



Tolt Middle School
3740 Tolt Avenue
Carnation, WA 98014

September 12, 2011
425-844-4600

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Important Phone Numbers

Main Office:

425-844-4600

Attendance Office:

425-844-4606

Counseling Office:

425-844-4607

Office Hours

7:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

2011-2012 School Calendar

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Welcome to the 2011-12 School Year

Greetings!

Welcome Back and welcome to all parents/guardians of Tolt Middle School students. With the school year upon us, I hope you had a chance to get away and spend time together as a family this past summer. The first week of school has gone extremely well and all students are settling into routines. The Tolt Middle School staff is eager to get started with a new school year and are all looking forward to meeting you as well as getting to know your student.

As we continue to bring to you a quality educational program by increasing both the academic and behavioral expectations, you will find a few new faces among our staff to help us in our quest.

Thomas Ames: Mr. Ames joins Tolt as a mathematics teacher for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. He completed his bachelors degree in secondary mathematics education and masters degree in accountancy. Prior to coming to Tolt, he has been a substitute at various districts and most recently worked in the Northshore School District. We are excited to have his mathematical expertise at Tolt.

Brad McRea: Joining us in the band program, Mr. McRea will be a long-term substitute during first semester for Mrs. Werth. Mr. McRea has a bachelors degree in music education and has been the jazz instructor at Tolt for the past few years. In addition Mr. McRea has been a private music tutor, substitute and currently plays in several bands himself. We are happy to have

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Quick Links

[Register Now](#)

[Family Access](#)

[Tolt Middle School Website](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Check grades weekly with your student at:

tms.riverview.wednet.edu

Click: [Online Grade Check](#)

ACTIVITY BUS SCHEDULE!!!

Mon. & Wed. bus leaves Tolt @ 4:45

him join the staff.

Gail White: Ms. White brings years of experience to the Tolt special education department this year where she will teach two classes every day for students with special needs. Ms. White has been with our district for many years and will be shared between Tolt and Cedarcrest in her dual role this year.

Also joining the staff this year is Michele Delgadillo and Deborah Lawrence as instructional aides in the special education program. Both bring years of experience and expertise to the position.

Just a couple of updates/reminders: Parents are able to access their student's grades online by using Family Access. It is easy to do by going to the Tolt website, clicking on *Online Grade Checks* and following the steps. Students and parents have separate passwords to access grades and all 6th graders have been trained how to get to their grades online. If you can't remember your password, please contact our registrar, Mrs. Candy Garl at 425-844-4607 or you can e-mail her at garlca@riverview.wednet.edu

Curriculum Night is Thursday, September 15 at 6:45 p.m. There is a PTSA General meeting at 6:00 p.m. Students received a packet last week with the specific details to give to you. Because the upper field parking lot is still under renovation (see construction update below), you will find parking in the front and side lots as the upper lot area is closed. Many will need to park along the sides of the road.

As you look to how you can become involved in your child's education, consider the many ways you can support him/her at home by providing structure for homework time, keeping in contact with the teachers, and volunteering at Tolt. The Tolt PTSA has several committees, activities, and projects where you can spend a little or a lot of your time. They are always looking for an extra helping hand and you know the saying "Many hands make light work."

Our website at: www:tms.riverview.wednet.edu is a great place to get up-to-date information on new events around campus. The daily bulletin is posted on our website and all contact information, directions, calendar, and many other informational items are easily found on the website. Save it as a "Favorite" as you will be using it often to access your student's grade online.

Lastly, the staff and I are excited about this new school year. We are looking forward to meeting all of you and hope you attend school events and activities.

Sincerely,
Janet L. Gavigan
Principal

Tues. bus leaves Tolt @
4:15

1st stop
is Stillwater Church

2nd stop is CHS

3rd stop is 2nd &
Stevens

STARTS MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12,
2011

Construction Update

FRONT PARKING LOT

This past summer Tolt Middle School benefited with a little more construction work to continue upgrading the site. You might have seen the front parking lot was fenced off during the summer and now, it looks beautiful and new. The front lot has been updated to eliminate some of the pooling of water that occurred in various spots as well as received additional lighting. In addition, there will be a rain garden in grass area located by the front of the gymnasium that has been designed to capture water runoff in a natural way. We are very excited about the front parking lot improvements.

UPPER BACK FIELDS PARKING LOT

If anyone has ever parked in the upper lot by the athletic fields, you know they have been gravel parking lots for many, many years. By the end of September, gravel no more as this upper lot will be upgraded, widened, and paved to accommodate more parking and manage the pooling of water. Two dry wells have been installed and new fencing will be in place that will allow additional parking stalls and handicapped access.

PAINTING OF CAMPUS BUILDINGS

After the major remodel nearly three years ago, several buildings on campus needed to be painted to match buildings that had been remodeled. This summer the excellent Riverview maintenance crew painted all the remaining buildings (after remodel) to be consistent and uniform. The place looks amazing both inside and outside.

Parking and Student Drop Off/Pick Up

Student Safety is our goal! We strongly encourage you to have your students ride the Riverview School buses or walk to campus if you live close by. The more students use district provided transportation and pedestrian walkways the less congestion and private vehicles there is to monitor and students are able to travel before and after school safely.

If you must bring your student to campus the front parking lot *only* is designated for drop off and pick up. The entrance is at

the far south end of the lot and the parking loop nearest the highway is to be used for cars to drive through. This area has signage for one-way flow only and can become crowded if procedures are not followed. The loop closest to the campus is for buses only. Parking lots do get filled during the day.

To help us maintain a safe campus, the back parking and north side parking lots are for staff parking and are not designed for drop off/pick up at any time. Whether you need to park your car or transport your student, even for after-school sports, the front lot is to be used.

If everyone follows the rules regarding parking and vehicle movement, we can all work together for students to have safe transitions to and from campus for whatever reason. Thank you!

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, September 13 - Pizza & Pages 2:45-4:00 in the LRC

Wednesday, September 14 - Picture Day

Orders & Payments go directly to photographer

Thursday, September 15 - Curriculum Night 6:45- 8:18pm

PTSA General meeting @ 6:00-6:30pm

Friday, September 16 - Early release - 11:40

Wednesday, September 28 - Earthquake evacuation drill - 9:20 am

Friday, September 30 - Early release - 11:40

SCHOOL & DISTRICT CALENDAR

We will not be handing out a hard copy of the calendar this year. So, please go to our website for important upcoming events and our calendar information at

[2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)

CUSTODIAL APPRECIATION WEEK!!!

A Special Thanks to our TMS Custodians Selim, Steve, and Doug for all you do to help everyone and to keep our school clean and safe!!!

THANK YOU!!!

FAMILY ACCESS INFORMATION

Please take a minute and verify that all information on "Family Access" is correct for your student. Please notify us immediately for any updates that need to be made such as:

Home phone numbers, Cell numbers, Work numbers
Family Address, Mailing Address
Emergency Contact Information
Health Information

For e-mail address changes and additions, you may update these by simply clicking on the "change email" icon once logged on to Family Access. If your e-mail was with Verizon Web Mail and now has been moved over to Frontier Web Mail, please be sure and update your records **both** on "Family Access" as well as updating your e-mail address for your Tolt Middle School Newsletter List by going to <http://www.tms.riverview.wednet.edu/> and going to the Join Our E-mail List, type in your old E-Mail address and click Join, you will then be able to update your Tolt Middle School Profile to continue to receive our Newsletters.

Also if you have any updated vaccination records for your student, please send them in as soon as possible.

Thank you for making sure we have the most up to date information for your student. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to e-mail or call me at the numbers listed below.

Candy Garl
garlca@riverview.wednet.edu
Registrar/Counseling Secretary
Tolt Middle School
425-844-4607
425-844-4602 Fax

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

If you are in the need of information on the free and reduced lunch program or if you need an application it can be found on the district website under, Site Content/For Parents/Forms

<http://www.riverview.wednet.edu/parent.htm>

WEAPONS

State Law (RCW28A-600.420) and School District Policy 3200 prohibit the possession of firearms and weapons at school. This law pertains to guns, knives, clubs, firecrackers, and explosives. Dangerous weapons also include toy or "dummy" or look-alike objects. The full text of the law and the definitions of dangerous weapons, as provided in RCW9.41.250 and RCW 9.41.280, are on file in the school office. Any violations of these guidelines by students constitutes grounds for expulsion from the Riverview school District and the public schools of the State of Washington, in accordance with the due process provisions of Washington State Law and Board Policy.

COUNSELING CENTER

WELCOME TO TMS!

The Tolt Middle School counselors, Joan Zoet and Robert Richert, welcome you to the 2011-2012 school year. Our role is to support students' academic, social, and personal growth. We strive to do this through offering the following types of services and programs at the counseling center:

Responsive services

- short-term individual counseling and problem solving
- group counseling
- Lunch Bunch friendship group
- crisis intervention
- transition issues
- conflict resolution
- community agency referrals
- intervention and referral for drug/alcohol-related issues

Classroom guidance

- harassment policy education
- Student Success Skills in 6th grade
- career units in 7th and 8th grade

Please feel free to call Joan Zoet (844-4608) with questions or concerns regarding your student whose last name starts with A-K and Robert Richert (844-4609) regarding your student whose last name starts with L-Z. Have an awesome year!

LOW-COST INTERNET

Families with children on the free-lunch program may be eligible for subsidized Internet service from Comcast. The program is called *Internet Essentials* and offers Internet service for \$9.95 a month. In addition, families may also be eligible for computers for \$149.99 (taxes are not included). For more information or an application, contact Comcast at 855-8-INTERNET (855-846-8376) or visit <http://www.internetessentials.com/> .

BUS PASSES

In order to ride a different bus, students need a written note from his or her parent/guardian. To receive this bus pass from the attendance office they need to take this note to secretary and she will approve the bus pass. Passes are approved before school and during lunch breaks. Tolt Middle School does not accept verbal notification (telephone calls) for bus passes. Electronic bus passes from parent/guardian are accepted but need to be sent in at least an hour before school is out. Please call the attendance office at 425-844-4606 for more information.

Forging a parent/guardian signature for a bus pass request will result in disciplinary action.

Coleen McDermott
Attendance Office
Tolt Middle School

TOLT PTSA NEWS

REFLECTIONS

PTSA Reflections is a national art contest that begins at the local school level and continues up to the national level. The theme for 2011-2012 is "**Diversity Means....**" Students may enter art in any of the six categories: visual art, photography, literature, film production, music composition, and dance choreography. Art work should reflect the theme and must be created within the last year for the Reflections

contest.

In the past, Tolt students have done well at the state and national levels, and all students are encouraged to participate! Students may submit up to two entries per category. Entry forms and rules will be available in the main office by the week of September 19. Please read these carefully, this is a contest and rule violations will lead to an entry being disqualified. Entries are due **OCTOBER 31**. No late entries will be accepted, no exceptions. So start working on your ideas now!

Please contact Sharon Abraham at abraham@dashem.com or (425) 788-1189 if you have any questions.

[PTSA STUDENT STORE](#)

Tolt PTSA's Student Store is open each full day of school during lunch hours. The store stocks all the school supplies needed at Tolt.

We also offer many snack items. The store is a great place for Tolt's Athletes to pick up a snack for their after school activities.

All proceeds go back to Tolt Middle School.

If you are interested in volunteering in the store, please email Bobbi Nixon at

tandbnixon@aol.com

Calendar of Events

- 09/14 Picture Day
- 09/15 Curriculum Night
- 09/16 K-12 Early Release
- 09/30 K-12 Early Release

For any information about Tolt Sporting events please refer to our website at

[Sports Calendar](#)