

Jim Frey Superintendent

Tim Metz Director of Special Programs

Elizabeth Hamming Director of Teaching & Learning

Heidi Dyck, C.P.A. Director of Finance & Operations

August, 2014

To: Lynden Public School District Families

Re:

SchoolMessenger*

The Lynden School District has partnered with SchoolMessenger, a proven technology for reliable communication between schools and student households. SchoolMessenger is a service to communicate <u>absences</u>, <u>emergencies</u>, <u>weather-related closures/delays</u>, <u>early release notices</u>, and <u>meal balances</u>. You will receive communication relating to your student via your phone# and email contact information on record at your childs school. Please make sure your contacts are up-to-date.

This program retrieves data from our school data program called Skyward. If your student is marked absent you will receive an automated phone call alerting you of their absence; the message advises how to proceed to excuse your student, if it has not already been done so. During inclement weather situations you will receive at approximately Early 6 A.M. an automated phone call and email alerting you of the district plan on late arrivals or closures. You may opt-out of Early A.M. weather-related communication by contacting the district office. As well, Early Release Day notices will be sent 2 days prior to an early release day and communication regarding meal balances under \$3.00 will be an automated phone call and email alerting of the low fund balance.

SchoolMessenger has a strict privacy policy and does not sell or distribute your contact information to any third parties. Schools will continue to communicate via current methods in addition to SchoolMessenger. The district's acquisition of the SchoolMessenger system is intended to extend its commitment to remain connected with families by offering additional and timely communications. We look forward to staying in close communication with you throughout the school year.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the District Office and speak to Shari Shagren at 354-4443 option #4.

Thank you, Lynden School District Office