



## February 2026 NES Newsletter

### Important Dates/Reminders

- **February 2nd** - NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
- **February 3rd** - Students Return to School
- **February 9-13th** - Parent Council Val-o-grams Sale - (see details below)
- **February 9th** - Board Meeting - 5:30 p.m. @ the District Office or on Zoom
- **February 16th** - NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day Holiday
- **February 23rd - March 9th** - Read-A-Thon (see details below)



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**No School Monday**  
**Professional Development Day**  
**Students return to school, Tuesday, February 3rd**

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### Inclement Weather

As we head into next week, we want to remind you winter weather may impact our school schedule. In the event of snow or hazardous conditions, we may need to adjust our schedule. If necessary, we will do so in one of the following ways:

- **Two-Hour Delay** – School starts two hours later than usual and buses follow an adjusted schedule.

- **School Closure** – School is canceled for the day.
- **Early Dismissal** – Weather conditions worsen during the day and school dismisses students early.

The Neah-Kah-Nile School District will communicate any schedule changes as soon as possible via the district website, automated calls, and social media. Please ensure your contact information is up to date to receive timely notifications.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we prioritize student safety. If you have any questions, please contact your student's school.

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## READ-A-THON



Welcome Parents, Students and Friends to our fifth Read-A-Thon! We are excited to announce that we will hold a Read-A-Thon fundraiser again this year. Our Read-A-Thon is a program that brings students together with family and friends to encourage reading and to build literacy skills.

The main focus of the Read-A-Thon is for everyone to know we are committed to improving reading skills. To that end, the Read-A-Thon promises to be a fun, exciting journey for all participants as they begin a personal Reading Adventure that challenges each reader to complete 10 reading sessions over our 2-week event.

**Our Read-A-Thon will start February 23rd and end on March 9th.**

All of the donations received will help our school in many ways:

- **Thank for all of your support - 2019=\$940 , 2020=\$600 , 2021=\$870, 2022=\$2328.00, 2023 = \$3246.40, 2024= \$3925.00, 2025= \$4196.00**
- Supporting our commitment to literacy and daily reading.
- Purchasing student books to help celebrate our annual Read-Across-America Week book walk (each day, students' names are drawn for a chance to pick out a new book.)
- Purchasing student prizes for our PBIS treasure chest. Students have the chance every day to earn "Way to Go's" for being safe, respectful and responsible. The office then does a weekly drawing for a chance at choosing one item from our treasure chest.
- Donation to our Parent Council for student school supplies.

Sign Up Information will be sent out the week before.

Thanks so much,  
Nehalem Elementary

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**Read Across America Week, March 2nd - March 5th celebrating all of our amazing readers and Dr. Seuss's birthday!**

Each morning we'll have a book walk in the classrooms. The students standing on the lucky number will get to come pick out a book from the office to take home.



### Dress Up Days:

- Monday - "Fox in Socks" - **Wear Crazy Socks**
- Tuesday - "Green Eggs, and Ham" - **Wear Green**
- Wednesday - "Wacky Wednesday" - **Wear Mismatched/Wacky Clothes**
- Thursday - "Cat in the Hat" - **Wear a Fun Hat**



## February Breakfast & Lunch Menu

FEBRUARY 2026 NEHALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL					Sandwiches or Hand-Crafted Salads are available daily As an option for lunch!
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
2 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NO SCHOOL	3 Sausage & Biscuit Chicken Quesadillas	4 Yogurt & Grahams Mac & Cheese	5 Breakfast Burritos BBQ Cheese Burgers	6 Oatmeal Rounds Chicken Strips & Fries	
9 Breakfast Bars Corn Dogs	10 Pumpkin Bread Enchiladas	11 Pancake on a Stick Tater Tot Casserole	12 Breakfast Sandwich Chicken Burgers	13 Sweetheart Parfait Pizza Sticks	
16 PRESIDENT'S DAY NO SCHOOL	17 Pancakes Chicken Soft Tacos	18 Bagel & Cream Cheese Spaghetti	19 Banana Bread Cheeseburgers	20 Breakfast Pizza Lasagna Soup & Garlic Toast	
23 Waffles Cheesy Breadsticks With Marinara	24 Sausage & Biscuit Burritos	25 Yogurt & Grahams Orange Chicken Over Rice	26 Breakfast Bars Western Burger	27 Cinnamon Rolls Chicken Strip Basket	

A variety of fresh fruits and vegetables are available daily on our offering bar. All of our breads and pastas are whole grain or whole wheat. GF options may be available. Fat-free and 1% milks are offered daily. Whole grain cereals are an option for breakfast.  
"This institute is an equal opportunity provider"

## PE - Mrs. Duer

All grade levels have spent the first part of January working on a gymnastics unit. Students have been focusing on balancing with stillness and control, traveling across the mats in various ways (i.e. bear walk, rolls, cartwheels), and jumping and landing. Students in 3rd grade and above have put together mini gymnastics routines and performed them in front of their class.

As we finish up January, we will work on paddle skills. 2nd-5th grade will learn to play Street Racket (a fun game from Switzerland). Our younger students will learn to grip the paddle and manipulate

objects such as bean bags and balloons.

As we start February, we plan to work on learning simple dances and jump roping skills. The Kids Heart Challenge will also kick off in February, which is an optional fundraising event to raise funds and give awareness to help kids with special hearts and support lifesaving research.

**\*Please make sure your child wears or brings tennis shoes every day.\***



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## NES Parent Council

Hello families!

It's almost time for our Valentine's Day grams fundraiser! Parent council supports our schools by supplying school supplies for our kids. Parent council will be set up and selling items in the morning outside in the breezeway by the office from 7:45 - 8:00 and during lunch recess from 11:30 -12:25 outside under the covered area between the gaga ball pit and the covered playground.

**[Sign Up Here to help sell Val-O-Grams before lunch or at lunch.](#)**

Ashley Lopez, PTC president



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## Our Parent Council Needs You: Help Save Our School Traditions!

Dear Families,

We are writing to you today with a heartfelt and urgent appeal. Our Parent Council is at a critical crossroads, and without more volunteers, the Parent Council will be forced to disband very soon. For years, the Parent Council has worked behind the scenes to enrich the elementary experience for every single child. If we do not find more family members to help share the load, the following programs and traditions will unfortunately come to an end:

- Free School Supplies: Every year, the council fundraises to ensure every Preschool through grade 5 student has the supplies they need to succeed from day one.
- Holiday Traditions: The magic of the Holiday Shoppe will disappear.
- Student Connections: Seasonal favorites like Val-o-Grams, which bring so much joy to the classrooms, and cookie decorating night during our Book Fair will be cancelled.
- Family Event Nights: Each year they have hosted events such as paint night, skating at Tillaskate, or a family dance at NES.
- Field Day Fun: The Council currently funds the obstacle course—a highlight of Field Day in June. Without your help, we won't have the blow up obstacle course.

You don't need to commit to a meeting or lead a major committee. Whether you can give one hour every few months or help co-coordinate a single event, every bit of support keeps these programs alive. Mostly, we really just need parents to volunteer at the events.

Currently we are trying to get our Val-o-Gram fundraiser scheduled. If you are able to volunteer to work the table before school or at a student lunch time to sell Val-O-Grams to students the week of February 9-13, please fill out this [Google Survey](#) to get scheduled in.



If you would prefer NOT to participate in our fundraisers or to join Parent Council, and would like an easier way to donate to your child's school supplies cost, the Parent Council is accepting donations of \$30 per child from families to help fund school supplies. We realize families are busy, so hopefully this helps! The NES Office is accepting cash or check donations (make checks payable to NES Parent Council) year-round to help fund next year's school supplies fund. If you'd like to donate an extra \$30 for a child who needs assistance, you are welcome to do that, too! Please help us continue to make our school a vibrant, fun, and supportive place for our children and families. If you are able to help in any capacity, please reach out to Ashley Ferber, president of the NES Parent Council, at [aferber86@gmail.com](mailto:aferber86@gmail.com)

With hope and gratitude,

Kristi Mills, Principal of NES

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## Ms. Jennifer's School Counseling Office



Ms. Jennifer's School Counseling Office  
503-355-3657/ [jenniferh@nknsc.org](mailto:jenniferh@nknsc.org)  
[NKN Elementary Counseling](#)



Welcome February!

In January we learned about showing and responding with compassion. Having compassion requires us to have empathy for others by understanding how someone else is feeling. We continue to learn about recognizing our own feelings which is a necessary skill needed so we can show compassion and be empathetic towards others.

We also continued lessons in our Child Protection Unit. Students learned about safe, unsafe, and unwanted touches. They also learned to say no and refuse unsafe or unwanted touches. I encourage you to ask your kids what the difference is between an unsafe touch and an unwanted touch. An unsafe touch hurts our body: hitting, kicking, pushing, etc. An unwanted touch is a touch you don't want. An unwanted touch can be a safe touch: Hugs, pats on the back, arm and arm, etc. BUT it is a safe touch you don't want. Students have learned to tap into how they feel about a safe touch to know if it is unwanted or not. We continue to learn that their body belongs to them and it is ABSOLUTELY OKAY for them to say no to an unwanted touch. Additionally, we finished up our Child Protection unit with learning about The private body parts rule.

We will also celebrate Kindness in February. February 17th is Random Act of Kindness day. As we progress through the month we will focus on kindness and the positive outcomes of showing kindness in our community, to our peers, to our families and ourselves.. Additionally, February 25th is Canada's [Pink Shirt Day](#) promoting kindness and anti-bullying, which is a great way to lead into March when we learn about bully prevention.

If you have any questions or concerns about your student feel free to contact me. You can also fill out a [counseling form](#) [espanol](#) to request a meeting.

Ms. Jennifer

## From the Nurse

**Vaccine exclusion day is coming up February 26, 2026.** Make sure your student is up to date on immunizations and or the required medical/non-medical exemption forms. Oregon requires all paperwork to be completed by February 25, 2026 for your student to continue attending school. Please call the school office or visit with your healthcare provider if you have any questions!

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## NCRD Youth Center

February is here..... will the groundhog see his shadow? If you need care after school, please reach out to us. We pick up your students at Nehalem Elementary school and are now staying at the school until 5pm. Our cost will stay \$6 a day per child. This does include a nutritious snack and a host of enrichment activities (outdoor play/walks, gym time, crafts, etc.) If interested, please reach out to Angie or Kiley at NCRD by phone, email, website, or just stop in. We do have full day care when the school is closed. We are closed on all national holidays. Those days are \$20 per student. The no school day in February is 2. To preregister and prepay, contact the Welcome Center.

Scholarship applications are available upon request. Scholarships for students are funded through the Friends of NCRD Foundation. Please let any staff member or the Welcome Center know if this is a need, and we will get you a scholarship application.

### -Youth Sports-

Basketball will run January 12 – Feb. 27. This will be on Monday and Wednesday from 4:30 – 5:30pm at the NES gym. If you want to play but haven't registered, you still can, come over to NCRD and register if you have already played a sport this school year it's even easier, just call the welcome center (or email Kiley) and let them know your child's name, we can invoice you (\*late fees may apply). [angiet@ncrdnehalem.org](mailto:angiet@ncrdnehalem.org) [kileyk@ncrdnehalem.org](mailto:kileyk@ncrdnehalem.org)

### - Upcoming Events –

Pop goes the heart will be happening Saturday Feb. 7th from 6-8pm.

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## NCRD Aquatics Center

### Two New Programs for NCRD Aquatics

NCRD is piloting a ***new Aquatics program called Swim Club***, for our 4th and 5th grade swimmers who have achieved the top levels of our school swim program. [Click here for more information.](#)

NCRD is also excited to let you know that they're piloting a new NCRD Aquatics program in which they will be offering extracurricular small group swim lessons to our **4th and 5th grade swimmers** who do not yet meet the criteria for our pilot session of Swim Club. This includes your swimmer! [Click here for more information.](#)

**Save the Date: March 17th**  
**Friday Night Family Swim** is Happening!!

**6:00pm----7:00pm**  
\$2 for Youth \$6 for Adults.  
\$18 Youth 10x pass \$50 Adult 10x pass.  
(passes can be purchased at the pool).  
Parents, please accompany the children.  
See you at the Pool!

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## PBIS: Positive Reinforcement Plans

Dear Nehalem Elementary Families,

As families of elementary aged students, we are sure you can think of plenty of times your child has misbehaved... At Nehalem Elementary, we try to prevent misbehavior by constantly reinforcing the positive behavior. Our PBIS program has a few different methods of doing this:

- **Way to Go's:** Are little tickets staff give to an individual whenever they are following one of our three school rules (be safe, be respectful, be responsible.) Students then place their way to go in a designated spot in their classroom. On Fridays, teachers draw three Way to Gos and those three students get to pick a prize from the office! Be sure to ask your student when they last got a Way to Go and when they last got their name drawn for an office prize.
- Targeted Incentives: Our PBIS team analyzes our school behavior data once a month. If we see a spike in a certain location or a certain behavior we do not want to see, our team implements a school wide incentive. Below are some examples of reinforcements we have done in the past:
  - Bus Bucks: When we see a spike of misbehaviors on the bus, we implement Bus Bucks. These tickets are given out by bus drivers when a student is using an inside voice and sitting safely in their seat. These tickets are entered into the weekly Friday prize drawing along with the Way to Gos.
  - Respect Bucks: When we see an increase in disrespect at our school, NES passes out Respect Bucks to students who are respecting adults, peers, or even respecting themselves by using positive self-talk. Once a student earns five Respect Bucks, they get to trade them in for a prize!
  - Kindness Bucks: Sometimes, students can be unkind to one another for attention or because they are tip-toeing the fine line between funny and mean. When this happens, our school uses Kindness Bucks to reteach what being a helpful, caring, considerate friend looks like. When the whole school fills up our "Kindness Bucket," there is a school-wide reward!
- **Specific Verbal Praise:** When a student is told, "Great job!," they are often left wondering what they did that was so great. Our staff is trained to give very specific verbal reinforcement whenever a student is behaving appropriately. For example, instead of saying "Keep it up!," we



might say, "Thank you for sitting with a calm body." This way, the student is explicitly told what we want to see from them in the future... there is no guessing game!

#### Home Connection

Your household can implement targeted reinforcements, too! Pick one behavior that is driving you absolutely crazy... maybe your child is talking back to you, not picking up after themselves, or disrespecting a sibling. Give your kid one sticker every time they do the opposite of what is driving you nuts. Once they earn five or ten stickers... give them a reward! Once the behavior is mastered, switch it up by changing the behavior you are looking to correct.

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## Community Events

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### NKN District Job Openings

Click button to access and apply for open positions.

The school district is also in need of qualified substitutes in all areas.

See below for ESS link to become a substitute.

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#### Elizabeth Avila

Elizabeth is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters