

# ALKI MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

[www.alki/vansd.org](http://www.alki/vansd.org)



WHERE OUR LEGACY IS VALUING EVERY STUDENT

December 2022/January 2023

## Greetings Alki Families,

December is a time of reflection and goal setting for me. The opportunity to celebrate holidays with family, embrace the coming of winter (and the hope for snow on the valley floor!), and look ahead to a New Year are hopeful opportunities to take stock of where we are and where we are going. Allow me to share some thoughts about Alki in the light of where we are and where we are going.

## Expectations

As I am sure you know, we are constantly trying to improve the culture and climate of our school. In order to maintain order and safety, we have 3 primary expectations to: **Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe.** While I believe most students know and understand these expectations, their impulsive nature sometimes gets in the way of following these expectations at school (and likely at home too!). It would be great if you could reinforce the need to follow these expectations to maintain safety and keep an environment that is conducive to learning while at school.

## Attendance

Illness has wreaked havoc on attendance the last month or so. While we absolutely want to see students at school as much as possible, we are still operating under the Covid protocols that call for students to stay home when sick. The current flow chart calls for students and staff to stay home and test for Covid when they come down with symptoms. If the test is negative, you can return to school once you feel better and have been fever free for at least 24 hours. If you test positive, you must isolate at home for 5 days and then can return to school once you feel better and have been fever free for at least 24 hours. Either way, once you return to school it is expected you wear a mask for 5 more days. I hope your family is able to stay healthy amidst the Covid, flu, cold, RSV season we are entering into. If not, please take care and follow the guidelines.

## 2nd Trimester

In case you weren't aware, we started 2nd Trimester on November 28th. I encouraged the students to look at this as an opportunity for a fresh start and to reflect on the goals they want to have for a new term. I believe it is important to be mindful of the goals you have, as well as clear on action steps you need to take to accomplish your goal. It is easy to say I want to get an A in math class, but what are you going to DO to earn that A? This is a great time to sit down with your student and have that conversation to ensure a successful start to 2nd Trimester.

I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy the variety of holidays you celebrate at this time of year. Enjoy your family and the traditions you hold so dear. COMMUNICATE the values and expectations you have for your children in the family moments you can share together this holiday season. And....if you want to hope for some snow along the way, I'm all for it!

Empowering students to create a better world,

Mark Cain

Principal, Alki MS

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WHERE OUR LEGACY IS VALUING EVERY STUDENT

## ALKI MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

*Striving to create a learning environment that empowers every student by providing engaging academic programs and positive social experiences for all*

December 2022/

**Mark Cain - Principal**  
**Doug Warner - Associate Principal**  
**Scott Sartorius - Athletic Director**

Our Office Staff is always ready  
to serve you!

**Fawn McKay - Secretary**  
**Kelly Newcomb - Registrar**

### OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Main Office - 313-3200

Fax - 313-3201

**Jennifer Stelter - Attendance**  
**AlkiAttendance@vansd.org**

313-3220

### BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Erin Redd - Business Office**  
 313-3210

Please try to keep phone calls and items dropped off to a minimum. With the exception of urgently needed items, we will only call students down before lunch and at the end of the school day. This prevents classroom interruptions for optimal student learning. Thank you for your help!



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Dec 8th - Band Concert 7pm
- Dec. 9th - Report Cards go Home
- Dec 13th - Choir/Orchestra Concert 7pm
- Dec. 19th - Jan 2nd - Winter Break - No School
- Jan. 9th - Boy's Basketball begins
- Jan. 13th - Last Day to Purchase a Yearbook
- Jan. 16th - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
- Jan. 27th - Semester Break - No School

All Monday's from Sept. 12th through May 22nd will be 40 minute early release. School will end at 2:50 pm



# VPS Is Hiring!

**Are you, or do you know someone who would be a great addition to our Vancouver Public Schools (VPS) team? Did you know that VPS hosts monthly Substitute and Classified Candidate Day interviews for qualified applicants?**



**Vancouver Public Schools is now hiring for full-time, part-time, substitute, and seasonal employees in the following areas:**

**Special Program Paraeducators  
Paraeducators**

**Cafeteria Assistants  
Custodial Assistants**

**Bus Drivers  
Coaches**

#### **NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

*Vancouver Public Schools is an equal opportunity district in education programs, activities, services, and employment. The district does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity, age, families with children, honorably discharged veteran or military status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. The district provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. The district complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Older Worker Protection Act, and all other state, federal, and local equal opportunity laws. You may contact any of the following people at 2901 Falk Rd., Vancouver, Washington, 98661, or by writing to them at Vancouver School District, PO Box 8937, Vancouver, Washington 98668-8937 or by calling 360-313-1000: ADA-Kathy Everidge (kathy.everidge@vansd.org); Title VII, 504-Steve Vance (steve.vance@vansd.org); IDEA-Daniel Bettis (daniel.bettis@vansd.org); Affirmative Action/Title IX-Kathy Everidge (kathy.everidge@vansd.org); Title IX Elementary-Kristie Lindholm (Kristie.Lindholm@vansd.org); Title IX Secondary-Bill Oman (bill.oman@vansd.org); Athletic Equity-Jim Gray (james.gray@vansd.org). This notification can be provided in the appropriate language for communities of national origin and minority persons with limited English language skills by contacting 360-313-1250.*

**[Click Here to Apply Online](#)**

## News from the Counseling Center



### Greetings from the Alki School Counseling Team!

We are thankful we have the opportunity to serve our students and families at Alki. We wish you all the best as you enter winter break. As a reminder, your school counselors are here to support the social/emotional, academic, and college/career development of all students through a comprehensive school counseling program. Feel free to reach out to us at any time.

6th Grade: [Patricia.kelly@vansd.org](mailto:Patricia.kelly@vansd.org)

7th Grade: [Ryan.wagoner@vansd.org](mailto:Ryan.wagoner@vansd.org)

8th Grade: [Lindsay.andreotti@vansd.org](mailto:Lindsay.andreotti@vansd.org)

### Social Emotional

In November and December, students have continued social emotional learning lessons through the Second Step curriculum. In this unit, students learn how to recognize bullying and harassment, stand up safely to bullying, and respond appropriately to harassment. This unit's content helps students develop empathy, understand the impact of bullying and harassment on individuals and their communities, and examine social and environmental factors that contribute to negative behaviors as well as identify solutions for preventing those behaviors.

### College and Career

School Counselors are spending time in classrooms in November and December completing lessons through Xello, a career education platform. Sixth grade students are learning about how their current interests relate to future careers, seventh grade students are exploring learning styles and eighth grade students are exploring careers. Eighth grade students will also receive a presentation during the school day about the various magnet programs available to them in high school from Skyview's Career Counselor.

### Academic

Trimester one has officially come to an end. A new trimester is a fresh start and an opportunity for building habits to increase success moving forward. One way to support your child at home is to help them set and monitor goals. Here is a quick read from *Parents Still Make the Difference, 2022*

### Students should ask themselves questions when setting goals

Want your middle schooler to be a self-motivated learner? To start a school project well before the due date? To finish schoolwork on time without your having to nag? Then encourage your child to set goals for each of their classes. Have them answer these questions:

- ***"What do I want to achieve in this class over the next grading period?"*** This can be a higher grade, or another achievement, such as turning in all work on time.
- ***"What is my plan for meeting this goal?"*** Your child could make a study chart and follow it. Or carry a homework folder in their backpack, so that assignments get home and then back to school.
- ***"How will I avoid distractions or barriers that may conflict with my goals?"*** Your child could turn off their phone during study hours. They could clean up their study space and organize school papers each night.

Once your child has answered these questions for each of her classes, have her write down specific goals and the steps she plans to take to achieve them. Post the list where you can both see it. Check it frequently to see how things are going, and encourage them to make changes as needed.

### Coming up in January

Vancouver School of Arts and Academics and iTech Preparatory will begin accepting applications shortly after winter break. Be on the lookout for more information from the district regarding informational presentations and deadlines.



Home of the Wolves





## Youth Opportunity Pass Parent Consent 2022-23

C-TRAN, Vancouver Public Schools, the Evergreen School District, WSSB, WSD, and Vancouver Parks and Recreation have formed a partnership to provide free access to public transit and local community centers for all currently enrolled middle and senior high school students who wish to participate. As a participant in this program, your child will receive one full year of free public transit access starting September 1 and continuing through the following August 31. It does not provide service past the Columbia River into Portland or on C-VAN paratransit, TriMet or the Portland Streetcar.

If you consent to your child participating in this program, your child's Youth Opportunity Pass (YOP) can then be used to gain free access to either Marshall or Firstenburg community centers. Simply take your child and their Pass to your preferred location to fill out the required forms. You will then receive a community center ID card that provides access during non-school hours.

The total value of the YOP for the entire year is over \$525!

Applications for the YOP are available in the office that you will complete and return to Alki. The pass sticker is placed on the student's ID card, so please have them bring their ID with them when they return the signed application.



# FREE FOOD PANTRIES!

¡Despensas de comida gratis!

Бесплатные продовольственные кладовые!



**Open to ALL Vancouver Public School Families!**

**¡Abierto a todas las familias de las escuelas públicas de Vancouver!**

**Открыт для всех семей в государственных школах Ванкувера!**

Sarah J Anderson Elementary (2215 NE 104th St #5641, Vancouver, WA 98686) 11am – 12pm  
Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 7, April 4\* (at St John's Lutheran Church), May 2

Washington Elementary (2908 S St #2932, Vancouver, WA 98663) 2:30pm – 3:30pm  
Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 1, March 1, March 29, May 3

The Plaza at Roosevelt (2921 Falk Rd. Vancouver, WA 98661) 7:30-8:00pm  
Dec 1, Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, May 4

Sacajawea Elementary (700 NE 112th St, Vancouver, WA 98685) 11am – 12pm  
Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8, April 12, May 10

Jim Parsley Community Center (4100 Plomondon St. Vancouver, WA 98661) 1:30pm-2:30pm  
Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 9, April 13, May 11

McLoughlin Middle + Marshall Elementary (5802 MacArthur Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661) 1:30pm-2:30pm  
Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20, May 18

Harney Elementary (3212 E Evergreen Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661) 2:30pm-3:30pm  
Dec. 13, Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 28, April 25, May 23

Walnut Grove Elementary (6103 NE 72nd Ave #1998, Vancouver, WA 98661) 12pm – 1pm  
Dec. 16, Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 23, April 27, May 25

Acceso comunitario a alimentos | Community Food Access | Доступ к еде в сообществе  
Clark County Food Bank Drive-Thru (6502 NE 47th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98661)  
Todos los martes de 3 pm a 4 pm | Every Tuesday 3pm-4pm | Каждый вторник с 15.00 до 16.00



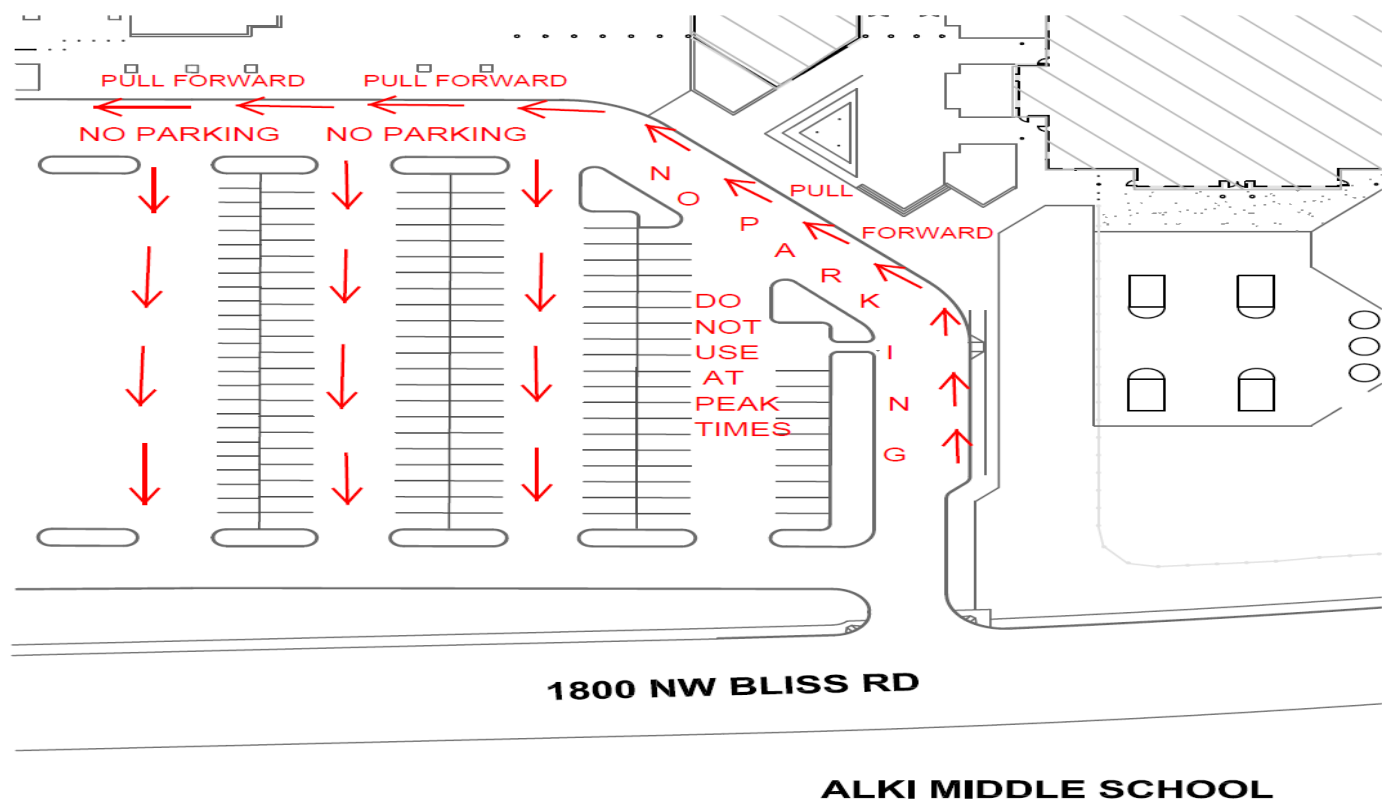


Free meals will be available to all K-12 students again this year! Meal payments online or by cash or check will not be collected by schools.

Free or reduced-price meal applications will not be collected this year. We do ask that **all** of our families complete the Family Income Survey. This survey provides your child's school a way to collect household income information. This information makes sure your child's school receives the full amount of federal and state funding and makes sure your child receives services they are entitled to when free/reduced price applications are not collected.

If you have not already completed the survey, you can also obtain a copy in the school office. Please return completed paper surveys to the school office.

Parents and guardians need to complete only one survey for all school-aged children in their household. For further Information, please call 360-313-1190 or email [nutrition.services@vansd.org](mailto:nutrition.services@vansd.org).





## MAKE SCHOOL COUNT: ATTENDANCE MATTERS, YOU MATTER

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Building this habit starts with the first day of school so they can learn right away that arriving at school on time, every day, is important. Good attendance is critical to school success. The parent is expected to notify the school of the reason for the absence within three (3) school days.

To excuse an absence at Alki Middle School:

- A written note by Parent/Guardian stating the date(s) and reason for the absence.
- Call the attendance line at 360-313-3220
- E-mail Attendance Clerk at [AlkiAttendance@vansd.org](mailto:AlkiAttendance@vansd.org)
- Skyward Family Access request for student absence

### Absences can be excused for the following reasons:

- Illness (a doctor's note is required after 5 absences)
- Health care appointments (as much as possible, try to schedule these outside the school day)
- Emergencies
- Religious activity
- Pre-arranged approved activity (family vacations **must** be pre-arranged to be excused)
- Family Related

All absences, whether excused or unexcused, become a problem for student success. At five unexcused absences within the school year, the "Unexcused Absence Report and Agreement" begins. Ten or more unexcused absences within the school year will result in the school district enforcing the compulsory school attendance law through truancy court.

When picking up your student from school it is required by VPS to have your ID ready and you must be on the student's approved pick up list.

Parents can now "Request an Absence" for their student. This can be done through Skyward Family Access.

### **\*\*Notice\*\***

**Due to the importance of student's academic class time and school safety, students will not be excused from class until Parent/Guardian is in the office to sign them out.**

Please review Alki's Tardy Policy:

- \* 1st Tardy - Verbal warning
- \* 2nd Tardy - Written warning sent home with student and parent is notified by teacher
- \* 3rd Tardy - Written warning sent home and detention assigned by teacher
- \* 4th Tardy - Referral to the office for his/her total and discipline will be assigned. Parent is contacted by Administrator.
- \* 5th Tardy - Referral to the office for After School Detention. Parent is contacted by Administrator.

## Alki Middle School Wolves WINTER I Sports Schedule 2022-2023

8th Varsity Basketball: Coach Neil Cummings			
Date	Opponent	Time	Gym
11.9	Mac @ Alki	4:45	West
11.16	Alki @ Discovery	4:45	Main
11.18	Gaiser @ Alki	4:45	West
11.21	Jefferson @ Alki	4:45	West
11.30	Alki @ Jason Lee	4:45	Main
12.2	Alki @ Mac	6:00	North
12.7	Jason Lee @ Alki	6:00	West
12.9	Discovery @ Alki	6:00	West
12.12	Alki @ Gaiser	6:00	West
12.14	Alki @ Jefferson	6:00	East

7th Varsity Basketball : Coach Stephanie Terry			
Date	Opponent	Time	Gym
11.9	Mac @ Alki	6:00	West
11.16	Alki @ Discovery	6:00	Main
11.18	Gaiser @ Alki	6:00	West
11.21	Jefferson @ Alki	6:00	West
11.30	Alki @ Jason Lee	6:00	Main
12.2	Alki @ Mac	4:45	North
12.7	Jason Lee @ Alki	4:45	West
12.9	Discovery @ Alki	4:45	West
12.12	Alki @ Gaiser	4:45	West
12.14	Alki @ Jefferson	4:45	East

8th Grade JV Basketball (Wolves): Coach Don Buss			
Date	Opponent	Time	Gym
11.9	Mac Pioneers @ Alki Wolves	4:45	East
11.14	Alki Wolves @ Gaiser Grizzlies	4:45	East
11.21	Jefferson Explorers @ Alki Wolves	4:45	East
11.30	Alki Wolves @ Mac Pioneers	4:45	South
12.5	Jason Lee Panthers @ Alki Wolves	4:45	East
12.9	Alki Wolves @ Alki Pack	4:45	East
12.12	Alki Wolves @ Gaiser Grizzlies	6:00	East
12.14	Alki Wolves @ Jefferson Explorers	6:00	West

8th Grade JV Basketball (Pack) : Coach James Ward			
Date	Opponent	Time	Gym
11.9	Alki Pack @ Jefferson Explorers	4:45	West
11.16	Alki Pack @ Mac Pioneers	4:45	South
11.18	Gaiser Grizzlies @ Alki Pack	4:45	East
11.30	Alki Pack @ Jason Lee Panthers	4:45	New
12.2	Alki Pack @ Mac Pioneers	6:00	South
12.5	Jefferson Explorers @ Alki Pack	6:00	West
12.7	Jason Lee Panthers @ Alki Pack	6:00	East
12.9	Alki Wolves @ Alki Pack	4:45	East

7th grade JV Basketball (Blue): Coach Megan Ward			
Date	Opponent	Time	Gym
11.9	Mac Red @ Alki Blue	6:00	East
11.14	Alki Blue @ Gaiser Purple	6:00	East
11.16	Alki Blue @ Mac Red	6:00	South
11.18	Gaiser Purple @ Alki Blue	6:00	East
11.21	Jefferson Green @ Alki Blue	6:00	East
12.5	Alki Blue @ Jefferson Green	4:45	Main
12.7	Jefferson White @ Alki Blue	4:45	East
12.9	Alki Blue @ Jefferson Green	4:45	West
12.14	Alki Blue @ Jefferson White	4:45	West

Coed 6-8 Grade Wrestling: Coaches - Buck, Williamson, Sharpe, Bryant			
Date	Opponent	Time	Field
11.9	Alki @ McLoughlin	5:00	Gym
11.16	Discovery @ Alki	5:00	Gym
11.21	Alki @ Jefferson	5:00	Gym
11.30	Gaiser @ Alki	5:00	Gym
12.7	Jason Lee @ Alki	5:00	Commons
12.10	VPS District Wrestling Tournament	9:00 AM	HBHS

### Winter II Sports Starting Soon! Register at **Final Forms!**

Boys Basketball (7/8) - Registration opens December 1st and closes Jan 14th.

The Boys Basketball season goes from Jan 9th through March 3rd, 2023.

Girls Bowling (7/8) - Registration opens Jan 2nd and closes Feb 11th.

The Girls Bowling season starts February 6th through Mar 27th, 2023.



# Free Sports Physicals

**Sponsored by  
Vancouver Public Schools  
Family Medicine of Southwest Washington**

Available to Vancouver Public School students entering 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades

These physicals are provided by volunteers and are meant to target those athletes with difficulty accessing care or who **do not have health insurance**. These exams are not meant to replace regular health visits with your primary care provider\*. *If you have access to primary care, please have your sports physical performed there.*

\*Students with known cardiac, asthma, diabetes and/or seizure related issues or other conditions of concern cannot be served. If an abnormality is found, you will be referred to your primary care provider before being cleared for your sport.

Limited Space

**You must sign up in the Business Office of your school**

Sports physical staff will facilitate a referral to a primary care provider

**February 16, 2023**

**February 23, 2023**

2:15 – 5:00 pm @ Fort Vancouver HS

***Students please bring:***

WIAA Sports Physical Form with the medical history portion completed and signed by parent **before** your physical.

Wear loose fitting shorts and a t-shirt

Signed permission slip IF NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Forms are available at the school business office, and can be downloaded from our website at [www.vansd.org](http://www.vansd.org)

(Click on Athletics, scroll down to Forms and click on Physical form and/or Parent Consent form).

**\*\*Those experiencing symptoms of COVID, have had exposure to someone who had COVID within the previous 14 days, or have had a positive COVID test in the past 10 days will not be allowed to have a physical completed\*\***

*Your child may be eligible for free or low-cost medical, dental and vision coverage through Washington Apple Health for Kids. You can find out more information or apply at the sports physicals. If you would like to apply, please bring proof of all household income, birth certificates for your children, and picture ID for your children 16 years and older.*



## Alki Middle School PTSA 3.7.86



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# Poppin' Popcorn Fundraiser

Now thru December 6th, 2022

50% of purchases come back to the school!

To order, please visit <https://supportmyfundraiser.org/store/store.php?sID=120469>



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## STAFF APPRECIATION

Please help Staff Appreciation provide a sweet snack for our staff on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Sign up here to donate!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FA9AD22A3FC1-december>



## Alki Middle School PTSA 3.7.86



### GIVING TREE REMAINING GIFT TAGS SIGN UP

**What:** Every November students at Alki are given the opportunity to select a tag from our designated trees to donate specific items to families in need. Due to the success of doing sign ups online last year, we decided to continue with that method.

**Sign up [here](#)** for a virtual tag:

Feel free to sign up for more than one tag. If you scroll to the bottom of the list, you may also sign up to donate gift cards, laundry soap, toilet paper, and various food items. No time to shop? VENMO us money and we can shop for you! Just want to make a flat donation to help us fill in gaps? VENMO us! Email us for more information.

#### **How do I drop off my item?**

**November 28th through December 7th** you may send your items to school with your student.

#### **Do I need to wrap my gifts?**

**No, we will have volunteers wrap all gifts. Please label your gift with the color and number that you signed up for and attach any gift receipts.**

Thank you for your support. Helping families in need is a popular and rewarding Annual Project that every student can participate in. Together we can make a huge difference!

Please email any questions to [\*\*alkigivingtree@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:alkigivingtree@gmail.com)





# Holiday Food Boxes

If your family needs assistance with  
food over the holidays, please  
contact FCRC Kelsey Potter

Email: [Kelsey.potter@vansd.org](mailto:Kelsey.potter@vansd.org)

Text or call: #360.721.8464