

# URSA MINOR

WENDY BRONS, PRINCIPAL/ 336 HOONAH AVE, JBER, AK 99505/ 907-428-1311



May 21st, 2019

## A Message from the Principal

Every year just keeps going faster and faster! This year has zoomed by! It is hard to believe that the 2018 - 2019 school year is coming to an end! Summer is right around the corner and is a welcomed time of the year, and a sad time. Many of us are looking forward to spending more time with our family, traveling and seeing extended family, or just relaxing and soaking up what summer has to offer. Many families will be moving over the summer and we want to wish you well as you move onto your next home. Whatever it is that you do, the Ursa Minor Staff and I wish you the best for a safe, fun filled, and rejuvenating summer.

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## Goodbye, Farewell & Good Luck!

It is with a heavy and sad heart that I inform you that we will be saying goodbye to many teachers and staff members that have supported Ursa Minor's students and other staff members. I would like to recognize:

**\*Mr. Vecera (Third/Fourth Grade)** is retiring after 29 years of service.

**\*Mr. Pieper (Fourth Grade)** is retiring after 21 years of teaching and moving to Montana as his wife has accepted a principal position.

**\*Mrs. McAllister (Kindergarten)** is retiring to go onto working as an ABA therapist.

**\*Miss Tucker (First Grade)** is transferring to Ptarmigan and going into Library/Media.

**\*Mrs. Boes (Fifth Grade)** is PCSing to Texas.

**\*Mrs. Arriaga (Second Grade)** is PCSing and moving to Florida.

**\*Miss Cole (3rd Grade)** has accepted a different position in ASD.

**\*Mrs. Honkola (Music)** will be at two other schools as their music teacher.

**\*Miss Yanik (Speech)** is moving back home to be with family.

**\*Mrs. Julliard (Special Education)** is going to Orion as a special education/resource teacher.

**\*Mrs. Daigrepoint (AA)** is also PCSing to Colorado and Morgan Cook will be our new AA for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

The current count is 11 out of about 30 staff members! That is a big loss for our school! I know you will join me in wishing them well as they move onto new challenges, adventures and experiences! Their knowledge, skills, leadership and expertise will be greatly missed.

### •• SEL Star Winner ••

4/29 - 5/3

K- Zuri H. - Moses  
2nd- Keith B. - Arriaga  
3rd- Drew O. - Vecera  
4th- Kaiden W. - Pieper  
5th- Jackie M. - Dunlap  
6th- Izzy M. - Dunlap

5/6 - 5/10

K- Myles D. - McAllister  
1st- Lee'Mani R. - Tucker  
2nd- Niabella T. - Arriaga  
3rd- Alayana G. - Vecera  
4th- Emery S. - Vecera  
5th- Matthew P. - Boes  
6th- Tyler G. - Dunlap



### Our 6th Graders are moving on to middle school!!



6th grade parents are invited to join us in our 6th grade celebration, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM on Wednesday the 22nd. Following the celebration, there will be a 6th v. 5th grade game. At 3:27, students will line the hallways and cheer on the 6th graders as they walk the hallway for the last time!! Parents are welcome to stay for the afternoon!

Good luck in middle school!!



**Anchorage School District**  
*Educating All Students for Success in Life*

### ASD SCHOOL BOARD

President: Starr Marsett  
Vice President: Alisha Hilde  
Treasurer: Elisa Vakalish  
Clerk: Andy Holleman  
Deena Mitchell  
Margo Bellamy  
Dave Donley  
Superintendent: Deena Bishop

## K-9 DEMO



## 6TH GRADE BAND AND ORCHESTRA CONCERT



## WILDLIFE PRESENTATION





# You're Invited

to  
Ursa Minor's Annual Family  
Picnic



Tuesday, May 21st

1:30 - 3:00 PM



There will be hot dogs, drinks,  
and treats available for  
everyone! Come spend some  
time hanging out and having a  
good time!



Online enrollment is happening now through August 23. You can enroll current students for next year by going through Parent Connection on Zangle. If you need a pin number or assistance, please call the school at 907-428-1311. Kindergarten will begin school a full week later than first through sixth grade so teachers can gather important pre-assessment data. New students and kindergarten students will still need to come to the school to enroll their children Tuesday, July 30 - Thursday, August 1, in person by coming to the school. Look for more information on the ASD web site,

[www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org).

In celebration of Arbor Day, Ursa Minor received a new tree for our grounds! This was presented with the help of Mr. Vecera's 3rd/4th grade class and Miss Cole's 3rd grade class! Thank you to Charlene Johnson, P.W.S. GS-12 Biological Scientist, Wetland and Vegetation Ecology Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson for your help in organizing this event!



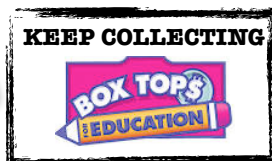
## URSA MINOR PTA

**Dates to remember...**

Registration - July 30 - Aug 1st

First day of school for 1st - 6th graders - Aug. 20th

First day of school for Pre-K & Kinder - Aug. 27th



EMAIL: [ursaminorpta@gmail.com](mailto:ursaminorpta@gmail.com)

**FUN FRIDAYS!**

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## May



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Wildlife Presentation K-2 @ 9:30 3-6 @ 1:30	2	3 Talent Show 2:00 - 3:15 in the Gym  *Fun Friday	4
5 Teacher Appreciation Week	6  *SEL - Mrs. Dunlap	7	8 Bike To School Day *Wear a helmet and Follow all rules for Bike riding.	9 K-9 Demo Mrs. Arriaga's Class @ 9:30	10 ZOO Kinder Zoo Field Trip *Fun Friday	11
12 Police Week	13  *SEL - Mrs. Williams	14 12:30 Police Demo 3rd/4th Grade	15 Band & Orchestra concert 9:30 am	16	17 Enrichment Day	18
19	20 Arbor Day Presentation 10 am Mr. Vecera/Miss Cole  *FIELD DAY*	21 Annual Ursa Minor Picnic 1:30 - 3 pm	22 *LAST DAY OF SCHOOL*  *6th Grade Celebration 1:30 - 2:30	23 Teacher In-Service Day	24 Limited Office Hours - 8 AM - 1 PM	25
26 Have a great summer Vacation!	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	



# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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Throughout the school year we have had many celebrations and faced some challenges. These events offered us an opportunity to pull together as partners, learn to face adversity, build relationships, and work together which only strengthens our school family and community. This partnership provides our students with the best education in a safe environment. Keeping our students safe has been and continues to be the responsibility of everyone; school staff, students, and parents. I have appreciated your support and willingness to work together in supporting a safe, respectful, responsible, caring, and friendly learning environment.

**Students' last day is Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.** All students' supplies will be going home Tuesday, May 21st. **Students are not to bring backpacks to school on Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> (students' last day).** You may bring a recycleable bag if necessary. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring our last student day is a positive one. Tuesday, May 21st, we are planning to have our year-end celebration picnic from 1:30 - 3:00 PM. We hope you can join us. Please look over the flier that was sent home for more information. Please come into the school and look over the Lost and Found. You may find missing clothing. We will go through it and keep some to add to our winter gear that we lend out and the rest will be thrown or given to the Thrift Shop on JBER.

On an important final note, it is helpful to plan for activities that keep your child moving and learning throughout the year. There are reading programs at your community library that offer incentives to read, keeping a journal of summer activities, short stories or poems, and working on those math facts all support learning and preventing the "summer slide"! Board games are a great family past time and can be educational and build social skills. Getting out and playing with friends and neighbors is important to maintain health and build social skills.

Enjoy your summer and warm regards,

Wendy Brons, Principal