

Helen Haller Elementary

Newsletter
2022-2023



350 W. Fir St., Sequim, WA 98382
360-582-3200 OFFICE 360-681-8543 FAX OFFICE HOURS: 7:30-3:30
Kristi Queen, Principal Sarah Decker, Assistant Principal

Happy New (School) Year Helen Haller Families and Caretakers,

We are very excited to see our students again and for the 22 -23 school year to begin. We will be welcoming our kindergarteners, the graduating class of 2035 (can you believe it?), to our campus with a great big Helen Haller heart. You can expect a welcome letter from your student's teacher coming soon. We have couple of staff changes here in the office and are thrilled to welcome Tennille Bixby as our new office coordinator and Robyn Bacchus as our new attendance secretary. We will miss them, but we are excited for Kimberly Bushy who is working at Sequim Middle School and Crystal Brown who is in Learning Support Services.

Our focus this year is on celebrating the **joy** in growth. We consider working with you and your children a great honor and joy and look very forward to strengthening our partnerships throughout this school year. We will be kicking off the school year with a **Back To School Ice-Cream Social** on Tuesday September 6 from 4:00pm - 6:00pm. You are invited to bring your HHE student, meet the teacher, visit the classroom, and enjoy some ice-cream. This evening event is a fun way to start this year and is excellent for fending off first day jitters.

Let's go Helen Haller Cougars!

Great article for moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, caretakers on prepping children for back to school: [Preparing for the School Year Back to School Transition Time 2022.docx](#)

Our office is open during summer from 9:00-2:00, please don't hesitate to call or email.

See you all September 6 from 4:00 - 6:00!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kristi Queen'.

Kristi Queen
Excited and Proud Principal of Helen Haller Elementary



You are invited to our Back to School Ice-Cream Social
September 6, 2022
4:00pm - 6:00pm
Helen Haller Elementary

The first Day of School for grades 1 - 5 is Wednesday, September 7, 2022.

Kindergarten WA Kids Conferences September 7, 8, and 9 - first day of school for kindergarten is September 12.

Our school day begins at 8:15am and ends at 2:45pm.

If you are dropping your student off - PLEASE drop off NO EARLIER than 8:00am - **THANK YOU!**

SCHOOL HOURS

Monday 9:15 - 2:45
Tuesday - Friday 8:15 - 2:45

MEET OUR COUNSELOR

Jennifer Saul is Haller's school counselor. She is happy to be a resource for you, so please don't hesitate to contact her by calling our office (360-582-3200).

There are openings in our **weekend meal program**. Students receive bags on Friday with breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks for Saturday and Sunday. Please contact the office if this would be helpful for your family. If you are interested in having your child receive meals and snacks for the weekend, please

Upcoming Events Calendar

September 6	Back to School Ice-Cream Social, 4:00-6:00
September 7	1st Day of School, grades 1-5
September 7, 8, 9	Kindergarten Conferences
September 12	1st Day of School, Kindergarten

Be sure your child knows how they are going home. Send a note or pink slip so there is no confusion. Bus route information is available from the bus garage at 582-3274.



Does your child walk to school? Do you drive your child to school?

1. Please review with your child safe walking habits and routes.
2. Our parking lot is very congested just before and after school. If you drop off or pick up your child, please read the following information:
 - Our parking lot is one way; east to west.
 - Enter the main parking lot on the east end of the campus. Exit on the west end. This is also the exit for the Boys & Girls Club. It can and will be congested.
 - Pull ahead as far as possible along the sidewalk/curb closest to the building and stop only long enough to pick up your child. Please do not pull into the upper parking area and have your child cross in front of other cars. Children should enter your car directly from the sidewalk. Once your child is safely in the car, pull out into the other lane and proceed out of the parking lot.
 - Go slow – be aware – stay safe – buckle up.

PINK SLIPS

Pink slips are used to notify students, teachers and office staff of changes in plans or routine for individual students and are used as bus passes. Bus drivers will not let a child ride any other bus except his own without a pink slip. If a child has a change of plans for the day, please complete a pink slip and send it with him/her in the morning. You need to include the child's 1st and last name, teacher, date, name, telephone number and complete address of where they are going to (grandma's house is not enough information). **If plans change during the day, please contact our office before 2:00 p.m.**

Pink slips will be sent home with students on the first day of school.

WELCOME
back
COUGARS!

Want to volunteer?

Are you interested in volunteering at Helen Haller? We are eager to grow our numbers of parent/caretaker volunteers this school year. We are looking for the following:

Room Parent: Would you like to assist your child's teacher in parent communication, community building efforts and more? Please reach out directly to your child's teacher.

Lunch Recess Support: We host student lunches and recess from 10:45 - 12:50. Each grade band has it's own 35 minute time slot for a 20 minute lunch and a 15 minute recess. Our students thrive with structure and support and would benefit greatly from additional adult presence during these two hours. Do you enjoy playing kickball, refereeing soccer, tetherball, hopscotch, talking about Pokémon or watching a vast array of themed TAG?

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads / Dudes of great students) - are you a dad, grandpa, older brother, uncle or family friend who would like to come to school for a day? We will be launching Watch D.O.G.S. here at Helen Haller this school year. We look forward to getting more Dads and Dudes of our great students here on campus, involved and having fun.

Reading support: reading to students, listening to students read to you, practicing sight words

Math support: working with students and numbers, working through specific math strategies

Interested in volunteering? A new volunteer application must be completed each school year. Click [here](#) to complete your volunteer application.

More information about Watch D.O.G.S.: <https://dadsofgreatstudents.com/program-training/>

A School District Calendar was recently mailed to current students families. Extras are available in the office.

An on-line Haller Calendar can be found on our home page hhe.sequimschools.org

A printable *District Calendar at a glance* like the one on the right is available on their homepage under "Our District."

www.sequimschools.org

SEPTEMBER 2021							SEQUIM SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 323 2022-23 CALENDAR							FEBRUARY 2022							
SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	Class Begin: September 7, 2022 Classes End: June 23, 2023 DUE: Staff Attendance School Year: 180 Days (180/180)	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR
1		2	3	4	5	6	S: START OF SCHOOL G: QUARTER BEGIN V: VACATION EK: EARLY RELEASE H: HOLIDAY NS: NO SCHOOL FD: 1-HOUR LATE START PL: PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	HOLIDAYS, BREAKS & VACATION DATES	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	1-3 Day: Sep. 20-22 (19/21) 2-3 Day: Oct. 1-3 (21/23) 4-5 Day: Jan. 29-31 (23/25) 6-7 Day: Feb. 2-4 (25/27) 8-9 Day: May 29-31 (27/29) 10-11 Day: Jun 2-4 (29/31)	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	12/17/21 GRADING PERIODS END	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30					13/18/22 CONFERENCE DATES FOR ELEM/MS: Oct 21 & Nov 1 Sequim High School Graduation: June 26, 2023	SE	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	29	30					

Adopted March 2, 2020; Revised March 21, 2022



10th Annual Back to School Fair

What: Community Back-to-School Fair

When: Saturday, August 27, 2022

Where: Sequim High School Football Field

10AM- 2PM

For more information click [here](#)

PARENT INFORMATION

- **Update information** – If you have a **new address, email or telephone number** or need to change your child's emergency contact person, please contact our office or you may login to the Skyward Family Access portal and make changes to your phone number, email, or address. If you don't know your Skyward login or password, please contact the office. **Please make sure your phone number is current and your voicemail is set up so the school can contact you if necessary.**
- **Email addresses** — We have been sending notices through Family Access and the email system. If you haven't been receiving email notices from the school, your current email may not be entered correctly in our system. Contact the office to check. Also, check your junk email — your email settings may have routed them there.
- **What time does class start** – Drop off starts at 8:00, 9:00 on Mondays. Students need to be in the classroom no later than 8:15, 9:15 on Mondays.
- **Late start every Monday** — classes district wide will start one hour later (9:15) every Monday due to staff development. Buses will run one hour later for pick up. Students are dismissed at the regular time.
- **School supplies** – School supply lists were sent home with students at the end of the year. Copies are available in our office or visit our website at hhe.sequimschools.org
- **Thursday** is the day we send home flyers, newsletters and other important information. Please check with your child weekly!
- **School lunch price** - Breakfast and lunch is free to all students this year.
- **Volunteers** - We love our volunteers! A new volunteer application must be filled out every year. Click [here](#) to update your volunteer status.
- **Absences/tardies** – **All absences are recorded as unexcused until excused by a parent.** State legislation (Becca Bill) requires unexcused absences to be reported as truantcies. When your child is absent, please contact our office at 582-3200. Absences must be excused within 5 days. Be sure your child is in his classroom no later than our 8:15 a.m. start time, 9:15 on Mondays. An automated calling system will contact you if your child's absence has not been excused. The district will be sending home information to all families when school starts. For more attendance information click [here](#).
- **Accident insurance** is available. The school district does not provide coverage while your child is attending school. Application forms will be sent home the first day of school.
- **Medication at school** – Any child taking medication at school must have a current medication form, on file, signed by the parent and the physician. We can not give aspirin or any other non-prescription drug (including cough drops) without explicit directions from the doctor. Please bring the medication and completed forms before the first day of school to avoid any confusion or delay on the first day. Adults are required to hand deliver medicine to school – it should never be sent with the child.
- **Lost and Found**—Students misplace coats and lunchboxes easily. Please check our lost and found often to check for lost items. Labeling your child's jackets, lunchboxes, and backpacks with their first and last name really helps.
- **Mandatory Kindergarten Conferences**—Full-day Kindergarten at Helen Haller Elementary includes participation in WaKIDS, a process for building partnerships with Kindergarteners and their families and working together to build upon children's strengths for success in school. An important component of WaKIDS is the parent conference, with their student, held within the first three days of the school year. Kindergarten parents are asked to sign up for a conference on September 7, 8, 9 by calling the HHE office at 360-582-3200, no later than Friday, September 2nd. **In order to accommodate these conferences, kindergarten will officially start on Monday, September 12th.**