



Fall Volume 2 2021

Migrant Education News

A Note from Our Director

National Gratitude Month in November encourages us to embrace the power of gratitude. Gratitude is more than simply saying "thank you." Gratitude's amazing powers have the ability to shift us from focusing on the negative to appreciating what is positive in our lives. November is an important time for all of us to reflect on the many blessings bestowed upon us. I am certainly thankful for the many blessings in my life, which include working with amazing students, parents/caregivers, elders, teachers, and support staff within the Migrant Education Program. This being my third year with Migrant Education, I continue to be impressed with the services and support our department offers to meet the needs of our families. It is exciting and rewarding to see our services grow, and this would not be possible without your input, feedback, and support; thank you!

Let's finish out the first semester strong! Our students need to get to school on time, attend every day, and learn all that they can. If there are barriers that are getting in the way of your child being successful in school please call our office at 742-4275. We are here to assist.

Kind regards,

Doreen Brown



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The Attitude of Gratitude

The attitude of gratitude is a powerful contributor to a happy life. Some even believe it is the single most effective way to increase happiness in life. What is gratitude? Gratitude is expressing thanks for anything we have received. Over the next six weeks, many of you will be busy preparing for the holiday season during a pandemic, it can be easy to not take the time to develop an attitude of gratitude.

Here are a few ways to exercise gratitude:

1. Write a note of appreciation. Express your gratitude to people who have helped you or others.
2. Make a gratitude list. This is often a quick pick-me-up. Set a goal of listing 100 things you and your family are grateful for, and then keep adding to your list until you reach that number. Jen Mickelson, our Migrant Education Middle School Manager, created a creative version of the list, she put up a tree and staff are writing things they are grateful for on leaves and putting it on the tree.
3. Take a gratitude walk. This method works a little like the list in that you have a set time period of the walk to focus on deepening your gratitude. The movement of a walk can help the brain and heart to work better.



Summer Programming

Summer Programming requests will begin in January this year! We won't have our summer budget until the spring, and this means that we don't know what we will actually be able to sponsor, 50%, 1 week, etc.. However, most registrations can be cancelled with no penalty through March. More information on funding and community partners to come soon!



Swim Lessons

Many of you may have been wondering where we are at with swim lessons. Please know that we have done all that we can since last April, and are currently waiting for the Municipality of Anchorage to return the signed contract to us. We will send out a text with request instructions as soon as we get the contract in our hands.

Little Frys (Preschool Corner)

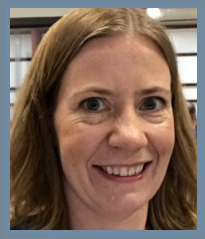


Milestones Matter

Track your child's milestones from age 2 months to 5 years with CDC's easy-to-use illustrated checklists; get tips from CDC for encouraging your child's development; and find out what to do if you are ever concerned about how your child is developing. From birth to age 5, your child should reach milestones in how he or she plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves. Photos and videos in this app illustrate each milestone and make tracking them for your child easy and fun! Download the app from the App Store; it's free!



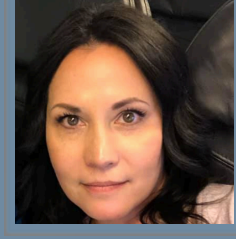
Meet our Office Staff



Amber
Recruitment



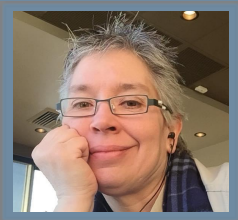
Baylee
Secretary



Beverly
Elementary



Carmela
Manager, HS



Jen
Manager, MS



Kerri
Grant Technician



Roberto
Tech Support



Tricia
Admin Assistant



Barnes & Noble Virtual Book Fair

Over 5,000 books were sent out to 800+ students during our fall book fair. Here are some statistics of reading 20 minutes a day:

- Children who read 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words in one school year.
- They are also more likely to score in the 90th percentile on standardized testing.
- Reading 15 minutes a day showed that academic achievement and gains in regards to reading, but not as high as the students that read 20 minutes a day. [Happy reading. We hope you are enjoying your books!]



MEP Parent Advisory Committee

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is comprised of migrant parents, school staff and community professionals who have a vested interest in the academic success of migrant students. The 9 Migrant PAC board representing key stakeholder groups from among the Anchorage School District (Eagle River, SE, SW, NE, NW, PK, Elementary, Middle, & High School/OSY). Following an open application period during the spring of 2020, a team of Migrant staff and our state parent representative narrowed 26 applications down to 9 by carefully reviewing each one. These 9 Migrant parents and MEP staff met monthly during the 2020-2021 school year. The year was spent building the PAC's capacity by reviewing data, identifying needs, creating by-laws, and through extensive collaboration, a framework was set in place. In May the board held elections and our Chair, Shaniell Marquez, and Co-Chair, Justine Nelson, were elected. PAC seats are two year terms and upon approval of the superintendent, by-laws will be posted. A BIG thank you goes out to our PAC board members!

Recruitment News



Electronic Signatures

Big news from the recruitment team! We can now accept electronic signatures on COEs! Our department went live with PandaDocs in September and we have had great success utilizing this for collecting COE signatures. Signing electronically is quick and easy but requires that families have a current email address updated in Q and a 4-digit passcode provided by your recruiter for 2-factor security authentication.

It is also that time of year where we will start reaching out to all our returning families to update eligibility information. Don't forget that you can submit your 2021 fishing/berry picking dates through migrated907.campbrainregistration.com Eligibility Update 2021. Remember to only register ONE person (preferably yourself) so you only have to fill out the information on the form ONE time.