# News From the Nest

Aug. 30th, 2024

#### Eaglets to Eagles, We Soar on the Wings of Knowledge

#### **Principal's Corner**

Dear ERE Families!

This time of year I am always reminded of how important partnering with families is for our students' success. When families are partners in their children's education, the results are better attendance, increased motivation, higher self-esteem, and improved achievement. We would love to have you in our school volunteering. Please read below in the Newsletter how you can be prepared to volunteer in our school.

We go out to recess rain or shine. It is important for students to get out, run off energy and get fresh air. We have had a lot of rain lately and winter weather is inevitable. Now is the time to dig out and dust off winter gear! Just a reminder that the weather can change drastically making appropriate clothing a must.

If you are like me, when my children came home from school, I always asked how their day was. Here are a few suggestions for questions to ask and things to say, beyond how was your day.

- 1. I am so happy to see you! I missed you today.
- 2. Did your teacher say anything funny today?
- 3. Who do you spend time with at recess?
- 4. Did you have any challenges or tough moments today? How did you get through them?
- 5. What was something new you tried today?
- 6. What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
- 7. Do you want to know what I did while you were at school?
- 8. What was something you are proud of today?
- 9. What was a happy moment you had at school?
- 10. Who cares about you at school? How do you know?

Be on the lookout on Facebook for a Staff Spotlight as we feature staff members, both new and returning. We really have an amazing staff dedicated to student success and building a community

that all feel welcome and wanted. We are TEAM ERE!

As always, if we can ever be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to give me, or your child's teacher a call or send an email.

Kindly,

Dawn Campbell

#### **SAEBRS Screening**

This year our teachers will be completing a universal social-emotional behavior screener (SAEBRS). Important information we want to share in partnership with all families.

- 1. This screener will take place 3 times a year (Fall, Winter, Spring).
- 2. The teacher rating will be completed outside of class time and will not disrupt learning.
- 3. This screener will help our teachers strengthen classroom structures and the school meet students' social, emotional and behavioral needs.

Please check in with our principal if you have further questions or would like more information!

#### 24-25 ERES Fun Run is off and "running"!

It's time again! Every year, ERE hosts an annual Fun Run Fundraiser to raised funds for things like field trips, busses, music equipment, PE equipment, after-school clubs/club supplies, and MORE! This year, our goal is \$10,000 with the ultimate goal to order a class set of piano keyboards for the music room. We have some fun and exciting incentive prizes lined up this year, and like last year, the top three raising student will get to <a href="SLIME!">SLIME!</a> ERE staff and teachers. Please know that no contribution is too small, and that we appreciate all the support to our students and school.

Families can contribute to the Fun Run Fundraiser at <a href="https://app.99pledges.com/fund/ERESRuns24">https://app.99pledges.com/fund/ERESRuns24</a>

- To donate to a specific student, type their first name + last Initial in the search field
- You can also donate directly to the main page by clicking "donate to main fundraiser page" under the search field.

Flyers will be coming home today with your student with more information. If you have any other questions not answered in the flyer, please reach out to the front office. Thank you!



#### AUG. 30TH - OCT. 25TH

GET READY TO LACE UP YOUR SNEAKERS FOR THE ERE FUN RUN FUNDRAISER!



https://app.99pledges.com/fund/ERESRuns24

- To donate to a specific student, type their first name + last Initial in the search field
- You can also donate directly to the main page by clicking "donate to main fundraiser page" under the search field.



YOU CAN ALSO
DONATE DIRECTLY
FROM THE MAIN
PAGE, OR BRING
CASH/CASHIER'S
CHECKS TO THE
OFFICE!





SCAN ME

• FIELD TRIPS & BUSES

YOUR DONATIONS

WHAT WILL

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS/CLUB SUPPLIES
 PIANO KEYBOARDS/MUSIC EQUIPMENT

GO TOWARDS? • P.E. EQUIPMENT & MORE

#### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL!

#### MAP Testing Incoming!

MAP Growth is the ASD and State of Alaska required benchmark/interim reading and mathematics assessment for students in grades 3-9. Grades 10-12 students identified as needing Tier II and Tier III reading and mathematics support also take MAP Growth as part of the Anchorage School District's MTSS framework.

Alaska's Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) has partnered with NWEA to implement a creative approach to a balanced statewide assessment that connects fall and winter MAP Growth benchmark/interim assessments and the Alaska spring AK STAR summative assessment. AK STAR eliminates the spring benchmark/interim assessment window for grades 3-9 by combining the summative and benchmark assessment into one test that produces a spring benchmark score, which includes a growth measure. More information is available at the State of Alaska AK STAR website, education.alaska.gov/assessments/akstar.

MAP Growth is an online, adaptive assessment that provides each student a personalized testing experience with data that speaks to their individual progress and growth in mathematics and reading.

The MAP Growth reading and mathematics benchmark will be administered in person during the 2024-2025 fall and winter benchmark windows. The spring benchmark will be embedded in the AK STAR summative assessment as outlined above.

• Fall Benchmark 1: September 3 - September 13 (make-ups through September 20)

- Winter Benchmark 2: December 2 December 13 (make-ups through December 19)
- Spring Benchmark 3: embedded in AK STAR administered during the summative assessment window: March 24 April 4 (make-ups through April 25)
- MAP Growth assessment only: Grades 10-12 identified as needing Tier II and III support

MAP Growth practice tests and tutorials allow students and families the opportunity to become familiar with the types of questions and tools available on the actual MAP Grow assessments such as the highlighter and calculator. An overview of these resources with links to the practice tests are compiled on the MAP Growth Practice Tests Quick Sheet.

#### PTO - Order Your ERES Swag & Popcorn Today!

BIG shoutout to Marcy Werner and Melia Talbot for helping reinstitute the ERE PTO! They have set up an online order for families to purchase some ERE swag and show off their Eagle Pride. Families may order online by going to <a href="https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/eagle-river-elementary-spirit-wear">https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/eagle-river-elementary-spirit-wear</a> or by filling out an attached order form. All orders MUST be submitted no later than <a href="September 6th">September 6th</a>. Payments may be cash or checks made out to the ERE PTO.

They will also be in charge of our return of Popcorn Friday. Bags are \$0.25 each (max two per student) and families can pre-pay \$2.00 for the entire school year. Please fill out and return the attached popcorn order form to the front office with exact cash. Popcorn pre-orders are due by September 5th. Thank you for supporting our PTO and our school!



Places de to website for more info and sizing

Please go to webs	site for more i	nfo and sizing:	
https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com	n/#/lockers/e	agle-river-elem	entary-spirit-wear
ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	<b>TOTAL PRICE</b>
(Ex: Youth hoodie)	(YM)	(1)	(\$34.95)
Please pay with cash or check.		TOTAL DUE:	\$
dakes checks payable to "Eagle Ri	ver Elementa	ary PTO"	Ψ
lame:			
Student Name:	Te	eacher:	

### ERES PTO POPCORN FRIDAY PRE-PAY ORDER FORM

POPPED FRESH THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH!

## \$2 ENTIRE\* school year



#### PRE-PAY DUE SEPT. 5

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	TEACHER NAME

\*1 bag; popcorn still available for purchase Total Amount for 25¢ ea. - max 2 bags per person\*

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:
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#### Notes From Nurse Jen

Welcome back families and to our new ones! Please have patience while I learn all the new faces and names. I will be starting school screenings which include color, distance vision, photoscreening, hearing, height and weight DEPENDING on their grade level. If you think your child has trouble with something, please email me and I will add them to my list to screen.

- If you have any medical diagnosis, please let me know so I may monitor them when they have a complaint and are sent to me.
- If your child has over the counter medications such as cough drops or allergy meds, please fill
  out the med auth form attached. I will NOT see a copy unless you fill out my name and email
  address (highly suggest copy paste so no mistakes) as the "witness" on the second screen.
  <a href="https://eform.pandadoc.com/?eform=3092f50b-98c5-4e93-a7f3-1dbf0b69319f">https://eform.pandadoc.com/?eform=3092f50b-98c5-4e93-a7f3-1dbf0b69319f</a>

Pertussis Alert-Pertussis cases are in our community, aka Whooping Cough. If you are having trouble breathing, see a doctor or go to the Emergency Room right away. There is a vaccine for Pertussis if you have not been vaccinated-Dtap or Tdap.

Thank you for reading!

Nurse Jen-742-3005

brusehaber\_jennife@asdk12.org ("r" intentionally left out)

Catching Up W/ Coach Fullmer

Welcome back to the school year. I am so excited to be back with the students! My name is Spencer Fullmer, and I am starting my 8th year of teaching with ASD and 4th year at Eagle River Elementary. I was born and raised in the Eagle River area and am so thankful I get to raise my kids here as well. I am looking forward to another great year. Safety is my first priority inside the gym. We have been reviewing and learning about our rules, procedures, and expectations of the gym. I ask that you please send a pair of gym shoes for your student to use at school as well. I do have a few spare pairs for students to use if they forget but I'd hate for them to miss out on any activities if they don't have the right footwear. The shoes don't have to be new, but just a clean pair of athletic shoes that fit right. We are trying to avoid any injuries, dirt, mud, or etc. from coming into the gym. If you need help getting a pair of shoes for your child, please reach out and let me know. If you have tie shoes, then please take a little time helping your child learn how to tie them up securely.

Running Club has just started and will run for about a month leading up to the Running Jamboree on Sept. 17th at Chugiak high school. I have attached a flyer with more information if your child would like to join. I am also very excited to use the new traverse rock wall in the gym that was installed over the summer. I recently just finished putting the last of the holds on so we can start using it in class. Thanks so much for your support and be sure to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Spencer Fullmer

Elementary P.E. Teacher



#### mClass Literacy Screener

As part of The Alaska Reads Act, the State of Alaska requires that districts administer an early literacy screening tool three times a year to students in grades K-3 to identify potential reading difficulties in order to improve reading outcomes for students. Families can read more about this comprehensive K-3 reading policy at The Alaska Reads Act website: <a href="education.alaska.gov/akreads">education.alaska.gov/akreads</a>

mClass with DIBELS 8th Edition Assessments is the State of Alaska Department of Education's and ASD's Early Literacy benchmark screening and progress monitoring tool for students in grades K-3 in reading. mClass utilizes curriculum-based measures and is used by schools as part of the ASD Comprehensive Assessment System to support informed instructional decisions.

The Alaska Department of Education & Early Development explains the decision to adopt mClass as the statewide literacy screener here: <a href="https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-Reading-Resources/Statewide-Early-Literacy-Screener">https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-Reading-Resources/Statewide-Early-Literacy-Screener</a>

mClass screening assessments will only be administered in-person during the benchmark window listed below:

• Fall 2024: September 3 - 13

Results for K-3 students that were assessed during a benchmark window, will be available in Parent Connect by September 27, 2024 ParentConnection Login Information and Reference Guide: parentconnect.asdk12.org

#### Meet Mr. Brown - School Pyschologist

Welcome back to school for the 2024-2025 school year! My name is Josh Brown, and I will be serving as the school psychologist at Eagle River Elementary. This is my third year at ERE! I previously worked in a midsized school district in Indiana. I will be serving your kid's school for two days per week.

As a school psychologist, my job is to work with school teams to support and evaluate students with significant academic, behavioral, and/or social-emotional problems. This is achieved through services provided directly to students, teachers, and/or parents through classroom consultation and short-term counseling. I work closely with the special education staff in the school, but I am available for any staff or families who are looking for additional supports.

As we start this year, with so many changes across the district, one of the most important things for students is consistency. Establishing routines about homework, bedtimes, getting around in the morning, and getting to school helps students to know what to expect. This allows them to be more successful! Even if your student does not have homework, spending 20 minutes per day reading together or independently increases their vocabulary significantly.

I look forward to working with everyone this year! Feel free to reach out to the school if you have any questions for me!



#### **ERE's Musical Maestro: Autumn Levy**

Hey there! I'm Autumn Levy, and I'm thrilled to be your child's music teacher this year! This is my second year in the district, and I absolutely love teaching music. I co-own a private piano and voice music studio with my mom, and I'm also involved in the local theater community as a director, music director, and performer. If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out!

Why the piano? Well, playing the piano is not only fun but also does amazing things for our brains! It helps improve memory, attention, spatial, and mathematical abilities by creating new neural pathways. Plus, kids are awesome at learning new skills, which means they can pick up the piano quicker than adults. So, introducing your child to the piano at a young age is ideal!

Not only that, but kids who learn the piano tend to do better in school. The cognitive effects of learning piano can help them retain information better, and it's fantastic for their math skills, too. And let's not forget the social aspect—whether they learn alone or in a group, they'll learn essential skills like listening, communicating, and sharing.

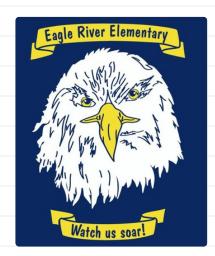
Playing the piano also has excellent effects on mood. It can help soothe anxiety, alleviate depression, and offer a stress release when things get overwhelming. It's a beautiful way for kids to recharge, process their emotions, and boost their self-esteem!

And you know what's really cool? Anyone can learn the piano, no matter where they're from or what their background is. It's an instrument that brings people together and creates joy.

## The information below will remain on the newsletter for your reference

#### **ERE Mission and Vision Statements and Collective Commitments**

We have been working hard during our PLC time! It has been incredibly valuable to have this time each week to have collegial conversations and to collaborate to develop our mission and vision as well as our collective commitments for our students here at ERE! I am proud of the work our staff is doing and an excited for where we are headed.



**Mission Statement:** At ERE we will provide a safe and positive learning environment for the success of all our students, accomplished through engagement, motivation and perseverance.

Vision Statement: ERE will strive to create successful, happy, lifelong learners.

#### **Our Collective Commitments:**

- ERE is committed to strong core academic skills focused on math literacy and reading comprehension.
- ERE is committed to ensuring students learn conflict resolution, emotional regulation skills, and to take personal responsibility.
- ERE is committed to helping students develop a growth mindset, to focus, persevere, and problem solve.

School Colors: Blue and gold

Motto: "From eaglets to eagles, we soar on the wings of knowledge!"

## The information below will remain on the newsletter for your reference

#### **Daily Schedule**

Below is Eagle River Elementary's usual schedule. Our schedule is subject to change without warning, but we will do our best to communicate any unanticipated, sudden schedule changes.

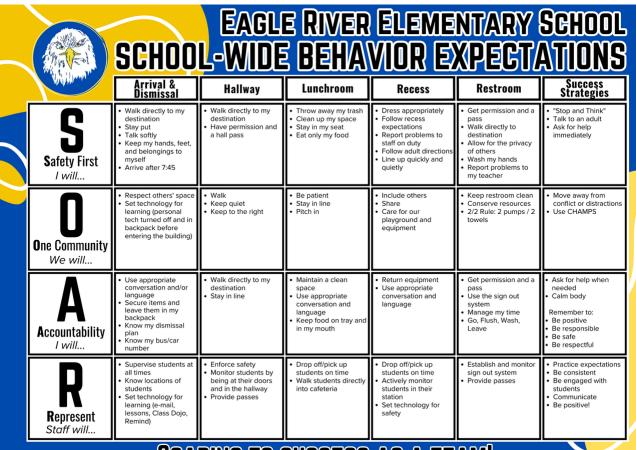
#### **Monday:**

- School doors open at 8:45 for students and school begins at 9:00. Students arriving before
   8:45 will be directed to the MPR aka lunch room where they will wait until 9:45 with the option of sitting quietly or reading a book.
- Breakfast begins at 8:50 and is eaten in the classroom.

#### Tuesday through Friday:

- School doors open at 7:45 for students and school begins at 8:00. Students may not be dropped off early to wait.
- · Breakfast begins at 7:50 and is eaten in the classroom
- 11:00-11:50 Recess then lunch for Dyches, Jones, Cano, & Dente
- 11:00-11:50 Lunch then recess for Sorensen, Reynolds, Hatmaker, & King
- 12:00-12:50 Lunch then recess for Hahn, Spain, Long, & Seebold
- Dismissal is at 2:30 each day

School grounds are closed from 7:30 to 3:00. After dismissal, students must go home first and then are welcome to return after 3:00 to play on the playground.



#### **SOARING TO SUGGESS AS A TEAM!**

#### **ERE Family Dashboard**

We have created a dashboard of quick links (shortcuts) to help our families find what they are looking for quickly and easily! More links will be added as different events happen throughout the school year. If there is a link you think would be helpful, please let us know! We want this to be a user-friendly tool. Please bookmark the Family Dashboard. It can also be found in the parent resources folder and on our school website.

#### **ERE Family Dashboard - Quick Links**

#### **Fred Meyer Rewards**

It only takes a few minutes to sign up and choose Eagle River Elementary. This is a great way to earn funds to support student activities!



#### **Fred Meyer Community Rewards - Fred Meyer**

Learn more about how you can help raise funds for community schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations. Our community rewards program makes it easy. Learn more about Fred Meyer Community Rewards.

☑ fredmeyer.com

#### **Arrival and Dismissal Procedures**

#### -Arrival:

- On Monday, school begins at 9:00am instead of 8:00am. If your student arrives before 8:45am on PLC Mondays, they will be brought into the building and students will sit in the MPR/lunchroom and sit quietly until 8:45am when the bell rings. Our breakfast service will start at 8:45 am.
- On Tuesday through Friday, students will be let in at 7:45am. There will be no supervision until
  then. Students will not be allowed to wait before 7:45am. Please time your child's arrival so
  they're here no earlier than 7:45am. We appreciate your help with this so we can make sure
  students are supervised and safe!
- Student Drop-off will be at the stop sign at the front corner of the building and students will
  enter the front door. Students will not be allowed to be dropped off until 7:45am. All students
  enter through the front door. Students will enter the building and sit on the floor outside their
  classrooms where they will be supervised by staff until the 7:50am bell (Kindergarten students
  will sit in the front hallway.)

Eagle River Elementary's policy for late drop-off is that families must come in and sign late students in. Students who arrive after the final bell are considered tardy and must be signed in by their adult before going to class.

- -Dismissal (please see farther down for preschool): To help students understand how/where they will leave the building at the end of the day, Eagle River Elementary uses three groupings to differentiate dismissal routines: parent pick-up, walkers, and bus riders.
  - If your student will be picked up in a car, then they are considered parent pick-up. ERES uses a
    car tag number system and each family is assigned a specific number. Please hang your car
    tag on your rear-view mirror so staff in the parent pick-up area know what students go to each
    car. Pick-up will take place in our main parking lot. There will be two lines- if you turn left out

of the parking lot after picking up your student(s), then you will need to join the left lane and join the right lane if you turn right.

- If your student walks home **or** you will meet them in front of the building, they are considered walkers.
- Students that ride a school bus or go to Taekwondo are considered bus riders. Bus information is available on ParentConnect for stop location and pick-up/drop-off time.

If families are picking a student up before the end of the day, then they must come to the front office to sign students out. The office staff will not call students down before an authorized pick-up person is physically in the front office. Please be sure to bring valid identification to pick up your student. After 2:15 pm, we will not call students down from the classroom for early pick-up.

It is incredibly important that any changes to how your student is getting home are communicated to the office before 2:00 pm. The end of the day is one of the busiest times in the office. Please be sure to communicate same-day dismissal changes directly to the office and not your student's teacher.

Thank you for helping us to get your student home safely!

Any long-term or permanent changes to how your student will be going home need to be communicated to their teacher as well as the office.

**Preschool:** Dismissal for preschool is 12pm each day. At the end of the day, preschool families will park in the bus lane for pick-up. Please pull all the way forward to the end of the bus loop (not around the turn), park, turn off your vehicle, and stay seated inside your car until you see the preschool students exit through the middle doors. Once the preschool students have exited the building, families may then come to pick up and sign out their student. <u>Families are required to sign their student out with the preschool staff each day.</u>

#### **Breakfast & Lunch**

Eagle River Elementary serves breakfast and lunch each school day for students that would like to purchase meals at school. Breakfast is served starting at 8:50am Monday/7:50am Tuesday-Friday, and is eaten in the classroom. Families may view the breakfast/lunch menu by going to <a href="mailto:schoolcafe.com/anchorage">schoolcafe.com/anchorage</a>, clicking "Guest Account", and using the drop-down menu to select our school. For any food allergy concerns,, please contact our school nurse Jennifer Brusehaber by calling (907) 742-3000.

For students who bring their lunch to school, please be sure your student is able to open their lunch. There are lunch supervisors to assist and monitor students, but assistance is limited when there are over a hundred students in the lunchroom. It is important, especially for the younger students, to practice opening their lunch boxes, containers, and food packaging to be independent and successful during their lunch time. <u>Eagle River Elementary does not offer microwaves for student use</u>.

Did you know you may qualify for free or greatly reduced lunch prices? To apply for the free/reduced lunch program, families will need to go online to <a href="schoolcafe.com/anchorage">schoolcafe.com/anchorage</a> and click "Apply for Benefits" after creating an account if you do not already have one. Paper applications may be mailed in to ASD Student Nutrition department or dropped off at the

school/Student Nutrition Center. For more direct instructions please visithttps://www.asdk12.org/Page/13246.

Families may add funds to a student's account by logging into ParentConnect/Q, clicking on their student's name, clicking "ASD Quick Links" and then "Online Payments". For direct instructions, please visit <a href="https://www.asdk12.org/Page/13241">https://www.asdk12.org/Page/13241</a>

Breakfast Cost: \$4.00, \$0.30 reduced; Lunch Cost: \$5.75, \$0.40 reduced

#### Menus via SchoolCafe

#### **Volunteer at Eagle River Elementary**

We LOVE our volunteers! To volunteer with any school in the Anchorage School District, each interested person **must complete an online application every year**. Volunteer applications may be submitted online by going to <a href="mailto:asdk12.org/volunteer">asdk12.org/volunteer</a> and clicking "Online Application and Waiver" or by clicking the link below. Applications take on average approximately 7-10 business days to process and must be approved before participating in any school-sponsored activities.

For more information about the volunteer process, please visit <a href="https://www.asdk12.org/volunteer">https://www.asdk12.org/volunteer</a>. To figure out what volunteer opportunities there are at Eagle River Elementary, please reach out to your student's teacher to let them know you are interested in volunteering. Otherwise, look for communication from the school and/or your teacher for open volunteer opportunities.

#### **Volunteer Sign Up**

#### **Attendance/Arrival Policy Reminders**

Students who arrive after the 8AM bell are considered tardy and will need to stop in the office to get a tardy pass before being admitted to class.

Please call the main line and press "1" for the attendance line if your child will be absent. Absences must be reported by 9:00am to ensure your student's attendance is entered. Families may also submit attendance requests through Q/Parent Connect. Automatic attendance calls alerting for unexcused absences go out at 9:45.

When leaving an attendance message for your student please leave these important details:

- 1) Student Name
- 2) Date(s) of absence
- 3) Reason for absence
- 4) Teachers Name
- 5) Grade Level

Many messages are left saying the student will be out but do not leave a reason. Without a reason, the student is automatically marked unexcused. When you know you will be on an extended absence like a family vacation, we can put a prearranged unexcused absence in the system so you do not get a daily phone call.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 742-3000.

#### **ASD Attendance Guidelines**

Here are the District Guidelines for Attendance:

AM (starts at 8:00 am)

- Tardy up to 60 minutes after school starts
- Absent (.5 day) If a student misses more than 60 minutes.

PM (starts at 12:15 pm)

- Tardy arrives at or before 12:15pm
- Absent (.5 day) student misses more than 60 minutes

#### **Birthday Treats**

Please reach out to your child's teacher before sending/bringing in treats and they can fill you in on any classroom requirements including food allergies or sensitivities. Some teachers may prefer individually packaged items. In general, birthday treats must be store bought and pre-packaged (sealed store cupcakes for example).

#### **School Business Partners**





2 Brothers Auto Detail Subway



Spirit wear form pdf.pdf

**Download** 

391.2 KB



**ERES 24-25 Fun Run Flyer Color.pdf** 

Download 1.0 MB

