Below for Information About High School Open Houses

Open Enrollment for School Choice | Key dates for 2017-18: Below are the anticipated dates for School Choice for 2017-18. Any updates will be posted to the Admissions webpage.

- Apr. 7, 2017: Schools receive next year assignments via PowerSchool
- Apr. 17, 2017: Next year Assignment Lookup Tool (for families) available online
- May 31, 2017: School Choice ends

Middle School Resource Newsletter: <http://ecksteinms.seattleschools.org/services/resources>

Update Your School Messenger Settings: The default for School Messenger which includes emails and “robocalls” is to contact all of the phone numbers and emails listed for parents/guardians. If you would like to change this setting to use only one phone number and email please go to:

<https://accounts.relianceco.com/#/createuser> You will need to create a user for each parent/guardian listed who receives phone calls and/or emails.

Taking Students Out of School for Vacations: If you plan to take your student out of school for a reason other than medical please complete a [Preplanned Absence](#) form and turn it into Attendance PRIOR to the absence. Without this form, your student’s absence will be marked Unexcused.

After School Junior Jazz Band: This after school program meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:25-5:00p.m. in the Band Room. Bring a snack. Permission Forms are in the Room 118. Contact Mr. Escobedo at cuescobedo@seattleschools.org for more information.

Forgotten lunches: Parents/Guardians, please consider depositing \$5 or \$10 in your student’s cafeteria lunch account to use in case of a forgotten lunch. With nearly 1,000 students in the school, there are MANY deliveries of forgotten items every day and it can be very disruptive to classes when several forgotten lunches are dropped off for students each morning. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a distraction-free learning environment.

How to Enter Eckstein’s Building: Enter through the door at the NW corner of the building, facing NE 75th Street. All other doors are locked during school hours.

The SOURCE: Parents and guardians with SOURCE accounts can continue to log on with their existing user ID and password. If you are a family new to the SOURCE, there will be a sign-up button on the site and you can follow the steps to create an account. Students will log on with their student username and password. The SOURCE link at the top of all SPS webpages is called “Student Portal”. This link will take families and students to

a one-stop webpage where they may log onto either the SOURCE or Schoology:
<http://www.seattleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=1166719>.

Schoology is a tool teachers use to post assignments, messages, events and calendar items. Parents and guardians will find their Schoology access code in the SOURCE on the left-hand menu. Students will go to lms.seattleschools.org and click Login as a Student link. Students will login using their student username and password. For more information from the district about Schoology and the SOURCE

To remove your name from the Eckstein mailing list: If your student no longer attends Eckstein MS or if you no longer wish to receive these messages, you can remove your name from our mailing list by scrolling to the bottom of this bulletin and clicking the "SafeUnsubscribe" link.

Community News

(These items are not endorsed or sponsored by Eckstein Middle School)

****Thrive Middle School Program based out of Meadowbrook Community Center will be offering all-day (8:00AM-6:00PM) programming during the upcoming Spring Break.** You can register to attend Thrive's Spring Break camp daily for (\$45/day) or for the entire week for (\$210). Programming includes swimming, field trips, cooking projects and more. If you would like more information please contact Meadowbrook Community Center at (206) 684-7522.

****Junior Summer Tennis Camps at Tennis Center Sand Point:** TCSP offers a complete junior tennis program for children ages 6 to 17. From beginners to the most advanced tournament players, the junior program covers the entire spectrum. Curriculum is based on developing camaraderie, self-esteem, physical fitness, discipline and good sportsmanship. Fun is the number one ingredient so kids can learn to love the game for life. Visit our website (www.tenniscentersandpoint.com) for more information.

****FIUTS/Seattle Language & Culture Institute, July 24-August 7, 2017. UW Campus, Seattle.** This program offers middle and high school students the opportunity to take part in a two-week global experience on the UW Campus. Build cultural competency, practice communication and diplomacy skills, make friends from around the world. 9:00a.-5:00p most days. Visit www.fiuts.org/scli or call Ellen Frierson at ellen@fiuts.org.

NOAA Open House: At NOAA Open House, you will have the opportunity to tour NOAA's facilities and learn more about a variety of NOAA programs, including the National Weather Service, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Washington SeaGrant, National Ocean Service, NOAA Corps, and more! For students and teachers, there will be information on summer camps, scholarships, and internships.

• Date: Friday, June 9, 2017

- Time: 12 pm – 6:30 pm
- Location: NOAA Western Regional Center
- 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115
- ID requirements: Adults must bring a valid driver's license or passport for identification.
- Questions? Contact the [NOAA Open House coordinators](http://www.noaa.gov/openhouse)

Nathan Hale Soccer will run Raider Soccer Camp for boys and girls in elementary or middle school. July 17th to July 21st at Jane Addams Middle School; Grades K-5: 9am-noon, Grades 6-8: 1pm to 4pm. Register at: www.halesports.org Cost: \$75 (includes t-shirt if registered by June 1, 2017). Your Raider camper will spend either a morning or afternoon with the Nathan Hale soccer team learning the basics of soccer, including passing, shooting, juggling and tactics.

Bloomin' Brains Summer Camp: Are you a middle school student interested in a summer exploration of neuroscience and botany? Spend a week at the University of Washington working with scientists and teachers to explore, experiment, and discover! Campers will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about the brain
- Conduct hands-on science experiments
- Learn about uses of medicinal plants in Native cultures
- Enjoy field trips to the Medicinal Herb Garden and Hyde Herbarium
- Discover "the art of the brain" by constructing models

- Make a plant extract and tie-dye a shirt

Information:

- Dates: July 10th-14th, 2017, 9 am-3 pm
- Location: University of Washington
- Cost: Free (transportation and lunch not provided)
- Who is eligible: Middle School Students

How to apply: Go to www.neuroseeds.org, click on the “Bloomin’ Brains Summer Camp” tab and fill out the online application. Applications due April 3, 2017. Questions? Contact nseeds@uw.edu or call (206) 685-3186

Summer Activity Scholarship Opportunity! The Assistance League of Seattle’s Enrichment Scholarship

Program provides financial resources to students enrolled in grades 6-11 in Seattle Public Schools so that they can participate in the summer enrichment learning experience of their choice. Students apply for up to \$500 in funding to camps for music, art, mathematics, language, leadership, journalism, culinary, computer science, and more.

- Eligibility Requirements:
 - Must be a student in Seattle Public Schools (home school students with SPS affiliation are also eligible).
 - Must be enrolled in grades 6 to 11.
 - Must complete and submit an application form by the application cut-off date.
 - NB: We do not fund sports or religious enrichment programs.
- Applicants:
 - Download and complete the [Enrichment Scholarship Program Application Form](#).
 - Applications are accepted starting in January.
 - Applications are reviewed and evaluated by the program committee by mid-April.
 - Students are notified of the results of the program committee’s evaluations by letter.
 - Scholarships are awarded/distributed by (approximately) the end of April.
 - Scholarship award checks are made payable directly to the student’s enrichment program or class, then sent with an award letter to the student’s home address.
 - It is the responsibility of the student awarded the scholarship to complete the necessary application to his or her chosen program and also to include the check issued by Assistance League of Seattle with their application as payment.

[Click here to download Enrichment Scholarship Fund application.](#) Deadline: April 15

Great Summer Camp opportunity for your students FREE: <http://www.neuroseeds.org/bloomin-brains-summer-camp> Bloomin’ Brains Summer Camp - Sowing the Seeds of Neuroscience. www.neuroseeds.org

Northeast Seattle Little League Registration is Open for the 2017 Season: Spring is just around the corner so it’s time for kids to gear up for baseball, softball, and tee ball with Northeast Seattle Little League (NESLL)! For kids 5-6 years old, NESLL’s tee ball program is a great way to introduce the game. NESLL’s softball program is a great way to get young girls involved in athletics and be a part of championship teams. NESLL’s baseball program is for boys and girls ages 6-16 and a great opportunity to learn about teamwork and the fundamentals of the game. For parents, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities within the league and with your child’s team. Please go to www.NESLL.net to start the registration process.

For baseball and tee ball questions contact registrar@NESLL.net

For softball questions contact Scott Rossick at srossick@msn.com.

Seattle Public Library Offers Free Homework Help for K-12 Students: The Seattle Public Library offers free, in-person educational assistance for children and teens that started Sept. 12 at 10 Library locations. Library events and programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Click [HERE](#) to download the flyer with information about locations and times.

Join Boy Scouts with Troop 177!: Troop 177 supports Eckstein Middle School, and is recruiting boys in 6th-8th grade now! Our troop conducts monthly outdoor activities, such as camping trips, hikes, and canoe trips, and has an annual week-long summer camp. Boy Scouts provides experiences boys can’t get elsewhere, and the boy-led program teaches them leadership skills. Check out <http://troop177.com> or email info@troop177.com for more information.