

Frequently Asked Questions for the EAS Snow Sports Program

How popular is the program?	The students love it! They are away from parents, with their friends, having fun skiing and snowboarding.
Is there Independent Study or Academic Credit impact?	The ski program starts during the Wednesday Electives studies period. The student is considered out of school and NOT in any independent study. However, due to the way the school curriculum is calculated during these time periods, this particular "out of school" period should not affect student attendance, standing or accumulation of credits.
Is the EAS Snow Program affiliated with Lake Washington School District, EAS or EAS PTO?	No.
What is the deadline to register for the Snow Sports program?	The deadline is November 30th, however, please note the following: entry into the program is on <u>first come basis and it is possible to sell out.</u> (we did not sell out last year). You will register for the bus BEFORE you have an opportunity to purchase Stevens Season Passes and Lessons to ensure there is space on the charter bus. There will be advance notice prior to the opening of registration. (No need to panic!) Registration for the Snow Program will open sometime after the Session 2 Wednesday Electives registration deadline.
Do we have to sign up for lessons to ride the bus or get a discounted season pass?	Lessons are required for beginners and are strongly recommended to those who are not advanced skiers/riders. Stevens considers all participants part of the program whether they sign up for lessons or not.
Should we buy a discounted season pass or daily lift tickets?	Definitely buy the Discounted Season Pass. There are several great pass options: Select Pass, Premium Pass, Local Epic Pass and Epic Pass. Stevens Pass offers discounted rates for the first two listed options for our program.
How do I get the discounted season pass?	Stevens Pass will have registration page that details all the available products including season passes and lessons. The Stevens Pass details will become available to you AFTER you register for the Bus portion of the program. It will be part of an email confirmation.
Do I need to register separately for the bus and the season pass and lessons?	Yes. Registration information for the Bus portion of the program will be sent through the EAS Bulletin. More information regarding when the registration will open to follow. You will have advanced notice before registration opens.
How do I pay for the bus portion of the program?	After you register for the bus, please bring a check for \$150 and a signed waiver to a basket in the office that says "Snow Sports Program". Please clearly mark student's name, "Snow Bus" and securely attach the check to the waiver.
What will students do who are not on the Snow Program?	Session Three Wednesday Electives will have a variety of electives during the same 6 weeks (January 9-February 13, 2019).
Is the Epic Pass or Local Epic Pass discounted in our program?	Premium Pass and Select Pass are discounted. Epic Pass and Epic Local Pass are not discounted (At least for this year). Vail recently acquired Stevens and some changes in pass options may change in the future. We are not affected by those changes this season.
Can siblings or friend register for the program?	No, this is an EAS Snow Sports Program only open to EAS students.
What happens if my child forgets or loses his/her pass?	They can go to Guest Services in Granite Peak Lodge to get a replacement pass.
What does my child need to bring?	Bring a separate bag for snow ski/board stuff. Do not combine ski items with school bag. School materials will get wet if mixed with gear! Sack Lunch (can eat on the bus) food on the slope can be pricey. Bring a water bottle. See Checklist for a complete list.
Where do I get changed into my ski gear?	About 20 minutes prior to arrival to Stevens, the Snow Director will let kids know that it is a good time to get ready. Many kids put their ski pants on at that time (with long underwear under their day clothes) It's a good time to put on boots, helmets etc.
Are cell phones allowed to be used on the bus?	Phones can only be used for listening to music with a headset. No screens. If phones are brought to school, they should be left in the students' backpack. The EAS Snow Director will contact parents via GroupMe texting app if we are running late.
Are computers or other devices allowed to be used on the bus?	Many students use the 3 hours of transportation time for homework (Now that is using your time wisely!) Computers may be used for homework purposes only. No sharing content on screens. Please bring a paper book not a Kindle.
Should my student take lessons?	If your child is a beginner, it is mandatory that he/she takes lessons to be safe on the slope. If your student is not an advance skier/ rider, lessons are highly encouraged. The cost of the Stevens Pass lessons is well worth it and even the most proficient skier will hone their skills for those double blacks!

My child is a beginner, would snowboarding be OK?	Yes. ALL beginner snowboarders and skiers are required to enroll in lessons.
How long are the lessons?	Lessons are 2 hours. Lessons run from 1-3PM all 6 weeks.
Will the students be shown where to meet for their lesson?	Yes. All students who are taking lessons will be escorted by the Snow Director to the meeting spot. Lessons meet outside Tye Creek Lodge (the Equipment Rental Lodge) Please arrive 5 minutes prior to 1PM. (Be ready with empty bladder and fully hydrated)
Where can I rent or purchase equipment?	Many local ski shops offer equipment to buy or rent. You must procure the equipment yourself ahead of time. Although there is rental equipment at Stevens a legal guardian must accompany the minor which makes this a non-viable option. The EAS gear swap is new this year and a great option too! Make sure equipment is compatible with the other equipment and fits the rider properly.
Does the gear have to be at school by 8:30AM?	Yes. There will be a table for each clan in the commons. Student must place their gear on the appropriate table upon entering school. It is too disrupting to bring it later in the day. Parents are encouraged to car pool the equipment to school. Chaperones can bring their child's gear with them. Please Equipment Checklist.
Is there a bathroom on the bus?	Yes. The bus has a bathroom.
What if I forget to bring...	Stevens Pass has a retail shop and restaurants. Anything that may be needed for a day of skiing could be purchased up there. Please use the Weekly checklist every time so nothing is forgotten at home.
What if the bus or lessons are cancelled?	1) If there is a Late School Start and the Snow Bus is still running - the Snow Bus will still plan to run from 10:30 - 7:30 as usual. 2) if there is a standard late school start (2 hour delay) and Ski Bus is NOT running - then ski bus students should NOT come to school (they would arrive at 10:10 only to have to be dismissed to go home at 10:30). 3) If School is Closed, regrettably, we do not run the snow bus. 4) If School is a Normal start time but the Snow Bus says is not running (this will happen only if the pass or resort is closed or anticipated to be closed) - Snow Bus students must be picked up from school at 10:30 am. Check the LWSD website (www.lwsd.org), to get updates on school closures. Wednesday Snow Bus can be cancelled because of inclement weather even when EAS is not closed
What is the process if my student is not able to participate any given Wednesday?	The Snow Director will get a list of students who are absent from school. Please contact the office if your child is going to school but cannot go up to Stevens, your child will need to be picked up from EAS by 10:30AM. No refunds are given unless the program is cancelled.
What is the process for taking students home early from the ski slope?	As described in your Rules and Behavior Policies Agreement, we have very strict rules that must be followed to ensure the safety of the student and also prevent Ski Patrol hill search and extensive bus delay looking for missing student. A "taking home early note" must be given to chaperones BEFORE the student boards the bus to Stevens at EAS in the morning. It MUST indicate who will be picking the student up from Stevens. The authorized person AND the student must be present in order to sign out student from Granite Peak Lodge by prior to 5PM.
What happens if the student suffers an injury?	Depending on the severity of the injury one of the following will happen:1) student will be treated and released to ride the bus home. 2) If the injury warrants further medical attention the patrol will make the decision to send the injured party to Evergreen Health Monroe Hospital. Student will be transported either by our emergency driver chaperones or by ambulance. Parents will be notified in the case of a severe injury (and will meet at the hospital or sooner).
Will the students be shown where to meet for the return bus ride?	Yes, the bus will be in the same spot as where we unload upon arrival at Stevens. Lot C on the North side of Hwy 2 across the Sky Bridge from the resort. A green EAS sign will be in the bus window
Is there a meeting place at the Stevens before loading the bus in the evening?	Chaperones acquire a table in Granite Peak Lodge. We will show all students where the lodge is. 5:25PM, all students and adults can head to the bus in the parking lot where the students got off at 12:30. Boarding the bus for return will begin about 5:35PM; departure by 5:45/6PM. Students do not need to come back to the lodge table unless they have left items there (Do not leave valuables at the table). Chaperones are not responsible for bringing any students' "stuff" to the bus. Chaperones will take role call before departure to ensure all kids are on the bus.

Is there a penalty if my kiddo gets to the bus after 6PM?	If your child is late getting back to the bus they may not be able to participant in the next week's ski bus and may be subject to paying late return bus fee of \$100. We have the bus driver for only so much time and have to pay extra if we exceed that time, not to mention all the other kids and parents waiting for your child to return.
Where and when do I pick up my child at the end of the day?	Pick up is at 7:30PM at Finn Hill Middle School. Please park in the south parking lot NOT the bus chute area.
What if the bus is late returning to town?	If we anticipate a late arrival back to Finn Hill MS, the EAS Snow Director will contact parents via GroupMe a texting app, sharing our anticipated arrival time. We apologize for unforeseen transportation issues.
Can a friend or sibling sign up too?	No, this program is restricted to active EAS students. However, families may come up to the mountain independently on Wednesdays.
Can adults sign up for the bus?	Only chaperones and EAS students are allowed to ride the bus.
Chaperone questions	
What is the role of the chaperones?	Chaperones are here for ALL of the students. They are not to favor their own kid. Chaperones will track student attendance and confirm all are accounted for. Ride the bus with students. Monitor bus behavior and rules. Provide emergency transportation/coverage (1 car/2 adults). Supervise table in lodge assisting students as needed. On the slopes, be aware of students and assist as needed. After official lessons are done for the day, chaperones may "instruct" kids who are new to the sport. Please be very familiar with the Rules and Procedures. Please also set a good example!
Do chaperones get a free lift ticket	Yes! The number of free lift tickets is limited depending on the number of kids participating.
How are chaperones chosen?	The kids appreciate the consistency of recognizing the chaperones from week to week. Priority will be given to chaperones who are available for three or more weeks. A "can do" attitude is also appreciated.
Can parents come up to Stevens on a Wednesday and chaperone if they are not on the bus or emergency drivers?	Families/parents are welcome to come up to Stevens even if they are not part of the program if they provide their own transportation. If you would like to supervise the table or be an extra pair of eyes on the slopes, that is welcomed, please let the Snow Director know your plans.
Do chaperones get volunteer hours?	Because this program is not affiliated with EAS, Chaperones will not get volunteer hours for the on-mountain portion of the program. However, Chaperones will get volunteer hours for the drive time to and from the mountain (which is three hours per week). In addition, you get a free day of skiing with free transportation and great company!

If you still have unanswered questions, please contact the EAS Snow Director,
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