



The Birchwood Banner

April 2021

Birchwood ABC achieves high academic standards through a structured, well-defined curriculum, based on the mastery of skills, mandated homework and consistent grading procedures. Our program emphasizes leadership, citizenship, self-discipline, and character development as its guiding principles

Principal's Corner



Family School Climate and Connectedness Survey (SCCS)

We value input from our families, you are an important partner as we work to continually improve each school's environment. I want to thank those families that have already taken the survey! The SCCS has been extended until April 23rd so that each family has the opportunity to provide input. If you have more than one child attending this school, you only need to fill out one survey. Please use the following link to access the family survey:
<https://surveys.panoramaed.com/aasb/asdfamily/surveys?language=en> The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential. More information on this survey is available through the following link: <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/4323> Results from this survey will be used to identify family perceptions of school climate issues within our school. School staff use the results to inform their efforts to ensure schools are safe, supportive, and caring places for all families and

students. Thank you for your participation in this year's School Climate and Connectedness Survey©.

PEAKS State Assessment

Our 3rd-6th grade students are participating in the PEAKS Alaska State Assessment this year.

The following is the PEAKS Assessment schedule for Birchwood ABC ES:

Grade:	Reading/Writing:	Math:	Science:
3rd	Monday 3/29	Tuesday 3/30	NA
4 th	Monday 4/5	Tuesday 4/6	NA
5 th	Wednesday 3/31	Thursday 4/1	Friday 4/2
6 th	Wednesday 4/7	Thursday 4/8	NA

Please plan absences around these assessment dates so that we can have all students participate.

Please see the ASD website: www.asdk12.org/PEAKS, for more information regarding the PEAKS Alaska State Assessment.

Sincerely,

Michael Thomas

Principal

Birchwood ABC ES



Save the Date: Picture day is Tuesday May 18th. Pictures will be taken outside and mailed to parents.

The fall online lottery for Birchwood ABC is now open and will close July 22nd at 5pm. Please use the link below to apply.

<https://lotapp.asdk12.org/apply/>



Busing Information

Please use the link below to check bus routes and schedules for your student. If you have any questions feel free to call the office at 907-742-3450

<http://busroutes.asdk12.org/Students/BasicTransBoundarySearch.aspx>

Library News



For students not returning at all, special daytime appointments can be made with me via e-mail for book check out. Thanks again for all your support with curbside.

If you have any questions about check out this week or book return just let me know.

<https://sites.google.com/asdk12.net/bwabclibrary/home>

Birchwood Advisory Committee (BAC) News:

Dear parents and guardians, the BAC is looking for members for the next school year. This is a great way to get involved with what's going on at Birchwood. Please consider joining our team! Our elections take place on April 15th at our next BAC meeting! Please email the BAC at bacbircwood@gmail.com if you are interested.

Next Meeting: The next BAC meeting is scheduled for April 15th at 6:00 PM via zoom. Please email bacbircwood@gmail.com with any questions or curriculum matters you'd like to discuss or address.

PTA UPDATE

*PTA is looking for volunteers to join our team. We will be ready and energized for a fresh start in the fall and need your help to make events happen that will support our school families all year long.

*Spring Outdoor pictures will be held May 18th by Fitzgerald Photography.

*Spring Book Fair is COMING May 3-6th! Set your student up for a summer full of reading!! If you think you may be interested in helping at all or have any questions, please contact Heather with Birchwood PTA. Ways to help can include the following: Setting up the books for the fair April 30th 3-4 volunteers would be great. Mon-Thur. May 3-6th-Volunteers to run about a 2-hour shift in the school tear down book fair-May 7th 3-4 volunteers would be great. birchwoodpta@gmail.com



Orders will be filled every Wednesday, our spirit wear is great to wear on red, white and blue Fridays. We accept cash, check or Square payments. If you have any questions, please email PTA at birchwoodpta@gmail.com

Youth T-Shirts- \$10
Youth Hoodies- \$18
Adult T-Shirts- \$10
Adult Long Sleeve-\$15
Adult Hoodies-\$20



*****Updated COVID-19 Travel Guidance for ASD Staff and Students*****

<https://www.asdk12.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=115&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=60818&PageID=1>

Travel Policy for all ASD Staff & Students

This policy applies to **all** ASD staff and students **regardless of age** who return from travel outside of Alaska.

Travelers are **required** to submit a negative SARS-CoV2 test result from a test taken no earlier than 72 hours of arrival into Alaska.

- Test **must be** molecular-based (PCR). No antigen or antibody test.
- Test can be taken upon arrival in Alaska or anytime thereafter.
- Test can be taken no earlier than 72 hours prior to arrival in Alaska.
- The traveler **must maintain strict social distance** from work/school until test results are available.
 - If the result is positive, the traveler must remain in self-isolation and must not return to work/school until cleared by a Municipality or State Healthcare Provider (i.e. Public Health Nurse, Contact Tracer, Pediatrician, or Family Physician, etc.).
 - If the result is negative, the traveler may return to work/school as long as they are asymptomatic.
- Submit the negative result to your school nurse (student) or supervisor (employee).

If traveler chooses not to get a SARS-CoV2 test:

- The traveler **must maintain strict social distance** for 10 days from arrival in Alaska.
- The traveler may return to work/school on Day 11, if asymptomatic.

Travel outside of Alaska for less than 72 hours:

- No test requirement if currently asymptomatic.
- Must follow [isolation protocols](#) if experiencing symptoms.

Prior confirmed positive SARS-CoV2 result within 90 days of departure: (All Travelers)

- The traveler does not need a SARS-CoV2 test or to maintain social distance if the three following conditions are met:
 1. The traveler provides proof of a previously positive result of a molecular based test for SARS-CoV2 within 90 days of travel;
 2. The traveler is currently asymptomatic;

3. The traveler submits the positive result with the date to your school nurse (student) or supervisor (employee).

Fully-Vaccinated individuals:

- Fully-vaccinated travelers will need to follow the above travel testing protocols.
 - *Fully-vaccinated is defined as two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two-dose series, or two weeks after receiving a single-dose vaccine.*

April Pollock, RN, BSN
Birchwood ABC Elementary
907-742-3452

RED, White, and Blue Award Winners:

March's Character Trait Awards:

Diligence: Constant and earnest effort to accomplish what is undertaken.

Ms. Banner:	Kasyn Springhill	Ms. Tyson:	Karter Marchant
Mrs. Crum:	Kaylee Garrido	Mrs. Dennis:	Mikayla Halcomb
Mrs. Summers:	Eliza Lazenby	Mrs. Eads:	Joshua Knight
Mrs. Lambert:	Noah Seefeld	Ms. Jacobs:	Landon Hedges
Mrs. Boothe:	Cooper Cage	Mrs. Barker:	Kai Healy
Mrs. Means:	Emmalyn Foster	Mr. Hahn:	Kaitlyn Knight
Mrs. Motton:	Rowen Petrelli	Ms. Jones:	Paul Nelson
		Mr. Olson:	Alyssa Brown

KEEP ASD SYMPTOM FREE



At Home Health Screening for Parents and Guardians

Ask these questions at home before sending students to school. Anyone who answers "yes" to one or more of these questions must not enter the school or participate in a school sport or activity.

1 Within the last 10 days, have you been diagnosed with COVID-19 or had a positive test for the virus?

2 Have you had any of these symptoms in the last 24 hours?

- Fever (defined as a temperature 100.4F or higher)
- Chills
- New trouble breathing or shortness of breath
- New cough
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Vomiting
- Fatigue
- Joint pain
- Muscle aches or body aches
- New rash
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Headache
- New congestion
- New runny nose

3 Do you live in the same household or have you had close contact in the last 14 days with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19? Close contact counts if you have been within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes (cumulative over 24 hrs), or if someone from public health contacted you to let you know you are a contact.

Note: If a child or staff member lives with someone else who was named as a contact, it is okay for the child or staff member to go to school. We do not quarantine contacts of contacts.

STAY HOME or go home immediately if the answer is YES to one or more questions above. The next step is to call a doctor and consider getting tested for COVID-19. Do not go to the doctor's office without calling first. Seek emergency care immediately for difficulty breathing, chest pain, confusion, sleepiness, or other severe problems.

Parents / guardians should follow the Return to School Options pathway (see reverse) to determine when to send students back to school. DO NOT send student to school with any of the above symptoms.



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Educating All Students for Success in Life

www.asdk12.org



Dear Birchwood Families, you may or may not be aware that the YMCA is offering school age childcare before and after school hours. We still have a number of open spots for care. If you are interested, please feel free to contact Ms. Erika at (907) 223-7628.



March's Healthy Future Activity Log is due April 5th

You're
Already
Registered!



Were you
Active this
month?

Now all you have to do is fill out the form and turn it in!
February, March and April are Healthy Future months
March **Healthy Future Activity Logs** are due to Mr. Olson by April 5th!
For more info... visit healthyfuturesak.org
Prizes soon to follow!

Start your April's Activity Log Today!

Month: _____

Physical Activity Log

Student name _____

Teacher _____

Signature _____

Be active **60 minutes** or more at least **15 days** per month. Write down your activity or color in the boxes for the days you are physically active for at least 60 minutes. **Get Out and Play, Every Day!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday



www.healthyfuturesak.org

Buddy Bear Program

Subject to change based on COVID risk level

To apply, click the link below:

[2021-2022 Buddy Bear Application](#)

Considerations Before Applying

ASD strives to provide opportunities for preschool students with disabilities to interact and learn with typically-developing peers. The Buddy Bear model is not intended to provide early childhood education for typically-developing children; it is designed to support the development of young children who are identified as developmentally-delayed or disabled.

A maximum of three Buddy Bears are allocated per classroom. Allocations will be determined by the principal and school team and will be reviewed throughout the school year. The number of Buddy Bear students allocated to each preschool special education class is based on the enrollment and needs of the special education students in each class. Visit www.asdk12.org/preschool for more information.

Program Information

- Children 4-years-old on or before September 1, 2021 attend 9:45am-1:45pm, Monday-Friday
- Children younger than 4-years-old on or before September 1, 2021 attend either 9:45am-12:15pm **or** 1:45pm-4:15pm, Monday-Thursday
- Communication programs (Creekside, Taku, Ravenwood) operate 9:45am-12:15pm **or** 1:45pm-4:15pm, Monday/Tuesday or Wednesday/Thursday
- Age Eligibility: Children must be at least 3 years old to apply
- Fee: \$200/semester; waived for families qualifying for free/reduced lunch

Transportation is not provided for the Buddy Bear Program.

Application and Selection

In consultation with the school team(s), principals select Buddy Bears based on program and classroom needs, and returning Buddy Bear status. Buddy Bear applicants must complete the *Buddy Bear Application*. The *Ages & Stages (ASQ) Screener* is completed by the family when contacted by a school for possible selection.

Buddy Bears must reapply each school year.



Birchwood ABC is on Facebook! Please be sure to follow and like our OFFICIAL Facebook page. This will be just one of many ways for Birchwood's staff, parents and students to stay connected! You can find our OFFICIAL page at www.facebook.com/BWABC123. We would love for you to share all the ways that you and your students are staying engaged, by posting pictures and videos to our page.



Birchwood ABC Elementary

@BWABC123 · Elementary School

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Each month Birchwood ABC focuses on a different character trait.

April's Character Trait

Caring: Displaying kindness and concern for others.



April 15th BAC Meeting
May 18th Picture Day

May 3rd-6th Book Fair
May 20th Last Day of School

Thank you to our School Business Partner!!!



773 Logistics Readiness
JBER, AK