

# URSA MINOR

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



JANUARY 17, 2018

## A Message from the Principal

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful and rejuvenating winter break. I love the New Year because it seems to offer an opportunity for newness. I can try to restart some of my old resolutions that I have let go and set new goals. January is the start of third quarter or second semester. This is a very productive time with few interruptions and spring fever has not set in yet. This time flies by too! This is a great time for students to set new goals and determine the objectives (how you are going to achieve the goals) for the rest of the school year. Make them official by writing them down or posting them up and reviewing them periodically. You would be amazed what a difference it can make!

We are working hard to ensure that your child receives a great education at Ursa Minor.

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## Extra curricular activities schedule

Ursa Minor has several extra curricular activities happening at the moment! We hope that your child has found something interesting to participate in!

### Morning Tutoring: Grades 1st - 6th

8 - 8:30 am

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday



### Morning JNYO: 1st - 6th

7:50 am - 8:50 am

Tuesday and Wednesday

### After School Wrestling: Grade 3rd - 6th

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Tuesday and Friday

### After School Wrestling: Grade K - 2nd

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Thursday



### Cross Country Ski Club: Grade 4th - 6th

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Monday and Wednesday

\*All activities require a permission slip. Please see the front office if you have any questions.\*

## •• SEL Star Winner ••

12/17 - 12/20

K- Maliyah Simon - Moses

1<sup>st</sup>- Samuel Huse - McComas

2<sup>nd</sup>- Anthony Armon - Larson/Lay

3<sup>rd</sup>- Kaeden Aycock - Cole

4<sup>th</sup>- David Stott - Vecera

5<sup>th</sup>- Amari Knight - Dunlap

6<sup>th</sup>- Tyler Griffin - Dunlap

1/7 - 1/11

K- Soren Franks - Moses

1<sup>st</sup>- Athena Fleecs - Tucker

2<sup>nd</sup>- Emma Stewart Linderman - Arriaga

3<sup>rd</sup>- S.J. Novosel - Cole

4<sup>th</sup>- Addison Arrowood - Vecera

5<sup>th</sup>- Kaelyn DeGroot - Dunlap

6<sup>th</sup>- Jaden Terre - Williams



### Attention Parents and Guardians:

Please be aware that there will be school February 20, 21, 22 to make up instructional school days missed from the earthquake.

Teachers will not hold Parent Teacher Conferences **BUT** if you have concerns, now or ever, *please* reach out to your teacher and make an appointment with them.



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

### ASD SCHOOL BOARD

President: Starr Marsett

Vice President: Deena Mitchell

Treasurer: Elisa Snelling

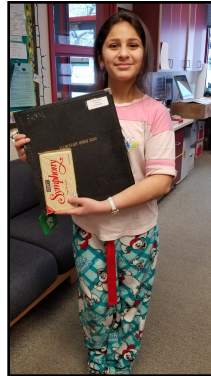
Clerk: Alisha Hilde

Dave Donley

Andy Holleman

Mark Foster

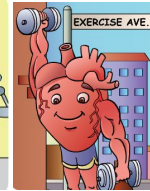
Superintendent: Deena Bishop



On Thursday, December 20th, our band teacher, Mrs. Mills came in to let Rhiannon Dobbins and Lillian Decker know that they were accepted into Honor Band! Congratulations to you both! We know you will be



amazing!



This month in **Elementary Health**, your child will study **healthy habits**.

#### Monthly Theme: Healthy Habits

Grade	K	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Topic	Going to the Doctor and Dentist	How I Breathe	Your Heart, Small But Strong	When Bodies Have Problems	No Smoking	Love Your Lungs	Allergies and Asthma
Link to Parent Bulletin	<a href="https://go.gl/AKxh9y">https://go.gl/AKxh9y</a>	<a href="https://go.gl/BsvQBq">https://go.gl/BsvQBq</a>	<a href="https://go.gl/LVsB5v">https://go.gl/LVsB5v</a>	<a href="https://go.gl/oiDN7N">https://go.gl/oiDN7N</a>	<a href="https://go.gl/EGiFbt">https://go.gl/EGiFbt</a>	<a href="https://go.gl/LvQD2g">https://go.gl/LvQD2g</a>	<a href="https://go.gl/vddThz">https://go.gl/vddThz</a>

School Climate and Connectedness Survey (SCCS) meets ESSA's new requirement for districts to measure an "indicator of school quality or student success".

Students in grades 3rd - 6th will be taking the SCCS between the window of January 18th and February 9th. Thousands of Alaska students and staff take the SCCS each year to transform school climate and strengthen relationships, factors linked to academic outcomes.

SCCS is a statewide survey developed by the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in partnership with AASB in 2006. All Alaska school districts are invited to take the survey each spring.

Through student and staff perceptions, it measures:

- Positive School Climate
- How connected students feel to adults and peers
- Social and emotional learning
- Observed risk behaviors at school or school events.



**Richelle Lay**  
K-6 Health/Social Emotional Learning



It's time again for the Ursa Minor Spelling Bee coming Feb. 15th.

**We will need to have some volunteers to help make this a success.** We are looking for a couple of judges and a pronouncer. Please contact Ms. Larson if you would be able to help out at [larson\\_cathy@asdk12.org](mailto:larson_cathy@asdk12.org).

## URSA MINOR PTA

**Dates to remember...**

Jan 16 - PTA Meeting @ 2:30 PM



**FUN FRIDAYS!**

Jan. 11

Jan. 18

Jan. 25

Bring in \$.50 for a delicious popcorn treat!

EMAIL: [URSAMINORPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:URSAMINORPTA@GMAIL.COM)

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# January



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> 1	2	3	4	5
6	<b>BACK TO SCHOOL</b>	8	9	10	11 *FUN FRIDAY	12
13	14	15	16 PTA Meeting	17	18 *FUN FRIDAY	19
20 Pennies for Patients	21 NO SCHOOL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	22	23	24	25 *FUN FRIDAY	26
27	28	29	30	31		



**REMINDER:** students are to arrive at school **NO EARLIER** than **8:25** am for breakfast and **NO EARLIER** than **8:40** am for those waiting outside. There is **NO** adult supervision until 8:40 am.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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Teachers will meet in grade level teams to review student progress, instructional strategies, and interventions to meet students' needs. We also continue to use staff meetings as professional development opportunities. Your child's teachers are working diligently to ensure that your child receives a great education. As your child's first and foremost teacher, please know that we value parent input and continued communication.

Winter in Alaska can offer new opportunities for learning outdoor sports or activities. I encourage families to get out and play or at least encourage your child to go outside to play. Going outside has many benefits such as becoming more acclimated to the climate, healthier (fresh air), exercise helps with weight control, sleep better, children have opportunities to practice socialization skills, and can build confidence when engaged in physical activities. Remember, cold air does not cause colds - virus and germs do. Dress appropriately and enjoy our great outdoors! Mr. Linderman has several after school activities planned and appreciates parent volunteers.

We will be administering the "Climate and Connectedness Survey" to our 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students January 18<sup>th</sup> - February 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be done in the classroom for students. We strongly encourage our parents to complete the survey. The survey is on line and can be found at [www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org) during the open window times stated above. This is an anonymous survey that we use to get useful information on our community's perception of our school climate and how people feel about our school. We also use this information to write school goals. Please complete one survey per household per school.

I had the honor of looking through all of our student's report cards. One thing I noticed is that teachers commended many students for their efforts and I also noticed how many students had great attendance (0 - 2 absences for the quarter). We understand that when children are sick, they are not sent to school and actually, we appreciate that. While it is great to share, we do not appreciate the sharing of germs that can cause one to be out of school (fever, flu symptoms, etc.). Attendance is very important. Our goal is that 90% of our students will attend school 90% of the year. That requires that when students are not sick, they come to school. Attendance can have a big effect on learning. Students who are not at school miss core instruction which can create gaps in learning that will have an impact for future learning. And besides, we miss them when they are not here.

Looking forward to a great second semester and 2019! My wish for you is that you and your family are healthy, stay safe, and have many blessing your way allowing you to build many joyful memories.

Warm Regards,

Wendy Brons, Principal