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2016-2017 Edition #9

### Fabulous February!!

This is such a busy and exciting time of year!!! Over the last few weeks, I have had the distinct pleasure of listening to many students read to me, share their Spanish speaking skills, explain their math projects, recite poetry, and even try to convince me to join one of their original colonies. When reflecting on these moments, it is striking to me how much progress students have made since the beginning of the school year.

We certainly could not make all of this progress without your support at home. I love connecting with so many families on a daily basis. Thank you for your partnership!

I am looking forward to our upcoming parent/ teacher conferences and for even more successes for the rest of the year.

All my best, Ms Alvarez













#### upcoming events!!

- ★ Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Family Dance 6:00 8:00
- ★ Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Poetry Recital @ 1:45
- ★ Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>: PTO Meeting @ 6:00pm
- \* Friday, February 16th: Spelling Bee
- ★ Monday, February 19th: Presidents' Day No School
- ★ Wednesday & Thursday, February 2Ist & 22nd: I/2 day parent/teacher conferences
- ★ Friday, March 9th: In-Service No School
- ★ Monday, March 12th Friday, March 16th: Spring Break!

### 3rd - 5th Grade Climate and Connectedness Survey

The **Anchorage School District** is partnering with the Association of Alaska School Boards to conduct the School Climate and Connectedness Survey, a statewide survey that measures how students and staff view their school climate, and how connected students feel to adults and peers. These are all factors directly linked to improved academic achievement and reduced risk behaviors.

This survey will be administered to students in grades 3-12 and to school staff during the week(s) of <u>January 29<sup>th</sup> - February</u> 9<sup>th</sup>.

The survey measures student perceptions of: school safety, expectations for learning, student involvement, caring adults, respectful climate, how peers treat each other, connections between school and the community, and observations of other students' risk behaviors at school and school events.

The survey is voluntary, anonymous, confidential, and does not ask questions about students' families. The survey information describing its purpose and benefits to the district are available at the school office, at the Assessment Department (Education Center) and on our website if you wish to review them.

Results of this survey will help students, parents, staff, and the community to better understand the interactions and relationships among students, teachers, and staff that constitute each school's social and academic climate, and to identify ways we can improve our schools to be more supportive, caring, and productive places for all students.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

#### Staff Appreciation

Our PTO is organizing Staff Appreciation Week, next week, February 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. We can't wait to connect with parents, have some fun, and bring that renewed energy back to the classroom

THANK YOU PTO FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!!!!





### CONFERENCES

The upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences will be held the week of February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Conferences are highly valuable and a great time for collaboration. They offer parents the opportunity to find out how their student is growing academically, getting along with classmates, how they're progressing in school, and what can be done at home to build upon strengths and overcome challenges.

Again this year, all elementary school parents will schedule conference times online. Each teacher or teacher team has a schedule particular to them. If your child is in a combination class or if your child's switch class is a different grade level, look under "MIX" instead of the particular grade level.

The Conference Scheduler will open for families on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup>. Scheduling early offers you the opportunity to secure conference times that work best for your family, particularly if you have multiple students at one school. We have two computers in the office if you need to use them.

\*\*\*Tip for families with more than one student: Open two windows in your browser so that you can look at schedules side-by-side.

We are excited about this upcoming opportunity for teachers and families to connect about progress so far and goals for the rest of the year.





#### 2018 PEAKS State Assessment

The Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) is Alaska's summative assessment administered to students in Grades 3-9 (English language arts and mathematics) and grades 4, 8 and 10 (science) each spring. The purpose of a large-scale, summative assessment is to provide parents and schools an overall picture of a student's progress in meeting the Alaska standards at his/her grade level. The assessment is taken on the computer and is not timed, but each content area takes approximately 100-180 minutes.

Parents can locate resources for the PEAKS assessment, including directions for PEAKS Practice tests, called Online Tools Training and PEAKS Tutorials (under Frequently Asked Questions), on the ASD website at www.asdk12.org/PEAKS.

Parents can also help by ensuring their children are well rested, eat a nutritious breakfast, and are at school on time for the days of testing. Please avoid scheduling appointments on your child's testing days.

The PEAKS testing window below provides a framework for which weeks are used for testing at each grade level.

2018 State PEAKS Testing Window: March 26-April 27

Grades	State of Alaska Designated Testing Weeks
3 and 7	March 26-30
4 and 8	April 2-6
5 and 9	April 9-13
6 and 10	April 16-20

## CHUGIAK ELEMENTARY PEAKS WINDOW: Monday, March 26 - Friday, April 6

Please plan for all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to be on time every day during this window.







When your class has thrown all your snow balls you will earn HOT CHOCOLATE!

#### **Congratulations** De La Rosa and Canada!

They were the first class to throw all their snowballs! **Earning Hot Chocolate and** 

**Donuts for their class!** 



### 2018-2019 kindergarten immersion lottery

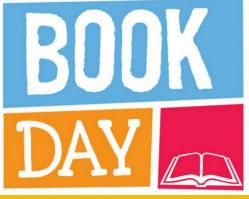
If you have an incoming kindergartener and you are interested in enrolling him/her in Spanish Immersion, you MUST enter the online lottery, regardless of whether he/she has older siblings enrolled in the program.



Coming the week of **Parent Teacher** 

Conferences

February 20-23







Nurse Amy is out of

baggies tor ice packs.

Save your plastic newspaper sleeves and send them to

school!!

Chugiak Elementary Social Media