

Dec 5, 2023

8:45 – 9:45 AM via MS Teams (Recorded)

1. APG President (Katharine Pike)

- 109 Volunteers in total this Fall. Incredible family engagement!
- Fall Harvest: “New Beginnings” theme. Celebrated Sam’s first year as official Head of School.
 - Thanked volunteers (23 total)
 - Over 300 attendees
 - Photo booth was a big hit
 - Beautiful globes hung in the TALI Theater
- Athletic Team Parents: Provide snacks and support for the athletics teams and organize an end-of-season celebration
 - Great accomplishments in the sports arena:
 - Ultimate Frisbee made State Championship for the second year in a row!
 - Girls volleyball team made the playoffs
 - X-Country had a student
- Arts: Provide snacks, flowers and organize celebrations:
 - Phantom Toll Booth MS Play (17 parents supported)
 - Radium Girls US Play next up
- Faculty and Staff Appreciation: Thank you for your generous donations! We’re working to assemble gift baskets these next two weeks.
- 27 Class Reps spearhead:
 - WhatsApp communications
 - Class picnics
 - Coffee Meetings with EPS
 - Book Club
 - Happy Hour
 - Dinners
- Winter Celebration: January 19th
 - “Winter around the World”
 - Please RSVP via the link in the EPS Weekly
 - Adults-only

Volunteer Opportunities: For a full list, go to the EPS website => Current Families => Parent Association => Scroll down to Click Here. Examples of short-term needs:

- Need team parents for 5/6 Boys Basketball Blue and Gold Teams. Contact Leela Rao (lerao7577@gmail.com).
- Radium Girl Play: Contact Tami Cheung if you’d like to volunteer (tamicheung@gmail.com).
- Winter Celebration: Set-up, clean-up, decorations. Stay tuned for a link to Signup Genius in the EPS Weekly.
- Faculty and Staff Appreciation Valentines baskets in Feb: Donations, assembly, etc. Stay tuned for more info in January.

2. Director of Student Well-Being (Paul Hagen): EBC 2023 Overview

- In November, we offered 25 EBC experiences this year to our students

- EBC placements will release this Friday by COB
- Schedule:
 - Deposits due first week in Jan
 - Final payment due first week in March
 - Info night on March 19th at 7 PM
 - Group meetings leading up to departure prepare students for their experience
 - EBC week: first week in April before spring break. Some trips extend into the weekends before and after, particularly the international trips.
- Three experiences did not have enough student interest, whereas others are over-subscribed (e.g., Japan)
- We cannot accommodate everyone's first choice, unfortunately. There may be some disappointment.
- We also intentionally avoid social engineering and do not take friend groups into account when placing students. That said, we want the experiences to be diverse and meaningful. Groups will change from year to year.
- Grades 5-7 do not have EBC choices. All students go to the same location:
 - 5th graders: Camp Orkila on Orcas Island
 - 6th graders: Hands-on science at Nature Bridge in the Olympic Peninsula
 - 7th graders: Traditionally have travelled to Ashland, Oregon to watch the Shakespeare Festival. This year, they'll go to the coastal Seaside Oregon.
- Starting in 8th grade, students have choices, both local and where travel is required
- Students with choices list their top four choices, why they want to go, what they hope to gain educationally and what will they contribute to the experience
- Students are taking more time to think through their options and consider what they want to get out of the experience

3. Head of School (Sam Uzwick): Business Update and Q&A

- EBC is Education Beyond the Classroom. It isn't a vacation!
- EBC is about learning how to deal with the unexpected and collaborating with one another. Students learn great lessons in the process.
- One of Sam's priorities is our families' connection to the school – not just the kids. The APG is instrumental in fortifying this connection and in supporting our Faculty and Staff.
- Three words to describe the Fall: Creativity, Ownership and Energy
- These three weeks between the end of the tri and the break are one of Sam's favorite times. Just learning – no finals.
- Winter fun for the kids: Spirit week next week designed by our Student Leadership Council. January event planned as well.
- La Quinta / Permanent Supportive Housing Update:
 - We continue to believe that the best way forward is to be a leader
 - We hosted a meeting with our neighbors to convene with the City and the County for an update
 - We've had an impact on what this project is going to look like. Our neighbors are starting at Ground Zero. Some were unaware. Discussed what does this mean for our neighborhood?
 - We are planning to lead another meeting in late February with the same cohort
 - There will be frequent connection with the operator

- Current estimate: May open first quarter 2025 after permitting and construction in 2024. This is an aggressive timeline.
- When we get new information, we'll share it in the EPS Weekly
- Purchase of Buildings 1 and 2 in the Linbrook complex:
 - We're leasing back to the Preschool while they renovate their new facility up the street
 - We're in the process of thinking long-term about what resources we have and what we need
 - Setback from the creek, code changes are decision factors
 - Use of space project is moving ahead
 - There's a lot of excitement and creativity around this. Students are engaged in the envisioning process.
- Our parents and guardians make an amazing contribution to EPS admissions! Thank you!

4. Q&A:

- **Is it possible to announce EBC placements a week earlier next year? It's easier to book travel before December.**
 - We will try our best, but it may not be possible. We do understand that booking flights and hotels earlier is optimal for families.
- **Can students check bags during their EBC travel?**
 - This may depend on the destination, gear needed and chaperon expectations, but yes, in many cases students will be able to check their bags.
- **Is there an opportunity to change EBC assignments once released?**
 - Yes, but this must be done before Winter Break and we hope there will be few change requests as they are complex to refactor. We'll do our best to accommodate where possible. Reach out to Paul or David Kelly Hendrick.
- **What role does the school play in guiding student growth in the EBC placement groups?**
 - We intentionally avoid social engineering and do not take friend groups into account when placing students. We want students to bond with others outside of their friend groups, and we want them to have a diverse experience. Groups will change from year to year.
- **Has an operator been selected for La Quinta?**
 - Not yet. An RFP did go out to hire a construction manager, however. This person will be responsible for all of their housing sites – not just this one. La Quinta will have a lower priority than PSH sites that already have residents.
- **Are there covenants in place that restrict us from purchasing more buildings in the Park?**
 - There are a few buildings that still have a covenant of "no school" on them since 2008. These buildings are between ours and the buildings we just bought. We're examining what it may take to undo this language now that we're a majority owner in the Park. It will take time and creativity, but our goal is to purchase more buildings in the Linbrook complex. We're focused on building good relationships with our neighbors.
- **How is the parent and guardian community updated on strategic vision items such as changes to grading and assessments?**
 - This is about understanding our practice, learning various models and examining the student experience. We are not rushing through this. We are in Year 1.
 - The third rail of conversation is grading and assessment
 - Oct 13th: Professional Dev Day. Primary topic was reviewing our learning objectives and starting the discussion about how to best measure them.

EPS APG GENERAL MEETING

- This is a conversation about exploration. We'll update folks along the way.

5. Upcoming Events (through Feb 25, 2024)

Please note that onsite parking is very limited.

Date	Time	Event	Location
12/8	School Day	Holiday Giving Tree	TALI Atrium
12/7	7:00 PM	Chamber Music & Ensemble Concert	TALI Theater
12/10	4:00 – 6:00 PM	Community Book Club Discussion	TBD
12/13	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Senior Parent/Guardian Reception	TBD
12/15 – 1/2	All Day	Winter Break	No School
1/3	All Day	Return to School	EPS
1/3	4:00 – 6:00 PM	Young Alumni Winter Reception ('20 – '23)	LPC
1/9	7:00 – 8:00 PM	10 th Grade College Counseling Program	TBA
1/11	COB	Enrollment Apps Due	Online
1/12 – 1/15	All Day	MLK Holiday	PDD
1/19	6:30 – 9:00 PM	Winter Celebration Social	TBD
1/23	8:30 – 9:30 AM	9/10 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	MS Teams
1/24	6:30 – 8:30 PM	EICL Family Night	TBA
1/25	8:30 – 9:30 AM	11/12 Parent Guardian Meeting	MS Teams
1/26	TBA	Ski Bus	TBA – Registration Link Coming Soon!
1/27	6:30 – 9:00 PM	Upper School Winter Social	TBA
1/30	8:30 – 9:30 AM	9/10 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	TBA
1/30	2:30 – 3:30 PM	11/12 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	TBA
1/31	8:30 – 9:30 AM	5/6 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	MS Teams
2/1 – 2/3	TBA	“Radium Girl” Upper School Play	TALI Theater
2/1	COB	New Families Financial Aid Apps Due	Online

EPS APG GENERAL MEETING

2/1	8:30 – 9:30 AM	9/10 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	MS Teams
2/1	2:30 – 3:30 PM	11/12 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	TBA
2/3	TBD	Snowshoe Day Trip	TBA
2/6	8:30 – 9:30 AM	7/8 Parent Guardian Coffee Meeting	MS Teams
2/8	4:00 – 6:00 PM	Middle School Music Concert	TALI Theater
2/9	6:30 – 9:00 PM	Middle School Winter Social	TBA
2/9	COB	Re-enrollment Contracts Due	Online
2/12 – 2/15	3:30 – 5:50 PM	All School Musical Auditions	TALI Theater
2/16 – 2/25	All Day	Mid-Winter Break	No School