

FREEMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCOTTIE SCOOP

December 8, 2023

Let's Get Involved!

Please see the following attachments for information about sports, activities, clubs, meetings, volunteer opportunities and important information:

- Solve Clark the Elf's Puzzle!
- PTSG Craft Night
- Robotics Lego League Challenge
- Freeman Athletics Auction
- Peach Skin Sheets (Class of 2024)
- Regal Cinemas Toy for Tots
- Balanced Calendar Info
- PTSG Membership Form

Tree of Sharing

The annual Freeman Tree of Sharing program provides Freeman families with gifts and extra assistance this holiday season. We are excited to announce that it will continue this year! We have about 20 Freeman families who will be recipients including students from all 3 buildings.

If you are interesting in donating an individual gift to a Tree of Sharing child or family, please [Click Here for the Tree of Sharing SignUp Genius Link](#).

For more information, please email K-8 School Counselor, Stacey Rawson at srawson@freemansd.org or call (509) 291-4790.

Happy Holidays!

Important Dates

December 8	CRAFT NIGHT TONIGHT at 4:30
December 9-10	Robotics Regional Competition
December 11	Jiu Jitsu
December 13	Chess Club

December 18 - January 1
Have a Happy Christmas and New Year Break!

Ways to Support Freeman (see flyers for more information)

VOLUNTEER: We have several opportunities to volunteer for different activities throughout the year.

Coming Up:

-Athletics Auction: See flyer for volunteer contact info.

SHOP:

-Download the Box Tops App, Assign *Freeman Elementary* as your school, then scan receipts when you shop.

-Connect your Fred Meyer Loyalty Card with Fred Meyer Community Rewards, and select *Freeman Elementary* for additional rewards.

-When you purchase GAME ONE Freeman Gear, some proceeds go to PTSG!

JOIN: Become a PTSG Member, come to the meetings and volunteer!

ATTEND: Monthly Board Meetings!

DONATE:

-Tree of Sharing: Adopt a family or donate gifts

-Freeman Athletics Auction needs items to auction off.

Also, buy a ticket or a whole table to attend!

-Toys for Tots at Regal Cinemas

Winter Break Dress Up Days!!!

We are going to countdown to Winter Break with some fun dress up days!!

December 11th = FLANNEL DAY

December 12th = SWEATER DAY

December 13th = WINTER ACCESSORIES DAY

(scarves, ear muffs, gloves, etc.)

December 14th = CANDY CANE DAY (wear red and white)

December 15th = PAJAMA DAY or COMFY CLOTHES DAY



Robotics!

The Robotics Team presented their projects at the November Board Meeting. They presented to a packed house and did an amazing job! They are excited and ready for their big Regional Competition this weekend. Please come support our team! It is taking place here at Freeman!

Extra-Curricular Sports

Thank you for supervising your sports kids and siblings when there are after school sports practices inside the schools. Please continue to help us keep everyone safe and the school intact by not allowing kids to run around and play with sports balls and equipment in the foyer. The best option is to stay in the gym with your kids where the practice is taking place.

Year Around Scottie Gear!

Ready for some gift giving? Deck them out in Freeman Gear! A portion of the proceeds go to PTSG!

[Click Here for GAME-ONE Gear](#)

DECEMBER BREAKFAST

11	Scone Berry ----- Cereal & Goldfish ----- Craisins Juice Variety Chocolate Milk White Milk	12	Breakfast Pizza ----- Cereal & Goldfish Juice Variety ----- Gala Apple Chocolate Milk White Milk	13	Mini Filled Bagel ----- Cereal & Goldfish ----- Fresh Orange Juice Variety Chocolate Milk White Milk	14	Banana Bread ----- Cereal & Goldfish ----- Banana Juice Variety Chocolate Milk White Milk	15	Cinnamon Roll w/Icing ----- Cereal & Goldfish Pear ----- Juice Variety Chocolate Milk White Milk
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DECEMBER LUNCH

11	Egg McFreeman Alternate Lunch ----- Chocolate Milk White Milk	12	Chicken Burger Chicken Caesar Wrap ----- Alternate Lunch ----- Chocolate Milk White Milk	13	Beef Teriyaki Dipper Brown Rice Dinner Roll WG ----- Alternate Lunch ----- Chocolate Milk White Milk	14	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Turkey Cranberry Wrap ----- Alternate Lunch ----- Chocolate Milk White Milk	15	Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Turkey Gravy Dinner Roll WG ----- Turkey Sandwich ----- Alternate Lunch ----- Baked Beans Chocolate Milk White Milk
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Fun in STEAM!

These 3rd grade engineers were challenged with building the tallest structure using only masking tape and 30 straws. Another great project in Mrs. A-R's STEAM class!



1st grader,
Pennell, shares
her reading skills
with Mrs. Phelan.

Great job Pennell!



Freeman School District 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. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights, Title IX, and Section 504 Compliance Coordinator: Randy Russell, rrussell@freemansd.org, (509) 291-3695, 15001 S Jackson Rd. Rockford, WA 99030 (Updated 2021)

Secret Message

From:
Clark



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

from: Freeman's Transportation Team



JOIN FREEMAN PTSG FOR
*Kids Holiday
Craft Night*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

4:30- 6:30 PM

FREEMAN ELEMENTARY GYM



FREE EVENT FOR FREEMAN STUDENTS!
Includes 10 "make and take" holiday crafts!

Hot Cocoa and Cookies provided

To donate cookies or sign up to volunteer for 1 hour

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45A8A622A1F5C70-46390881-ptsg>

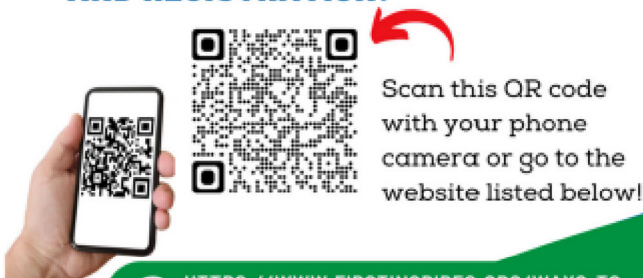
Volunteers Needed



We need help with:

We need engineers, teachers, students and people who understand the importance of teamwork. Previous experience is not required and training is available both online and in person the day of the event. This is a fun, energy-filled, exciting day with students aged 9-14 yrs who are engaging with the FIRST program to build science, engineering and technology skills.

SIGNUP, VOLUNTEER SCREENING, AND REGISTRATION:



Scan this QR code with your phone camera or go to the website listed below!



[HTTPS://WWW.FIRSTINSPIRES.ORG/WAYS-TO-HELP/VOLUNTEER/HOW-TO-REGISTER](https://www.firstinspires.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/how-to-register)

BENEFIT:

- Food is provided
- Free Volunteer Tshirt
- Inspire and build excitement with local youth about STEM!



Saturday, December 9th &
Sunday, December 10th, 2022
7:30am-4:00pm



Freeman Middle School,
15001 S Jackson Rd, Rockford,
WA 99030

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

December 7th

PEOPLE NEEDING ACCOMMODATION SHOULD CONTACT

- ✉ Molly.z@comcast.net or
- ✉ lorna.kropp@gmail.com



ATHLETICS AUCTION & Dinner Fundraiser

February 3rd | 5:30pm
Coeur d'Alene Casino & Resort

Join us for a fun evening featuring a social hour, silent & live auction and dinner to raise funds for officials fees, sports travel, equipment and more.

BUY TICKETS HERE

\$50/PERSON
\$375/TABLE OF 8

Purchase a table & sit with friends for
RESERVED SEATING. Individual tickets and
couples will be **OPEN SEATING.**

How to get involved...

- ✓ Purchase tickets and attend (we sold out last year)
- ✓ Donate & help procure items by January 8th
- ✓ Volunteer to work on the committee or help set up/tear down
- ✓ Extend the fun and stay the night with our discounted room block - use booking id# 11671 CALL 1-800-523-2464 (sold out last year)

If you have questions, would like to donate or volunteer please email khayek@freemansd.org



Please help support the **CLASS of 2024 All Nighter SHEETS FUNDRAISER!**

Sheet Sets feature a 1500 thread count level of luxurious softness

Queen & King sets include (1) Flat Sheet, 1 (22") Deep Pocket Fitted Sheet and (2) Pillowcase; (1) Pillowcase with Twin, Twin XL Sheet sizes

Only \$69.95 with Online Fundraiser Code **FREEMANI** before the fundraiser ends!



Wrinkle
Release



Anti-
Microbial



Will Not
Shrink



Breathes
Easily



Deep
Pockets



Wicks
Moisture



Pill
Resistant



Stay
Cool

Visit <https://fundraising.peachskinsheets.com>



Use discount promo code **FREEMANI** to redeem your special price of **\$69.95** on all \$104.95 regular sheet sets and **\$89.95** on all \$124.95 Split King and Spit Head Sheet Sets through December 22, 2023

Your order ships straight to you within two business days - no waiting for the fundraiser to close!

Class of 2024 Fundraiser gets \$20 for each Sheet Set sold!



**Please note that fundraiser pricing cannot be combined with other promo codes, discounts, or special including Color of the Month pricing

A parent organized fundraiser

Come to **Regal Spokane Valley** and donate any new, unwrapped toy for



You will be entered for your chance to win
a \$300 Regal Gift Card!

Enough for a 1 year subscription to
Regal Unlimited.

**Donations will be accepted from
November 10 – December 10, 2023.**

One entry per toy donation.

Please provide your name and phone number to be contacted if you win.
Winner will be contacted via phone on December 12th.

You can bring the toys into either the Elementary School Office or directly to
the Spokane Valley Regal Cinema (no movie ticket purchase necessary).





Balanced Calendar Q&A

This Q&A was compiled from the Freeman Balanced Calendar Committee work and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Balanced Calendar Information page.

Background

In Washington State, a school year lasts 180 days. Students have a few short breaks along the way and a long break in the summer. Many students experience a loss of learning and continuity during the extended break. Students with consistent access to enriching activities throughout the year are more successful in school (Pedersen, 2016). How can we increase access to these enriching activities for more students? How can we prioritize student and staff mental health? One potential solution is a “balanced calendar.”

Questions & Answers

What is a balanced calendar?

Instead of concentrating 180 school days into nine months, a balanced calendar spreads them throughout the year, including traditional Thanksgiving, Christmas, Spring Break, and Summer Breaks. Schools may use the breaks to host “intersessions,” where they can provide additional learning enrichment experiences.

Does it work?

Schools that follow a balanced calendar tend to have higher achievement scores (Pedersen, 2016). A traditional summer break lasts 10 to 12 weeks, compared to 7-9 weeks in a balanced calendar. Shorter breaks mean more consistent student-teacher partnerships and less learning disruption. Students need less review time at the beginning of the new school year, so there is an embedded opportunity to expand the curriculum and learning experiences.

Does it mean more school?

Balanced calendars keep the same number of school days as traditional calendars, but they add flexibility. With input from surveys and site visits, the Freeman Balanced Calendar Committee and school leaders drafted a calendar to fit what was best for the Freeman community.

Teachers who work in a balanced calendar have reported that it is easier to plan instruction in shorter chunks between breaks rather than for an entire semester (Pedersen, 2016). In addition, ending the first semester, trimester, or second quarter before winter break creates more energy and readiness for students and teachers when they return (Hasser & Nasser, 2005).

How does a balanced calendar affect students...

...in foster care or experiencing homelessness?

Students in foster care or experiencing homelessness are eligible to receive support through several state and federal programs. These students often have disruptions in their education, making it difficult for them to be on target for graduation. A balanced calendar can provide additional opportunities for credit accrual and recovery and interrupt the effects of cumulative learning loss in developing individual school graduation plans.

...with disabilities?

Students with disabilities may not have access to highly specialized resources (occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech and language specialists, and adaptive equipment) during long summer breaks. Transition services, such as job shadows, can occur during intersessions without taking the student out of classroom instruction. When interventions occur at the end of each summative period, there is evidence of reduced students needing Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or qualifying for special education services over time (Smith, 2011; Evans, 2007).

...in off-campus school programs?

For students in Running Start or learning a trade, students, and parents are responsible for their local University, Community College, and Skill Center calendars for potential impacts on students participating in those programs part-time.

...in advanced programs, like AP?

A balanced calendar can provide an opportunity for involvement in special projects and targeted learning opportunities. The balanced calendars will consider the testing schedules for Advanced Placement.

Does it affect high school credits and graduation requirements?

State graduation requirements remain the same. Each school district is responsible for supporting every student to earn the necessary credits for graduation, meet their graduation pathway, and complete a High School and Beyond Plan.

What about Middle and High School sports?

High school athletics are often viewed as a barrier due to scheduling challenges, but conflicts can be mitigated. For decades, school districts nationwide have successfully supported interscholastic sports among schools with different school year calendars. The modern balanced calendar has ties back to the 1890s. Washington's Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) has successfully navigated a variety of school year calendars. Despite leadership changes, WIAA has stated its support of allowing districts to determine the right school year calendar for their students and communities.

During the Freeman Balanced Calendar committee site visits to Churchill County SD, Washoe County SD, La Mesa-Spring Valley SD, Oceanside Unified SD, and Winlock SD, Athletes, Athletic Directors, Coaches, and Administration in both Middle and High Schools did not have conflicts because of their calendars, even when the opposing district was not on the same calendar.



FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #358

2024 - 2025 School Calendar



August				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
September				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				
October				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	
November				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
December				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			
January				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

Significant Dates

August 19	Staff Orientation/Open House
August 20	Professional Development
August 21	First Day of School
August 26	First Day of Kindergarten
August 30	No School
September 2	Labor Day Holiday - No School
September 25	Late Start PD
October 7	Professional Development - No School
October 24 - 25	Conferences - No School
October 30	Late Start PD
November 11	Veterans' Day Observed - No School
November 25 - 29	Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
December 4	Late Start PD
December 20	End of Semester
December 23 - January 3	Winter Break - No School
January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
February 5	Late Start PD
February 14	Professional Development - No School
February 17	Presidents' Day Holiday - No School
March 12	Late Start PD
March 14	Snow Make-up Day - No School
April 3 - 4	Conferences - No School
April 7 - 11	Spring Vacation - No School
April 28	Professional Development - No School
May 7	Late Start PD
May 23	Snow Make-up Day - No School
May 26	Memorial Day Holiday - No School
June 7	High School Graduation
June 10	8th Grade Promotion
June 11	Last Day of School - Early Release

Shaded Dates - No School

Indicates Late Start/Professional Development Days

* Indicates Parent Conference Days - No School

** Indicates Early Release - 12:30 pm

School Begins & Ends

February				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		5	6	7
3	4	12	13	14
10	11	18	19	20
17	18	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28
March				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				
April				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		
May				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
June				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11**	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				
July				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	



2023-2024 PTSG MembershipForm

Parent Name(s) _____

Email(s): _____

Best Phone #: _____

Family Membership \$30 Staff Membership \$30 Business Membership \$60

Student(s) Name(s)	Grade for 2023-2024

Please make checks payable to Freeman PTSG.
All membership dues directly support Freeman students.

PTSG Use Only: *Check/Cash*_____ *Received By:*_____