1.2.2022

**Greeting Sherman Families and Community:**

Hoping you had a great winter break! We are looking forward to having your students back in the building on Monday, January 3rd.

**YMCA UPDATE:** Families, if you have students who attend the YMCA at Washington Elementary, please note that both before and after school care will be closed for the week of January 3 – 7. Please contact the YMCA regional director James Van Eddy at jvaneddy@ymcapkc.org with questions or further information.

**IMPORTANT HEALTH REMINDER:**When school resumes, please keep your child home if they are sick and call our office at 253-571-5488 to let us know.  If they’ve been exposed to COVID-19, and are NOT vaccinated, students must quarantine for 10 days after being exposed.  If they’ve been exposed to COVID-19, ARE vaccinated and have no symptoms, students can return to school.  Anyone who’s been exposed is encouraged to get tested 5 to 7 days after exposure.

Any TPS student and their immediate family members with symptoms of COVID-19 can take a free COVID-19 test at a walk-in clinic offered by the school district. The clinic is at our Madison Early Learning Center, 3101 S. 43rd St, Tacoma. It’s open from 1-5 p.m. every day school is open. \*\*PLEASE Be advised that you’ll need a smartphone with internet access and that these are rapid tests, not a PCR test.

Find more information here: [https://www.tacomaschools.org/about/newsroom/health-safety#fs-panel-75551](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/LIp-vtlRhqdGtsOVruSXcA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRjs3BaP0RJaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cudGFjb21hc2Nob29scy5vcmcvYWJvdXQvbmV3c3Jvb20vaGVhbHRoLXNhZmV0eSNmcy1wYW5lbC03NTU1MVcHc2Nob29sbUIKYbvaPNJhOUF5-FIYc3Bhc2tldEB0YWNvbWEuazEyLndhLnVzWAQAAAAB)

**DENTAL CLINIC:**  Sherman and Community Health Care are partnering to provide dental services for students. Community Health Care will be hosting an on-site dental clinic on January 11th.  Your student should have already brought home a packet with information about the dental clinic.  Please check out the packet and return the signed permission slip if you’d like your child to participate.  Forms are due back by Tuesday, January 4th. Please e-mail our school nurse, Penny Fox at pfox@tacoma.k12.wa.us with any questions you may have or call Community Health Care at 253-722-1551.  To schedule and individual dental appointment with Community Health Care, please call 253-722-1582.

**At-home COVID-19 test kits**
We have a way to make testing students for COVID-19 a little easier. We’re offering free test kits that your child can bring home and use to complete a COVID test. Parents mail in the test sample and receive results by text or email. If your student needs a negative test result to return to school because they are a close contact, you can use these results, which are verified by a lab. Want a test kit? Contact our front office at 571-5488

**LOST AND FOUND:** We’ve got a large number of items in the lost and found – please make sure your child’s name is written inside their jacket!

**UPCOMING ELECTION PROPOSITIONS FOR TPS:**

**Proposition 1: Educational Programs & Operations Replacement Levy
Proposition 2: Technology Improvements & Upgrades Replacement Levy**

Tacoma Public Schools will have two propositions on the February 8th ballot.  TPS will be providing all families with information this coming week on each of these propositions so that you can make an informed voting decision.  Remember to vote!

Wishing you a great first week of 2022!

Sincerely,

Christian Jordan

Principal

Sherman STEAM Elementary