



BAXTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# BAXTER BULLETIN SPECIAL EDITION

2991 Baxter Rd, Anchorage, AK 99504, 907-742-1750 January 13, 2020

## 2020 Visit Our Schools Month

### Come Visit Our School This February!

Community members, parents, and prospective parents are invited to visit any ASD school during the month of February to learn more about our community's public schools. While schools welcome members of the public year-round, this coordinated effort provides parents and community members an opportunity to learn more about the many educational opportunities available.

The safety of our students will always remain our top priority. All people on tours will be checked in through normal procedures that visitors follow. Principals or their designee will lead the tours and tour groups will never be left unsupervised. Students will continue classroom activities and the tours will not interfere with student learning.

Learn more about Visit Our Schools Month at  
[www.asdk12.org/visit](http://www.asdk12.org/visit).



Every school | Every Tuesday

**Feb. 4**  
9:30 a.m.

**Feb. 11**  
9:30 a.m.

**Feb. 18**  
9:30 a.m.

**Feb. 25**  
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

## CALENDAR

- Jan 14 - PTA Mtg 6pm  
Awards Assembly (by invitation)
- Jan 17 - Popcorn Friday  
B-ball at Baxter 4pm  
Go Bright-Dress in Neon; Stuffed  
Animal Dress up too Spirit Day
- Jan 20 - NO SCHOOL; Martin Luther King  
Jr. Day
- Jan 23 - Wendler Jazz Band 9:15am
- Jan 24 - B-ball game at Baxter 4pm  
Crazy hair/Fancy hat day
- Jan 29 - 4th Grade Swimming
- Jan 31 - B-ball game at O'Malley 4pm  
Fancy Nancy Dress Up Tea Party  
Wendler visit 1:30pm
- Feb 4 - Dental Assembly 2:45pm
- Feb 7 - Spelling Bee 9:15am  
B-ball game at Baxter 4pm
- Feb 10 - 13 Book Fair
- Feb 12 & 13th Early Dismissal, 12:30pm  
Parent/Teacher conferences

### Important Numbers:

**Attendance:**

[BXattendance@asdk12.org](mailto: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>

# January 2020

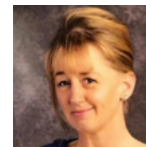
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12	13	14 PTA Mtg 6pm  Award Assembly (by invite)	15	16	17  Friday Spirit Day Dress in Neon Fancy Animal Parade B-ball Baxter vs College Gate 4pm	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 	21	22	23 Wendler Jazz Band 9:15am	24 Baxter vs Willow Crest 4pm  Crazy Hair/ Fancy Hat	25
26	27	28	29 4th Swimming	30	31 Baxter @ O'Malley 4pm Fancy Tea Party-Dress up Day Wendler Visit 1:30pm	

# February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Dental Assembly 2:45pm	5	6	7 Spelling Bee 9:15am	8
9	10	11	12 P/T Conf 12:30 Dismissal	13 P/T Conf 12:30 Dismissal	14 NO SCHOOL	15
	Book Fair					
16	17 NO SCHOOL	18	19	20	21	22



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S & ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Hello Baxter Families,

Welcome back to the second semester of school and Happy New Year to you all! We hope this year brings nothing but health and happiness your way.

We have been staying warm inside for recess most of the past week due to our extreme temperatures. The District policy, which can be found online in the handbook, states that -10 degrees is the cut off temperature for going outside and that it is up to the discretion of the building principal whether or not to have abbreviated recess at lower temperatures. It is extremely important that your child comes prepared to be outside. Gloves, hat, snow pants, boots and a warm jacket are a must. Please also make sure your child is appropriately dressed for being inside at school as well. Shorts, slip on shoes and sleeveless shirts should not be worn to school. We never know when we may need to leave the building and students need to be prepared for that possibility at all times. If you need assistance with winter gear, we have a limited supply to borrow from. I have asked teachers to reach out to families when students are coming to school without proper gear. Thank you for helping us ensure our Bobcats are as safe as possible!

Did you know that Mrs. Lansdale and I look at each and every report card and SPED progress report that goes home? We love seeing the progress of our students and it helps us to keep in touch with what is going well and where we need to focus with individual students, at grade levels and at the school level. One of the observations that we wanted to share with you, that stood out significantly, was the correlation between home reading minutes and reading proficiency amongst our students. Many teachers list the reading minutes on report cards and we were able to see time and time again that students who have healthy reading habits (reading consistently) at home, had significant growth in their reading scores and achievement. We all know the research behind why this is, but we wanted to share a few reminders:

- Starting in kindergarten, if a student reads 20 minutes a day at home, they will hear 1.8 million words per year. They will have read for 851 hours by 6<sup>th</sup> grade and on standardized tests, they will likely score better than 90% of their peers.
- Daily reading will help the brain make connections between the written and spoken word, widening vocabulary in the process. Vocabulary knowledge equates to masterful spelling. Reading, spelling and vocabulary are critically important to a child's lifelong achievement.
- A recent study conducted by the American Academy of Pediatrics found reading to children of any age awakens a number of regions in the left part of the brain. These are the areas that become actively involved in understanding the meaning of words and concepts tied to memory.

Let's face it! There is nothing quite like reading together as a family! We miss the days when we had little ones snuggled up next to us reading or curled up on our laps! Whether you're flipping through picture books with your little ones or sitting in the same room with older children while they are immersed in literature, these are times you remember and it shows your children you value all that reading brings!

As always, if you have questions, concerns or good news to share, please reach out to Mrs. Lansdale or myself.

Stay warm!

Dawn Campbell and Lisa Lansdale

Kindness Club  
Grades 3-6

The kindness club is starting again! We will meet every other Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 to complete service projects that will benefit our community. Projects may include card making, art projects, baking and much more! If you are interested in joining, please fill out the permission slip below and return it to the office by Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Once you have joined, a schedule of dates will be sent home. Our first meeting will be 1/30. Please remember to get your permission slips in by the 21st.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Buchwald and Miss Gagnon

My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to participate in Baxter's kindness club every other Thursday from 3:30 - 4:30. I will arrive at Baxter by 4:30 to pick up my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Nurses Corner



February is National Children's Dental Health month.

In observance of this we will be having a local dentist come in and speak to the children about dental hygiene on February Fourth. At this time they will be sending home permission slips to come back and do a dental screening. This is being offered to the school as a free service. IF you wish for your child to participate please fill out the permission slip. If you wish to not participate simply do not send the permission slip back.

If the dentist notices any problems then they will send home an information form. If you think you may need help in providing care please contact the school nurse 907-742-1751 and I can get you a list of resources.



## Parents are Perfect!

We currently have several food service positions open at various schools throughout the district. Substitutes are also needed in many school cafeterias to assist with preparing food, and serving breakfast & lunch to students. Hours are perfect for parents: part-time and flexible. Fill out an application at the ASD Building at 5530 East Northern Lights Blvd at the Boniface Mall or go to [www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org). For more information call Susan at 348-5185.

## **About the Elder Mentor Program**

### **Benefits**

- Elder Mentor volunteers receive a small hourly stipend that can average about \$200/month. In addition, they receive leave and holiday benefits. Transportation and meals (if not provided by the program or school) are reimbursed based on guidelines. Stipends are tax exempt and do not affect other financial aid or benefits that an Elder may be receiving.
- Elders receive training, a Senior Corps vest and annual recognition.

### **Time Commitment**

- Elder Mentors are expected to spend approximately 15-20 hours per week with students during the school year. Participation in organized summer programs is encouraged, but not mandatory.
- Training time includes an extensive orientation and workshops on topics that address child development, current education strategies, and also subjects of interest to seniors.

### **Eligibility**

- Lower income seniors, age 55 or older. Maximum household income levels are \$29,680 for one person or \$40,040 for two. Information for other household sizes is available.
- Seniors must pass and maintain status in the Alaska State Background Check System, which includes having finger prints taken.
- Seniors must complete an annual health assessment. Rural CAP will pay for this if it is not covered by insurance or IHS.

### **Volunteer Service**

- Elder Mentors are expected to work directly with children. The goal for pre-school children is to increase readiness to enter kindergarten. The goal for older students is to increase engagement in school activities and learning.
- Elder Mentors bring compassion, social support, and cultural values to the students both individually, and classroom-wide. Activities include: talking, reading, playing games, helping with assignments, modeling appropriate behavior, participating in crafts, telling stories, teaching cultural skills and language.

### **School, Head Start or Community Setting and Supervision**

- Supervising staff assign students to the Elders based on special needs and goals - about 4 students per Elder. A simple work plan is written to guide the Elder in the activities and goals for each student. The student's progress is also noted on this form and reported.
- Each month, the Elder completes an activity sheet that is reviewed and approved by their supervisor.
- Supervisors will occasionally receive short surveys to assess program success.
- The school/supervisors will provide documentation of the Elder's on-going training.
- The service site helps provide annual community recognition for Elder.



# RurAL CAP Elder Mentor Program



Elder Mentors have been improving children's success in Head Start, classroom and other community settings across Alaska for more than 30 years. By providing one-on-one help with school work, modeling social and cultural values, and offering emotional support to children with special needs, Elder Mentors offer the inter-generational relationships so important to healthy child development. Alaska's Elder Mentors serve through the national Senior Corps Program.



Elder Mentor Marsha Ayuluk works with Chevak Head Start child, Ryder Night, to learn new and important skills for kindergarten readiness. Photo by Charlie Ess

Program goals include increasing school readiness for pre-school children, increasing school success for K-12 students - and for all children, reinforcing social skills, cultural values and resilience. The Elder Mentor program is an investment in Alaska's past, present and future, with powerful results. This program directly impacts three special groups:

- **Children** who are economically, socially, or developmentally disadvantaged increase their school success through individualized tutoring.
- **Low income Elders** stay active in their community while sharing their skills, and receive a small, tax exempt stipend and support for meals and transportation.
- **Education Professionals** benefit by having a supportive role model for the classroom and a mentor who can work with children needing extra help. Teachers often report that students are more engaged in learning when an Elder is present.

RurAL CAP does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring, firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, clients, volunteers, and subcontractors.

## Contact Information

RurAL CAP's Elder Mentor Program  
Phone: (907) 865-7353  
Toll-free: (800) 478-7227  
[eldermentors@ruralcap.com](mailto:eldermentors@ruralcap.com)

Support provided by:



RurAL CAP Vision: Healthy People, Sustainable Communities, Vibrant Cultures



## @ your library...

Happy New Year!

As we move into 2020, our students are continuing to learn how to locate the books they want to read using our library catalog and how to expand on those skills to research topics of interest and need. Fifth graders are learning about copyright and 6th graders are beginning to explore 20th century U.S. history. Our 4th graders are learning to use online resources, and all these grades will be learning to use NoodleTools to cite their information sources as part of the ethical use of information – an important library standard and life skill. Our primary students are continuing to discover the areas of the library and how to navigate those areas to find what books that interest them.

As always, please feel free to stop by, call (742-1750), or email me at [mccall\\_vicki@asdk12.org](mailto: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://anchoragelibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventCalendar.aspx>



### BOOK FAIR

Mark your calendars! Our Book Fair is scheduled for February 10th - 13th, the week of parent-teacher conferences. Watch for more information soon.



### BIKES FOR BOOKS

Please help your students remember to complete and turn in their reading logs! Every month they meet their reading goal they can put in an entry for the drawing to win a new bike with matching helmet & lock in April, courtesy of Glacier Lodge #10, F&AM.

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

We are continuing to review our emergency preparedness in the wake of last year's major earthquake. Part of that is making sure we have the necessary search and rescue equipment on hand should our building suffer major damage. We were lucky last time, but need to be prepared in case we are not so lucky next time.

Please help us make sure we can keep our students safe by supporting our Donors' Choose Grant at <https://www.donorschoose.org/project/rescue-our-youth/4651665/> so we can purchase the search & rescue equipment we need. Feel free to share the link with friends and family who might also be willing to help.

Thank you for your support in helping keep our students safe!





# Anchorage School District

## 2019-20 School Year Calendar\*

S M T W T F S

### July

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### August

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	PK/K	28	29	30	31

### September

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### October

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### November

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### 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

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### February

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

### March

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### April

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### May

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### June

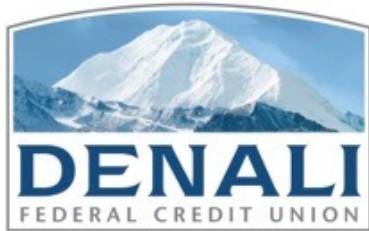
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

\* subject to change

\*\* students do not attend school

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

# SCHOOL BUSINESS PARTNERS



You Belong Here.

Hacienda Mexican Restaurant



*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.

