



BAXTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BAXTER BULLETIN SPECIAL EDITION

2991 Baxter Rd, Anchorage, AK 99504, 907-742-1750 December 5, 2019



Friday, December 6, 2019
6:00 - 7:30pm
COME JOIN US!!

Each Bingo card is 1 dollar. Every player is entered into a drawing for a Family Night Basket!

Adult winners will receive a gift card to a local merchant. Student winners will receive a gift bag.

Enter to win an amazing raffle basket. There will also be food for sale.

Come enjoy a fun-filled evening with family and friends!

CALENDAR

- DEC 6 - Family Bingo Night 6pm
B-ball game at Spring Hill 4pm
- DEC 10 - Band & Orch Concert 9:45 am
PTA Mtg 6pm
- DEC 13 - Popcorn Friday
B-ball game at Baxter 4pm
- DEC 18 - Baxter Choir Concert 6pm
B-ball game at Chinook 4pm

DECEMBER 20th - JANUARY 5th
NO SCHOOL (Winter Break)

We wish all of our Baxter families a safe, warm, and restful winter break!

- Jan 10 - B-ball game at North Star 4pm
Tutu & Tie Fancy Nancy Spirit Day
- Jan 14 - PTA Mtg 6pm
Awards Assembly (by invitation)
- Jan 17 - Popcorn Friday
B-ball at Baxter 4pm
Fancy Animal Parade, Stuffed Animal Dress Spirit Day

Important Numbers:

Attendance:

BXattendance@asdk12.org

Attendance: 742-1750, Press 1

Nurse: 742-1751

Cafeteria: 742-1767






Office: 742-1750



[www.facebook.com/
BaxterElementaryASD](https://www.facebook.com/BaxterElementaryASD)

<http://baxter.asdk12.org>

December 2019

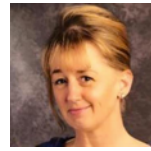
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|--|--|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  6 pm B-ball Springhill 4pm | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 Band/Orch Concert 9:45am  PTA Mtg 6pm | 11 | 12 | 13  Friday B-Ball Baxter 4pm | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 CHOIR CONCERT  6PM B-Ball Chinook 4pm | 19 | 20 In-service  | 21 |

NO SCHOOL DECEMBER 20TH - JANUARY 5TH. HAVE A HAPPY WINTER BREAK!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|----------------------|---|-----------|----------|--|----------|
| | 6 Students Return | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Spirit Day Tutu & Tie | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 PTA Mtg 6pm Award Assembly (by invite) | 15 | 16 | 17 Popcorn Friday Spirit Day Fancy Animal Parade | 18 |



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Baxter Families,

Happy December and thank you for supporting activities at the school such as our recent Turkey Shoot – a wonderful time was had by all and it was a great way for families to get some quality time together. The PTA will be having a Family BINGO Night on the 6th at 6:00 pm and we hope to get as good of a turn-out as we had last month! Choir, orchestra, and band concerts are coming up as well so please check out the calendar of events in this newsletter to plan out your month.

Students will soon take MAP Tests to give our teachers specific academic feedback on where their students are in this moment for their learning. Parents can check into Parent Connect to get more information after the assessments are finished before the break. We use this information to guide our decision making for WIN (What I Need) Groups that happen at every grade level, on every day, to support our little ones in instructional groups with topics as varied as catching up to make academic gains in reading to enrichment art time.

Attached to the newsletter is our School-Wide Discipline Plan; we welcome your feedback as parents and want to let you know that this was cooperatively developed to increase our supports to students in a fair and consistent way, recognizing that students cannot learn if they don't feel safe at school. Our School Counselor, Miss Ula, has been doing check-ins to support students who need additional practice with social skills and solving problems and all teachers are addressing Social Emotional Learning Curriculum through "Respected and Connected." If your child needs any additional supports, please do not hesitate to contact us and let us know what's happening with your family as the holidays can be as stressful as they are wonderful.

This month, as your principals, we have been reflecting upon the concept of "providing opportunities for children." When most people hear this, perhaps they think of after-school programs for creative writing, private dance lessons or travel. However, what we are referring to are opportunities for our kids to grow as people from the experiences they have in life – both positive and negative.

Making a mistake or inappropriate choice is important to us as humans (especially as kids) because it allows us to grow into self-directed and self-regulated adults. When we understand why our choices were not helpful to ourselves or the community, when we're able to feel safe and vulnerable enough to admit the true facts of the scenario, and when we are surrounded by caring adults (at school and at home) who hold us responsible to a higher standard of choices, we have the capacity to change. When any of those elements are missing, our growth is stifled and we continue to make the same mistakes again and again and again.

It's hard as a parent, especially in the moment, to recognize that making a mistake is a way for our child to grow. We take away the opportunity for growth when we justify our child's behavior (i.e.: "the other kid deserved it") as it becomes an acceptable choice in our child's mind and then the same issue happens again (and again.) For example, this is a common situation that comes to the office: "She called me a name so I pushed her. I know I shouldn't have hit someone but I was mad and she started it." This student has the ability to tell the truth about the situation and realizes why this is not appropriate (2/3 of the elements are there for success and growth.) The next step is critical and relates to how the adults around her respond to the situation.

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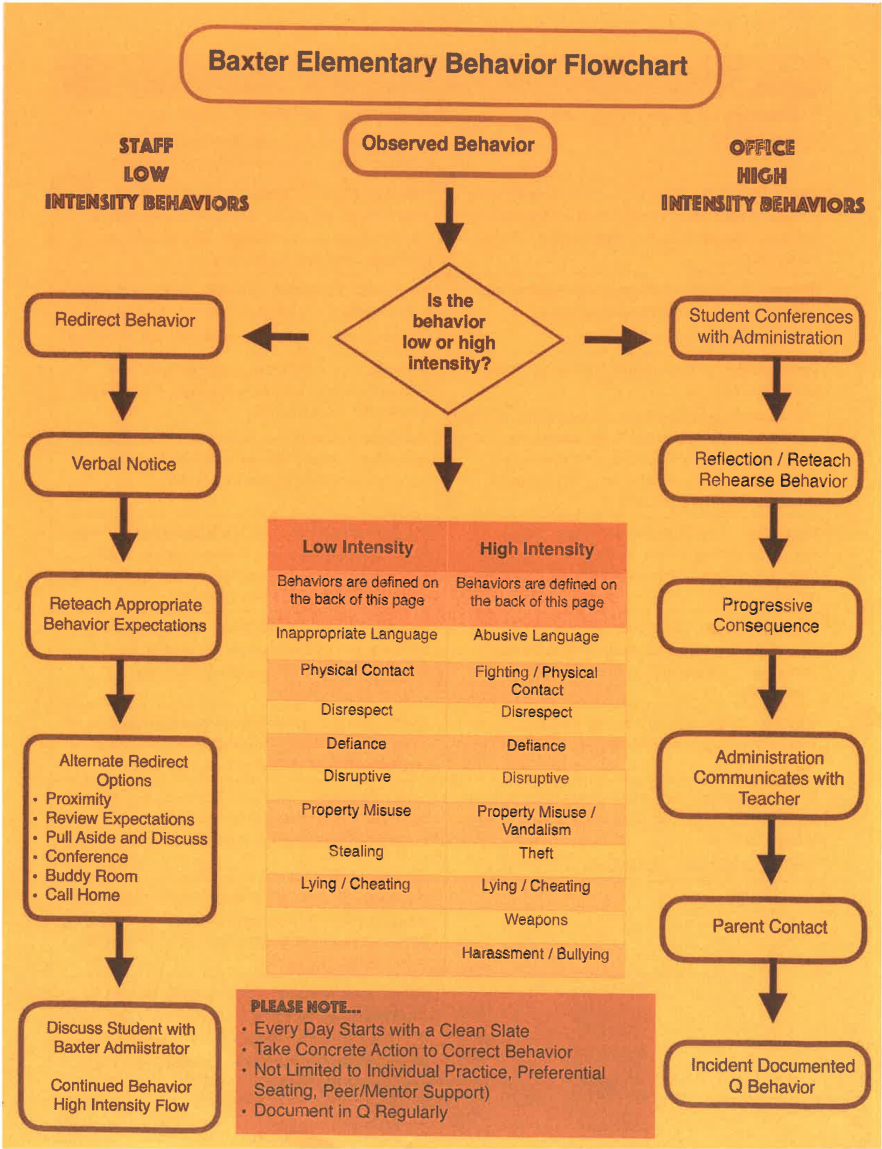
At school, we provide re-teaching opportunities, supports and consequences delivered in a caring way to help students understand social boundaries. In this scenario, we would acknowledge that name calling hurts, show empathy for the child’s perspective and teach the student other ways to respond to a difficult situation (minus physical violence.) When parents arrive to discuss the issue, students are most likely to change their behavior when the message between home and school is the same – we know it hurts when name calling happens but let’s look at other ways to solve a problem before we resort to violence. With that in mind, I want to thank families for their support when mistakes are made at school as another kind of learning is taking place that’s just as important as academics.

Social Media Problems have also been a concern with our older students so please learn as much as you can about each of the “Apps” your child is on. We will look into having an Internet Safety Night in the Spring, for families, hosted by the Anchorage Police Department to empower parents to understand what is out there online that our kids are engaging with.

Thanks for sending your children to school at Baxter Elementary and we look forward to serving you in the new year... 2020! Where does the time go?

Happy Holidays,

Dawn Campbell, Principal, and Lisa Lansdale, Assistant Principal



@ your library...

Hopefully, your students have been using our ebook collection through the Sora App, as we have been exploring it in our classes. If you have any questions about accessing our ebooks, please come see me!

Our students are learning much in Library. Fifth graders are starting to learn about copyright, 6th Graders are learning to use NoodleTools for citations and note taking. Our 3rd & 4th Graders are learning about some of our online resources and doing research. Second Graders are learning to use the library catalog, 1st Graders are learning the difference between fiction and nonfiction, and Kindergarteners have started learning to choose books from the shelves. Our library is a busy place!

As always, please feel free to stop by, call (742-1750), or email me at mccall_vicki@asdk12.org if you have any questions about Sora or anything else we are doing in the library.

Miss McCall

Teacher-Librarian

Link to the Anchorage Public Library Calendar

<http://anchoragepubliclibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventCalendar.aspx>



BOOK FAIR

We are piloting a new online book fair through Follett Books. The fair runs through midnight on Saturday, Dec. 7. Books will be shipped directly to Baxter and are scheduled to arrive before the Holiday Break.

We will receive 50% of all sales and proceeds will help purchase new books for our school library. Please visit <https://efairs.follettbookfairs.com/>, enter the code Z4L9X, and begin shopping. Thank you for supporting our library program!



**Turkey Shoot
2019**

HOW TO TRAIN your REINDEER (To Fly)

AN ~~IMPROBABLE~~ INSPIRING MUSICAL FOR YOUNG VOICES
by
TERESA JENNINGS and KARL HITZEMANN



Ten, nine, eight....seven, six, five... four, three, two... one... Blast off! The reindeer cadets are ready to learn how to fly! How exactly do reindeer learn to fly? Is it something they just instinctively know, or, is it an ability they have but need to learn how to use? Well, that is a question that the reindeer cadets at the School Of Reindeer are going to need to figure out. Here's a small hint... It turns out that their ability to fly is tied to having a positive attitude and a good heart.

Choir Updates:

Added Rehearsal Dates:

Friday December 13th 8:00-8:50 am

Monday December 16th 8:00-8:50 am

Tuesday December 17th 8:00-8:50 am

Wednesday December 18th - NO Morning Rehearsal

Dress Rehearsal for school 2:30 pm **

Night Performance 6:00 pm at Baxter Elem.

--> CHOIR STUDENTS ARRIVE at 5:30 pm!

***Parents please wait to join us for the evening performance; due to limited amount of space we will just be performing for the staff and school in the afternoon.

Baxter Elementary PTA

We are super excited for our first BINGO Night on Friday Dec. 6th! Prizes include Gift Cards to WalMart, Fred Meyer, Subway and many other great items! Come have fun, eat some food, visit with other Baxter Families and win a prize to get your Holiday Shopping off to a great start :)

Thank you to all who participated in the Fall Fundraiser. With your help, we raised just over \$4300 for our school - Yay!!

Here's the breakdown:

Total Participants: 60 students

Classes with most participation: Mrs McGhee (7) and Mrs Adams (8)

Top 5 sellers: Ben T., Nehemiah C., Harper F., Zahara-Faith E., Jody M.

These 5 students sold 1/3 of the total items, raised \$1500, AND they earned some awesome prizes for themselves - Way to go!

Have you linked your Fred Meyers Rewards Card to Baxter PTA yet? Now's the time! It takes just a minute to do, costs you ZERO \$, and then whenever you shop using your card, Fred Myers Community Rewards gives us a percentage back - so easy! So you can feel good about your Holiday Shopping not only because you'll be giving your friends and family the gifts you purchase, but Baxter PTA will also receive a gift through this program. We currently have just over 40 households participating and earn approximately \$130/quarter - Thank you Baxter Families!

Also, please sign up for MemberHub for the latest in PTA news and to check out volunteer opportunities in the "Sign Ups" Section. We are always in need of volunteers to help put on these great events - just 30 minutes of your time can make a big difference!

The next PTA meeting is Tuesday Dec 12th @ 6pm in the school library.

Karie Tieszen

BaxterPTA@yahoo.com



Please Join Baxter PTA on MemberHub!

The National PTA is providing all local PTA chapters the opportunity to streamline information and increase accessibility for our members with the use of the MemberHub App. Why join?

It's a quick and easy way to see upcoming PTA/school events on the calendar, access forms and informational flyers, has volunteer sign ups so you know where help is needed, and has a 'store' where you can directly purchase items like your membership, yearbooks, or spirit wear using a credit card.

How to join:

1. Go to: BaxterPTA.MemberHub.com/join
2. It will prompt you to enter the Join Request Key NJHAYQ
3. Fill in your information and hit Submit
4. You may also download the App

Once your information is added to the system you can create a password for logging in, change account settings for notices, and decide what information is viewable to other members.

We look forward to keeping you informed and creating a great supportive network for our parents, students, and teachers!



Anchorage School District

2019-20 School Year Calendar*

S M T W T F S

July

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August

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December

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JULY

4 Independence Day holiday

AUGUST

- 15 Teachers' first day
- 16-19 State released professional development days**
- 20 Classes begin
- 27 Classes begin for Preschool/Kindergarten†

SEPTEMBER

2 Labor Day holiday**

OCTOBER

- 18 State released professional development day. End of first quarter.**
- 23-24 Parent/Teacher conference days
- 25 State released professional development day**

NOVEMBER

- 11 State released professional development day**
- 28-29 Thanksgiving holiday**

DECEMBER

- 19 Classes end
- 20 State released grade reporting day. End of second quarter.**
- 23-31 Winter break**

JANUARY

1-3 Winter break (cont.)**

6 Classes begin

20 Martin Luther King Jr. holiday**

FEBRUARY

- 12-13 Parent/Teacher conference days
- 14 State released professional development day.**
- 17 Presidents Day holiday**

MARCH

6 State released grade reporting day. End of third quarter.**

9-13 Spring Break**

MAY

- 21 Classes end. End of fourth quarter.
- 22 Teachers' last day.
- 25 Memorial Day holiday

() Beginning, end of quarter

Q1-40, Q2-42, Q3-41, Q4-49

S M T W T F S

January

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February

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May

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June

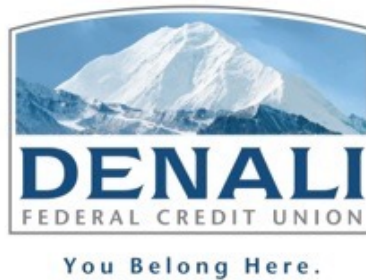
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

* subject to change

** students do not attend school

† Tentative Kindergarten start date. Check back in the summer to confirm.

SCHOOL BUSINESS PARTNERS



We appreciate your support!

ASD Non Discrimination Statement:

It is the policy of the Anchorage School District to provide equal educational and employment opportunities, and to provide services and benefits to all students and employees without regard to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, marital status, change in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood or other prohibitions. This policy of the Anchorage School District is consistent with numerous laws, regulations, and executive orders enforced by various federal, state, and municipal agencies, including but not limited to Executive Order 11246, Title 41, part 60-1, 60-2, 60-3, 60-20, Title VI and VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the School District Equal Employment Opportunity Office, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, the Department of Education or the Department of Health and Human Services.