March 21, 2024, Newsletter

Scenic Park Elementary
3933 Patterson St. Anchorage, Ak, 99504
907 742-1650

Message from the Principal
Hello Scenic Park Families,

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful Spring Break. It’s hard to believe we are in the final quarter of the year. As we begin the 4th Quarter, I want to continue to focus attention on attendance and tardiness. Tardiness disrupts instruction for the late students and the rest of the class. Please be sure that your child is at school and on time.

Regular attendance is expected of all students. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to read at grade level, earn passing grades in middle school, and graduate high school. Students need to be at school on time and ready to learn every day. If a student misses’ 10 percent or more school days for any reason (excused or unexcused), he/she is chronically absent. This amounts to about two days of school per month. Chronic absence can have a negative impact on the academic and social progress of the absent student. Here at Scenic Park, we will continue to monitor attendance. Those students that have 90% attendance for the 4th Quarter, will earn a special lunch with the principal.

Each spring, Alaskan students are provided an opportunity to show what they know. When students show what they know, teachers and parents can partner to promote student success. AK STAR, the Alaska System of Academic Readiness, is comprised of English Language Arts and Mathematics and is administered to students in grades 3-9. The Alaska Science Assessment is administered to students in grades 5, 8 and 10. The purpose of a large-scale, summative assessment is to provide parents and schools with an overall picture of a student’s progress in meeting the Alaska standards at grade level. Parents can locate resources for AK STAR test and the Alaska Science Assessment, including directions for Student Readiness (Practice Tests and Tutorials), student testing times and general assessment information on the ASD website at https://www.asdk12.org/akstar. Parents can also help by ensuring their children are well rested, eat a nutritious breakfast, and are at school on time. We will be testing between March 26th and April 3rd.

The School Climate and Connectedness Survey is open until March 29th. If you haven’t done so, please consider taking the survey at the following link: surveys.panoramaed.com/aasd/50650fjmlty. We appreciate your feedback and input. As always, thank you for your continued support in your child’s education.

Sincerely,
Marco Christian,
Principal

Upcoming Events

March 25th
AK Star Testing Begins

April 3rd
AK Star Testing Ends

April 11th
PTO Meeting, Library

April 12th
Junior Achievement Day

April 19th
Closer Day No School

April 23rd
Kindergarten Roundup
5:00 pm-6:00 pm

April 27th
PTO Spring Carnival

Important Announcement

PLC Mondays
Breakfast-9:40
First Bell- 9:50
Tardy Bell rings and class begins - 10:00.
Dismissal- 3:30

Tues- Friday
Breakfast- 8:40
First bell- 8:50
Tardy bell rings and class begins- 9:00.
Dismissal- 3:30
Students at Scenic Park enjoyed meeting with the nationally renowned Alaskan children's author Brooke Hartman on Thursday, March 7th. Mrs. Hartman's visit was especially exciting because she was a former Scenic Park student and wore her Scenic Park class of 1991 t-shirt as proof. Principal Marco Christian with the help of the front office staff was able to locate the old yearbooks from Mrs. Hartman's Kindergarten and 6th grade years and quickly determined she has hardly changed a bit. In her presentation to students, she shared some of the literary devices she employs to make her books engaging and revealed some of the aspects of her life that inspired her books. Brooke Hartman's visit was a great success and hopefully will be the first of many!

Parents, if you have a bus rider, please verify in your parent connect account, your bus pick up and drop off times.
As we look forward to the snow melting and seeing a real spring in Alaska, let's get prepared for seasonal allergies. A seasonal allergy is a type of allergic reaction that only occurs during a certain season and is caused by your immune system overreacting to something in the environment.

Springtime sees trees reemerge from their hibernation releasing tree pollens. Pollen is the most common trigger of seasonal allergies. If you experience allergy symptoms at only certain times of the year, then you may have a seasonal allergy.

The only way to know for sure if you have a specific allergy is to see a board-certified allergist. Allergy symptoms vary from person to person and each allergy. Symptoms of seasonal allergies include:

- Stuffy nose or runny nose, usually with clear or pale-colored mucus.
- Sneezing
- Coughing
- Red, watery eyes
- Itchy nose, mouth, or eyes
- Scratchy or sore throat

The best way to treat any allergy is to avoid exposure. When possible, limit time outside when your allergy triggers are the most active. You can also keep your windows closed and change clothes and shower after being outside.

Allergy & Asthma Network has developed a helpful tool to help you monitor pollen counts. https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/weather/

This can help you determine when your allergy symptoms may be at their worst. In addition to allergen avoidance, work with your allergist to develop an allergy treatment plan. This can include the use of over-the-counter and prescription medications.

Allergy medications can help reduce symptoms. Options include antihistamines, nasal sprays, and other medicines. If these medications are needed during the school day, please contact the nurse.

Katie Clausson, BSN RNC
School Nurse
Scenic Park Elementary School
Anchorage School District
(907) 742-1651
Fax: (907) 742-1677
Before Spring Break, we kicked off a new initiative to strive for the 90% attendance. Students celebrated with a neon dance party! When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating. During the 4th quarter, students who have a 90% attendance will have a special lunch with the principal.

This event is not endorsed by ASD.