

# BLUE HERON SCHOOL

3939 San Juan Avenue  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
Phone: (360) 379-4540



Patrick Gaffney, Principal  
Grades 4 - 8  
blueheron.ptschools.org

Dear Parents and Guardians:

April 30, 2018

We are very excited that the Northwest Maritime Center/Wooden Boat Foundation will once again host our 7<sup>th</sup> graders at the Maritime Discovery Program from Monday May 21 - Friday June 1. The Maritime Discovery Program is a powerful culmination to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum.

For these eight days, classes are held at the NWMC from 8:10-2:30 for curriculum-based and place-based education (Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts and PE). While most classes will be held in classrooms at NWMC, students may do "belly biology" or write personal reflections on the nearby beaches to supplement learning. During one class period, students will ride bicycles from NWMC to Mountainview Pool for water safety instruction, then ride back to NWMC.

One of the most important parts of the maritime experience is rowing longboats similar to those used by George Vancouver's Discovery explorers of the Puget Sound in 1792. The longboat trips promote teamwork, self-discovery and an appreciation of being in a boat on Port Townsend Bay. Other activities, include the building of a Skunk Island skiff in the wood shop, and walking tours of downtown and to local maritime trade businesses.

This packet includes several forms that you will need to sign and that need to be returned to Mr. Navin by Friday May 4.

Longboat schedules will be distributed on Friday May 18.

On Friday June 1 at 1:00, students will share their learning and academic products for you and the entire community. Please plan to attend this fun celebratory conclusion to this dynamic program.

## Each day, students should bring in a backpack:

- Warm layers – it is always colder on and near the water. A fleece jacket, heavy sweatshirt and/or wool sweater is recommended.
- Sack breakfast/lunch (sack breakfast and lunch can be ordered through the BH cafeteria)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen

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## Transportation Plan

**Clear and adhered to transportation logistics are essential to our program. Each student must have parent approved plan for arrival and departure from the Maritime Center for the duration of the program, May 21 – June 1. Please instruct your student to follow the plan you set up for them.**

\_\_\_\_\_ My child will ride the bus to and from the Maritime Center/Blue Heron.

**Exceptions:** Wednesdays May 23 and May 30\*; days of afternoon longboat trips; **and**, day of bike/swim experience. All students not on the afternoon boat trip, or on the bike/swim trip are to be picked up at 2:30 at NWMC. A detailed schedule will be given to your student on Friday May 18.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child will walk or ride his/her bike to and from the Maritime Center each day.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child will be driven to and from the Maritime Center by a parent.

Other: Please explain in detail. Use the back of this page if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

### **Please note:**

If transportation plans change for any reason, your child **must have a note** signed by a parent.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent Initials) The school day runs from 8:30am to 2:30pm at the Maritime Center. Students will have at least one afternoon boat trip which goes until 4:30pm. Thus, when your child is on the afternoon boat he or she will require a parental pick up (or walking/biking). When s/he is on the bike/swim trip, pick up will be at 3:00 at NWMC.

**\*There will be no bus on the afternoon of Wednesday May 23 or Wednesday May 30. Students will be dismissed at 2:30pm (unless they are in the afternoon boat group or bike/swim trip) and need to be picked up by a parent at that time or have a note giving parental permission to walk or bike home.**