



Greeting Alki Families!

Happy last Friday in April and Happy May Day! I hope the weekend and the new month find you getting ready for spring. It is a busy push to the end of the year. Enjoy it!

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Panorama

- Once again this spring we will be doing a survey on social emotional health with our students using Panorama. Attached is a letter that explains it, with some links to sample items and frequently asked questions.
- If for some reason you do not want your student to complete the survey, there is a form at the bottom of the letter for you to complete and return to the school by May 6th.
- We will be doing the survey in PE classes on May 17th.

Orbeez or Splat R guns

- We want to make you aware of a recent TikTok trend among teens across the country.
- The trend involves the use of Splat R guns also known as Orbeez guns. The Orbeez Challenge involves shooting people with Orbeez pellets, which are gel-like pellets commonly used in toys. When soaked in water the pellets expand in size. Teens also freeze the pellets to make a stronger impact.
- While it may seem like a relatively harmless prank, the consequences of bringing these guns to school is in violation of district policy. Students may be expelled for up to one year if they carry, possess, display, or use a weapon or any type of gun at school. The violation also may carry criminal charges.
- Please have a conversation with your child regarding this serious issue. Thank you for your help in ensuring the safety of our students and staff members.

Upcoming Dates

- 5/2 3:05 early release
- 5/3 SBA testing- morning test schedule
- 5/4 SBA testing- morning test schedule
- 5/5 Home Track Meet - 4:45 pm vs Jefferson
- 5/5 Panda Express 8th grade celebration fundraiser
- 5/9 3:05 early release
- 5/9 Home Track Meet - 4:45 vs Jason Lee

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Working to empower students to create a better world!

Student Survey Notification Letter

Dear VPS Families,

We thank you and your family for being our valued partners as we work together to educate the children in our district. As you may already be aware, building our social-emotional learning skills is an important goal for our schools this year. VPS is utilizing Social Emotional Learning curricula for core instruction. In Kindergarten - 8th grade all students are using Second Steps and 9-12th grade are using Character Strong. We need to hear from your child or children! Students are important partners as we work to improve our communication, academic program and overall experience for everyone.

In order to learn more about student experiences at school, we will be asking for your child's feedback via an online survey they will be completing at school in grades 3-12. This is the same survey students took in the Fall and will allow us to examine levels of growth and change. The survey shouldn't take more than 30 minutes to complete.

We are asking that all of our students in grades 3-12 participate in the survey, as their feedback will provide invaluable insights into their experiences and how we can improve and adapt our district to their needs. If a student doesn't feel like they have enough information to answer a question, they will be able to skip the item altogether. The responses to these surveys will be used by building staff to provide building-wide, small group, and individual supports for students. We are partnering with a third-party vendor, Panorama, to support us in administering these surveys. For Panorama FAQs, visit this link: [FAQs | Panorama Education](#) .

The survey content will ask students to self-reflect on

- Positive feelings
- Challenging feelings
- Supportive relationships
- Sense of belonging
- Self-Management
- Emotion Regulation
- Social-Awareness
- Self-Efficacy
- Growth Mindset

Survey Opt-Out Option

Please notify us if you would like your child to opt out of taking the surveys by filling in your name and your child's name below and returning it to school by **May 6**. If you have any questions about the SEL survey or survey administration you can read [FAQs | Panorama Education](#). If you still have questions please don't hesitate to contact your child's school.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME

School phone number

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I do not want my child to participate in the Student Wellness.

Student Name: _____

School Name: _____

Grade: _____

Guardian Name: _____

Guardian Signature: _____