



# The Woodchuck Review

Parents, Teachers and Students Working Together  
2022-2023 Edition

VOL 7. NO 2

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

PRINCIPAL, NICK STRAW

Dear Gladys Wood Families,

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through September. Thank you for continuing to follow our procedures for drop off and pick up. The Gladys Wood PTO was kind enough to create a map for us all to show exactly how drop off and pick up work at Gladys Wood. Last year they helped purchase the student crosswalk sign and lane signs that are put out every school day morning by our BPO and collected up by our night custodian and the Municipality of Anchorage also just completed an update on our sidewalk ramps and the clear marking of the cross walk on 69th Ave. Please take a close look at the map and make sure you're only allowing your child to get out in the designated areas to keep everyone safe.

**Document Updates:** If you have important confidential court documents that pertain to the custody of your children that limits who can pick your child up, please let us know. Sometimes changes occur and contact lists are inaccurate. We rely on you to let us know if someone needs to be removed from the contact list you originally created at the beginning of the school year. If you have a new phone number or person you need added to your child's contact list just call us at 742-6760 and we can get it updated.

Across the Anchorage School District we take safety concerns seriously. We teach the students here at Gladys Wood that if they see something dangerous and harmful to say something. It's a catchy phrase! If you see something, say something! Thank you for encouraging your children when they see something anywhere, including online, that's going to hurt someone to immediately say something to the adults in their lives at home and at school.

As the beautiful liquid sunshine days continue, please know you're welcome to visit the Gladys Wood playground with proper social distancing and supervision. Students are encouraged to have an adult join them for everyone's safety. Thank you also for being mindful, safe and respectful of others while visiting the playground.

If there's anything at all that we can do to help please don't hesitate to reach out via e-mail [straw\\_nicholas@asdk12.org](mailto:straw_nicholas@asdk12.org) or by phone at 742-6760.

Have a great rest of your September Gladys Wood!

Sincerely,

Mr. Straw

## Mark Your Calendars

### September

9/29 Picture Day

9/30 Star Wars Day

### October

10/14 Read-A-Thon Day - Pledges Due

10/20 Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character

10/20 Family Movie Night

10/21 State Released Professional Development Day -  
No School for Students

10/26-27 Parent/Teacher Conference Days

10/28 State Released Professional Development Day -  
No School for Students



### Anchorage School Board Members

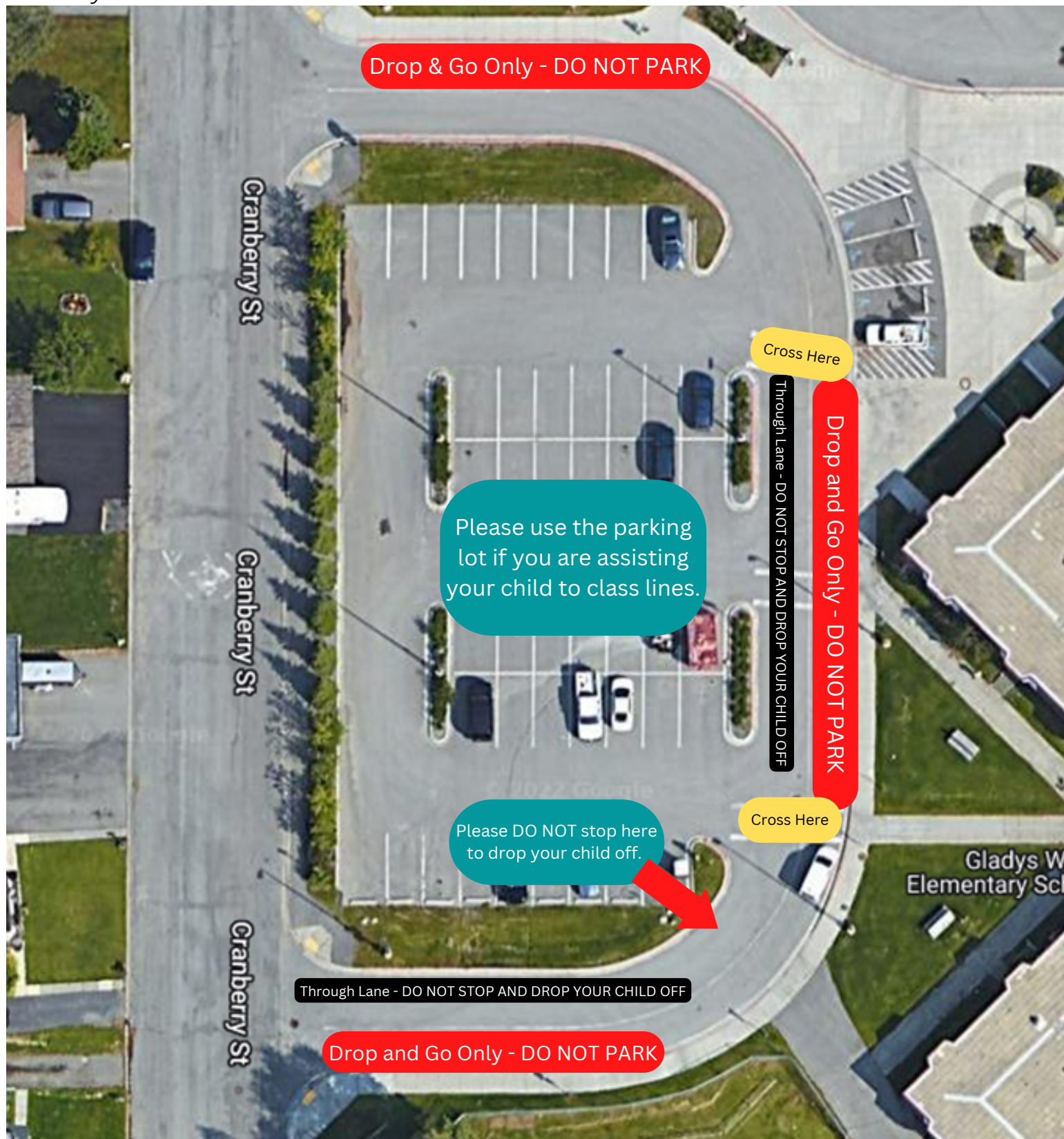
- Dr. Jharrett Bryantt- ASD Superintendent
- Margo Bellomy - President
- Carl Jacobs - Vice President
- Kelly Lessens - Treasurer
- Dora Wilson- Clerk
- Pat Higgins - Member
- Andy Holleman - Member
- Dave Donley - Member



# Morning Drop-Off at Gladys Wood Elementary

At Gladys Wood Elementary we want everyone to stay safe! This includes morning drop-off. While navigating through parking/drop areas, please be aware of your surroundings. There are TWO lanes as you enter Gladys Wood: **Drop and Go** (right) and the **Thru Lane** (left) to get to the parking lot. Please DO NOT park in the **Drop & Go** lane to take your child to their class line, this backs up the drop off process. Please use the parking lot. Please DO NOT stop in the **Thru Lane** to drop your child off to cross in front of the **Drop & Go** lane. It is a safety hazard. Lastly, please utilize crossing guard areas to cross the two lanes of traffic. Let's all work together to make drop-off a safe place for the kids at GW! Thank you!

*The Gladys Wood PTO*





# Gladys Wood Elementary PTO

September Newsletter

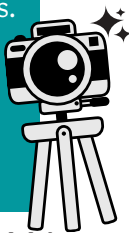


## THANK YOU!

A great BIG thank you to all the volunteers who came out on August 27 for ice rink demo day. The rink side boards were torn down and we are now ready for the new surround to be installed. Special thank you to the Abbott Home Depot for rounding up additional volunteers and to the Home Depot Foundation for their generosity towards material costs.

### PICTURE DAY - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Lifetouch will be at school taking pictures of ALL students and will be taking class photos. Order online using the codes: EVTVZCNFJ (individual pictures) and EVTB67ZM3 (class picture) or fill out the form sent home last week!



### IT'S STAR WARS DAY!

The first Gladys Wood spirit day will be on **Friday, September 30**. Wear your favorite Star Wars t-shirt. Don't have a character shirt? Wear your favorite character's main color! Example: Yoda = Wear Green

## UPCOMING PTO EVENTS

- **October 20** - Family Movie Night
- **October 26 & 27** - Parent/Teacher Conference Luncheons - **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Look for more details to come.
- **November 7** - PTO General Meeting at 7 pm
- **November 18** - Turkey Bingo! **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Look for more details to come.

## PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

- Congratulations to Mr. Reed's class! They won this year's PTO membership drive pizza party. Thank you to all who signed up for membership. There's still time to become a member. Drop by the front office to fill out a form.
- Being a PTO member is a way to get connected! Not only does being a member provide a sense of community, but it keeps you informed about what's going on at school. We have many opportunities throughout the year you can get involved with.

## READ-A-THON

PTO's fall fundraiser kicks off September 30. Pledges are due Friday, Oct. 14. Read-A-Thon donations fund our library, ice rink maintenance all winter, and many activities throughout the school year! Watch for more information. Packets will be sent home on Friday, September 30!

## WOODCHUCK GEAR

Online orders for Gladys Wood gear will be available soon! Watch for more details to come!

# School Nurse News

Gladys Wood Elementary

Jeff Chisholm RN, BSN

Phone: 907-742-6761

[chisholm\\_jeff@asdk12.org](mailto:chisholm_jeff@asdk12.org)

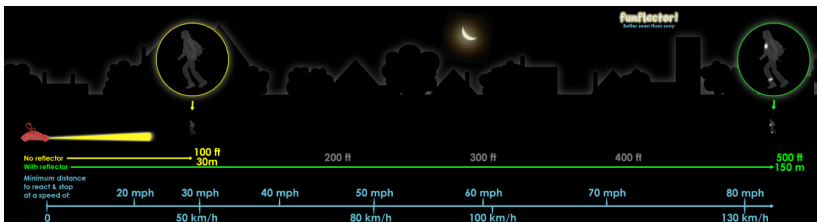
September 2022

*Communication is  
key to a safe and  
healthy school!*

Please connect with me if there are any health-related concerns or questions regarding your student's participation in school activities this year. Keeping me updated on these matters helps keep our students and community healthy, safe and ready to learn. (See my contact information above).

## Shopping for Winter Clothing

Consider coats, snow pants, boots, hats, gloves and backpacks that have reflective material built-in on all sides. Alternatively, add reflectors to all sides of your students clothing.



Quality reflective clothing is can alert motorists of pedestrians 500 feet ahead. Help your student be seen on their way to school. Check out this video from Consumer Reports: [To Be Safe, Be Seen- Best Reflective Clothing](#)

## Flu Vaccinations are Available

Please see the attached **Flyer for the Drive-Thru Flu clinic offered by Alaska Regional Hospital**

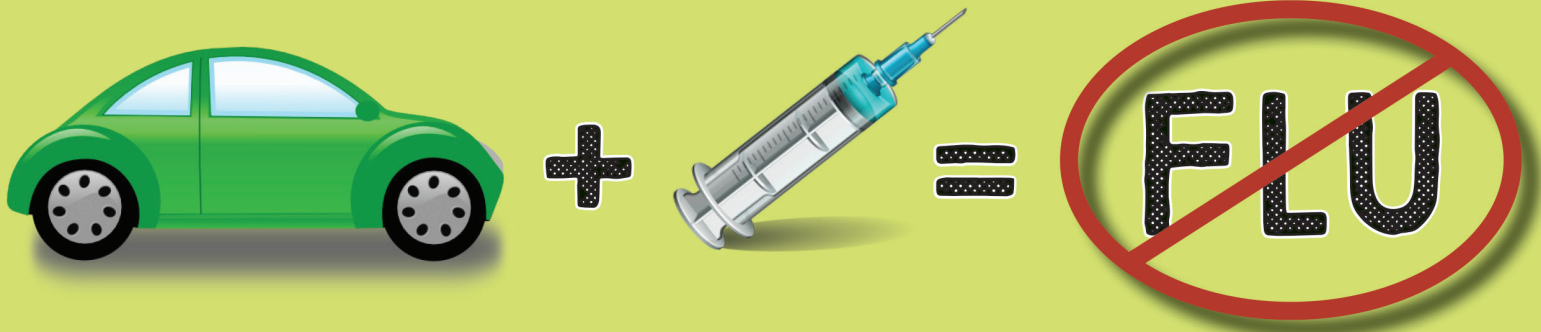
## Report Absences

If your child will not be coming to school for any reason, please notify Gladys Wood by: **Phone-** 907- 742-6760. **E-mail –** [gw\\_attendance@asdk12.org](mailto:gw_attendance@asdk12.org) Guidance on when to keep your child home from school can be found [HERE](#).

## ASD COVID Return to School Policy

Up to date ASD COVID Policy can be found [HERE](#).





# Don't Get the Flu. Drive on Thru!

ROLL DOWN YOUR WINDOW, ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE,  
~THEN ROLL ON DOWN THE ROAD~

## WHO

Participants 9 years and older

## WHAT

Free flu shots and windshield or headlight washing

## WHEN Sep - Oct 2022

5:30 - 8 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20

More dates to come as vaccine arrives

*(No appointment necessary)*

## WHERE

Alaska Regional Hospital  
Parking lot of Building C  
2801 Debarr Rd.  
Anchorage, AK, 99508



## BENEFITS OF FLU VACCINATION

- Getting a flu shot is more important than ever, but it does not protect against COVID-19
- It's especially important if you have heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary or other chronic diseases, are pregnant, immunocompromised or over 50.
- The vaccine may make your illness milder if you do get sick.
- Flu vaccination may reduce the risk of serious flu outcomes, like hospitalization.

## VACCINE INFORMATION

- The standard and high doses are quadrivalent: designed to protect against four different viruses.
- They do not contain latex or thimerosal.
- The high dose vaccine (for people 65+) will NOT be available at the drive-thrus.
- There are many flu viruses. The vaccine protects against those believed to be most common and is updated each year.
- You cannot get the flu from the vaccine.

***Everyone in vehicle must be masked!***

**Questions? Call Ruth: 264-1823**

## Parents and guardians:

Elementary school starts and end times are 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The earliest students may be dropped off at is 8:45 a.m. and pick up is at 3:30 p.m.

Please make sure students dress for the weather outside. We will have recess daily unless the temperature or wind chill factor reaches minus 10.

## Message from the Office:

Gladys Wood has an attendance e-mail, if your student is ever absent please contact us:

[gw\\_attendance@asdk12.org](mailto:gw_attendance@asdk12.org)

## After School Activity

**GW Running Club 2022** - For 1st - 6th graders. Students will put bags in 5th & 6th hallway. Meet Ms. Hester and Mrs. Levasseur on the asphalt by the playground for attendance. On rainy days meet in the gym. Sept. 19th and 20th last day.

**Battle of the Books 3/4** - Meets every Wednesday from 3:35 - 4:30 p.m. - On Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19, Nov. 2, 9, 16. On Nov. 30 - BOB teams are chosen, BOB party ...then only those kids come on Dec. 7, 14, Jan. 11, and 18.(No BOB on P/T Conf. or Thanksgiving week) Meet in Mr. Reed classroom B135

**Battle of the Books 5/6** - Meets every Tuesday from 3:35 - 4:30 p.m. - On Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, Nov. 1, 15. On Nov. 29 - BOB teams are chosen, BOB party ...then only those kids come on Dec. 6, 13, Jan. 10, and 17.(No BOB on P/T Conf. or Thanksgiving week) Meet in Ms. Hank classroom C121

### Chorus Information

This fall Mrs. Bennett will be offering only one chorus opportunity and it will be called The Holiday Choir. This choir will be preparing music for the December holiday season. **The choir will meet on Tuesdays, beginning October 4, from 3:30 - 4:30** in the music room. The Holiday Choir is **open to all 2nd and 3rd grade students**. Please contact Mrs. Bennett for more information and permission slips.

[bennett\\_barbara@asdk12.org](mailto:bennett_barbara@asdk12.org)

## PICTURE DAY IS

Thursday, September 29, 2022

Order today on  
**mylifetouch.com**  
using your Picture Day ID:

EVTIVZCNFJ



## EL DÍA DE LA FOTO ES

Thursday, September 29, 2022

Encarga hoy en  
**mylifetouch.com**  
usando tu ID del  
Día de la Foto

EVTIVZCNFJ

**Lifetouch.**



**Kids' Corps, Inc.**

Head Start & Early Head Start

**FREE PRESCHOOL,  
INFANT/TODDLER AND  
HOME VISITING PROGRAMS  
FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILIES**



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907-272-0133



Apply online or learn more at:  
[kcialaska.org](http://kcialaska.org)

### Benefits for Children:

- ◆ Develop a love of learning that lasts a lifetime
- ◆ Get a head start in reading, math and social skills
- ◆ Learn essential life skills like cooperating, persevering, sharing, and problem solving



### Benefits for Families:

- ◆ Support with parenting and school Readiness
- ◆ Opportunities to be connected to community resources
- ◆ Volunteer, training & leadership opportunities for personal growth

**Applications are accepted  
year round!**

A KCI staff member is available to answer your questions and help you complete the application process. Call 272-0133 or visit [www.kcialaska.org](http://www.kcialaska.org) for more information.

Referrals from community programs and providers are welcome!



**GLADYS WOOD PRIDE DAYS  
2022-2023**

**Friday, Sept. 30- Star Wars Day**

"Wear a shirt with your favorite Star Wars character to kick off our Read-A-Thon."

**Thursday, October 20- Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character**

"Please make character choices that are appropriate for elementary school and learning. Full face coverings and face painting are discouraged."

**Friday, November 18- Twin Day**

"Dress like a friend."

**Wednesday, December 21- Pajama Day**

"Wear your favorite appropriate pj's to school."

**Friday, January 20 - Hat Day**

"Wear your favorite hat to school."

**Friday, February 17- Fancy Dress Up Day**

"Wear your nicest clothes to school."

**Friday, March 24- 80's Day**

"Dress in 1980's fashion (neon, leg warmers, leggings, etc.)."

**Friday, April 14- Hawaiian Day**

"Wear your favorite school appropriate Hawaiian clothes."

**Friday, May 12- Crazy Hair Day**

"Wear your hair in a crazy, wacky style."

**All other Fridays, students are encouraged to wear their GW Spirit Wear.  
Thursdays are Cultural Recognition Day (students are encouraged to wear clothing that represents their culture such as a kuspuk, etc.)**