

March 12, 2009

Dear Whittier Families,

We remain vigilant in ensuring the safety and security of our students and staff. We welcome your participation in our school. I would like to remind you that we have two parents supporting the supervision of our students during lunch (inside and outside of the lunchroom). They are: Miss Rebecca, Henry and Elliott Adamson's mom, and Miss Neena, Lily Forsher's mom. If you would like to know how things are going, please feel free to ask them. We also have a security supervisor who patrols our school and others in the Ballard neighborhood during critical times.

I am frequently asked how the closures will affect our school. At this point in time, this is uncertain. However, know that I continue to be in conversation with the district's demographers and principals of closing schools. Since Lowell will remain open for APP's north end students, we no longer have the risk of APP students enrolling in our school. The only other concern would be whether or not closed schools such as the African American Academy whose students reside in all areas of Seattle, will enroll in our school. This is highly unlikely as well. Therefore, we can almost be assured that school closures will not have a huge impact on our school.

This is budget time for Seattle Public Schools. The co-presidents, Susan Weber (Erika's mom) and Barbara Hazzard (Noah and Dashiell's mom) both are members of the school's budget committee. We met as a full staff (with their involvement and participation) on this past Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning. I am happy to share with anyone who is interested the results of these meetings (I.E: the priorities of our school). I realize there is a great deal of concern about kindergarten class size, be assured that this is being addressed.

On the rear of this Wave is a letter from Susan Hall who provides dates of upcoming, 'Quarterly Community Engagement Meetings.'

Enjoy the rest of your week and weekend.

Sincerely,

Cothron L. McMillian