

# Coyote Howler

August 23, 2024

## Mark Your Calendars

### Important Dates

**August 27** - Open House 5:30-7:00.

**September 2:** Labor Day - Holiday! No School

**September 14:** Coyote Classic Cross Country Meet (Community Event, email [akin\\_tim@asdk12.org](mailto:akin_tim@asdk12.org) for information)

**September 18:** School Picture Day

**September 27:** Jog-A-Thon (PTA Fundraiser)

**November 8:** Fall Carnival 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm (Community Event)



[LINK TO OUR SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)

## Message from your Principal

Dear Kincaid Families,

We are off to a great start of our 24/25 school year. Thank you for being involved and partnering with us during this school year. Next week we would like to invite all families to our **Open House** on August 27th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. This will be a great opportunity to visit your child's classroom and receive a little more information from the teacher about specific classroom expectations, routines, procedures, and communication. We are looking forward to seeing you all here.

My role here at Kincaid is to support our staff so that we can uphold our mission and develop kind, capable, confident and engaged learners where all students can thrive personally and academically under our care. Please reach out to me with your questions, suggestions or concerns. I am here to serve our community.



Sincerely,  
Dr. Wendy Zorea  
[zorea\\_wendy@asdk12.org](mailto:zorea_wendy@asdk12.org)

## Parent Pick-Up Tags

Each teacher has created a tag for students who are picked up by parents/guardians. Please hang the tag in your mirror facing out. This will help school staff radio the correct teacher for students to report to the parent pick-up line. Students who ride the bus or are picked up by daycare centers did not receive a tag. Talk to your child's teacher if you did not receive one, but would like one.



## Get Your PTA News Here! Download the Newsletter



**PTA News August 2024.pdf**

**Download**

72.5 KB

## Fall Assessments

### Map Growth

2024-2025

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](https://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 Growth 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](#).

## mClass

mClass Newsletter Information  
2024 - 2025

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: [education.alaska.gov/akreads](https://education.alaska.gov/akreads)

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:

<https://education.alaska.gov/Alaska-Reading-Resources/Statewide-Early-Literacy-Screener>

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](https://parentconnect.asdk12.org):  
[parentconnect.asdk12.org](https://parentconnect.asdk12.org)

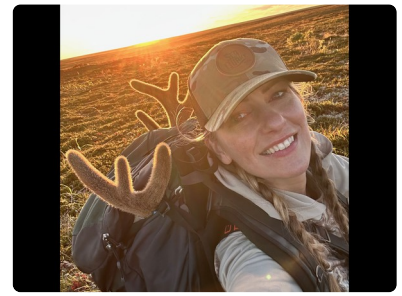
## Counselor Notes

Greetings Kincaid Families!

My name is Alisa Drake, and I am your child's School Counselor. A few things about me ...

- I was born and raised here in Anchorage
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- I've been married 21 years and I have three pretty awesome sons
- I love getting out in the woods and on the water to hunt, fish and trap with my family
- And I truly love my job as Kincaid's school counselor!



What do I do as a school counselor?

- I am here to help every single student be as successful as they can and discover their potential!
- I teach classroom lessons (K-5th) every other week. Topics include things such as, Integrity, Compassion, Courage, Conflict Resolution, Growth Mindset, Kindness, UpStanding (Anti-Bullying), and more!
- I also offer one-on-one support for any students who might benefit from doing so. Students often see me for individual counseling to work on decision-making, anger management, family changes, friendship skills, or another concerns. Both teachers and/or parents can refer students to me, and students are also able to self-refer and request to see me (There is a purple box in the front office where students can place their request to see me).
- I also offer small groups to help improve friendships, increase attendance, process grief, and/or any other focus that would benefit our students and our school community. Small groups are generally 6-8 sessions and are offered during lunch and/or recess. A signed permission slip will be needed from parents/guardians if your student has been identified as a potential small group member.

How do I contact the school counselor?

I am at Kincaid on Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursdays from 8:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. My direct line is 907-742-8505 and my email is [drake\\_alisa@asdk12.org](mailto:drake_alisa@asdk12.org). Feel free to email me, call me, or stop by my office (located in the front office area) if you would like to refer a student for individual counseling. Please note: I have a UAA Student Intern who will be shadowing me every Tuesday and Thursday for this school year.

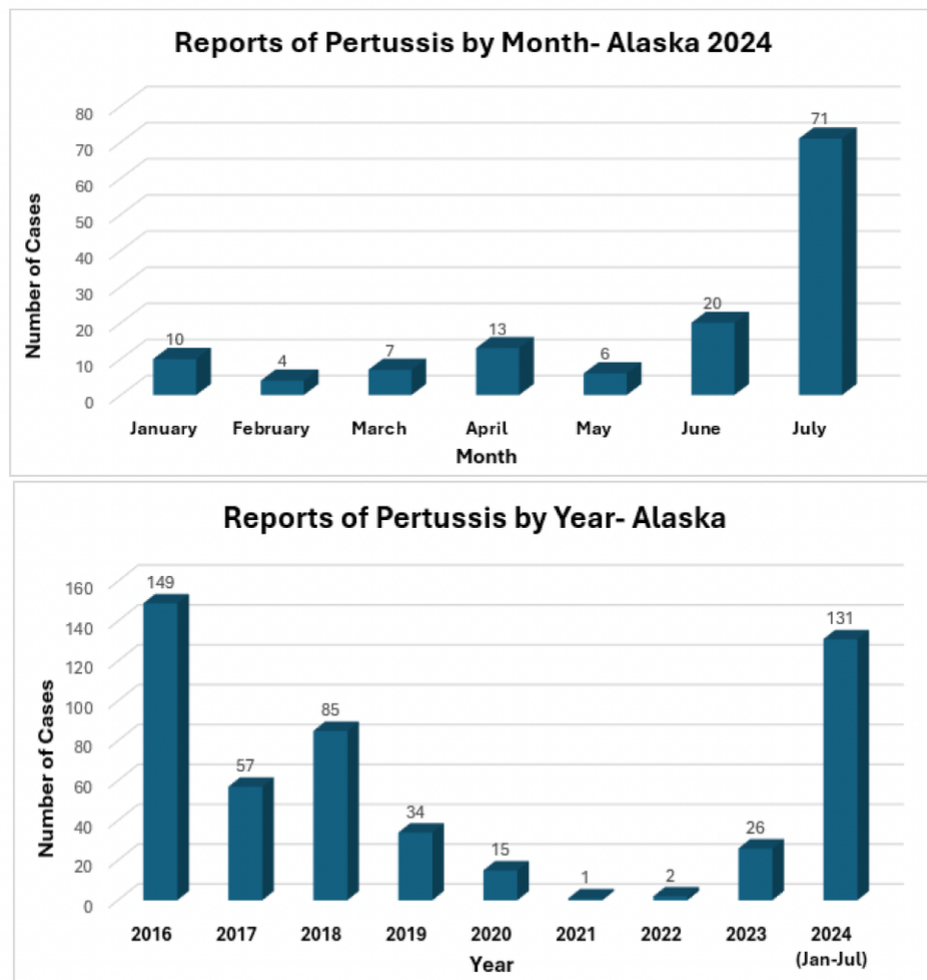
Thank you and I am really looking forward to another amazing year at Kincaid!

## *Nurse Notes*

Since June, 91 cases of pertussis have been reported to the Alaska Section of Epidemiology. This represents a marked increase in pertussis activity this year compared to recent years and mirrors a trend occurring throughout the United States. Most of Alaska's reported cases have occurred in the Southcentral region. Note: There has also been sustained respiratory illness activity associated with viral infections this summer see:

<https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/covidandflu.aspx>





*\*Counts are provisional and may be updated.*

*\*Includes confirmed and probable cases*

## Health Notes

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

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,  
Mrs. Norris  
Health Teacher

## *Migrant Education Notes*

Hello Kincaid Families,

### **Migrant Education Program Information**

MEP offers supplemental academic services to students and families year-round. The goal of MEP is to ensure all students reach challenging academic standards and graduate from high school in preparation for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment.

MEP eligible students are entitled to several MEP services, such as: preschool programs, free and reduced lunch and breakfast, school supplies and technology, and more! There is more information about MEP on the ASD website [here](#). I welcome you to reach out to me with any questions should you need access to resources.

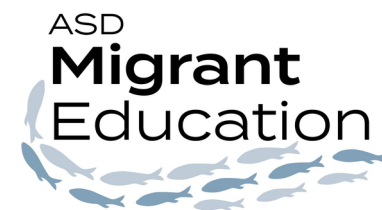
Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I am here to serve your students' needs. You can reach me at [Edais\\_Fadwa@asdk12.org](mailto:Edais_Fadwa@asdk12.org). You can text or call me at (907)360-0346. My Kincaid office number is (907)742-8519. I look forward to working with you to ensure the success of your student in the coming school year.

Best Regards,

Fadwa Edais  
student success coach  
Kincaid Elementary  
Email: [Edais\\_Fadwa@asdk12.org](mailto:Edais_Fadwa@asdk12.org)

## *Biking to School*

- Bikes are walked on campus.
- Helmets MUST be worn.
- Permission slip is on file with the classroom teacher. The form is attached to this newsletter.

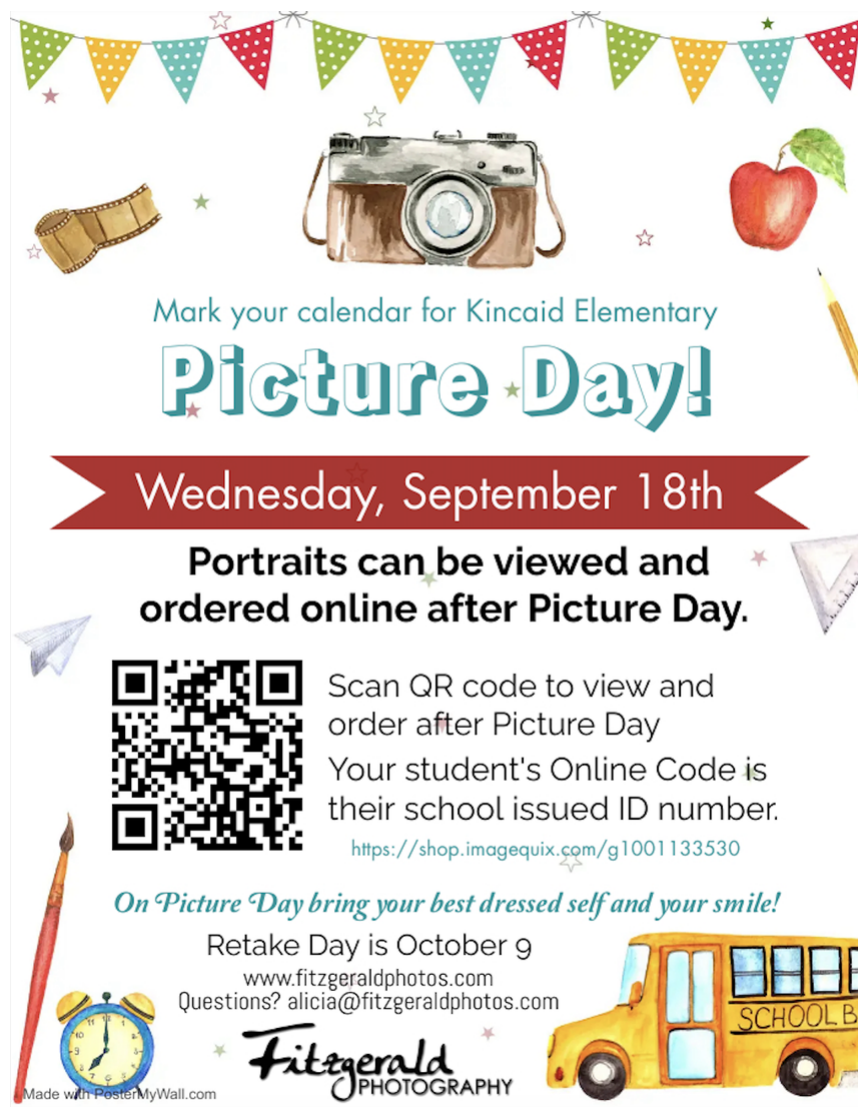


**Bike24.pdf**

[Download](#)  
39.2 KB

## *School Picture Day - September 18*





## Free and Reduced Lunches



### Free and Reduced Lunches

Families with students at Kincaid are encouraged to apply for Free and Reduced Lunches. Please include all ASD students in your household in the student section on the meal application, regardless of where they attend school, so we may certify your family in one application together. You may apply at any time of the year if your circumstances change due to layoffs, adding

people to your households or decreased income.

To Apply for this program go here: [Free and Reduced Lunch Application](#)



### Visitors and Volunteers

If you plan to volunteer this year in the classroom or on a field trip, you are required to have an application approved with ASD. We ask that all of our volunteers fill this application out now because it can take up to 7 days to get approved. [Volunteer Application](#)

All visitors must stop at the front office and check in with Kelly or Sandie. Visitors may not go to a classroom unless we have contacted the teacher to let them know you are on your way. Visitors



may only enter the school through the front door. If you are dropping something off for your child or for the teacher, you may leave it at the office.

## Job Opportunities at Kincaid

[APPLY HERE](#) for the following:

- Health Teacher



### Home of the Kind Coyotes

**Our Mission** - To Develop kind, confident, capable and engaged learners.

**Our Vision** - To guide all students to thrive personally and academically.

**Collective Commitments:**

In order to achieve our shared vision, Kincaid staff agree to.....

- \* Communicate learning targets and class activities clearly to students and families.
- \* Provide positive and open communication to parents/guardians.
- \* Interact positively with students and visitors and each other.
- \* Be fully prepared for each lesson and provide effective engagement strategies.
- \* Provide a safe place where students have a sense of belonging.
- \* Be consistent and respectful and model school expectations.

Email: [zorea\\_wendy@asdk12.org](mailto:zorea_wendy@asdk12.org)

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

Location: [4900 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK, USA](#)

Phone: [907-245-5530](tel:907-245-5530)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KincaidElementarySchoolAnchorage/?ref=bookmarks>

Twitter: [@PrincipalZorea](#)



**Wendy Zorea**

Wendy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters