



# Bremerton School District

# PARENT HANDBOOK

This handbook is provided for parents/guardians of students in the Bremerton School District, and is official notification of important information. To help ensure a successful academic and social experience at school, parents are encouraged to read the information provided here.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Staff and Community Members,

Welcome to another school year. This handbook is intended to highlight the expectations of students and parents. Promoting the sense of responsibility of all students starts with clear expectations. The rules and regulations governing the rights of students, teachers and administrators are outlined on the following pages.

Please take time to review this handbook as well as student handbooks that may be provided by our schools. Please contact the school principal if you have any questions about the rights and responsibilities of our staff, students or administrators.

If you would like to provide feedback on this document, please contact the communications office at 360-473-1014.

Thank you for partnering with us for your child's education.

*Dr. Aaron Leavell, Superintendent  
Bremerton School District*

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## GOOGLE FOR EDUCATION

Bremerton School District adopted Google Apps for Education last fall. Students and staff have accounts allowing for documents, presentations and projects to be securely stored online and accessible from home, school, and anywhere there is an internet connection. Students have access to Google Calendar, Google Drive, and Google Sites. Students receive training on how to use Google Apps for Education. District provided student email address will be limited based on student age. Please contact your child's teacher for more information about Google Apps for Education.

## **ACCEPTABLE INTERNET USE SUMMARY**

Every student who accesses the internet is assigned an account and is responsible for all parts of the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). If parents choose not to allow their student to have access to the internet on District equipment, they must complete the required forms that are available in the school offices.

All use of the system must be in support of education and research. The District reserves the right to review system use; all users waive any right to privacy which they might not otherwise have. Any violation of the AUP may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion of the student.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Every Student Succeeds Act or ESSA, districts and schools need to continue to report their most recent improvement status. Our school performance can be found on the [bremertonschools.org](http://bremertonschools.org) website as well as the state website at [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us). On these websites you will see state, district and school data with disaggregated student achievement for state assessments and participation rates. Scores for NAEP participation and level of achievement in reading and mathematics four grades four and eight are reported on the OSPI state report card. Our district and each of our schools have designed a comprehensive improvement plan with input from our families and community partners. These plans are reviewed by the school board each year and are available to the public. Renaissance High School will continue as a *focus school* concentrating on on-time graduation.

## **ALCOHOL/DRUGS**

Sale/Distribution of Drugs/Alcohol, Illegal substances including drug paraphernalia is strictly prohibited at school or any school sponsored activities. Use, possess, sell, distribute or be under the influence of illicit drugs, (e.g.: hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana), mind-altering substances, medication not prescribed by a physician and approved in writing by the parent/guardian, drug paraphernalia, alcohol beverage or intoxicant of any kind or any item which purports (look-alikes) to be such. Students shall not be in possession of anabolic steroids on school premises or at school sponsored events. No student may give, dispense, or administer any medication or remedy to another student." Offenses are accumulated throughout the school year.

- Students found to be in possession, using or be under the influence of alcohol/drugs;
- and/or be in possession of related paraphernalia on school property, school-sponsored
- events or in transit to school-sponsored events or in transit to school-sponsored events.
  - Law Enforcement may be notified.
  - A letter will be sent to the parent/guardian
- Students found to be in possession of alcohol/drugs with the **intent to sell/distribute**,
- minimum Long-Term Suspension of at least 45 days.
  - Law Enforcement will be notified.
  - A letter will be sent to the parent/guardian.

## **ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

State law for mandatory attendance, called the Becca Bill, requires children from age 8 to 17 to attend a public school, private school, or a district-approved home school program. Children that are 6- or 7-years-old are not required to be enrolled in school. However, if parents enroll their 6- or 7-year-old, the student must attend full-time. Youth who are 16 or older may be excused from attending public school if they meet certain requirements.

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=28A.225>. You will be notified daily you when your student is absent.

If your student has three unexcused absences in one month, state law (RCW 28A.225.020) requires we schedule a conference with you and your student to identify the barriers and supports available to ensure regular attendance. The district is obligated to develop a plan to determine how to best meet the needs of your student and reduce absenteeism.

In elementary school, after five excused absences in any month, or ten or more excused absences in the school year, the school district is required to contact you to schedule a conference at a mutually agreeable, reasonable time with at least one district employee, to identify the barriers and supports available. A conference is not required if your student has provided a doctor's note, or pre-arranged the absence in writing, and the parent, student and school have made plans so your student does not fall behind academically. If your student has an Individualized Education Plan or a 504 Plan, the team that created the plan needs to reconvene.

If your student has seven unexcused absences in any month or ten unexcused absences within the school year, we are required to file a petition with the Juvenile court, alleging a violation of RCW 28A.225.010, the mandatory attendance laws. The petition may be automatically stayed and your student and family may be referred to a Community Truancy Board after working with staff from Kitsap County Juvenile Detention, or you and your student may need to appear in Juvenile Court. If these interventions fail to improve the child's attendance and truancy continues, you and your child may need to go to court.

### **AUTOMATED PHONE CALLING SYSTEM**

If you do not wish to receive automated phone calls from the District or the schools (*this does not include attendance phone calls*), please contact your child's school and inform them you want to opt-out of receiving general outreach calls. This does not include emergency phone calls that the district deems vital to school safety. You can change your mind at any time but must contact the school to inform them.

### **CHILD CARE**

The YMCA YKids program is available for students who need before and/or after school care. The west side programs are located at Crownhill and West Hills and the eastside program is located at Armin Jahr Elementary. District transportation is available from the program to other schools in our district by parent request. The Bremerton Boys and Girls Club operates a program at the Naval Avenue Early Learning Center after school. Transportation is also available from all Bremerton elementary schools. To learn more about Y-Kids call 360.377.3741 and for the Boys and Girls Club call 360.782.1942. Any cost for these child care opportunities are covered by the parents.

### **CHILDFIND (IDENTIFICATION & EVALUATION)**

For ages 3-5: If you think your preschool child may have a significant delay in communication, motor, social and/or problem solving skills, please contact our Special Education Department at 360.473.1008. For ages 5-12: If you live within the Bremerton School District boundaries and are concerned that your child may have a disability, please contact our Special Education Department at 360.473.1008 so that we can connect you with the appropriate District screening/evaluation team. Services include: Academic support, Speech and Language Services, Occupational and Physical Therapy, as well as a continuum of services to support students who may be struggling in school.

## **CHILD NUTRITION**

Bremerton's Child Nutrition Department is dedicated to providing a variety of healthy eating options for children of all ages. Breakfast and lunch programs are available in our schools. For information about prices or to apply for free and reduced meals for your child, please call your child's school, access our website or contact Child Nutrition Services at 360.473.4716.

## **DIRECTORY INFORMATION (ALSO SEE FERPA)**

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA.

## **DISCIPLINE**

The beginning of the school year is a great time to sit down with your child and review the rules that are printed in each school's handbook and planner. Building administrators are available to answer any questions you may have about rules and discipline. District policies are available on our website. In general, students are expected to:

- Conform to reasonable standards of behavior.
- Respect the rights, person, and property of others.
- Preserve the degree of order necessary for a positive climate for learning.
- Respect the authority of staff and respond accordingly.
- Complete sets of district policies and procedures are maintained by every building administrator and in each school's library. Families are welcome to review them at any time.

## **EARLY RELEASE & NON-STUDENT DAYS**

The Bremerton School District wants to provide your child with a quality education. Our Early Release Wednesdays, and Non-Student Days allow our staff to be trained in the best new methods of teaching. Our complete calendar of professional development opportunities can be viewed online at [www.bremertonschools.org](http://www.bremertonschools.org).

## **EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

We want to keep you informed. If an emergency situation develops in our schools, we will make every attempt to place current information on our website, [www.bremertonschools.org](http://www.bremertonschools.org) and on District information line at 360.473.1002. (Also see Storm/Snow Closures & Delays)

## **ENROLLING YOUR CHILD**

New residents to the Bremerton School District may enroll their child in school any time throughout the school year. To attend our schools, students must live within the boundaries of the Bremerton School District, or be accepted by the principal of the desired Bremerton school and have a written release from their home school district. Jackson Park residents have the choice to attend either Bremerton or Central Kitsap schools. When enrolling your child please bring:

- a copy of his/her birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or passport (if your child will be entering kindergarten or first grade);
- the names, phone numbers, and addresses of at least two local people who can be contacted if there is an emergency at school;
- a report card and the name and address of the last school your child attended;
- and your child's up to date immunization records.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY**

Bremerton School District pesticides policy complies with the requirements in RCW 17.21.415 regarding pesticide use in the district. A record of all pesticides used in the district by school location during the past year, is kept in each school's main office. The district minimizes the use of pesticides and only makes application when required to control pests that may cause structural, health concern and/or stinging problems for students and staff. A licensed contractor performs pesticide applications required during the year in compliance with the law including postings, notification and procedures. District employees perform spot weed and stinging insect control.

An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved asbestos management plan is in place for the Bremerton School District. EPA regulations require annual notification of actions planned or in progress. The most recent three-year inspection was completed in July 2015. Qualified inspectors planned to conduct periodic surveillance in February 2016. A report of the results will be included in the management plan for each building. Fire alarms, fire sprinkling systems, fire extinguishers and elevators are inspected annually. Bremerton School District has a safe water program in place. For further information about any of these health and safety issues, please call Facilities Management at 360.473.0500.

## **FAMILY ACCESS**

Skyward Family Access is a web-based component of Skyward, our student database management system. This access will enable parents to take an unprecedented and much more proactive role in their student's education. This access is secured by a unique username and password and will give parents access to information about their student including grades, assignments attendance, schedule, lunch account, and more. To sign up for Family Access visit your school office.

## **FEDERAL COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

If a parent has a complaint about one of the following programs, compliant procedures are available through the Special Programs Department at 360.473.1061: Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies; Title II, Part A: Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund; Title III - Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students.

## **FEDERAL EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS TO PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.

Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information. Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):

- School officials with legitimate educational interest;
- Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
- Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- Accrediting organizations;
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
- Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA.

## **HARASSMENT, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING, AND RETALIATION**

Harassment, intimidation, bullying, and retaliation are prohibited and will not be tolerated by students, volunteers or employees of the Bremerton School District. “Harassment, intimidation, or bullying” means any intentional written, verbal or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics (whether the affected person actually has the motivating characteristics or not), when the intentional written, verbal, or physical act:

- Physically harms a student or damages the student’s property; or
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education; or
- Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.
- Harassment, intimidation, bullying, or retaliation can take many forms including: slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendos, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats, or other written, oral, or physical actions.

False reports about retaliation from harassment, intimidation, or bullying complaints also constitute a violation of the district’s bullying policy. No school employee, student, or volunteer may engage in reprisal, retaliation, or false accusation against a victim, witness, or one with reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such behavior may result in disciplinary action.

Bremerton School District also prohibits sexual harassment of any student, staff member, or volunteer. Procedures for filing a complaint are posted in every building and are available on the District’s website under Board Policies. Board Policy 3207 provides guidance on intimidation, bullying, and retaliation while Board Policy 5011 is specific to sexual harassment. We encourage you to review this information with your child. If you need additional information, please contact the District’s Title IX/ADA Compliance Officer, Garth Steedman at 360.473.1031 or email at [garth.steedman@bremertonschools.org](mailto:garth.steedman@bremertonschools.org). We encourage you to review this information with your child.

## **HIGHLY CAPABLE PROGRAM**

The Bremerton School District is committed to serving the needs of all students. Students may be served in their home school, in a self-contained elementary program, or by participating in Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in the secondary schools. Teachers design lessons to add depth and complexity to the curriculum to keep our highly capable students working on the outer edges of their abilities. Evaluations are administered in February and/or March, by a designated school psychologist who schedules a battery of tests to determine eligibility. Students must qualify in at least one academic area and on an assessment of cognitive abilities. Following the assessment process, a multi-selection committee will review the information to determine who is eligible for the program. Students who qualify will be invited to join the self-contained program at the elementary level or work with their child’s school to develop a student learning plan. If a student transfers to the Bremerton School District with a highly capable label from a previous school district, that student’s records will be reviewed by the school psychologist to determine eligibility in the Bremerton School District.

## **HOMELESS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE- MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT**

In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act, Bremerton School District provides homeless children access to educational services and opportunities to enroll in, attend, and be successful in school. Your family may be eligible for assistance under this federal program, if you live in any of the following conditions:

- In a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground;
- On the street
- In an abandoned building or other inadequate accommodations, or
- Doubled up with friends or relatives because you cannot find or afford housing.

For more information about this federal program, please visit the Homeless Education section of the OSPI website ([www.k12.wa.us/HomelessEd/default.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/HomelessEd/default.aspx)) or contact our Homeless Liaison, Linda Sullivan-Dudzic, in our Special Programs Department at 360.473.1061.

## **IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

The State of Washington requires all children entering kindergarten or sixth grade to have a series of three Hepatitis B vaccinations as well as immunization against Polio, Diphtheria/Tetanus, Rubella, Mumps, and Measles, and Varicella (Chickenpox) before they enter school. Sixth grade students are required to have an additional Tetanus (Tdap) vaccine. A second measles immunization (MMR) is also required before your child can enter kindergarten or the sixth grade. All students 9th - 12th grade will be required to have two doses of the Varicella vaccine. *The school district requires proof of immunization before your child can be officially enrolled. If your child has not received their immunizations or if you would like more information, please contact your doctor or the Health Department at 360.728-2235.*

*If parents/guardians choose to exempt their child from one or more of the required vaccines, they must complete the Certificate of Exemption Form (DOH 348-106). All exemptions must have a licensed health care provider sign and date the form where indicated. A health care provider does not need to sign the form for parents/guardians who show membership in a church or religious body that does not allow medical care from a health care provider.*

An additional vaccine called **Gardasil** is available for boys and girls ages 11 and 12 according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC). This vaccine can help protect against some strains of the **Human Papillomavirus (HPV)**, a sexually transmitted disease which can cause cancer. Many health officials recommend this vaccine, but it is not required for school. Please contact a school nurse for information or from the CDC at [www.cdc.gov/std/hpv](http://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv).

## **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT**

Parents of children with disabilities receive a copy of Procedural Safeguards one time a year (and upon referral or parental request for evaluation) and upon filing a request for a due process hearing. Additional information regarding special education services can be provided by contacting 360-473-1008 or at [www.bremertonschools.org/domain/76](http://www.bremertonschools.org/domain/76).

## **KINDERGARTEN EARLY ENTRANCE**



Children must be five (5) years old before September 1st of the current school year to enroll in kindergarten. Parents of children who have birthdays in September and October may request to have their child tested for Early Entrance into our kindergarten program. Testing is held at the beginning of August. For additional information, please call 360.473.1061.

## **MEDICATION AT SCHOOL**

Per Board Policy 3416, if your child must be given any type of medication at school, the following conditions must be met:

- All medication, including over-the-counter medications such as aspirin, Tylenol, Advil, cough syrup, cough drops, etc., must be authorized by a physician. Before school staff can allow your child to take any type of medication at school, a Medication Authorization Form signed by a parent/guardian and a physician must be on file in the school office *annually*. These forms are available from the school's office staff. The medication must be brought to school by a parent in the original bottle with: (1) the student's name, (2) the name of the medication, and (3) the directions for administering the medication.
- All prescription and over-the-counter medications will be kept in a locked cabinet in the school's office. Students may not carry any medications (prescription or over-the-counter) on their person or in their backpacks. School staff is not allowed to administer ear drops, eye drops, or medications by injections. Students found with either prescription or over-the-counter medications will be disciplined. The discipline may lead to a suspension from school.

Any student distributing any medication at school, prescription or over-the-counter, shall be immediately suspended or expelled. If you have any questions, please contact your school's office for further assistance.

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION DISCLOSURE**

The Bremerton School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all students who are interested in participation in educational programs and/or extra-curricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer and ADA Coordinator, Garth Steedman, at 360.473.1031, email [garth.steedman@bremertonschools.org](mailto:garth.steedman@bremertonschools.org) or the Section 504 Coordinator, Mike Sellers, at 360.473.4100, email [michael.sellers@bremertonschools.org](mailto:michael.sellers@bremertonschools.org). Mailing address: 134 Marion Avenue North, Bremerton, WA 98312.

## **No-discriminación**

El distrito escolar de Bremerton cumple con todas las reglas y reglamentos federales y estatales y no discrimina por motivos del sexo, la raza, el credo, la religión, el color, la nacionalidad, la edad, posición militar o veterano licenciado con honor, la orientación sexual incluyendo la

identidad o expresión del género, la presencia de cualquier discapacidad sensorial, mental, o física, ni el uso de un perro guía o animal de servicio por una persona con una discapacidad en los programas y actividades del distrito y proporciona acceso igual a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos juveniles designados. Lo anterior es también cierto con respecto a los estudiantes que están interesados en participar en programas educativos y/o actividades extracurriculares. Para cualquier información concerniente a su cumplimiento o para levantar una demanda puede comunicarse con el funcionario del distrito título IX/RCW 28A.640 y coordinador de ADA, Garth Steedman al 360.473.1026 o a la dirección electrónica [garth.steedman@bremertonschools.org](mailto:garth.steedman@bremertonschools.org) también puede hacerlo con el coordinador de la sección 504, Mike Sellers, al 360.473.4100, o a la dirección electrónica [michael.sellers@bremertonschools.org](mailto:michael.sellers@bremertonschools.org). La dirección para recibir correspondencia es 134 Marion Avenue North, Bremerton, WA 98312.

## **ONLINE OPTIONS**

Bremerton has many online course options. A full, blended, or part-time online alternative program is available for students in grades 9-12. Students have access to a wide variety of courses, including both core curriculum and electives. Participants must be self-motivated and willing to put in the time and effort to be successful. For more information, please make an appointment with your counselor at Bremerton High School.

## **PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS (PTA)**

PTA is a great way to make a difference in your child's education. Our Bremerton Schools have very active and inviting PTAs who would love to have you for a member. They need your talents and energy! Even a small amount of time helps to making Bremerton Schools a better place to learn and grow. To find out more about the PTA, you can visit their website at [www.wastatepta.org](http://www.wastatepta.org) or contact your school.

## **PICTURES & VIDEO IN SCHOOLS**

Bremerton School District likes to celebrate our students' achievements. We routinely include pictures of children in publications, broadcasts and on our website. Community organizations (i.e. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Naval Base Kitsap, and Department of Ecology) often partner with the school district on various projects and may include pictures on their respective websites and publications. If you do not want your child's image used in this way, please complete an Opt-Out Form available from school every year. The school office can assist you.

## **PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) is a federal law that affords certain rights to parents of minor students with regard to surveys that ask questions of a personal nature. Briefly, the law requires that schools obtain written consent from parents before minor students are required to participate in any U.S. Department of Education funded survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning the following areas:

1. Political affiliations;
2. Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student and his/her family;
3. Sex behavior and attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior;

5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent\*; or
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.)

*Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –*

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. (This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.)

*Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –*

4. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
5. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
6. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 contains a major amendment to PPRA that gives parents more rights with regard to the surveying of minor students, the collection of information from students for marketing purposes, and certain non-emergency medical examinations. In addition, an eighth category of information (\*) was added to the law.

## **SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

The Bremerton School District believes that every child can be successful. We offer a wide variety of programs to help children reach their academic goals. Our programs include English Language Learners (ELL), Indian Education, Highly Capable (Gifted program), Homeless, Summer School (ELOP & ESY), interventions and tutorials, and early childhood services that include special education students. The principal at each school can provide necessary information about the specialized programs of support in their schools or call 360-473-1061.

## **STORM/SNOW CLOSURES & DELAYS**

Decisions about whether to hold school during inclement weather are made by 5:30 am whenever possible. Local television and radio stations broadcast school closures and delays. You can also find this information by calling the District News & Information Line at 360.473.1002 or by visiting the district website at [www.bremertonschools.org](http://www.bremertonschools.org) or <http://flashalert.net/news.html?id=4209>. Emergency Snow Routes can be found at <http://www.bremertonschools.org/Page/3595>.

If school is delayed, there will be no morning preschool and after school and evening activities may be canceled. If your child rides a bus, they may have to use an alternative bus stop. Detailed information will be sent home with every bus rider early in the school year. If there is a storm or if snow begins to fall during the regular school day, we believe the safest place for children is in our schools. It is the best way to ensure their safety. Parents are welcome to take their children home during inclement weather conditions after they check-in with the school's office.

## **STUDENT DATA TRANSFER**

Bremerton School District uses Skyward, a student data management system used throughout the State of Washington. Information is uploaded every month to the State, and revenues and reports are generated from this system. Please note that there is a field to declare your child's ethnicity. When you register your child, you will be asked to complete that field. Parents can review the demographic information on the system for their child by using Family Access; please contact your school or call 360.473.1076 to find out more about using this secure program. We encourage all families to stay involved in their child's education.

## **TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Parents of each student may request information on the professional qualifications of their child's teacher at any time. General teacher information is provided in each school's Annual Performance Report on the District website. For individual teacher qualifications, please contact the Human Resources Office at 360.473.1021.

## **TESTING & ASSESSMENTS**

The Bremerton School District participates in federal and state mandated assessments. Subjects included in the Washington State Standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math will be assessed using the Smarter Balanced system along with the End-of-Course assessments for high school in algebra or geometry and the **National Assessment of Educational Progress** (NAEP), and the **English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**. Until new science standards are adopted, students will continue to be assessed using the Measurement of Student Progress (MSP) in grades 5 and 8 along with End-of-Course biology for high school. For additional information, please review the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website at [k12.wa.us](http://k12.wa.us). We also use data from the **Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills** (WA-KIDS), the **Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills** (DIBELS), EasyCBM for mathematics and other classroom-based assessments to provide a better quality education for our students. Information about testing is available through our district office and individual schools. For more information about assessments, please contact the Curriculum/School Support office at 360-473-1006.

## **TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND DELIVERY DEVICES**

Tobacco products and delivery devices such as “vapes” and “e-cigarettes” are prohibited by staff, students, visitors and community members on school district property. Notices are placed in appropriate locations in all district buildings. Employees and students are subject to discipline for violations of this policy. All district employees are responsible for enforcement of this policy per Board Policy 4215.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Students in the Bremerton School District may be eligible for bus transportation to and from school. To learn more about our available bus services, please contact your child’s school or call our transportation department at 360.473.0507. Current bus schedules are always available on our website at [www.bremertonschools.org](http://www.bremertonschools.org). Emergency Snow Routes can be found at <http://www.bremertonschools.org/Page/3595>.

## **VISION & HEARING SCREENING**

Washington State law (WAC 246-760) requires schools to conduct auditory and visual screenings of children each year. All students in kindergarten through third grade, fifth and seventh grade are screened. If your child is not scheduled to be screened this year, you may request a screening if you have concerns by contacting your child’s teacher or emailing [debra.hyre@bremertonschools.org](mailto:debra.hyre@bremertonschools.org) including your child’s name, school, grade level and teacher.

Parents who DO NOT want their child screened for either vision and/or hearing will need to send a letter to their child’s school each year indicating their child is to be excluded. Please contact the Health Services office at 360-473-1073 if you have any questions. Additional information regarding the vision and hearing screening process is available at the District website [www.bremertonschools.org/Page/423](http://www.bremertonschools.org/Page/423).

## **WEAPONS ARE NOT ALLOWED**

Weapons, or anything that looks like a weapon, are not allowed at school, on any district property, or at any event sponsored by any school or by the school district. If a student brings a weapon to school, the police will be called and the student will be immediately expelled. Depending on circumstances, students can be expelled from all Washington state public schools for up to a year. (RCW 28A.600.420)