

Nautilus K-8
1000 South 289th St
Federal Way, WA 98003



Phone: 253-945-3400
Fax: 253-945-3434
www.fwps.org

"Reaching Higher to Promote Student Learning"

Important Dates

January 29
NO SCHOOL
Semester Break

February 1
Read & Lead Due

February 2
Coffee with the
Principal
8:10 AM Library

February 4
Celebration Assembly

February 5
Read & Lead Prize

February 12
Science on Wheels
Assembly

February 15 & 16
NO SCHOOL
Mid Winter Break

February 18
PTSA Skate Night &
meeting @ 6:00 PM

February 19
Cookie Day



Dear Nautilus Families,

A great big thank you to Mr. Anderson and the 2nd and 3rd graders for the fantastic Martin Luther King Concert. Thank you to all the families for helping get their children to the concert on time. It was packed!

An update on our tardies and attendance:

	September	October	November	December
Tardies	182 tardies	293 tardies	203 tardies	192 tardies
Absences	395 absences	458 absences	464 absences	402 absences
Perfect Attendance	197 students	180 students	172 students	205 students

WooHoo! More students had perfect attendance and there were less tardies and less absences. Let's keep it moving in this direction!

It is that time of year again when we start thinking about next year (yes, in January)! **If you have a 5th grader**, Sacajawea will hold their Information Night on Thursday, February 18th from 6:00 to 7:00. Federal Way Public Academy is holding their Information Night on Tuesday, February 23rd from 7:00 to 8:30. If you are interested in having your student remain at Nautilus for 6th – 8th grade, please plan on attending our Information Night on Wednesday, February 24th at 6:00 pm in the library. We have some exciting things planned for next year! Just a reminder, if you plan on keeping your child at Nautilus for middle school, you **MUST** fill out a secondary choice enrollment form and turn it into the district office by February 26th. **If you have an 8th grader**, mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 10th as FWHS will host their High School Planning Night from 6:00 to 8:00. For both 5th and 8th graders, if you plan on enrolling your child in a school that is not his/her home school, you must fill out a choice form and turn it in by February 26th.

Don't forget that our second Coffee with the Principal and Family Liaison will be on Tuesday, February 2nd at 8:10 in our library. Although we have a very short agenda, the main purpose of the coffee chat is to give parents and guardians a time to ask questions! This Tuesday would be a good time to come if you want to learn about how the Tech Levy will impact Nautilus, to ask questions about middle school or high school transitions, or to ask about our report cards. Hope to see you there!

Last but not least, we have changed our late arrivals to six early dismissals beginning on Wednesday, February 24th. School will let out at 1:10 pm. More information will follow, but plan on your students arriving home earlier six days. Thank you for this time. It gives the teachers time to look at student data and to create plans to accelerate students and to work with students who are not yet at standard. The time is valuable to us and we thank you!

Proud to be a Navigator!
Stacy Lucas, Principal

Choice Enrollment coming soon...

Both resident and non resident students may apply to attend any Federal Way school through the “choice enrollment” program. **Applications will be approved if they are received by the deadline and if there is space available in the requested school.** All spaces available for “choice enrollment” will be filled by lottery selection. All non resident applications must be accompanied by a Release of Attendance (waiver) from the student’s resident district. Non resident students will not participate in the lottery. Non resident (out of district) students will be accepted during the month of August, to be placed on a first come, first served basis after the lottery placements.

Applications for secondary are available the month of February. Applications for the regular elementary choice program will be available in April.

Science Fair Coming February 25th

Do you have a scientist in your family? Someone who inspires to discover new things or how something works? Now is the time to shine! Nautilus annual Science Fair will be held on February 25th. Entry forms have been sent home and are due back to school by January 27th.

Mr. Basinger is hosting some science help nights in the library after school on January 28, February 11 and February 18.

If you have any questions regarding the science fair please contact Mr. Basinger at dbasinge@fwps.org



Tuesday February 2nd is Coffee with the Principal.

Join us in the library at 8:10 – we’d love to see you there.

Awesome Volunteers!!
Thank you to the best volunteers in February. You put in 313.5 hours in December! Thank you for all you do.



Watch for track information coming home in February!

Thank you to the PTSA for sponsoring the Science on Wheels on February 12th. We are looking forward to a great day!
We will need a few volunteers on this day. If you are interested please contact us at 253-945-3400.

Office News

Absences

Remember to call your child’s absence into the absence line at 253-945-3400 and send a note upon their return.

Lost and Found

The box is overflowing with lots of coats and sweatshirts. If your child is missing anything please have them check, it just might be there.

Reminder—New FWPS “Safe Arrival Program”

As of January 5, 2016 the District has been making Safety Check Phone calls. It is important to remember to call or email the Nautilus office if your student will be late or absent from school. 253-945-3400.

Kindergarten Registration: If you child will be 5 prior to August 31 then it is time to register them for Kindergarten. Please come by the Nautilus office to pick up a packet. Please bring with you the birth certificate, shot record and proof of residency. We are excited to have your child attend Nautilus.

As educators, our focus is on delivering a personalized learning experience for each student-scholar in Federal Way Public Schools. Essential to this work is providing job-embedded professional development for our teachers. This year we implemented Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) with a focus on collaboration, professional development and student achievement during student release time using a late start model. After the first scheduled late start in September, we heard from a number of families who were adversely impacted by the change in school start time. To gain clarity and a deeper understanding around specific aspects of concerns, families were invited to participate in a survey. The survey responses provided clear direction as to how this model might be improved.

First, here are two important survey highlights:

- ◇ 70% support collaborative time for professional learning communities
- o 67% support student release time for teacher professional development

With 70% approval, we learned our families overwhelmingly support collaborative time for teachers to meet in Professional Learning Communities. This is especially affirming as we know professional learning is essential to high quality teaching practices.

What did we learn?

Nearly 60% of the respondents said late starts took major adjustments, and approximately 40% of said their primary concern was childcare. **Conversely, 60% indicated that early release would have little to no impact on their family**, and there was a 60% prefer for an early release model.

And, the majority of parents indicated an early release schedule would minimize the impact to families without creating an undue hardship for secondary students participating in afterschool sports and activities.

Responding and adapting

Without adequate time to create a thoughtful plan, we proceeded with the scheduled late start day on October 28. And, an Early Release Design Team was appointed to review the data, address the concerns and to provide recommendations that would have less impact to families, but still provide student release time for teacher collaboration. The Design Team was comprised of principals, district administrators, and FWEA president and board members. Guidelines for the design team work were to consider survey feedback from families in creating a plan for early dismissal that maintained the remaining time for PLCs as agreed upon.

In addition to developing a revised schedule, the task force revisited important services and supports to students and families, including:

- o breakfast and lunch service
- o student transportation
- o student supervision

Recommendation to the Board

At a Board Work Study Session on December 15, 2015 the Design Team's recommendation was presented to the Board of Directors for a revised school year calendar that includes eight 90-minute student early release days for PLCs, replacing the remaining four 3-hour late starts on the existing calendar.

The Board has approved the revised calendar and shift from late start to early release for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year. The dates are: February 24, March 16, March 30, April 13, April 27, May 11, May 25, and June 1.

We will be providing additional information about the structure for this PLC time in January.

In closing, the new early release schedule provides more frequent time for teacher collaboration, and is more closely