



**ASD** CONNECT

August 2018

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## There's Still Time to Register



Online registration for returning students is still available through Aug. 24 by logging into your [Q ParentConnection](#). New-to-the-district students, including kindergartners and families needing additional assistance, should contact their school for in-person registration details.

[Learn more.](#)

## Welcome back!



*Dr. Bishop with a student at this year's National Night Out event in Mountain View. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.*

Dear Students, Families, Employees, and Community Members,

Welcome to the beginning of a new school year! New classes, new students, new friends - a fresh start to making this the best year yet for the Anchorage School District.

By supporting our teachers to be engaging and inviting we're providing the best possible learning environment for students. When students know their teachers care about them and that school is preparing them for their futures, they are motivated to learn and grow. Having access to classes and programs relevant to their lives and experiences is also essential to meeting the challenges before them.

## Chalk the Walk



Help ASD and 90% by 2020 welcome students back to school and show them we care about education by chalking positive messages on school sidewalks 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Aug. 17, the Friday before school starts. [Learn more.](#)

## 2018-19 School Start Dates

[Download the 2018-19 school year calendar](#)

- **Monday, Aug. 20**  
grades 1-12
- **Monday, Aug. 27**  
preschool and kindergarten

We're projected to have 47,516 students enrolled for the 2018-19 school year.

## Not Sure Which Supplies to Buy?

Are you purchasing supplies for back-to-school but not sure what to add to your shopping list? A generic [elementary school supply list](#) is posted on the ASD website. Individual schools and teachers at both the elementary and secondary levels may have additional supply needs so it's also a good idea to contact your school directly.

## Election Day, Aug. 21

## Calendar Planning: Tell Us What You Think



ASD is developing future school calendars and **we need your input!** The district has received many suggestions from parents, employees, and community members on calendar planning for upcoming school years. This survey is intended to get further public input on many of these suggestions. Calendar planning decisions are independent of the current discussion around school start times. The survey will be open until midnight on Aug. 24, 2018. Take the survey by clicking on the button below:

[Learn more ➡](#)

## Free School Supplies



HUGSS (Helping Us Give School Supplies) is once again helping families prepare for school. This year's free school supply distribution is 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14 at East High School. Only parents or guardians of Anchorage School District K-12 students are eligible to receive supplies for their children. Volunteers are also needed to help set up for the event. For more information click the link below or contact Clara Williams at 222-7335 or [cwilliams@cssalaska.org](mailto:cwilliams@cssalaska.org).

[Learn more ➡](#)





Tuesday, Aug. 21 is the [state primary election day](#) and many of our schools are polling places so please plan ahead that day.

Due to ongoing construction, four schools that are normally polling locations will not be available and voters will need to go to an alternate location to vote:

**Nunaka Valley Elementary**

Precinct 16-330  
*Alternate location:*  
Zion Lutheran Church  
2100 Boniface Pkwy

**Rogers Park Elementary**

Precinct 17-400  
*Alternate location:*  
Lake Otis Elementary School  
3331 Lake Otis Pkwy

**Willow Crest Elementary**

Precinct 18-450  
*Alternate location:*  
University Center  
3801 Old Seward Hwy

**Northwood Elementary**

Precinct 23-735  
*Alternate Location:*  
Spenard Recreation Center  
2020 W 48th Ave

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## Upcoming Events

**HUGSS school supply distribution event**

Tuesday, Aug. 14

**Chalk the Walk**

Friday, Aug. 17

**First day of school, grades 1-12**

Monday, Aug. 20

**Regular School Board Meeting**

Monday, Aug. 20

**First day of school, preschool and kindergarten**

Monday, Aug. 27

**Labor Day, all ASD schools and offices closed**

Monday, Sept. 3

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## Summer Learning



*ELL Summer Enrichment, ASD/UAA Summer Bridge Program, Summer graduates*

Students had a variety of opportunities to continue learning over the summer. At Chugach Optional, an enrichment program for English Language Learners wove together lessons in science, math, art, and language which bolstered learning in all academic areas. Developing relationships with teachers and each other built their confidence and developed their language skills along with other foundational tools that will help them succeed in school and life.

The Summer Bridge Program between ASD and UAA held a three-week "[Reacting to the Past](#)" session that boosted critical thinking, speaking, reading, writing, research, and experimentation skills. A highlight of the session was a role-playing game based on the U.S. Constitutional Convention of 1787 where students dressed up and acted out the part of delegates for a hands-on civics lesson.

And for 45 students - almost double last year's number - this summer saw the culmination of all their hard work as they walked the stage at East High for graduation. We're proud of them for their dedication to meeting the graduation requirements and joining the class of 2018. Congratulations!

## ASD Construction Crews Stay Busy Over the Summer



## Anchorage School Board

Starr Marsett, president  
Deena Mitchell, vice president  
Alisha Hilde, clerk  
Elisa Snelling, treasurer  
Bettye Davis  
Dave Donley  
Andy Holleman

[Email all board members](#)

## Superintendent

[Dr. Deena Bishop](#)



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*ADA improvements underway at Gruening Middle School*

With only about 100 days over the summer to complete construction jobs, ASD's Capital Planning and Construction Department hits the ground running once schools empty out at the end of the school year. This year, they're working on 28 projects totaling over \$44 million which includes roof replacements, HVAC upgrades, new generators, and a variety of other improvements made possible through bond funds approved by voters in 2017. West High School is the site of the largest project as it receives \$10 million in roof and seismic upgrades. All facilities are expected to be available for students when classes resume on Aug. 20, however some projects will continue into the fall.

## Accident and Sickness Insurance for Students

Despite best efforts, children sometimes get injured. Please know, ASD does not provide insurance or assume responsibility for these costs. Even if you have health insurance, certain costs may not be covered. As a service to our ASD families, a low cost, *voluntary* purchase, student accident/sickness program is available to you. The program is arranged and administered by Myers-Stevens & Toohey & Co., a firm that has specialized in such coverage for over 40 years. Enrollment is available online by going to [www.myers-stevens.com](http://www.myers-stevens.com) or calling 1-800-0827-4695.

## Recent Headlines

[School Meals to Include Locally Grown and Processed Wheat](#)

[Reacting to the Past--U.S. Constitutional Convention 1787](#)

[Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching \(PAEMST\) recognizes two ASD teachers](#)

[Special Education Year in Review](#)

[www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org)