



Ellensburg School District #401

1300 East Third Avenue
Ellensburg, WA 98926
www.esd401.org
Phone 509-925-8000
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Dear ESD Staff:

This communication is to provide an update to ALL ESD staff regarding Governor Inslee's request for local school district's to make accommodations to provide childcare for our local healthcare workers and first responders during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ellensburg School District is working towards building capacity to provide childcare support to our local healthcare professionals and first responders during this pandemic.

Here are ESD's child care initiatives at this time:

1. Collaborating with local childcare agencies and other providers such as [Child Care Aware of Washington](#) to help link prioritized families to available care as well as establish an information sharing network for the Ellensburg community.
2. Assessing Ellensburg healthcare workers' & first responders' childcare needs using an ESD online survey. Information from the survey will drive our program development.
3. Developing a childcare program that will provide service throughout the entire school closure period. Here are tentative details at this time:
 - **Location of Child Care:** Valley View Elementary
 - **Start Date:** TBD (Projected April 2, 2020)
 - **Staff to Child Ratio:** 2 adults/8 children
 - **Age Range for Child Care:** Students in grades K-6
 - **Operating Schedule:** 8:00am – 3:00pm
 - **Staffing:** ESD will (initially) be putting together a rotating schedule for ESD classified para-educator / playground supervisors to serve as childcare leads. ESD will be sending out a survey to all classified employees soon giving staff an opportunity to declare interest in working with the childcare team. We hope to match people's interests to assure the best

The Ellensburg School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Kim Snider, Title IX Coordinator and Civil Rights Coordinator, 509-925-8007, kim.snider@esd401.org and Section 504 Coordinator, Kelly Kronbauer, 509-925-8011, kelly.kronbauer@esd401.org, 1300 East Third Avenue, Ellensburg, WA 98926.



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ESD Emergency Child Care Safety Practices:

- Persons who are older, pregnant, with underlying health conditions, or have compromised immune systems are at higher risk of developing complications from this virus. These individuals will not provide child care or visit child care facilities.
- Alternate drop-off and pick-up times for each small group to avoid a large number of people congregating outside the facility.
- Group sizes may be no larger than 10 people total, including children and adults
- Keep groups together throughout the day and do not combine groups (e.g., at opening and closing). Maintain the same groups from day to day, as much as possible.
- Offer outdoor play in staggered shifts, keeping a minimum of six feet of open space between outdoor play areas.
- Practice frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and require handwashing upon arrival, after using facial tissue, before meals or snacks, after outside time, after going to the bathroom, and prior to leaving for home.
- Follow the cleaning and disinfecting procedures set forth by DOH as rotating throughout the day.

As a school organization, we are accepting the call to assure our Ellensburg first responders and healthcare workers will be able to continue to serve in their vital roles. ESD is pressing forward with emergency child care programming and will communicate with classified para-educators / supervisory staff as our program becomes operational.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kronbauer, Executive Director of Student Services kell.kronbauer@esd401.org

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