# Fairhaven Elementary

Karen Sandors - Principal

# **Being Thankful**

Given that November is a time for thanks it is also a good time to reflect on what we have that is truly dear and precious. This is also the time of year when I am reminded of the many things for which I am thankful. Those things include my family and friends, and the joy of working at a job that is fun, exciting and involves such wonderful students, teachers and families. We have so much to be thankful for here at Fairhaven. Thank you to all the parents for all your support, volunteering countless hours in the classrooms, and for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend parent/teacher conferences. A big thank you to our hard working PTA for all the tireless hours they put in for our students. Thank you to our teachers and staff; these dedicated professionals do all they can to assure the students at Fairhaven learn in a safe and caring environment. And of course thank you to the students who make me proud every day to be your principal.

## **Attendance Reminders**

It is our goal for every student to be at school and on time EACH DAY OF SCHOOL during the 2016-20167 school year. I know that students have been working hard on getting to school every day and on time! Thank you students and parents for making this happen! Five minutes late each day is the equivalent of missing 3 DAYS OF SCHOOL! What can you do to help?

- Schedule appointments outside of the school day whenever possible;
- Make travel plans to coincide with scheduled school breaks;
- Pack backpacks, get clothes and lunches ready the night before so it is easier and faster to get ready in the morning.
- Let your child know that it is his/her job to go to school. That unless they're sick, they must go to school.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS FOR EVERY CHILD! THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



### **Upcoming Events**

#### November 3

Make-up Picture Day

November 8

**General Election** 

November 9

PTA meeting

November 11

Veteran's Day- No School

November 17

Award's Assemblies

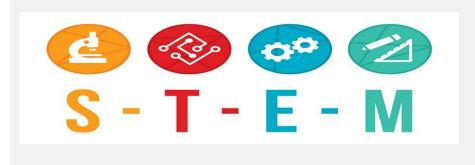
November 18

End of Trimester- Minimum Day

Spirit Day- Dress like a Super Hero

November 21<sup>st</sup>- November 25th

Thanksgiving Break





#### **RED RIBBON WEEK!**

## We're opening a STEM Lab !

We are so excited to be opening a STEM lab at Fairhaven! STEM education is active and focuses on a student-centered learning environment. Students engage in questioning, problem solving, collaboration, and hands-on activities while they address real life issues. In STEM education, teachers function as classroom facilitators. They guide students through the problem-solving process and plan projects that lead to mastery of content and STEM proficiency. STEM proficient students are able to answer complex questions, investigate global issues, and develop solutions for challenges and real world problems while applying the rigor of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics content in a seamless fashion. STEM proficient students are logical thinkers, effective communicators and are technologically, scientifically, and mathematically literate. STEM is naturally engaging and exciting especially for elementary-age learners. Some of the reasons STEM labs work well in elementary schools are:

- Elementary-age students love hands-on and interactive STEM activities. Kids have a natural interest and curiosity in exploring how things work.
- Given a student-centric instructional setting where students are presented with open-ended STEM problems, the kids easily jump into the activities, work together, and share ideas with one another.
- Elementary-age students express joy in doing the activities. They find them fun!

We are starting by building a maker space through Trash for Teaching (T4T). It will be a space that inspires integrative learning in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. T4T incorporates students into the design and building process, teaching them tool safety and organizational skills along the way. When the Lab is complete, students feel empowered to use the space and really take ownership of it. We will also be including robotics, coding, and circuitry in our lab. We can't wait to bring STEM to Fairhaven!

Students participated in many fun and educational activities during Red Ribbon Week. We know Fairhaven students will choose to live a healthy lifestyle.



Don't forget to join the PTA!

We are so excited that we had several parents step up to be officers for our PTA. It is a great group of parents who want to bring great things for our students this year. Get involved and join today!

Please Join Us for the November PTA Meeting!

YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT.