



The Birchwood Banner

February 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



We are excited to announce that we have been approved to have our 3-6 students return to in-person school at Birchwood Elementary School beginning on Monday February 1st. You may review our return to school plan on our school website through the following link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lDbWq1MTVmmQnxyGR4j_nGCYDVtepH_PJc53d8cu7dE/edit

This plan includes:

- Drop-off and Pick-up procedures
- School and classroom COVID-19 mitigation plans
- Other information regarding school re-start

I want to thank all of our families for their patience and support and the BAC for being actively involved in the effort get all of our students back to school. I also want to thank our school staff for leading ASD in the effort to get all of our students back to in-person schooling!



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



The last curbside pick-up will be on Wednesday January 27th from 3:30-5:00. 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:

Next Meeting: The next BAC meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 6:00 PM via zoom. Please email bacbirchwood@gmail.com with any questions or curriculum matters you'd like to discuss or address.

Did you know: You do not need to be a BAC member to attend monthly meetings. Anyone interested in curriculum proposals, philosophy matters, or school academic policies are welcome and encouraged to attend. We want to hear from the parent/guardian body so that we may better represent you and our students.

The BAC is a committee of parents or guardians of BWABC students organized to advise, consult, and assist the school's administrative staff on matters relating to the curriculum.



The Anchorage School District and Capstone Family Medicine are working together to provide you with covid testing sites that are conveniently located at five different schools in Anchorage.

<https://www.asdk12.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=115&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=58463&PageID=1>

Eagle River has a muni testing site that has extended their hours to accommodate schools as well

<https://covid-response-moa-muniorg.hub.arcgis.com/pages/testing>

Eagle River

[📍](#) 11801 Business Blvd, Eagle River. Find [directions to the site.](#)

[🕒](#) Hours: 8am-7pm **OPEN NOW** 🚚

Cost: Free

You **do not** need to register in advance. You can get your results faster by [registering here.](#)

RED, White, and Blue

Award Winners:

January Character Trait Awards:

Responsibility: A form of trustworthiness; the trait of being answerable to someone for something or being responsible for one's conduct

Ms. Banner:	Jolene Collins	Ms. Tyson:	Hayden Devore
Mrs. Crum:	Sadie Cascio	Mrs. Dennis:	Calista Link
Mrs. Summers:	Logan Embry	Mrs. Eads:	Mackenzie Thorp
Mrs. Lambert:	Jenna Garrido	Ms. Jacobs:	Sophia Blea
Mrs. Boothe:	Raina Gressett	Mrs. Barker:	Lita Brewington
Mrs. Means:	Isabella Thompson	Mr. Hahn:	Gabriel Gottenbos
Mrs. Motton:	Lucian Makisi	Ms. Jones:	Janelle Iyakitan
		Mr. Olson:	Irelynn Borum



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

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.



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

www.asdk12.org



SchoolPortraits

- ✓ No Session Fee
- ✓ Purchase only the print package
- ✓ Indoor or Outdoor portrait options
- ✓ Only one family is scheduled at a time
- ✓ Sibling Photos
- ✓ Print packages ready in approximately one week
- ✓ Support a locally owned, family run business
- ✓ Appointments through December available



For all five of our kiddos, we love getting photos to share with family and friends. This was a fantastic experience where they offer a calm, inviting environment, different photo back drops, completely engaged with our 1 to 16 year old, and I LOVE the opportunity to pick what PRINTS you want instead of having to buy a package and having photos that might go to waste. This is definitely something to take advantage of!!"

-Jennifer M.,
Fitzgerald Photography Customer

ScheduleAppointment:

(907) 726-1562 CALL

(907) 727-7846 TEXT

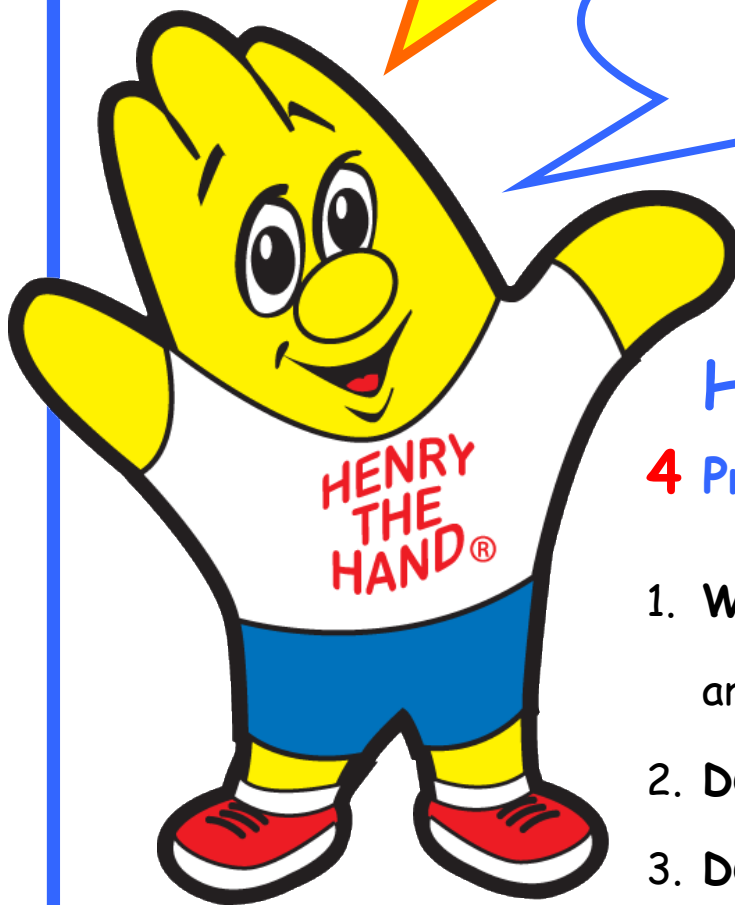
Alicia@FitzgeraldPhotos.com

www.FitzgeraldPhotos.com

***Located in downtown
Eagle River, Alaska***

Help keep
Birchwood ABC Elementary
Healthy

Spread the Word
Not the Germs



Henry the Hand's®

4 Principles of Hand Awareness:

1. **WASH** your hands when they are dirty and **BEFORE** eating.
2. **DO NOT** cough into your hands.
3. **DO NOT** sneeze into your hands.
4. Above all, **DO NOT** put your fingers into your eyes, nose or mouth!

© 1999 Dr. William P. Sawyer



Henry the Hand Foundation promotes Hand Awareness.
Cincinnati, OH 45241 513.769.3660 www.henrythehand.com

Mask Guidance for School-Aged Children

The CDC recommends the use of non-medical grade cloth face coverings in public settings where other physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain. When used with other risk mitigating efforts, non-medical grade masks can further reduce the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in public areas and a school building.

Masks are considered safe for most children and youth over the age of two years. **There are very few exceptions for wearing masks.**

Should a child be required to wear a mask during school?*

The child has asthma.	 YES The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology recommends that individuals with asthma wear a mask in public.
The child has a condition such as autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability, or a mental health disorder.	 YES These conditions do not necessarily justify a mask exemption unless the child is unable to wear a mask without excessive trauma or frequent manipulation.
The child cannot communicate clearly while wearing a mask.	 YES Explore instructional adaptations or use a face mask with a clear plastic insert as appropriate.
The child cannot remove the mask on their own.	 NO Encourage the family to consider virtual learning opportunities.
The child is asleep or unconscious.	 NO

*There may be children that have experienced trauma and find masks hard to wear due to their past experiences.

For more information and tips for helping children wear masks, visit <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/COVID-19/Pages/Cloth-Face-Coverings-for-Children-During-COVID-19.aspx>

Alaska Chapter

incorporated in Alaska

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Sources: Kansas COVID Workgroup for Kids, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and American Academy of Pediatrics



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.



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.

February's Character Trait

Honesty: Fairness and straightforwardness of conduct, adherence to the facts.



February 15th- Presidents Day-No School
February 26th- Asynchronous Day

March 5th- In service day-No school
March 8th-12th Spring Break

Thank you to our School Business Partner!!!



773 Logistics Readiness
JBER, AK