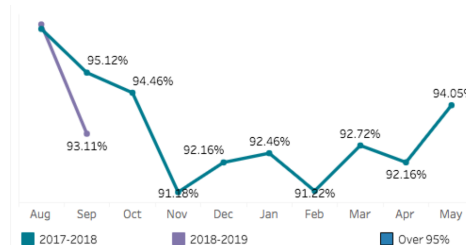


GIRDWOOD NEWS

Dear Girdwood Families,

We have completed the first four weeks of the school year and are excited about the direction our students are headed. Students in grades 3 through 8 have recently completed their Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing, while Kindergarten through second grade finished AIMSweb screening today. Our goal is to ensure that every student at Girdwood makes one year's worth of academic growth this year. These beginning of the year benchmark assessments are one tool that help us monitor students' academic progress towards grade level standards.

Another area of focus for the ASD and Girdwood School is regular attendance. The ASD School Board defines regular attendance as students attending school 95% of the time. We want students to feel safe, secure and happy while at school every day. Please communicate with your child's teacher often, as we need your help at home to facilitate a positive learning experience at school. Do not hesitate to email with questions or concerns and the teachers will respond to you in a timely manner.



Girdwood School Attendance Rate by Month

We welcome parents to join students for lunch, to volunteer and/or observe in the classroom. This quarter I am offering a "classroom lunch challenge" to all grade levels. Through October 19, 2019 every class that has 50% or more of their students who have had lunch with a parent, guardian or family member in the Girdwood commons will be provided a Subway or pizza lunch. If you come into the school to eat lunch with your son or daughter please let the front office know who you will be eating lunch with so we can tabulate the 50% grade level marks. We look forward to seeing our families enjoying lunch with their students.

We will also be hosting our only local Junior High Girdwood K-8 Cross Country Running Meet today, September 17, at the Nordic Trail at Alyeska Resort. Races begin at 4:00 pm so please bring your cowbells and cheer on our Grizzlies!

Thank you for sharing your child with us every day!

Erik Viste,
Principal



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

Upcoming Events

9/17 Middle School Cross
Country Meet in GIRDWOOD

9/19 PTA Meeting 3:15-4pm

9/20 Student Government
After School Movie:
Ferdinand

9/25 School Store

9/26 Middle School Cross
Country Meet @ Mirror Lake

9/27-9/28 Intensives

10/1 Middle School Cross
Country Meet @ Kincaid

10/4 Middle School Cross
County Meet @ Kincaid "Think
Pink" All Schools Relays

10/8 School Picture Day

10/9 School Store

10/10 Middle School Cross
Country Championships @
Kincaid

10/16 Student Government
After School Movie: Hotel
Transylvania

10/17 Staff Student Soccer
Game 2-3pm

10/17 PTA Meeting
3:15-4pm

10/18 School Spirit Day:
Grizzly Wear

10/19 End of 1st Quarter
Inservice Day—No School for
Students

BE KidSafe

Moose Safety

Parents—teach kids to Be KidSafe around moose:

- Remember that moose are wild animals
- Don't scream and run
- Never get between a mother moose and its calf

Stay away from moose:

- Keep at least 100 feet away (2 houses) from any moose and twice as far from one with a calf
- Get behind something big if a moose comes toward you
- Avoid moose: go back home, to school, to the nearest Safe Home or find a different, safe walking route
- Don't try to pet or feed moose
- Don't throw snowballs or objects at moose

Signs of a moose ready to attack:

- It dashes around, its ears go down, it will lick its lips, and the hair goes up on the back of its neck. You are too close if you can see all this!



Anchorage School District
Accounting and Finance for Schools, Inc.



Thank you to everyone who came to the Girdwood K-8 Open House and participated in our yearly Membership Drive. Our PTA board is almost full, however, we are still in search of a Vice President. Our monthly meetings are set for the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 3:15-4 pm, with our first one on September 19. We have a full agenda for the year with many opportunities for parent volunteers. Check the Girdwood K-8 monthly newsletter for current PTA events.

Please look for the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Flyer in this newsletter. You must sign up every year in order for the Girdwood School to receive the rewards. Also note that the non-profit # has changed. This program is totally free to you and our school receives the proceeds.

Membership forms were distributed at Open House and you can send them in to school with your child filled out with \$10 attached (cash or check). Parents can also join the PTA via FVCS registration by following either of these links:

[Single Member PTA Membership \\$10](#)

[Two Member PTA Membership \\$20](#)

2018-2019 Girdwood K-8 PTA Board

President: Melissa Ahern

Vice President: VACANT

Secretary: Maxine Potter

Membership: Ashley Wade

At Large: Cary Lukes

Alicia Hall

Special Events: Brigid Kuber

**To contact the Girdwood PTA: pta.girdwood@gmail.com

New

Anchorage School District Mobile App

Connect with your child's school through our mobile app.

The ASD mobile app allows parents and families to stay connected in real time.



Student academic performance



School calendars



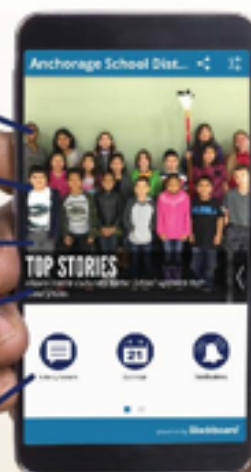
Account balances and lunch menus



Timely updates and push notifications



News, photos and more



Pick your schools and stay connected!

Step 1:

Download the app from the App Store or Google Play



Step 2:

For parents/guardians

Click "Student Info" and login using the email associated with your Q ParentConnection account. Your app password was sent to that email, if you lost it or haven't received it, click "Forgot Password" in the app.

Learn more at www.asdk12.org/mobileapp





Lunch Ticket Information:

Children may purchase a complete LUNCH, including a half-pint of milk each day. If lunch is brought from home, milk may be purchased separately.

If your child had money in his/her account at the end of last year, the balance will carry over to this year. If your child had charges on their account, they have also carried over to this school year.

Lunch prices:	Daily	Weekly (5Days)	Monthly (20 Days)
Grades K-6	\$3.75	\$18.75	\$75.00
Junior High	\$4.25	\$21.25	\$85.00

Milk is .50 cents when purchased separately.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Girdwood K-8 is no longer sending lunch menus home with our students. To access the current menu click on the link below. First click on the top header *Nutritional Menus*, then *Alternative School*, then *Girdwood*, then *Lunch*. This will take you to the current month's menu. If you would like to receive a copy via email from Student Nutrition also click on the same link below to access school menus and be sure and check the **alternative school** option. Student Nutrition will email you the menus at the beginning of each month during the school year. If you need a hard copy, feel free to come in to the office, and we'll be glad to print one up for you.

<http://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?page=automenu&sid=1492190521926>

Free and Reduced Priced Lunch Program Meal Applications
Apply now for the 2018-19 School Year

Last school years eligibility expires October 1st. An application is due every school year after July 1st of that year. Apply early and avoid unnecessary meal charges.

The online application can be found on asdk12.org under the *Families* heading, navigate to *Services* and click on *Student Nutrition and Menus*, then click on *Apply Online and Pre-payment Options*. For any questions, please call the Girdwood K-8 office at (907)742-5300 or call Student Nutrition at (907)348-5145.

Notes from the Library

Volume 1 | Issue 1
September, 2018

**The only thing
that you
absolutely have
to know, is the
location of the
library.**

—Albert Einstein



Greetings from the Girdwood School Library Media Center,

We are off to a great start this year. We have a new look to the library and the kids are loving quiet reading time in the new window seat and our big friendly bear, Mr. Grizz!

Please stop in to say hello if you haven't had a chance to do so yet, I welcome readers of all ages in the library. The library belongs to our students, and together we can make it a vibrant center of our school and community.

Parents can help by encouraging children to check out books frequently, teach them to care for books, and assisting children with returning books on time. A good way to do this is have a specific place where library books go after they are read and make sure they get back to school. The library is open for quiet reading and book check out every morning and also available throughout the day including scheduled library time. Below you will find the check-out profiles for each grade level.

Library Days

Kindergarten- Monday

First Grade- Thursday

Second Grade- Friday

Third Grade- Wednesday

Fourth Grade- Monday

Fifth Grade- Tuesday

Sixth Grade- Friday

Seventh and Eighth Grade-
Electives daily

- Grade K-1— 2 books for 1 week
- Grade 2-3 – 2 books for 2 weeks
- Grade 6-8 – 3 books for 3 weeks

Just Right Books

Students are encouraged to check out one 'Just Right Book' to practice read to self and one challenging book that they can read with family members, friends, teachers and reading buddies.

To Choose a 'Just Right Book'

1. Choose a book that you will enjoy!
2. Turn to the second page and begin reading.
3. Count on one hand up to five (5), how many words you don't know. If it is five or more words, the book is too difficult at this time. If you have less than five words, the book is a good fit for your reading level and considered a 'Just Right Book'.

Thank you and have a lovely September,
Meghan

HOW TO USE YOUR ASD LIBRARY NUMBER

ASD EBOOKS

Ebooks and audio books can be downloaded right from the ASD website. Log on to www.asdk12.org and select "ASD Library Catalog" from the Student drop-down menu. Select OverDrive eBook catalog.



SORA READING APP

Read free downloaded books on your device! Search for the SORA app in your app store and enter your school name and library ID number to sign up. You can also access SORA on the ASD eBook sign in page.



AT ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Visit the Anchorage Public Libraries and check out up to 3 items with your ASD library number.



ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY ONLINE CATALOGS

Log on to anchoragepubliclibrary.org and select "Download a book." Select any of the options listed under eBooks and use your ASD library number to access the services.



HOOPLA, MANGO, FREEGAL

Download books, music, and audio books, plus learn a new language all using your library card number on the Anchorage Public Library catalog!



YOUR PIN IS THE LAST 4 DIGITS OF YOUR
ASD LIBRARY NUMBER



Girdwood School Parents:

Glacier Valley Transit is providing an after school activities service at The Girdwood School. The GVT bus will stop at the Girdwood School Mondays through Fridays, at 4:40 pm heading toward Alyeska Resort and looping back toward the Seward Highway.

There is no charge for this service.

For more information about Glacier Valley Transit and for current bus stops and schedules please visit www.glaciertvalleytransit.com or contact Sam Marshall, Operations Manager, at 907-382-9908.



TEXT MESSAGES

Sign Up and receive text messages from ASD regarding school closures and late busses. You must opt in. They are not automatic. Visit ASD's website to learn more about receiving text messages: <http://www.asdk12.org/textupdates>.



Girdwood's School Store will be open from 11:40 am until 12:30 pm on the following Tuesdays:

September 25

October 9

November 6 and 20

December 9 and 18

The Girdwood School Store has school supplies available for you to purchase.

Supplies cost anywhere from .25 for a pencil to a few dollars for a notebook. Stop by on Thursdays at recess for your school supply needs.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Drop-Off Bin

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska has provided Girdwood with an additional donation drop-off box. This bin is located in the over-flow parking lot on the right hand side of Hightower Road, before you get to the school. Please donate gently used clothes, shoes, and cloth items only. To donate household items, please call Big Brothers Big Sisters at 563-1997 to set up a time for pick up. This service is provided for free by Big Brothers Big Sisters. These donated items are used to stock local Value Village locations and the proceeds of the items are given to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska in order to help them reach their yearly goal of serving 2,000 children across Alaska.

After School Playground Use

On sunny afternoons, students enjoy playing with friends and classmates on the school playground. We enjoy having them here, but cannot provide outdoor supervision after 3:15 p.m. School dismisses at 3 p.m. and, for safety reasons, students are expected to head for home, FVCS classes, or after school care on buses, bikes, feet or in a parent vehicles by 3:15. School doors will be locked promptly at 3:15.

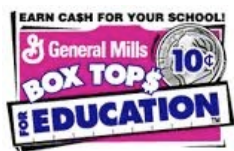
Students are more than welcome to stay on the playground if they are with a supervising adult. This is true for all students, including middle school. The only exception is when students remain to participate in school or FVCS supervised activities. Thank you for your help in keeping all the children in our valley safe and supervised.



Girdwood K-8 and the Girdwood PTA are on Facebook. Please check our pages out and **"LIKE"** us! We will be posting frequently and our pages will have the latest school information.



We would like to shout out a big THANK YOU to Subway and the Ice Cream Shop, Girdwood K-8's school business partners! If you know of anyone else who would like to be our partner, please let us know.



Box Tops for Education

We are continuing to collect **General Mills Box Tops For Education**. Mrs. Bethanie, in the front office, will be working again with the students to collect boxtops for their classrooms. She will keep track and post the number of Box Tops for the individual classes each month. The class that brings in the most Box Tops by the end of April will win a root beer float party. For each Box Top a student brings in, Girdwood K-8 School receives ten cents for the purchase of miscellaneous items, including Grizzly Buck supplies. Please continue to cut out those Box Tops and send them in. Our first submission is due Nov. 1. They can be found on boxes of cereal, Ziploc baggies, and many other items in your pantry.

Sign up for FVCS Classes!

Four Valleys Community Schools has classes going on now and will be rolling out lots of new ones in the next few weeks for community members of all ages. If you feel unable to take any of our classes due to class costs, please contact Catherine at cmcdermott@fourvalleys.org or by phone at 907.742.5317. We have financial aid, scholarships, and payment plans available.

Anchorage School Board

Starr Marsett, president
Deena Mitchell, vice president
Alisha Hilde, clerk
Elisa Snelling, treasurer
Bettye Davis
Dave Donley
Andy Holleman

ASD Superintendent

Dr. Deena Bishop

Anchorage School District Compliance/
Equal Employment Opportunity Office
REVISED: 8/2007; 8/2012; 5/2013;
7/2014

ASD Statement of Non-discrimination
for ASD Publications

The Board is committed to an environment of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, economic status, union affiliation, disability and other human differences. No person shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, any academic or extracurricular program or educational opportunity or service offered by the District. The District will comply with the applicable statutes, regulations, and executive orders adopted by Federal, State and Municipal agencies. The District notes the concurrent applicability of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the relevant disability provisions of Alaska law.

Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the District's Compliance/Equal Employment Opportunity Executive Director, who also serves as the Title IX and ADA/ADAAA Coordinator, ASD Education Center, 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage, AK 99504-3135 (907) 742-4132, or to any of the following external agencies: Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Director of the Office for Civil Rights-U.S. Department of Education or Office of Civil Rights-U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

GENTLE REMINDERS FOR THE COMING YEAR

At the beginning of each year, we like to send a reminder to parents about the procedures we have in place to insure our school is a safe learning environment with as few disruptions as possible. Please take a moment to help us out by reading over the procedures below.

Visitors and Volunteers: Please sign in to the visitor/volunteer log in our office each time you visit the school. In addition, please sign out when you leave. It's important for us to know who is in our building during the school day.

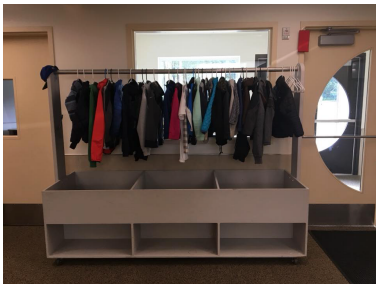
Picking Up and Dropping off Students During the School Day: Please make sure to sign your student(s) in or out if they are coming to school late or are leaving early. The sign out log is in the office. Please do not call ahead and ask us to have students come to the office before you arrive. Although we know it is unintentional, often students wait in office for long periods of time before parents arrive, missing class and important instruction. We are more than happy to call them down when you come in to sign them out. In addition, please help us minimize classroom disruptions by having the office call your child down, rather than picking them up from the class yourself.

Delivering Student's Belongings: Please drop off lunches, homework, and other forgotten or needed items in the office. We will be happy to deliver them to the student, again in an effort to decrease classroom disruptions.

After School Plans: If your child has a change in their regular after school plans (visiting a friend's house, taking the bus to a different location, going to scouts, etc), please send a note to school with your child in the morning. It is often very difficult to get last minute phone messages to students and can result in confused children and worried adults. We ask that you not call the school with a change of plans unless it is an emergency. Notes from home really are a necessity and insure your children get to the right after school location.

Birthday and Party Invitations: Because children's feelings are often hurt when they do not receive an invitation to a party, we request that invitations to any event be delivered outside school hours and away from the campus.

Lost & Found



Our Lost and Found Cart is filling up. Belongings are left at school and on the playground everyday and most of these items don't have names in them. We put them in the Lost & Found but they are more likely to make it back faster to your child if they have their names in them. Sharpies work best and silver Sharpies work better on dark clothing. Please label all coats, shoes, backpacks, lunch boxes, and other item that your child may walk away from. If your kiddo is looking for lost items, the school Lost & Found cart is located in the mini-commons between the primary and secondary classrooms. We will donate the all items left behind at the end of every quarter.



YOU CAN HELP THE GIRDMOOD K-8 SCHOOL EARN DONATIONS JUST BY SHOPPING WITH YOUR FRED MEYER REWARDS CARD!

Fred Meyer donates over \$2 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Girdwood K-8 School at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number **GP641**.
- Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping the Girdwood K-8 School earn a donation!
- You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- For more information, please visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

Nurse Notes

Be Prepared with your Gear!

The weather is changing. Please come to school every day with the right gear to play outside during recess: rain coats and pants, warm layers, hats, gloves, and boots. If students borrow from the loaner items in the nurses office they miss out on valuable recess time.

Stay Healthy

The school year has already included coughs and colds for some students. Rest, water and healthy foods will help your child recover faster. Adults and children should move away from others and cover their coughs and sneezes with their sleeve. Frequently washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is key. Students should avoid touching their face with their hands. We encourage good attendance but sometimes it's best to keep your child home: fever of 101 F or higher, constantly runny nose, frequent wet cough, vomiting two or more times in 24 hours, or if your child is too tired and uncomfortable to function at school.

We are looking forward to a happy and healthy school year! Nurse Raquel & Nurse Summer

Health Screenings

We have started grade level health screenings that are required annually for Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and new to district students. If you have any hearing, vision, height or weight concerns please let us know.

