

Asa Mercer International Middle School

Dear Mercer Families,

As April approaches there are a number of items to look forward to:

- Friday, April 7 is the end of our 3rd quarter.
- Spring break is April 10-14.
- Our annual state testing process begins April 24 and runs through May 29. More information about our Smarter Balance Assessment, including testing dates, can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.
- A reminder with the snow days this winter, our last student day is Monday, June 26 rather than Friday, June 23.

Our students have had a great year so far. Their academic achievement has been very strong. For our semester 1 grading the number of students earning a 2.5 GPA or higher is very strong. A total of 1,037 out of 1,185 students earned a 2.5 GPA or higher for 1st semester. This is 88% of all Mercer students!



An important predictor of continued success is consistent, on-time attendance. Please continue to make sure students arrive to school by 8:30 am. Additionally, we will be reviewing with students expectations and guidelines that lead to success. These expectations include appropriate dress, electronics, and positive behavior. Mercer's high expectations result in students who contribute, students that achieve high levels of academic success, and to a safe learning environment for all of our young scholars.

Please take 10-15 minutes as a family to review some of our guidelines for success on page 3 of this newsletter.

Go Mustangs!

Mr. Carter
Principal
cecarter@seattleschools.org

Contact Information

Main Office: (206) 252-8000

Ms. Hodges and
Ms. Nouch

Grade Level Administrators

6th: Ms. Encarnacion
7th: Ms. Simmons
8th: Ms. Gerlitz

Grade Level Counselors

6th: Mr. Malaki
7th: Ms. Chappelle
8th: Ms. Bradley

Attendance: (206) 252-8004

Ms. Kolner

Nurse: (206) 252-8007

Ms. Eckerdt

Registrar: (206) 252-8010

Ms. Holmes

Bilingual Office: (206) 252-8008

Mr. Adan – Somali
Ms. Almendarez- Spanish
Ms. Bunnell – Tagalog
Ms. Chung – Chinese
Ms. Deloya - Spanish
Mr. Siew– Chinese
Mr. Tran – Vietnamese

After School

Activities: (206) 252-8020

Damien Hicks and
Won Choi

School Based

Health Center: (206) 762-2394

Sarah Bernhards

NEWS AND INFORMATION

S. Columbian Way S/15th Ave. S. Traffic Re-Design

There are a number of improvements being planned for this intersection. The Seattle Department of Transportation is seeking community input and feedback. You can see the early design concept and find out more information about the project using this [link](#).

Goals of the re-design include:

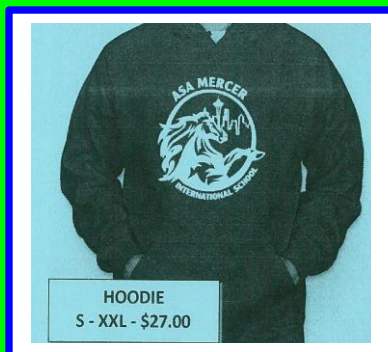
1. Increased safety at the intersection for students and other people walking and biking,
2. Reduce confusion for drivers at the intersection.
3. Improve transit stops.
4. Provide public space.



The project is scheduled to begin in 2018. Input and feedback is requested of the Mercer community!

Mercer Spirit Wear Order Due March 29th

Order forms are available for pick up at school and linked on our [website](#).



Spirit wear items include:

- 1. Hoodies - \$27**
- 2. Men and Women Tshirts - \$10**
- 3. Great colors to choose from**

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Mercer Spring Reminders

We have wonderful students who work hard and who are respectful and kind! Yet, as spring draws near this is a time of the year when we begin to see an increase in misbehaviors. The most common misbehaviors we have seen this past two weeks, include:

Electronics: Cell phones are expected to be powered down and stored away from 8:15 am to 3:15 pm. This past week we've had to speak to students about:

- Taking pictures and posting during class time. This results in conflicts between students who do not want their pictures taken, and impacts teaching and learning.
- Students listening to music during instruction.
- Social media use during instruction.
- Students disrupting instruction to respond to social media instead of focusing on math.
- Please take a look at your student's device and see when he/she is using their phones. Most of our students manage this well. However, too many of our students are not managing this use well.

Slime: Students are making this mix of borax and glue at home and sharing or selling to students at school. Most students play with it at lunch, but other students have done the following:







- Throw slime on unsuspecting students, causing conflict.
- Playing with slime instead of focusing on learning during class.
- Taking each other's slime, which causes conflict.

Horseplay: Students are expected to keep hands and feet to self. This past week, we had:

- Students who were wrestling at lunch and got upset with one another.
- Students who were slap boxing and got upset with one another.

Please take a moment to
review behavior
expectations
found on the first 15 pages
of your student's planner.

A safe and positive learning
environment will
always be a Mercer
priority!

A S A		Mercer Mustang	
P	Plan & Prepare with Purpose	 Thinking: "What's next in my day?" "What's my goal?" Practice setting a short term goal and make a plan for achieving it!	
O	Ownership	 Believing that what I do makes a difference in my school community. Knowing what I am responsible for. Demonstrate respect for the feelings of the others!	
W	Will Power	 Keep going even when I don't get my way. Practice self-control!	
E	Emotion Management	 Emotions come and go, they do not define me or make decisions for me. Recognize & manage strong emotions!	
R	Reflect	 Celebrating success & admitting mistakes. Believe that efforts today will improve my future!	

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PTSA Meeting, Wednesday, April 18, 6:30 pm

We have PTSA meetings every 2nd Wednesday of the month, unless posted otherwise. If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions and ideas, you can contact us at mercervptsa@outlook.com or visit the Mercer website: http://mercerms.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/PTSA.

We hope to see you here!

State Assessment Testing Window April 24 – May 23

Strong keyboarding and typing skills are important lifelong skills. We have a goal that by the end of 8th grade Mercer students are able to type 30 Words Per Minute with 95% accuracy. Reaching this proficiency goal takes on-going practice for students. In support of our goal, Seattle Public Schools provides a **FREE** keyboarding program called [Typing Agent](#). This on-line program supports student learning of important keyboarding skills.

How to log on from home:

1. Use the Firefox web browser
2. Go to the following URL: <https://seattleschools.typingagent.com/>
3. Log on using Typing agent username/password (same as school).



Save the
dates

State Testing Schedule: More information will be sent home prior to our testing window.

Grade	ELA	Math	Science
8	April 24 & 25	May 3 & 4	May 23
7	April 26 & 27	May 8 & 9	
6	May 1 & 2	May 11 & 12	

IMPORTANT APRIL DATES

- 7: End of 3rd quarter
 10-14: Spring Break
 18: PTSA Meeting (6:30 pm)

