

URSA MINOR



Words from the Principal

Dear Ursa Minor School Community,
Happy New Year! This is an exciting time of the year as it is a new year and students are in the process of retuning to school. Yeah!! Please review this newsletter carefully as there is important start up information and change in our procedures and protocols.

The procedure for dropping off students in the morning has been designed to maintain social distancing. Parents are requested to stay in their car when dropping off their child(ren). Please be sure that your child's mask is on and they are ready to get out and line up.

Cont on Pg 6

Looking to Join the Ursa Minor Team?

We are in need of Noon Duties and sub TA's. If you are interested please reach out to the front office.

KEEP ASD SYMPTOM FREE

Mask Wearing #101



With Pre-k -2nd

Students returning please remember that we are a team and we all have to do our part to remain COVID free so all grades can return and remain in building.

Please review the Home Health Screening DAILY before coming to school found here.

<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/6622>

Wear an appropriately sized mask. Must cover nose, mouth, chin, and comfortably fit over ears.

New Bell Schedule

9:05 am - Door Duty

9:15 am - Student Entry

9:30 am - Tardy Bell

12:00 pm - End of 1st Recess

12:35 pm - End of 2nd Recess

1:10 pm - End of 3rd Recess

3:00 pm - Dismissal

Stay Connect to Our School

Website: <https://www.asdk12.org/ursaminor>

Facebook: [Ursa Minor Elementary School](#)



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

Connect with the District

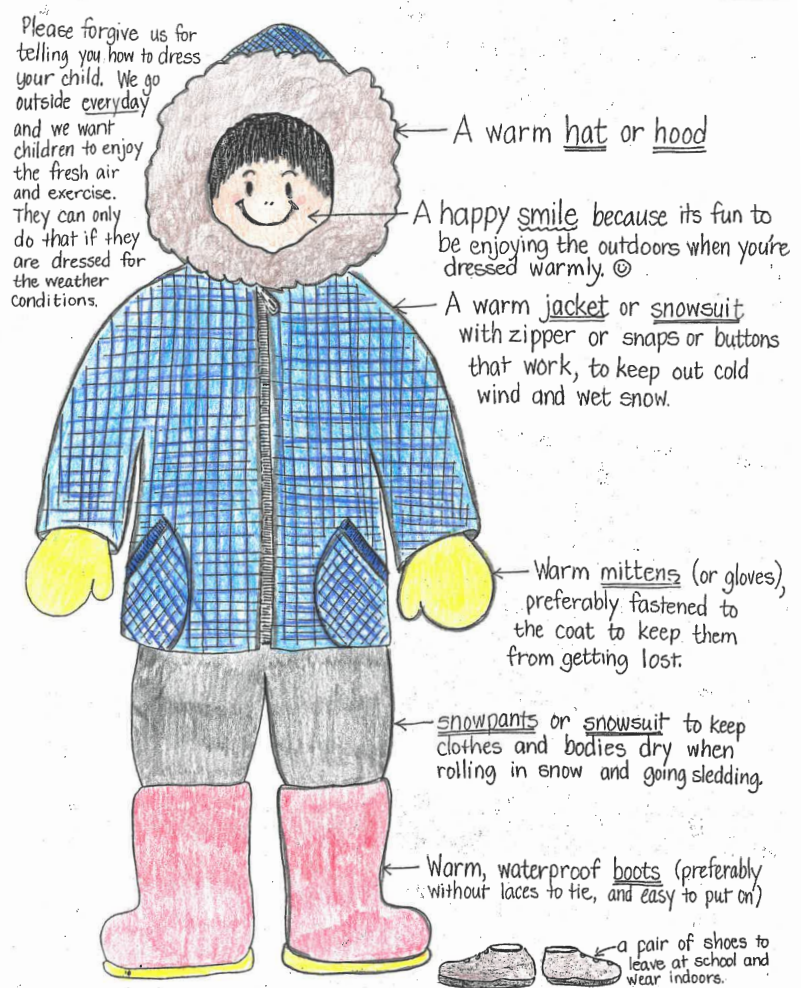
Website: www.asdk12.org/page/1442

President: Elisa Vakalis
Vice President: Margo Bellamy
Treasurer: Starr Marsett
Clerk: Andy Holleman
Superintendent: Dr. Deena Bishop

Friendly Reminder

With pre-k through 2nd grade returning on January 19th please remember that students will be standing outside and going to recess in temperatures down to -10 degrees.

Students will need to have the appropriate snow-gear. We are unable to loan out any snow-gear this year. If your family is in need, please reach out to the school nurse and/or counselor. Families may also reach out to ACS (building 600) for winter gear.



What the Warm & Cozy Student Wears to School.

Procedures for arrival and dismissal

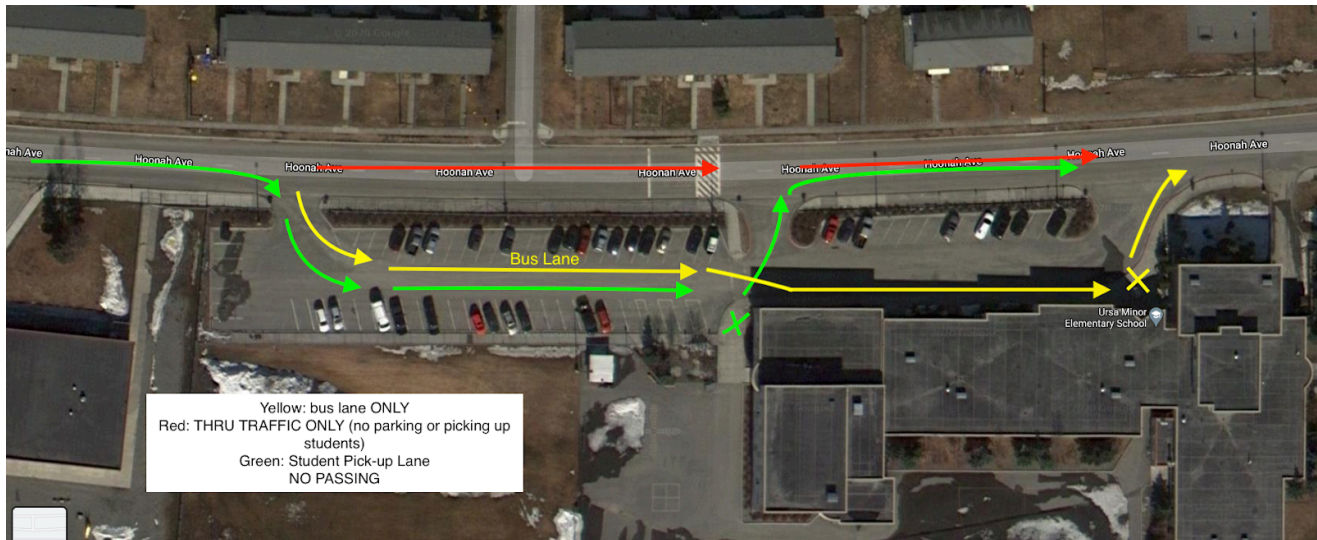
Car Drop-off

- Student drop off will start at 9:10 am to allow a shortened time for students to be in line.
- Parents will not be allowed to exit their car.
- Students will exit the vehicle on the passenger side and then line up at the cone with the teacher's name placed at the designated entrance door.
- A distance of 6 ft will be kept between students monitored by assigned duty staff.
- At 9:15 students who are in line will be escorted in one class at a time by either the classroom teacher or morning duty staff as they follow distancing guidelines of 6 ft apart.

Car Pick-up

- Parents will not be allowed to exit their car.
- We have implemented a system where each family is assigned a number that will be displayed during car pick-up. This number is printed and laminated and should be displayed on your passenger-side visor. Each student will also receive a laminated card with their assigned family number (example photo on next page).
- Classroom teachers and outside duty personnel will have a list of the family numbers.
- Students who are getting picked up will be the last to be dismissed from the classroom, after SAP students and walkers.
- When families pull up (about three at a time) the car numbers will be called over the radios.
- Students will remain in desks until their number is called, at which time they will follow their teacher's exiting procedure and exit through the designated door.
- Two teachers/TAs will be monitoring social distancing in the halls - one in the intermediate hall and the other in the primary hall.
- Students will go directly to their assigned car.
- **If the student is not ready and is requiring a longer wait you will be directed to drive around the block as to not hold up the line.**
- Once all children are in the car they will follow the traffic map out of parking lot,
- Duty personnel will have the option to direct a car to pull forward or wait for a child if one child is taking too long.
- No parking on Hoonah Ave. for student pickup. Duty personnel will not see or radio these car numbers and students will not be released from their classrooms until their family vehicle number has been called.

Please note that the preschool program has a slightly different procedure. This is being communicated directly to parents by the preschool teaching team.



Example of displayed family number for student pick-up.

Walkers:

We encourage parents who are walking their children to and from school to arrange a meeting with their child that is off school grounds. Standing in line with your student, or in groups, is to be avoided. Ursa Minor staff members will monitor students while they are on school grounds. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep our students and staff safe and socially distanced.

JAN 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01
						02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	No school. MLK Day observed.	First day in the building for PreK through 2 nd graders!				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

In our re-opening plans it states that parents who are walking their child to school are to stop before coming onto school grounds and wait for their child off school grounds at the end of the day. If your child is walking to school please have them arrive with their outdoor gear on and with indoor shoes in their bag or backpack. Students will enter the building at 9:15 am.

I realize that one of the joys of our children going to school is being present the first day, yet due to the current level of risk in our community parents will not be allowed to mingle and wait in line with their child or come into the classroom. Ursa Minor staff will be outside to assist and monitor students. They will be wearing a vest and have a radio on them. My staff and I thank you wholeheartedly in advance for your cooperation in following this safety step.

Adults (anyone older than 18 years of age) who need to come into the building will use the front door and complete a Health Survey. If you know you are needing to come to school it is strongly encouraged to call ahead and inform or make an appointment with the person you are seeing

School breakfast and lunch is free to students who are eating at school. Students eating breakfast will be served first thing when they arrive, at 9:15 am.

Dismissal will be staggered with students attending School Age Program being dismissed first at about 2:55 pm. Students who are walking will be dismissed at 2:57 pm and then shortly after that about 3:05 pm student who get picked up or riders.

Our school day is shortened with a focus on English Language Arts (reading, writing, spelling, grammar, and handwriting), math and Social Emotional Learning.

The school day will begin at 9:30 am (tardy bell) and end at 3:00 pm (dismissal bell). Students will have a half hour blocked out for outside recess and 30 minutes for lunch. During these times tasks such as getting gear on and off for recess, preparation and clean-up from lunch will occur. It is important that parents note the start and end times of our school day so that students are safe before and after our new school time schedule. We do not have adequate space and monitoring for students if they arrive early or are not picked up after school.

Parents can tell their child that if they arrive too early, leave school and find no one at home, or do not feel safe going home, etc. that they can go to the front door of the school and we will help them (as long as staff are here). I always want our students to know that we will do whatever we can to help them be safe and feel safe.

Wishing you the best!

Wendy Brons, Principal