



January 26, 2022

Dear students, staff, families and community,

The COVID Omicron surge has created challenges since returning in January. Currently Acme Elementary, four classrooms at Kendall Elementary, and one classroom at Harmony Elementary are on five-day pauses and learning remotely. Please help us make the return from remote learning next week as smooth as possible by completing a [test to stay permission form](#) and by either emailing it to smorris@mtbaker.wednet.edu, dropping it off at school, or sending it to school with your child next week. We will not test students without permission, but if you don't want your child tested it could prolong their quarantine to 10 days if they have been identified as a close contact. If your child has symptoms, please keep them home. We are continuing to do everything we can to keep students in school and localize any need for remote learning as much as possible and on a temporary basis. If possible, please send your child to school with a well-fitting clean mask or a medical surgical disposable mask. A student may not ride the bus without a mask. For additional information related to K-12 COVID 19 Guidelines, please see [COVID-19 Symptom Decision Trees for Schools](#) and [COVID-19 Contact Tracing Guide FAQ for K-12 Schools](#).

This Friday, January 28 is a school day making up for one of the days we missed due to inclement weather. Our [revised calendar](#) has incorporated all make up days to date. Let's hope that we will not need to make any further revisions.

January is School Board Recognition and Appreciation Month. While school board members are elected officials, they are also volunteers. They donate their time and efforts to govern the school district by ensuring board policies are adhered to, and they support the superintendent in leading the school community to best serve students and families. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank the Mount Baker School District Board of Directors for their leadership and support for myself, our entire staff, all students, and our community. Many thanks to our Board President, Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt and our Directors Brian Kelly, Annie Elder, Brenna Reaugh, and Ed Fox.

Tomorrow is our last regular school board meeting that will be held in the morning at 8:30 a.m. Starting in February all regular meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month will be held at 6:00 p.m. with both in-person and remote options. At least twenty-four hours before each meeting the agenda and zoom link are posted on our website.

Thanks to everyone for supporting our school community!

Mary Sewright, Superintendent
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