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## The Birchwood Banner

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*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



Throughout the year you will receive information using this mass notification system. The information will reference events that may involve only Birchwood ABC, such as the Red, White and Blue assemblies or only Eagle River ES, such as the Student of the Month assemblies. Sometimes notifications will consist of events that involve both schools. We apologize for this overlap but this system does not recognize us as separate due to the joining of our schools throughout other district data systems. Therefore, please pay close attention to robo texts, calls and emails. Additionally, all activities and events information can be found on both schools

websites and newsletters.

### Family Engagement Survey

The Family Engagement Survey window opens February 11 and will remain open until March 8. This important survey provides needed input and data for district goals and programs. The night before the survey opens, a survey invitation and link will be sent out to all families and contacts through Blackboard. The link will also be shared with principals and staff to support promotion in school newsletters or at kiosks within the school. also posted on all school websites. The survey will also be published through social media

### Visit Our Schools Month

ASD schools will once again participate in February's Visit Our Schools Month program. In its

sixth year, Visit Our Schools Month gives community members and prospective parents an opportunity to learn more about our public schools. Tours are scheduled for 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday in February. All schools will also hold an evening tour at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 26.

## PEAKS Testing Window, Content Areas and Testing Times

2019 State Testing Window: **March 25-April 26**

ASD Window: **March 25-April 5** (*Make-ups may occur at any time March 26-April 26*)



The PEAKS assessment involves 3-6 grade students. Please do not plan student absences during the weeks of March 25 or April 5.

Thank You,

Michael Thomas  
Principal, Birchwood ABC  
Thomas\_michael@asdk12.org

Dear ASD Families and Employees,

Due to students being out of school December 3-7 following the November 30 earthquake, a plan was approved by the School Board on January 22, 2018, to account for the days of instruction missed. 2018-19 Revised School Year Calendar.

The days associated with the February Parent-Teacher Conferences will be utilized as student instructional days. Half days originally scheduled for February 20, 21, and 22 are regular full day instructional time for students. The originally planned early release days for students, late evenings for teachers, and in-service on February 22 will not occur to allow for full-day student instructional time. In lieu of Parent-Teacher Conferences, principals will work with teachers on alternative means to reach out to parents regarding the progress, learning, and growth of their students.

We appreciate your cooperation in meeting student learning and family needs.

Anchorage School District

### Health/SEL

Fifth and sixth grade students will be having their Human Growth and Development and HIV/AIDS units during their next Health rotation from February 25 to March 8. If you already gave permission during registration for your child to attend there is nothing further you need to do. If you chose to wait for more information during registration, you will be receiving a letter from Ms. List with information on previewing materials along with a permission slip to allow your student to attend or to opt them out. The teacher's manual for the Great Body Shop lessons will be available to view in the front office.

Have a great day!

Linda List  
Health Teacher

### Birchwood Advisory Committee (BAC) News



**\*\*Meeting Date/Time Change\*\***: Due to a scheduling conflict, the next BAC meeting date and time have changed to Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the library. Please email [bwabcbac@yahoo.com](mailto:bwabcbac@yahoo.com) with any questions or curriculum matters you'd like to discuss or address.

**Volunteer/Service Opportunity**: Looking for an opportunity to serve? If you would like to be involved in awards ceremonies, curriculum decisions and/or Birchwood ABC philosophy matters, please consider serving as a member of the Birchwood Advisory Committee. The BAC will be holding elections in April to fill vacancies projected for the 2019-2020 school year. If interested, please contact a BAC member, or send questions to the BAC email address listed below.

**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 is welcome and encouraged to attend. We want to hear from the parent/guardian body so that we may better represent you and our students.

**BAC Members**:

President: Kai Sims

Vice President: Dorothy Cadenas

Secretary: Beth Hastings

Erin Connolly

Jusdi Doucet

Laura Frost

Ben Jackson

Brad Poston

### Nurse Notes



I hope you all are having a good winter. Please if you have a student who is feverish or vomiting, wait for them to return to school if: 1) Fever free for 24 hours without medication to bring fever down, 2) Vomiting free for 24 hours. If you want to know the difference between a cold & the flu, please check out the chart below. Call, email or visit me if you have questions. Thank you!

Nurse Beth

### **Differences in Cold or Flu**

| <b>Symptoms</b>         | <b>Cold</b>                       | <b>Flu</b>   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Fever                   | Rare                              | Characteristic, high (100-102 degrees F); lasts three to four days               |
| Headache                | Rare                              | Prominent  |
| General Aches, Pains    | Slight                            | Usual; often severe  |
| Fatigue, Weakness       | Quite mild                        | Can last up to two to three weeks  |
| Extreme Exhaustion      | Never                             | Early and prominent  |
| Stuffy Nose             | Common                            | Sometimes  |
| Sneezing                | Usual                             | Sometimes  |
| Sore Throat             | Common                            | Sometimes  |
| Chest Discomfort, Cough | Mild to moderate; hacking cough   | Common; can become severe  |
| <b>Complications</b>    | Sinus congestion or earache       | Bronchitis, <a href="#">pneumonia</a> ; can be life-threatening                  |
| <b>Prevention</b>       | Good hygiene                      | Annual flu shot or FluMist   |
| <b>Treatment</b>        | Only temporary relief of symptoms | Antiviral <a href="#">drugs</a> (Tamiflu or Relenza) within 24-48 hours of onset |



2/5-2/8: ACCESS testing for both BWABC and ERES

2/8: Winter Carnival 5:00-7:00PM

2/18: Presidents Day No School

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**Thank you to our School Business Partners!**



773 Logistics Readiness Squadron, JBER



The Alaska Cache

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