

**Clark, Michael**

---

**From:** dtipple@lwsd.org on behalf of Debra Tipple <dtipple@lwsd.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 20, 2021 10:33 AM  
**To:** Clark, Michael  
**Subject:** Rockwell Elementary News August 20th, 2021



## **Principal's Letter**

**August 20, 2021**

**Welcome to Norman Rockwell's 40th Anniversary Year! We're Going to Party Like It's 1981!**

Dear Rockwell Families,

Good afternoon from campus, and happy Friday! I hope this message finds you well and that you're enjoying every second of the summer. Families: welcome to Rockwell's 40th anniversary year! In September, 1981, we opened our doors for the very first class of Beagles, and on September 1st, we'll do it again for the 40th time. We have been working diligently to plan a safe and welcoming start for our students and families over the next several weeks, and we're excited to begin the new year on September 1st. We've all been through a great deal over the past 18 months, and we will give our students a top-notch experience by placing a focus on safety, social-emotional learning and well-being, connections, and community. We are truly Beagle Strong, and I'm excited for everything we'll achieve together in the year to come.

Families: as we approach the beginning of the new year, I have several updates to share. As always, please feel free to reach out to Associate Principal Mrs. Gallagher or myself via email or phone (425-936-2670) if you have any questions, and please be sure to read our weekly School Newsletters (emailed on Fridays) for updated information.

**Health and Safety**

Earlier this week, you received a Pathway Forward email from Dr. Holmen providing information about the start of the year, and answering several Frequently Asked Questions. Please be sure to read this, and review the video from Dr. Holman's Team Live event @, <https://youtu.be/6DgxBI7aUuM>. As a school and district, we are committed to providing our students with a safe school experience in an environment that feels welcoming and supportive. To support this goal, we will be teaching and practicing routines and procedures regularly, and will be attending to connections and social-emotional learning on a regularly basis. Our safety plans and procedures will be based on guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Health (DOH), Seattle and King County Public Health, as well as state and district directives. Here are a few highlights of our plan to promote student and staff safety at our school:

- All students and staff will be masked at all times while in the school building.
- Masks will also be required on our busses and seating charts will be implemented.
- We will employ social distancing to the greatest extent possible, both in classrooms, as well as in other parts of the day, such as lunch and specialist time.
- We will continue to place a focus on regular handwashing and use of hand sanitizer.
- We will limit indoor cohort interactions.
- Cleaning protocols will be implemented throughout the day and week.
- We will adhere to strict health monitoring and reporting protocols.

We learned a great deal from our successful return to school last Spring, and we will be building upon the practices we put in place and adapting them based on current and emerging needs.

### **School Supplies**

School supply letters for each grade can be found on our school website: <https://rockwell.lwsd.org/studentsfamilies/student-supply-letters-clone>. We want to make sure all students have what they need to begin the year. Please reach out to our school counselor, Mrs. Bauer, at [kbauer@lwsd.org](mailto:kbauer@lwsd.org) for any assistance or support.

## **2021-2022 Rockwell Classroom Teachers**

I am proud to share our classroom teacher starting line-up for our 40th academic year:

- Kindergarten: Ms. Johansen, Mr. McElrea, Mrs. Rasmussen
- First Grade: Ms. Ianni, Ms. Linnell, Ms. Karrer, Ms. Rapp
- Second Grade: Mrs. Finocchio, Ms. Gentry, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Holmen
- Third Grade: Ms. Biglow, Ms. Breier, Mrs. Raffel, Mrs. Yasuda
- Fourth Grade: Ms. Hein, Mrs. Long, Mrs. Thome
- Fifth Grade: Mrs. Honkawa, Mrs. Shadle, Mrs. Weinmeister

## **Before/After School Care**

We are a school site for the LWSd Extended Day program. Extended day provides before- and after-school care for our students and will be located in our gym. The program is currently full and is adding to their waitlist via the district website. For more information about the program, please visit their web page: <https://www.lwsd.org/students-families/before-and-after-school-care/extended-day-program>.

## **School Information**

Please visit our school website, <https://rockwell.lwsd.org/>, for more information about our school. There you will find basic information about our school, including a copy of our Parent and Student Handbook. Every student must have a signed statement that they will follow the district student responsibilities as outlined in the handbook. This form will be included in our take-home packet and collected over the first two weeks of school.

## **Important Dates**

August 24th -	PTA Kindergarten/New Family Playdate, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
August 26th -	PTA Kindergarten/New Family Playdate, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
August 27th -	Teacher Assignments posted to Skyward, classroom teachers will email families.
August 30th -	Meet & Greet, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
September 1st -	First day of school, grades 1-5

September 1st -3rd -	Kindergarten WaKids Family Connection meetings
September 6th -	No School – Labor Day
September 7th – 9th -	Staggered start for Kindergarten
September 9th -	Virtual Curriculum Night
September 10th -	All Kindergarten students attend
<i>September 10th -</i>	<i>PTA Welcome Back Coffee, 9:00 AM</i>

### **Kindergarten Families**

...To our newest Rockwell students and families: welcome! We're so excited to have you join us. This year, our Kinders will have a staggered start, meaning your student will start school on either Tuesday, September 7th, Wednesday, September 8th, or Thursday, September 9th. About one-third of our Kindergarten students will attend on each of these days. We sent an email earlier this summer taking your request for start dates, and we will do our best to try to accommodate your requests. Please note that we cannot guarantee days as we need to balance the number of students for each day. The staggered start is intended to ease your child into the start of the school year and allow our teachers to provide more support to our newest students on the first day. You can expect an email from our Registrar, Mrs. Mobley, regarding your child's start date on Tuesday, August 24th. On the afternoon of the 27th, you will receive an email from your student's teacher welcoming your student and family to their class, and providing information on how to sign up for your Family Connection Meetings. Kindergarten will be conducting Family Connection Meetings on September 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

### **Meet & Greet and Curriculum Night**

This year's Meet & Greet will take place on August 30th from 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM and will be an exterior event. Students and families will go to the exterior door of their child's classroom to meet their teacher and say hello (teachers with interior classrooms will meet families at one of our main entrances – we will have signs posted). We request that you please remain masked throughout the event.

Curriculum Night will be a remote event again this year held via Teams on Thursday, September 9th. Here is our schedule for the event:

- 5:30-5:50 – 3-5 (Teams Live Meeting w/Admin) *Families with students in both grade bands attend this session*

- 5:50-6:35 – 3-5 (Classroom Teams Meetings By Teacher/Grade)
- 6:15-6:35 – K-2 (Teams Live Meeting w/Admin)
- 6:35-7:20 – K-2 (Classroom Teams Meetings By Teacher/Grade)

Links for all Teams meetings will be sent out closer to the event. Please keep an eye out for more information in upcoming School Newsletters.

### **Online School**

Rockwell will be a 100% in-person school this Fall. Parents who wish to pursue a remote option must enroll in the online school offered through the district. This is a separate school with its own principal and staff. As we are your home school, you may have the option to return to Rockwell next year; families wishing to switch in the middle of the year will need to wait for a natural break (e.g., the semester). These fluctuations may affect class size, as staffing is determined in August and we do not receive additional teachers during an academic year. More information on the online program can be found here: <https://www.lwsd.org/schools/online-learning-option-for-2021-22>.

### **Norman Rockwell PTA**

At Rockwell elementary, we are blessed to have an OUTSTANDING (and award-winning) Parent Teacher Association. Even during Covid, our PTA has worked tirelessly to support students and staff and provide opportunities and social outlets in addition to our basic district offerings. Please considering joining the Rockwell PTA via their website: <https://normanrockwellpta.org/home>, and please be sure to subscribe to their weekly newsletter, the Beagle Bugle. Please read further down in the newsletter for more information on upcoming PTA events.

### **You Are Cordially Invited to Join us for Community Serve Day on Sunday, August 22nd**

We are excited to welcome volunteers to our campus this Sunday from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM for Community Serve Day, and we'd love for you to join us! Here is a note about the event from our organizer, Elaine Bentzinger:

We are incredibly fortunate that Community Serve Day is returning to Rockwell this year. If you are not familiar with it, Community Serve Day is a movement of local churches, school districts, PTSA's, non-profits, and businesses that

mobilize as one for our community. For one day we come together to help schools get ready for the new school year, preparing classrooms and school grounds to become a premier learning environment for our kids. Community Serve Day is August 22, from 9am-1pm.

To those of you that have signed up to participate already, THANK YOU! Our amazing Rockwell community is really stepping up to help with this great event.

If you are unable to serve in person, there is another opportunity to contribute! We will be serving lunch to our volunteers at the conclusion of the service day. If you are willing to contribute by helping with lunch, please sign up [HERE](https://tinyurl.com/3nuvm9s2) (<https://tinyurl.com/3nuvm9s2>) to bring food or help with setup/cleanup. Thanks to all of you for you all of your help! This event would not be successful without you.

And you can still REGISTER [HERE](https://tinyurl.com/n4f9mc9e) (<https://tinyurl.com/n4f9mc9e>) to volunteer at Rockwell on August 22!

### **Celebrating our 40th Anniversary**


As noted above, this is Rockwell's 40th anniversary year, and we will celebrate this milestone with events (conditions permitting) and through the sharing of Rockwell stories, photographs, and memorabilia. Please keep an eye out for information in upcoming newsletters, and if you have any pictures or memories to share, please reach out to [events@normanrockwellpta.org](mailto:events@normanrockwellpta.org).

### **...And Finally, Congratulations!**

Rockwell families: I have some exciting news to share! Earlier this month, we were renewed for another two years as a National PTA School of Excellence! A handful of schools receive this designation, including seven this year for the entire state of Washington. Congratulations, Rockwell community, and thank you to all of the parents, staff members, and PTA volunteers who made this possible. We appreciate you!

Take care, everyone, and enjoy this last portion of the summer. We look forward to seeing you at school events in the weeks to come.

In Service and Gratitude,

*Michael Clark* 

Michael Clark

Principal



**"First Day of School," Norman Rockwell (Saturday Evening Post: September 14, 1935)**



## LWSD Updates

### Too Sick for School

One of the best ways to avoid community transmission of COVID-19, and other infectious illness, is to stay home when you are sick. Students and school employees who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19 should stay home and seek medical evaluation, which may include testing for COVID-19 and other respiratory infections.

While the school will no longer require an attestation form at the start of each day, we ask families to please answer the following questions at home before deciding to send your child to school. If you answer "YES" to any of the following questions, keep your student home and contact your school.

1. Has your student been in close contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19?
2. Does anyone in your household have COVID-19 like symptoms &/or is anyone in your household being tested for COVID-19?
3. Has your student or anyone in your household had a positive COVID-19 test for active virus in the past 10 days?
4. Within the past 14 days, has a public health or medical professional told your student to self-monitor, self-isolate or self-quarantine because of concerns about COVID-19?

For more information, please visit our "Too Sick for School Webpage": Too Sick for School - Lake Washington School District ([lwsd.org](http://lwsd.org))



## Snapshots of Rockwell Learning

**Community Serve Day is coming to Rockwell on Sunday, August 22nd from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM! We would love to have you join us for this important event, and lunch is provided. For more information, please contact our CSD coordinator, Elaine Bentzinger.**





everychild.one voice.®



SCHOOL OF  
EXCELLENCE

PTA/PTSA NAME	CITY	STATE
Alki Elementary PTA 6.15.25	Seattle	WA
Grass Lake PTA	Kent	WA
Juanita High School PTSA 2.8.90	Kirkland	WA
Martin Sortun Elementary PTA	Kent	WA
Norman Rockwell PTA	Redmond	WA
Peter Kirk Elementary PTSA	Kirkland	WA
Richard Bennett Elementary PTSA 2.3.22	Bellevue	WA



## PTSA Updates

The PTA is proud to share **very** exciting news! We've been designated a "**School of Excellence**" by the National PTA for the 2020-2022 academic school years. This means that of the tens of thousands of local PTAs across the country, your Norman Rockwell PTA was recognized by the national PTA as being a school that is deeply committed to the educational experience and overall well-being of all its students. This is the second consecutive term we've been granted this esteemed national award! (and we are literally the only

school in the **entire** state to have been granted this designation twice since 2018!!)

We are committed to making sure we maintain this esteemed status for the next term. Our ability to make this happen **depends on your participation**. We have set a lofty goal of **100% PTA family participation** for the 2021-2022 academic school year.

You'll hear news in the coming weeks about our membership drive. Every person who joins the PTA will be entered into a drawing to win gift cards to local businesses. The final week of September the PTA will randomly select two families each day who will win prizes ranging from \$50 off custom framing at Ben Franklin, to a \$25 gift card to Spark Pizza. To join the PTA today, Click [here](#)

Joining the PTA is only step one. **The most important step is contributing to our Annual Beagle Contribution (ABC) fund**. For families who might not be familiar with the process, Rockwell PTA is funded entirely by donations from school families. The money that is donated from families directly impacts the quality of education that each child at Rockwell receives. We fund classroom and academic grants at the school. We host family educational programs such as STEAM night, Heritage night, and the science van. We coordinate academic enrichment programs. We support scholarships for students and families in need. We host dozens of programs that support your child's physical and academic well-being: author visits, running club, Reflections art program, safety patrol, read-a-thon, etc.

This year **we are asking every family to donate \$110 per student** to the ABC fund. In honor of families who might not be able to contribute due to the financial impacts of Covid, we are asking families who have not been detrimentally impacted by the pandemic to **GIVE BIG** and consider donating twice the suggested amount. Click [here](#) to **donate to ABC today** (it's step #3 in the welcome packet, after you join the PTA).

There are many ways to keep in touch with your PTA. First and foremost, everyone should register for the Beagle Bugle. This is the PTA's weekly newsletter. We publish every Monday (through email), and share important information and updates with families. To sign up for the Bugle, Click [here](#). Please also "like" our Facebook page so you can see updates there (look for "Norman Rockwell Elementary PTA"). We'd also love to hear from you if you

have any questions or suggestions. Please email Denice at [president@normanrockwellpta.org](mailto:president@normanrockwellpta.org) if you would like to connect. We are looking forward to an incredible school year!



## Upcoming events

### Calendar

- *August 24th - PTA Kindergarten/New Family Playdate, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM*
- *August 26th - PTA Kindergarten/New Family Playdate, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM*
- *August 27th - Teacher Assignments posted to Skyward, classroom teachers will email families*
- *August 30th - Meet & Greet, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM*
- *September 1st - First day of school, grades 1-5*
- *September 1st -3rd - Kindergarten WaKids Family Connection meetings*
- *September 6th - No School – Labor Day*
- *September 7th – 9th - Staggered start for Kindergarten*
- *September 9th - Virtual Curriculum Night*
- *September 10th - PTA Welcome Back Coffee, 9:00 AM*



## Quick Links

**For information on Free Wi-Fi for families, follow this link:**  
**[LWSD Free Internet webpage](#)**

**Resources for LWSD Families & Staff During School Closure**

- **Free Meals for Students**

- Technology Support for Students & Families  
Email for Students: [ftaccess@lwsd.org](mailto:ftaccess@lwsd.org) or  
Email Address for Parents: [parentquestions@lwsd.org](mailto:parentquestions@lwsd.org)
- Educational Resources
- Child Care Resources

## Contact Info

Norman Rockwell Elementary  
11125 162nd Avenue NE  
Redmond, WA 98052  
(425) 936-2670 Office  
(425-885-5528) Fax  
<https://rockwell.lwsd.org/>  
<https://normanrockwellpta.org/home>



Lake Washington School District | 16250 NE 74th St | Redmond, WA 98052

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Report Spam](#)

---

### DISCLAIMER:

Lake Washington School District Confidentiality Notice: This email message, including any attachments, may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution of privileged information, including information protected by Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or other provision of law, is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.