



# Seawolf Soundbites

Alaska Middle College School | 2650 E. Northern Lights Blvd. | Anchorage, AK 99508

907.742.8900 | [AMCS website](#)

## The Den Administration Pack Leaders' Announcements

### Kicking Off 2022-23 School Year

Welcome to Alaska Middle College School. The start of the school year next week, and it is time to start planning to head back into the classrooms. Students' first day of school is August 17. AMCS' New Student Orientation is on August 17, 18, 21, and 25. All new **full-time** students must attend each day to learn more about the program, tour the UAA campus, and meet other classmates. **Returning students** are **required** to attend on Friday, August 25. **All Health Programs students follow their home high school and AMCS schedules. Orientation will occur during your advisory class.**

Students need to [Register for Orientation](#) & complete the Pre-College Survey.



### Pack News

[AMCS Staff Announcements](#)

### UHowls

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### Important Dates

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## AMCS Schedule and Busing

AMCS will not be affected by the PLC schedule changes by the district. Our school day will remain Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM until 2:30 PM. AMCS staff will have their PLC at a different time.

IMPORTANT: Students who rely on the King Tech bus/ASD transportation on Monday mornings may need to find alternate transportation or adjust their class schedule. ASD is currently working on the King Tech High School transport bus schedule. **Please watch the AMCS website for the fall schedule.**

## Orientation Week

August 17, 18, 21, and 25: Students will **not** report to KTHS but UAA campus.

Transportation and Technology Needs: In planning for the school's start-up, we need to know the student's transportation or technology needs. The following survey will allow students to identify their needs to begin to finalize schedules and prepare Chromebooks for distribution during orientation. [Please complete the survey by August 15.](#)

Students can drive to KTHS and UAA during orientation week; no parking permits are required for either campus. KTHS student parking is behind the building.

Textbook Distribution: All UAA textbooks are purchased on behalf of the student. Please ignore any UAA messaging stating you need to order a textbook. Students will receive an email from Hannah Cox with their textbook information and will pick up any physical textbooks on August 25.

Media Release: Middle College will capture photos throughout orientation and need each student and their parent/guardian's consent to use photos for marketing and celebratory purposes.

Students, if you have not already, complete the [Media Release form](#). You will be prompted to enter both your and your parent/guardian's email address so you both can sign. Once you have signed and submitted your part, please give your parent/guardian a friendly reminder to complete their portion (from their email).

Food and Supplies: AMCS will only provide a small snack on the first day. **Please plan to bring your food and water with you each day during orientation.** You may snack throughout the day as long you are not disruptive to others. Please bring note-taking supplies or a laptop to take notes.

## Lunch Service

KTHS does not qualify for a lunch program under the National School Lunch Program; therefore, there is no food service program on campus. Students are encouraged to bring food and water when attending classes at KTHS. KTHS offers a lunch break from 10:55 am – 11:30 am. A snack pack is available in the main office if a student qualifies for a free or reduced lunch.

## Communications and Student Expectations

AMCS is a hybrid program in which students do not report to KTHS or UAA campus daily. The flexibility of the schedule requires students to communicate differently with their teachers, professors, advisor, and counselor. AMCS and UAA's primary communications are to email you. AMCS requires students to check their inboxes every day. Please note that email addresses used for ASD Canvas courses do not work outside the program. You must update your ASD student information with another email address to receive AMCS communications. Also, we ask parents to review their contact information on their student's account as we encounter disconnected phone numbers or receiving emails back as undeliverable, [Parent Connection](#).

# Picture Day

**Friday, August 25 at UAA RH**

**8:30am – 10 am Seniors**

**10 am – 12 pm Juniors**

**Want to know when your pictures are ready to view & purchase?** Click the link, <https://fitzgerald-photography.fotomerchanthv.com/clients/amcs/alaska-middle-college-23-24-fall/optIn>, or scan the QR code and enter your student's information to receive a notification.



**Questions?** Email: [Alicia@FitzgeraldPhotos.com](mailto:Alicia@FitzgeraldPhotos.com)

Visit: [www.FitzgeraldPhotos.com](http://www.FitzgeraldPhotos.com)

## Commuting between KTHS and UAA

Students will be moving between KTHS and UAA campuses. Students are prohibited from walking between campuses as no sidewalks allow **safe** crossings between the properties. Please plan to use your transportation or the ASD buses.

## FAQs

Parents and students, please become familiar with our [FAQ web page](#).

Affiliate school = your neighborhood high school or boundary school

Home school = AMCS

[Activities at affiliate schools](#) and [graduation](#) are two areas that many families have questions about.

## Registrar's Range

**Register Now:** The Anchorage School District **requires** all students to be registered every year through [ASD Parent Connection](#). Once you have logged in, look for QuickLinks on the left and click on your student's picture. Information on how to reset your PIN and password is found here also.

In ParentConnect you can **update your contact information**, view your student's unofficial transcripts, demographic data, class schedule, attendance, pay for lunches and activities, and much more!

ASD must verify address changes, please send proof of residency to Elizabeth Goetz, AMCS Registrar, [goetz\\_elizabeth@asdk12.org](mailto:goetz_elizabeth@asdk12.org).

- This document must show the service address: Utility bill, Lease/Rental Agreement, Mortgage Document, Military Housing, etc.
- Phone bills, credit cards, or bank statements are **not** accepted.

Transcript Requests: The Anchorage School District uses [ScribOrder](#) for all educational records requests. If you are under the age of 18, a parent/guardian must be the one to submit the request. Be sure to have them legibly signed. We can send e-documents to most post-secondary institutions, so please enter this information in your request. Sending e-documents gets your transcripts to the schools much sooner than mailing them, and it saves everybody time!

## Important Troubleshooting Information

For technical support for UAA software and Blackboard, contact UAA IT Help Desk at 907-786-4646. To reset your UAA password or look up your username, visit [UAA Elmo](#). **For issues with a Chromebook or Canvas, contact ASD IT Service Desk: 907-742-4357, 8 am-5 pm (M-F).**

## Pack News Program Pack Leaders' Announcements

### Counselor's Cave

[Part-time course enrollment forms](#) must be submitted to Mrs. Sherwood as soon as possible. Please remember that only certain elective classes are permitted, and UAA and AMCS classes will be prioritized. Scheduling is also prioritized by seat availability at the affiliate high school.

Summer Courses: If you are taking a summer class at UAA, it is your responsibility to make sure that you contact Mrs. Sherwood at the beginning of the school year and get that course added to your transcript.

Need an online class? ASD Virtual is now AK Choice Online.

1. AMCS students may take up to 2 classes per semester.
2. Add/drop period is from Aug 1, 2023, until Sep 1, 2023.
3. Inactive students beyond the 10-day drop period risk receiving a WF in their virtual class.
4. **Late Work Policy**: Students will be expected to follow the established due date pacing calendar in their online classes. Assignments over two weeks late will receive a 10% late point deduction and an additional 10% per week up to 40% off.
5. A sample selection of online class options for AKChoice Online:
  - Economics Online
  - US Government Online
  - Health Skills Online
  - Pursuing Wellness Online
  - Lifetime Personal Fitness Online

- Nutrition & Wellness
- Alaska Studies Online
- Variety of science electives

Playing a Fall Sport? Please get in touch with Mrs. Sherwood as soon as possible to make sure that your schedule in Q shows your eligibility.

ACT and SAT: Students planning to take the [ACT](#) and/or the [SAT](#) should sign-up soon. It is important to note that some universities may have either altered or waived their testing requirements. If you know which schools you want to apply to, make sure you check their admissions criteria.

Fee waivers for the ACT/SAT are available for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Additional criteria are listed at [College Waiver Information](#). The waivers are available from Mrs. Sherwood.

## Teacher's Terrain

Yearbooks: Our AMCS Yearbook club will have its first meeting Friday, September 1st, from 1:00 pm-2:00 pm in the Den. Please attend the meeting if you are interested in making our 2023-2024 yearbook one to remember!

**SUBMIT: Juniors:** Your AMCS picture day is Friday 8/25 at the Rasmussen Hall from 10:00 am-12:00 pm. There are NO retakes for picture day.

**Seniors:** Your AMCS picture day is Friday 8/25 at the Rasmussen Hall from 8:30 am-10:00 am. Do you already have a senior photo to submit for the yearbook? [Use this link](#) to upload your senior photo for the AMCS Yearbook. Senior portraits are due by November 17th at 5pm for the AMCS Yearbook.

\*The photos AMCS collects do not automatically go to the yearbook at your affiliate school. If you would like to submit a senior photo, please connect with the yearbook staff at your affiliate to learn about their deadlines and submission process.\*

Graduation Information: For updates on graduation dates and times, please check ASD's website <https://www.asdk12.org/graduations>. Jostens will be visiting Senior Advisory classes in September to discuss cap and gown orders. Contact your affiliate high school to find out how to stay up-to-date with activities, yearbook photo submissions, and graduation information for their school.





Mrs. Harbison's Fall Update: AMCS students and families, I will be on leave during the first semester of the 23-24 school year. Fortunately, I was able to find a substitute teacher who is highly qualified in mathematics and science to fill in during my absence. Please welcome Mr. Maxwell to the AMCS community, he has taught a variety of math courses from algebra to multivariable calculus. He is also excited to assist students in physics and chemistry. Make sure to stop by and ask for help early on this semester! For additional support, remember the [Math Lab](#) at UAA is an excellent resource.

Letters of Recommendation from Mrs. Harbison- Due to my absence I will be prioritizing seniors applying for early decision for my first round of letters this year. I will accept 5 senior requests for letters of recommendation. If you need one by November 1st, please email [harbison\\_ariel@asdk12.org](mailto:harbison_ariel@asdk12.org) to request. Seniors wanting a letter after the November 1st early decision deadline should email after this date. Reminder for all requests, your request form must be submitted 3 weeks prior to you needing the letter. [Link for Letter of Recommendation Request Form](#), this is required along with an email or in person request. Good luck on your college applications!




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*AMCS Den's pantry is running low on supplies (coffee, tea, and snacks). Please consider donating an item for students.*

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## UHowls UAA Pack Leaders' Announcements

### UAA Schedule Changes

Great job to all the students who completed registration for fall 2023. Due to textbook ordering timeframes, schedule changes will be limited and approved on a case-by-case basis.

### UAA Parking

Middle College/ AMCS does not pay for UAA parking.

Students planning to drive to the UAA campus for classes will need a parking permit. You can order the UAA Early Bird Annual Parking Permit for only \$283.50 through August 27. Beginning August 28, the annual permit cost will be \$350. Permit pricing and information can be found at [bit.ly/2VmlMEJ](https://bit.ly/2VmlMEJ).

Order your Parking Permits at [uaa.thepermitstore.com](https://uaa.thepermitstore.com). Create a parking services account (different from UA username & password) and take advantage of the early bird special and save today. Students are able to add multiple cars to their permit if needed.

### Wolfcard

UAA students need a UAA ID known as a Wolfcard. Students must be registered for the fall semester in order to get your Wolfcard. The Wolfcard is required to access the Middle College/Honors College area in Rasmussen Hall 103 before and after our business hours.

To get your Wolfcard you will need to complete this [Wolfcard Application form](#) ahead of going in for your picture ID. You can come to the UAA campus to get your Wolfcard ID two weeks before the start of the semester.

## Closure Alerts

UAA will post closures on UAA's main website; however, you can get test messages by enrolling your phone number in the [UA Alert System](#). Enroll now to stay informed.

## Upcoming Important Dates Fall Semester

Fall 2023 New Student Orientation	
<b>August</b>	
17, 18, 21	
25	Seniors attend orientation day
26	School Pictures
298	UAA classes begin; UAA add/drop period begins
<b>September</b>	
4	Labor Day - No ASD or UAA classes
8	UAA add/drop deadline
9	UAA withdrawal period begins



## Pack Leaders Contact Information

### Administration

Kern McGinley, Principal  
Denise Edwards, Assistant Principal  
Dawn Sablan, Administrative Assistant  
Elizabeth Goetz, Registrar

[mcginley\\_kern@asdk12.org](mailto:mcginley_kern@asdk12.org)  
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### Program

Kim Griffis, AMCS Coordinator  
Beth Sherwood, AMCS Counselor  
Ariel Harbison, AMCS Math Teacher  
Traci Espeland, AMCS Writing Teacher  
Aurora Hoefflerle, AMCS Science Teacher

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### University of Alaska Anchorage

Belinda Camacho, Program Coordinator  
Heather Brekke, Advisor for AMCS

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# AMCS Community Standards

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## Students to Students

- Be kind, use nice words and tone.
- Ask before using things.
- Respect your peers' preferred atmosphere and learning style.
- When in a group, complete assignments in a fair manner.
- Value each other's time.
- Listen and speak.



## Students to Teacher

- Use kind words and appropriate voice levels.
- Follow rules and directions.
- Always give your best effort.
- Forgive me if I have a bad day.
- Complete work on time, be prepared and participate.
- Be open to new ideas; approaches.
- Behave with integrity- no lying or cheating.



OFFER  
GRACE

## Teacher to Students

- Be patient.
- Give fair consequences.
- Don't give up on me when I'm having a bad day.
- Respect student boundaries.
- Be accessible.
- Allow for brain breaks when necessary.



## Students & Teacher to Classroom

- Keep your space organized.
- Be safe and respectable with our supplies and classroom.
- Leave the room nicer than you found it.
- Manage food and drink in a responsible manner.
- Respect seating charts and other Covid-driven rules.