

# SOAR Sounder



## Message From The School Leader

Spring 2018

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Monday February 19th**

President's Day  
NO SCHOOL

**Tuesday March 13th**

PAC Meeting  
Destiny Charter Middle School

**Monday March 19th**

Staff Development Day  
NO SCHOOL

**Thursday March 22nd**

Literacy Night

**March 26th-30th**

Early Release  
Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Spirit Week!

**April 2nd-6th**

Spring Break

**Wednesday May 9th**

Multicultural Day

**Wednesday June 6th**

Dance Recital

**SCHOOL INFO:**

253-444-6759  
info@soaracademies.org

Dear SOAR Family,

We have recently approached our 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School! It has been exciting to see the changes and growth our students continue to experience on a daily basis. As a community, we continue to strive to meet the needs of our scholars as we learn and grow with one another and are excited to see what the rest of the year has to offer!

Within the last month, we have had two ReadingCorps members join the team and they have already hit the ground running providing quality intervention and reading supports to many of our students.

Recently, we have had the pleasure of transitioning two of our staff member's into new roles here at the school! Ms. Tyshler is expanding her reach beyond 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, stepping into the Dean of Academics role. Ms. Tyshler will continue to be the ELA lead across the third grade classrooms, supporting Mrs. Sexton gradually taking on classroom teacher role. In addition, Ms. Katrina will also be taking on more responsibilities as our School Manager focused on school-wide systems and community engagement.

As we start thinking about next year, facility options remain at the forefront of our minds. Our search for a building that can accommodate our growing needs has been cast far and wide. At this time, our most fruitful option involves co-locating with Destiny Middle School, another Charter school here in Tacoma. As we continue to explore this option, we want to invite family and community members to share their thoughts, questions and insights. One avenue for this will be through our next Parent Advisory Council Meeting which will be held at Destiny Middle School in order to give stakeholders and families a chance to see the proposed space and get a feel for the environment. Please join us on March 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-7:00pm at Destiny Middle School located at 1301 E. 34<sup>th</sup> St Tacoma. Your input is invaluable as SOAR moves into the next chapter of this journey.

Lastly, I want to continue to invite families to stop by my office hours that are offered weekly on Tuesday afternoon from 3:00pm-4:00pm. If you would like to meet outside of this time, I am happy to set up personal times either by calling the school or emailing me directly at [jessica\\_stryczek@senecacenter.org](mailto:jessica_stryczek@senecacenter.org)

With love and respect,  
Ms. Jessica Stryczek



## March Madness Returns!

Next month we have a fun school-wide event called March Madness: The SOAR Cup Tournament! Similar to the actual March Madness tournament, Grade Level "teams" will be competing to see who can get the most SOAR Stars!

SOAR Stars are a part of our positive behavioral intervention system that rewards whole classes for executing safe, respectful, and responsible behavior. Stars can also be rewarded for academic classroom achievements as well.

Over the course of four weeks, we will be handing out prizes and rewarding great

behavior. and assemblies jam packed with fun activities to promote our Core values of Excellence, Diversity, Arts are Foundational, Joy, Community, and Continuous Growth Mindset.

To culminate the week, we will be having a SOAR Academy Spirit Week! This is a fun optional time for students to dress up and celebrate being a part of the SOAR community!

More will be coming to you in a letter/email blast regarding Spirit Week and March Madness in the coming weeks.

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Summit Olympus High School in Tacoma is currently enrolling for the 2018-19 school year! We are a small college-prep school for students in Tacoma in 9th-12th grade. If you know any families or students who are interested, please encourage them to reach out to me or attend our next information session on **Thursday, March 8th, 2018.**

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**Super Family Literacy Day**  
Thursday, March 22, 2018  
5:30-7



Join other SOAR families for an evening celebrating all things reading. We will have interactive activities, ideas for reading at home, plus prizes to give away (like free books)!



~ We invite you to dress for the occasion ~



 Find us on  
**Facebook**

**Facebook.com/SOARAcademy**

**Photos**  
**Announcements**  
**Updates**  
**School Information**

 Like

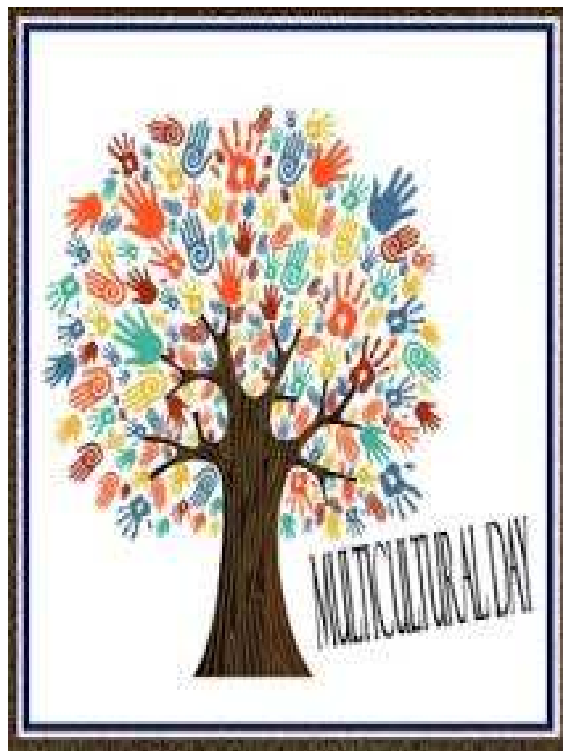
## Multicultural Day: May 9th

On May 9th we will be holding our first annual Multicultural Day. We are excited to have children participate in other cultures and traditions, and we hope to make this an experience where they feel as though they are traveling the world!

On that Wednesday, the entire school will be transformed into an immersive, cross-cultural atmosphere, each classroom presenting a different country and activity. Students will be given passports to travel around the school and participate in these activities, as well as have a delightfully diverse lunch.

As we have just formed a committee, we are looking for parents and community members who are interested in assisting us with the logistics. This will encompass everything from organizing activities, writing or contributing to presentations, decorating spaces, cutting out items and many more.

If you are interested in helping us coordinate this event, please feel free to contact me at [mtomlin@soaracademies.org](mailto:mtomlin@soaracademies.org). I look forward to hearing from you!



### Put Your Skills, Talent and Knowledge to Good Use – Volunteer for SOAR!

Have you been told you were an organizational guru with great ideas? Love to participate in community events?

Volunteer for SOAR! We would love to connect you to our many volunteer opportunities. Some sample volunteer jobs are classroom cleanup, lunchroom attendants and community outreach assistants. Contact Celeste Farmer at [celeste\\_farmer@senecacenter.org](mailto:celeste_farmer@senecacenter.org) or 253-444-6759 or stop by the school office for more information.



SOAR Academy does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

### Lost & Found

If your student is missing any clothing items, please make sure you come inside and take a look! We are overflowing with coats and sweaters and would like to make sure they are returned—especially considering the cold weather we are experiencing. It is also helpful if you can write your child’s name on the clothing tag so staff is able to identify items to return when they are found.

### Transportation

It is important to notify the office as soon as possible with any transportation changes for your child. Please call the SOAR office at 253-444-6759 no later than 10:00am so the changes can be implemented in time for dismissal.

During the winter months, please check our Facebook page and your email for any changes to transportation due to inclement weather.

### Family Engagment Policy

The Parent Advisory Council met last month to add in some feedback to a proposed Family Engagment Policy for SOAR Academy. We are continuing to request feedback from all famiies at the school and would like all suggestions to this policy by Wednesday, Februsry 21<sup>st</sup>. Copies of this policy can be found in the office or inlink provided in the most recent SOAR Email sent out within the last month.



Parent Advisory Council

**Next Meeting is on  
Tuesday, March 13th  
6:00-7:00pm  
at Destiny Middle School  
1301 E 34<sup>th</sup> St Tacoma, WA 98404**

# Save These Dates!!

SOAR SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018

PLEASE NOTE: EVERY WEDNESDAY IS EARLY RELEASE AT 1:30PM

## SEPTEMBER

- 4th - Labor Day Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- 5th-8th - Interim Assessments
- 12th - PAC Meeting
- 20th - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings
- 22nd - McDonald's Takeover
- 27th - Fall Picture Day

## OCTOBER

- 10th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 12th - SOAR Board Meeting
- 18th - PAC Board Meeting
- 20th - SOAR PAC Fall Festival
- 27th-30th - Fall Break - NO SCHOOL

## NOVEMBER

- 6th-9th - Interim Assessments
- 10th - Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL
- 14th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 15th - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings
- 22nd-24th - Thanksgiving Break - NO SCHOOL

## DECEMBER

- 4th - Winter Bazaar
- 12th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 13th-15th - Early Release; P/T Conferences
- 13th - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings
- 15th - SOAR PAC PJ's & Pancakes Night
- 18th-29th - Winter Break - NO SCHOOL

## JANUARY

- 1st - New Year's Day - NO SCHOOL
- 8th-11th - Interim Assessments
- 9th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 12th - Staff Development - NO SCHOOL
- 15th - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL
- 17th - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings

## FEBRUARY

- 13th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 19th - President's Day Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- 21st - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings

## MARCH

- 3rd - Goodwill Donation Drive
- 12th-16th - Interim Assessments
- 13th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 19th - Staff Development Day - NO SCHOOL
- 21st - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings
- 29th-30th - Early Release; P/T Conferences

## APRIL

- 2nd-6th - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL
- 10th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 18th - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings
- 27th-28th - WA Charters Annual Conference

## MAY

- State Assessments (3rd grade)
- 5th - Spring Bazaar
- 7th-9th - Teacher Appreciation Week
- 8th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 9th - MOD Pizza Takeover
- 16th - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings
- 28th - Memorial Day Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- 29th-31st - Interim Assessments

## JUNE

- 1st - Interim Assessments
- 6th - End-of-Year Dance Recital
- 12th - SOAR PAC Meeting
- 15th - Last Day of School & Report Card Pickup
- 15th - SOAR PAC Event
- 19th - Teachers' Last Day
- 21st - PAC Board & SOAR Board Meetings TBD

SOAR PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONTACT INFORMATION

# *SOAR Academy News & Current Events*

**SOAR ACADEMY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL**

soaracademies.org | (253) 444-6759 | info@soaracademies.org

**WASHINGTON STATE  
CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**

charterschool.wa.gov | (360) 725-5511 | charterschoolinfo@k12.wa.us

**WASHINGTON STATE  
CHARTERS ASSOCIATION**

wacharters.org | (360) 725-5511 | info@wacharters.org

**SOAR PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

soarparentsadvisorycouncilwa.ptoffice.com | soaracademies.pac@gmail.com

**Follow us on Facebook:** fb.com/soar.pac

**Private Facebook Groups:** Friends of SOAR Parents Advisory Council

SOAR Kinder Parents | SOAR First Grade Parents | SOAR Second Grade Parents

SOAR Third Grade Parents

**Follow us on Twitter:** twitter.com/SOAR\_Parents

**For SMS Updates:** Text 'follow SOAR\_Parents' to 404-04



WELCOME! 2017 - 2018