



The Birchwood Banner

August 2022

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



School will soon be back in session. We are eager to see the students' smiling faces and to hear all about their summer adventures. We also look forward to working collaboratively with our whole school community to make the 2022-2023 school year a positively memorable year.

The ASD Elementary School Handbook can be found at: <https://www.asdk12.org/students/handbooks/>

The Birchwood ABC Elementary School handbook, ASD Calendar and other guidance on school specific operations, such as, Drop-off and Pick-up procedures, morning line-up, etc., can be accessed through our school website @: <https://www.asdk12.org/birchwoodabc>

A general class materials list can also be found on our school website. Teachers will provide families with a more specific list for their class.

Enjoy your last week of summer vacation! And we will see our 1st – 5th grade students on Thursday 8/18, 2022 and our PreK and K students on Thursday 8/25, 2022.

Mr. Thomas
Principal BWABC ES



Back to School Night and Class Posting, Wednesday 8/17 5:00-6:00PM:

The building will not be open to the public during this event. Class Lists will be posted on the front fence. Teachers will be available outside to meet families. Both the PTA and BAC will be available to answer questions. The PTA will be providing a welcome back treat.

The 1st day of school for 1st – 5th grades, Thursday 8/18

- Students will line up with their class on the outside basketball court. Signs with the teacher's name will be visible for the 1st few days, see diagram below.
- Lineup begins at 8:40AM. Students enter the building at 8:50AM and classes begin at 9:00AM.
- Parents are permitted to walk with their child to class on the first day of school. We do request that parents do not remain in the classroom after morning announcements have concluded.

The 1st day of school for PreK & K grades, Thursday 8/25

- PreK students will be met at the bus or front doors and escorted to the classroom by their teacher or TA each day. Parents are permitted to walk with their child to class on the first day of school. We do request that parents do not remain in the classroom after class begins.
- Kindergarten students will line up with their class on the basketball court. Signs with the teacher's name will be visible for the 1st week, see diagram below.
- Lineup begins at 8:40AM. Students enter the building at 8:50AM and classes begin at 9:00AM.
- Parents are permitted to walk with their child to class on the first day of school. We do request that parents do not remain in the classroom after the morning announcements have concluded.



Meals at school

Each class will be scheduled for a lunch period that will be eaten in the cafeteria. Lunch options include students bring a lunch from home or eating a lunch offered by ASD. Lunches are available for purchase. (\$4.50). Lunches coming from home should include nutritious items. Please do not include pop or candy. Additionally, we will not have a breakfast program at Birchwood ABC for K-5 students.

Apply Online for Free and Reduced-Priced Meals

YOU MUST APPLY EVERY SCHOOL YEAR.

Families with students at **pricing schools** are encouraged to apply. Please include all ASD students in your household in the student section on the meal application, regardless of where they attend school, so we may certify your family in one application together. You may apply at any time of the year if your circumstances change due to layoffs, adding people to your households or decreased income.

If all of your ASD students attend Community Eligible Program (CEP) schools, no

application is required. If some students attend pricing schools and some attend community eligible schools, you should apply.

Note: Applications for the 22-23 school year will be accepted between mid July and the beginning of August 2022. Again if all of your students attended CEP schools this year, please do NOT apply.



The new web portal for Free and Reduced Meals is at www.schoolcafe.com/anchorage

[Click Here to Apply for Free and Reduced Meals](#)

Buddy Bear Program

To apply, click the link below:

[2022-2023 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, 2022 attend 11:30am-3:30pm, Monday-Friday
- Children younger than 4-years-old on or before September 1, 2022 attend either 8:15-10:45am **or** 12:15pm-2:45pm, Monday-Thursday
- Communication programs (Creekside, Taku, Ravenwood) operate 8:15-10:45am **or** 12:15pm-2:45pm, Monday/Tuesday **or** Wednesday/Thursday
- Age Eligibility: Children must be at least 3 years old to apply

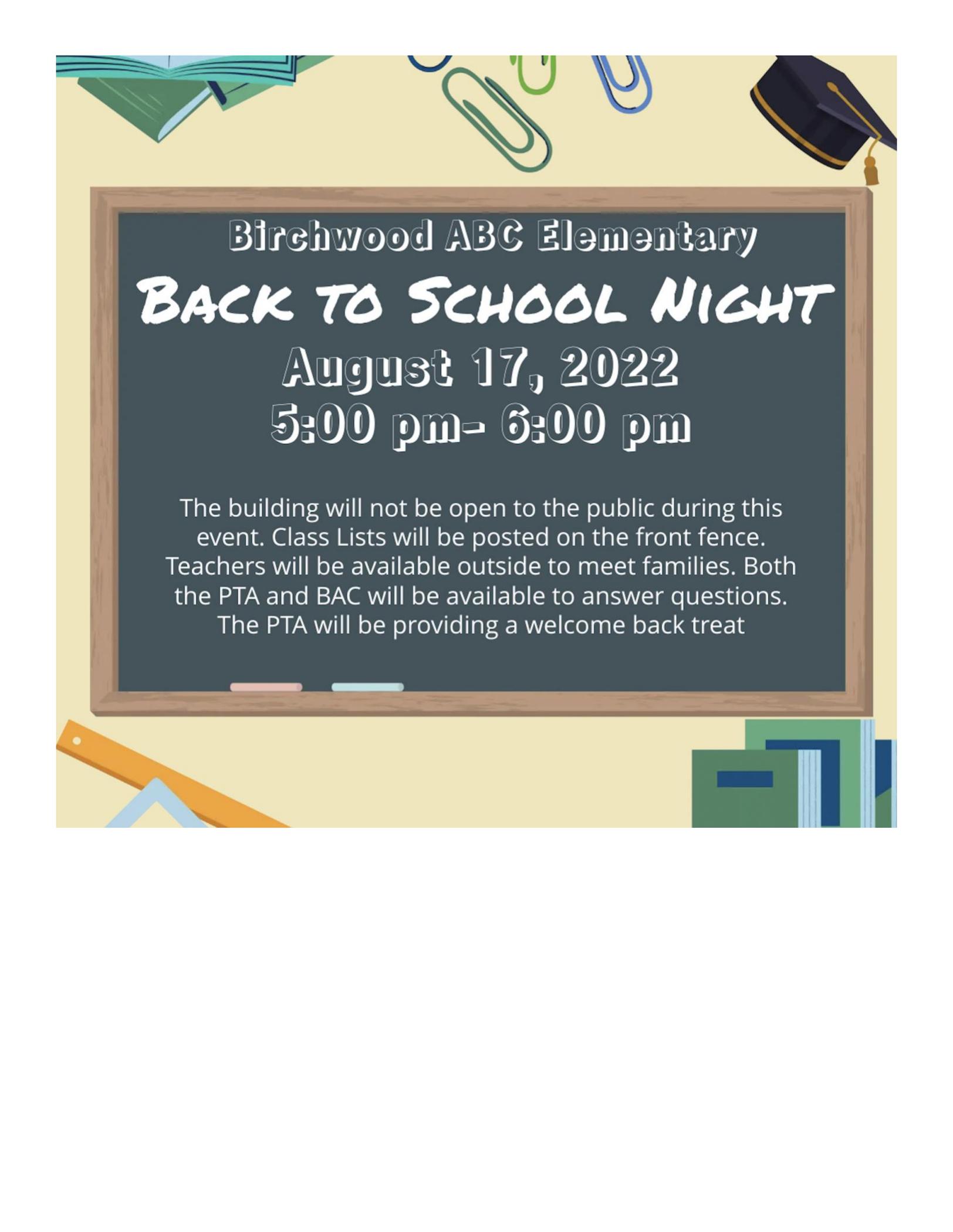
Transportation is not provided for the Buddy Bear Program.

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.

Families will be contacted by the school if/when a program determines space is available for a Buddy Bear. Families may be contacted for a potential spot in the Buddy Bear program throughout the school year.

Buddy Bears must reapply each school year.



Birchwood ABC Elementary

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

August 17, 2022

5:00 pm- 6:00 pm

The building will not be open to the public during this event. Class Lists will be posted on the front fence. Teachers will be available outside to meet families. Both the PTA and BAC will be available to answer questions. The PTA will be providing a welcome back treat



**OPEN
HOUSE**

@ BIRCHWOOD ABC

Tuesday
**AUGUST
30TH**
5:30pm-7:00pm

MEET IN THE MPR
Birchwood ABC
Elementary

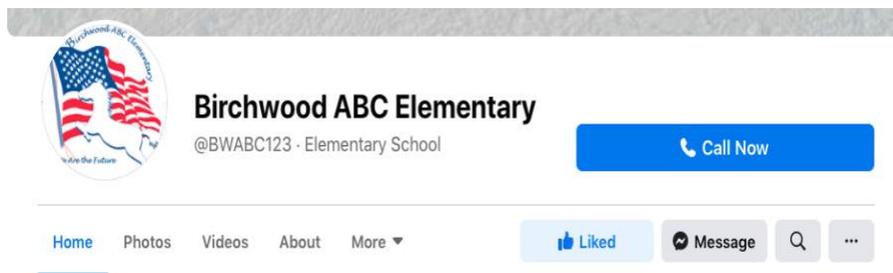
Each month Birchwood ABC focuses on a different character trait.

September's Character Trait

Respect: A regard for or appreciation of the worth or value of someone or something.



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.



*Aug 17th Back to School Night
Aug 18th 1st-5th grade classes start
Aug 25th PreK and Kinder classes start*

*Aug 30th Open House
Sep 5th Labor Day- No School*

Thank you to our School Business Partner!!!



773 Logistics Readiness
JBER, AK