

DECEMBER, 2024 TIGER TALES

Taku Elementary Kaitlin Tallman, Principal



Principal's Corner, Kaitlin Tallman

Dear Taku Families,

The holiday season is upon us, and December promises to be a month filled with learning, excitement, and celebration here at Taku!

Taku's attendance from September to November dropped significantly this year. We went from 68% to 48% of students attending 90% of the time. It is our goal to continue to maintain high attendance throughout the month of December! Please send your child(ren) to school every day on time. Let us know if we can support you in this.

Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will be participating in the Reading and Math MAP Assessment 12/2 - 12/3. Please send them to school well-rested and ready to show what they know! And please be on time!

Our Primary classrooms (Kinder - 3rd grade) will be showing what they know during our mClass assessment on 12/11.

The end of 2nd quarter is coming up fast on 12/20/24. Make sure to check in with teachers about any missing / late work. There is no school for students on Friday, 12/20/24, where Winter Break will begin. We'll see students back at school Monday, January 6, 2025!

Beginning next semester, I'm excited to announce a new visitor management software system will be utilized at Taku and all other schools in ASD. The Raptor Technologies safety software will add an extra layer of campus security. Upon entry, visitors, volunteers, and ASD staff whose primary location is outside our campus, must sign in using the self serve kiosk. More information will be coming to your in your email in the next couple weeks.

Reminders:

Weather - Ready: As temperatures drop, please ensure your child comes to school with warm coats, hats, and gloves. And please make sure your child's name is on their gear!

Lost & Found: Our Lost & Found collection is growing! Be sure to check for any missing items before Winter Break.

From our Taku Family to yours, we wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with love, laughter, and special moments. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Go Tigers!

Warm regards,

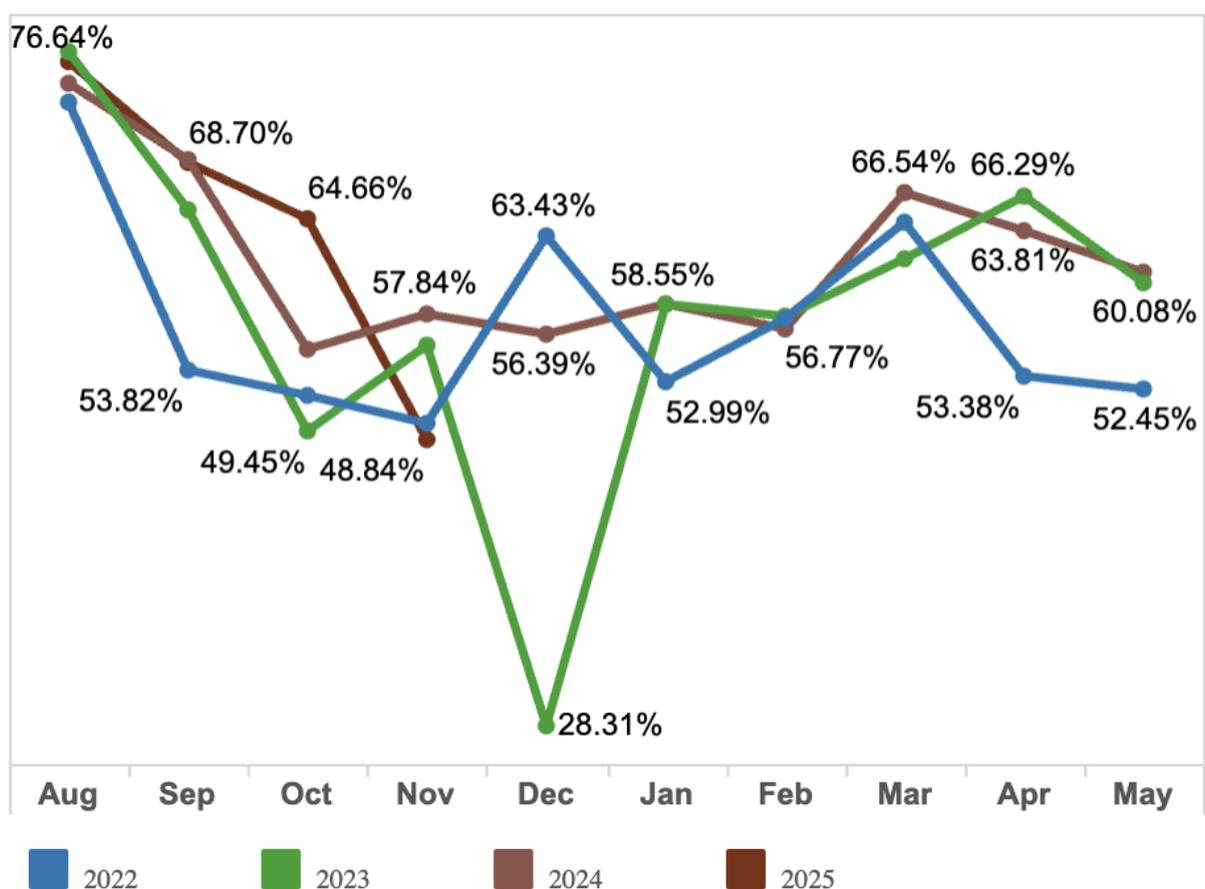
Kaitlin Tallman, Principal

Sara Kriz, Assistant Principal

Taku Attendance Data - 48.84%

Regular attendance is important for your child's success. And most classrooms begin learning right away at 8:00, so being on time is crucial.

Taku's attendance goal this year is to have 70% of students attend school 90% of the time.



90% Attendance by school for the month of November

Taku Elementary School

48.84%

Let's Raise Some Dough for Taku PTA!

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PRE ORDER: DECEMBER 2ND-13TH
PICK UP: DECEMBER 19TH-23RD

<https://takupta.givebacks.com/store/items/1142076>

Need Snow Gear?

If your student needs snow gear, let us know! Students go outside every day for 30 minutes, and we want them to be warm and dry. AskTaku@asdk12.org

Specialist News

Library with Amy Johnson

December and January @ Your Library

Curriculum

For December, the genre, or style of writing, of the month is Folk and Fairy Tales. In January, all students will study the genre of Fantasy.

Activities

Recess Read-Aloud for 4th and 5th grade students, and Maker Space for 2nd and 3rd grade students, will continue through December and January, and for the rest of the school year.



All of us at Taku Elementary School wish you and your family a fabulous winter holiday.

Sincerely,

Amy Johnson
Taku Librarian

Health with Katrina Rhodes

Dear Families,

This letter is to let you know that your child's class will be receiving age-appropriate lessons on child sexual abuse and assault prevention education as required under the state's [Alaska Safe Children's Act \(Erin's Law\)](#).



Erin's Law Education is comprised of two lessons (one lesson at the beginning of each semester) taught during the Health classes. Combined, these lessons meet the full requirements for students under the [Alaska Safe Children's Act \(Erin's Law\)](#) and are designed to help prevent childhood sexual abuse. These lessons will be presented in a non-threatening way, along with the skills needed for self-protection and will be handled in a sensitive, respectful manner.

Information about the lessons can be viewed [HERE](#).

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1J4mCSGZi6GBUv14WBpiO-7gsrj7DbXtA?usp=sharing>

If you do **NOT** want your child to receive the instruction under the Alaska Safe Children's Act, you must write a letter to the school principal requesting that your child be excused from these specific lessons.

Thank you for partnering with us as we continue to provide learning opportunities to improve the safety and well-being of our students.

Sincerely,
Katrina Rhodes Hill
SEL Health Specialist

Important Dates

Spirit Week


PTA Meeting

**Spirit Week - 12/16-
12/19**

More information to come!

PTA Meeting - 12/10

Come and join our PTA
meeting from 5:30pm - 6:30pm!

Important dates



12/17 TUE	2nd Quarter Awards Assembly
12/20 FRI	No School: Beginning of Winter Break
1/06 MON	Classes begin

Thank you Great Alaska Pizza Lake Otis Pkwy



A big thank you to Great Alaska Pizza Co. for their generous donation of pizza for our Students of the Month! We're proud to celebrate these amazing students and their accomplishments.

THE BULLETIN BOARD, Office Ladies

HI TAKU FAMILIES!

Just some friendly reminders:

- Absences can be reported in parent connect. If you are planning a vacation please let the office know so we can enter a pre-arranged absence.
- Students who arrive to school at or after 8am need to come through the front office to get marked tardy. We have breakfast in the office for late students.
- We are striving to achieve an attendance rate of 90% or higher. Please take a moment to review the procedure, and let's keep attendance on point—because every day counts! [Attendance Procedures](#)
- Our Lost and Found is filling up! If your student is missing any items, please encourage them to check there first.



~ Rachel **Musselman** (AA) and Rachel **Ketchum** (Secretary) ~

Volunteering at Taku

If you are interested in volunteering at Taku this upcoming year, please fill out the volunteer form ASAP. This must be done every school year. Parents who filled out the form last year will need to reapply.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSft2SM758xCY0fkBu7cYj6vdYGO4RRJt7LFAqrCKaQD_HMwPMg/viewform

We encourage families to do this now, that way, as events, field trips and other volunteer opportunities arise you won't have to scramble last minute. The volunteer process includes a

background check and can take up to 5 business days before ASD's Office of Equity approves or denies your application. Once we have received the approval/denial we will email you to let you know.

PTA Vacancies for 24-25 School Year

The following PTA positions will be vacant for the upcoming 24-25 school year:

- Teacher Representative
- Parent Volunteers

We would love to have you [join](#) the Taku PTA! If you are interested, please join us for the September PTA Meeting!

DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01	02 MAP TESTING	03 -MAP TESTING -SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00PM - 11:00PM	04	05	06	07
08	09	10 PTA MEETING 5:30 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 -2ND QUARTER AWARDS ASSEMBLY -SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00PM - 11:00PM	18	19 STUDENT OF THE MONTH PIZZA LUNCH	20 NO SCHOOL	21
22	23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28
29	30 NO SCHOOL	31 NO SCHOOL				



Taku Elementary

Email: takuattendance@asdk12.org

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

Location: [701 East 72nd Avenue, Anchorage, AK, USA](#)

Phone: [907-742-5940](tel:907-742-5940)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/taku365/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/taku_elementary365/



Taku Elementary

Taku is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

