

GIRDWOOD NEWS

GIRDWOOD K-8 SCHOOL

P.O. BOX 189 GIRDWOOD, AK 99587

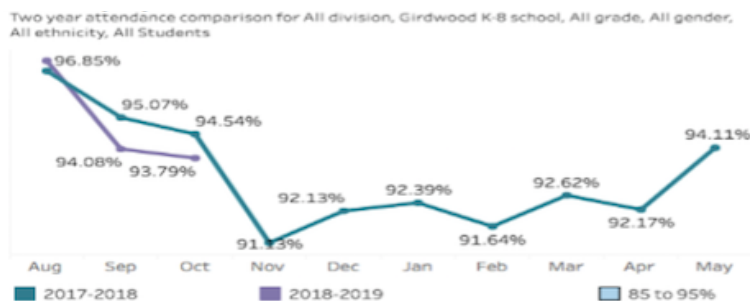
(907)742-5300

Greetings Families of Indian, Bird, Girdwood and Portage Valleys,

It is wonderful that so many of our families attended parent-teacher conferences over the past week. Your time spent communicating with teachers both at conferences, as well as through emails and phone conversations, plays a large part in the success of our students at Girdwood. One large factor contributing to quality schools is parent and community support of student academic and emotional goals at school.

Parent involvement is crucial to student growth. Thank you! Earlier I offered a classroom challenge to families who wished to have lunch with their son or daughter. Basically, any classroom that had, minimally, 50% of their students with a lunch-time guest across the first quarter would earn a pizza party. Kindergarten and Second Grade both earned a pizza party with 50% and 55% of the class participating, respectively. Thank you to all the families and family friends who participated! Please look for announcements later this school year as we will do this challenge again.

October has flown
data has been
making regular



by and our school attendance
tabulated. Thank you for
school attendance a priority by

planning appointments and trips outside of the school day and during school vacation times. We want every child at school every day.

We miss our students when they are not at school. Thank you for your work in supporting our students to be respectful, responsible and ready to do their best!

Lastly, please remember that school picture re-takes are this Friday, November 2, 2018 and there is no school on Monday, November 12, 2018.

Kind regards,

Erik Viste

Upcoming Events

11/2 Picture Retakes in the Mini-Commons

11/7 Family Fun Night with Mag 6-7:30pm

11/8 School Play "Hurricane Smith"
7-8:30pm

11/9 School Play "Hurricane Smith"
7-8:30pm

11/12 In Service No School for Students

11/13 4th & 6th Grade Field Trip to PAC

11/14 Middle School Volleyball Game @
Goldenview 3:30pm

11/14 PTA Meeting 3:15-4pm

11/16 Student Government Spirit Day
"Decade Day"

11/20 School Store

11/21 Thanksgiving Pie Social
11:30am-12:30pm

11/22-11/24 Thanksgiving Break No
School

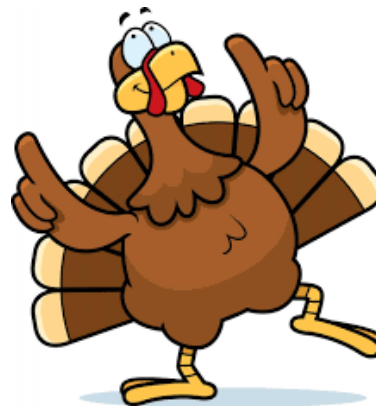
11/28 Middle School Volleyball Game @
Begich 3:30pm

11/30 K-3, 5-6 Field Trip to PAC



Box Tops for Education

We are continuing to collect **General Mills Box Tops For Education**. Mrs. Bethanie, in the office, will be collecting the Box Tops and keeping track of which class collects the most. 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. We use the money for Grizzly Buck supplies, and other miscellaneous items, so please continue to cut out those Box Tops and send them in. They can be found on boxes of cereal, Ziplock baggies, Progresso soup cans, and many other items in your pantry. Currently, the 3rd Grade is in the lead for the root beer float party!!



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>.

Cash Raffle

Win \$1000.00

Ticket No. 0001 Gaming Permit # 2076 Sponsored by the Girdwood Lions Cash Raffle Drawing: December 19, 2018 Name: _____ Phone #: _____	<p>Girdwood Middle School Trip to Washington DC & New York City</p> <p>Cash Raffle</p> <p>Sponsored by the Girdwood Lions</p> <p>Grand Prize— \$1000</p> <p>2nd Prize— \$500 3rd Prize— \$250</p> <p>Tickets are: \$5.00/Ea. or 5 for \$20.00</p> <p>Drawing at the Girdwood School December 19, 2018</p> <p>Need not be present to win</p>	Ticket No. 0001 Gaming Permit # 2076
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Please support our Middle School Trip
to Washington DC and New York City
in May 2019.



Tickets are for sale in the Girdwood School office
or through participating students.

Cost is \$5.00/each or 5 tickets for \$20.00.

Drawing to be held on December 19 at the Girdwood School
just prior to the Holiday Concert.

Girdwood Elementary Cafeteria Waste Characterization Study

Why have a Waste Characterization Study?

Waste characterization studies are a unique way of determining the types of waste generated by a particular user, in our case, Girdwood Elementary. The study will help answer questions, such as, how much waste is being generated? What type of waste is being generated? How much of the waste is recyclable? Compostable? Or landfill? allowing us to determine how to best handle the waste. In addition, the study will provide hands-on involvement for students by allowing teachers to use the data collected to supplement math lessons on weight, volume and data analysis.



The study will separate waste into four categories: recyclables, food waste/compostables, liquids and landfill material. The results will help identify mayor waste contributors, allowing the school to create an efficient waste reduction plan focusing on rotting, reducing, reusing and recycling.

The Collection Process

Students will proceed to the cafeteria and eat lunch as they do every day. At the time of waste collection, there will be a garbage bin and a roll cart with 3 additional buckets – compostables, liquids, and recyclables. Each bucket will be labeled. A description for each category is provided on the next page.

Step 1 – When students proceed to dispose of their lunch they will separate their waste. They will empty all liquid in the liquid bucket, all food/compostable material in the compost bucket and all recyclables in the recycling bucket. All other materials will be disposed of in the garbage bin. Younger students will obtain help from the staff and/or recycling coordinator.

Step 2 – (for study staff and helpers) As the bins and garbage are full they will be weighed and recorded, prior to being placed in the compactor or dumpster. As an option during food waste collection, a quick food survey can be done to the students. At the end of lunch, all uneaten food going to the garbage will be weighed as well.

Step 3 – The recorded data will be analyzed and results will be displayed on the schools recycling site.

Study Details

Location: School Cafeteria

Date and Duration: October 10th & 11th 2018 during the entire lunch Period

Equipment provided: three 5-gallon buckets, signage, garbage bin, latex-free gloves, scale, recording forms, survey

Girdwood Elementary Cafeteria Waste Characterization Study



- Fruits
- Salad
- Vegetables
- Meat (NO BONES)
- Bread
- Chips



- Juice
- Milk
- Water
- Soda
- Yogurt
- Other Beverages



- CLEAN Paper
- EMPTY Water Bottles
- EMPTY Beverage Cans
- Clean Cardboard



- Plastic Trays
- Plastic Wrapping
- Plastic Utensils
- Plastic Bags
- EMPTY Milk Cartons
- EMPTY Juice Cartons
- Candy and Chip Wrappers
- Any Other Material That Is Not Compostable, Recyclable or Liquid.



Transportation Safety Point

November 2018

Driving on Rural Roads

Safety Point:

Roads in remote and/or rural areas may present hazards that drivers are not accustomed to encountering. Extra caution is required when driving these roads because they are often not designed for high-speed travel.

Characteristics of rural roads:

- Lack of signs
- Blind or sharp curves
- Narrow width roads and lack of shoulders
- Steep hills
- Obstacles on roadway (slow-moving vehicles, animals, debris)

Factors to Consider:

- Low light areas, low visibility
- Weather conditions: rain, wet, foggy, cold
- Road conditions
- *Signs of animal strikes on the road:* blood, flesh, carcass, vehicle parts
- *Signs of a vehicle crash:* vehicle parts/debris on or near the road, vehicle with flashers (stopped on the road, in the grass, or on the shoulder)

Exercise caution when driving these areas by:

- Properly adjust your driving actions to all current conditions
- Never exceed the posted speed limits
- Some areas require you to drive up to 10+ mph below the posted speed limits
- When approaching a blind curve on a narrow road, slow down and keep to the right.
- Reduce speeds when entering blind curves in case you need to stop suddenly.
- Slow down when descending steep hills. Scan the roadway starting at the bottom of the hill, then scan up and ahead to get a full view

Video: Country Roads: Speed Management

<https://youtu.be/E1N9GrtwaJY>

Every Life Saving Rule
has 6 common **Safety**
Essential requirements



The Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported, visited, and helped make our scholastic book fair such a success.

We sold almost 450 books. We have some great new books to read in the library and all of the teachers who made wish lists have books to add to their classroom collection. Thank you for your help in supporting reading, literacy, and the Girdwood School Library.

A special shout out go to the following people for their time and dedication: Amanda Locke, Liam Jordan, Dave Musgrave, Jill Kohler, Zach Kohler, Reed Davidson, Christi Davidson, Claire Greene, Svea Nedwick, Otto Nedwick, Arne Nedwick, Lizeth Cardenas, Eleanor McDermott, Cam Kaufmann, Meira Williams, Sofie Swift, Savonna Rygh, Kea Anderson, Josh Hegna, Paxon Hegna, Andrea Lantz, and Zetty Morgan.



School Nurse

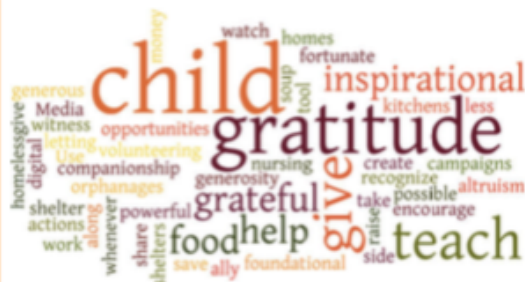


November
2018

*Nurse Raquel &
Nurse Summer*

Cold weather
clothing...

Winter has arrived!
Please remind
students to wear their
jackets, hats, mittens,
and boots before
heading outside. If
you need assistance
with providing warm
clothing for your
student, contact the
school nursing office.



As Thanksgiving approaches we pause to think about all we are thankful for. We are thankful to work with the wonderful students and staff here at the Girdwood School and we wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Free Flu Shots @ The Girdwood Library from
2:00 pm – 6:00 pm on November 14th from
DHHS; 907-343-4024;
agni.claire@anchorageak.gov



Influenza (flu) is a contagious disease that can be serious. Every year, millions of people get sick, hundreds of thousands are hospitalized, and thousands to tens of thousands of people die from flu. CDC urges you to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from flu.



A yearly flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses.

Everyone 6 months or older should get an annual flu vaccine. Protect Yourself. Protect Your Family. Get Vaccinated. #FightFlu



Avoid close contact with sick people, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands often (with soap and water).



Antiviral drugs can be used to treat flu illness and can make illness milder and shorten the time you are sick.

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Family Fun night with Mag!

Hello Girdwood Families,

"Mr. Mag" is returning to Girdwood School! Your child may remember him from his visit last year, when he taught all of us new and challenging juggling skills and activities.



Scott "Mag" Hughes, of W.E. C.A.R.E. Sports, is an engaging, inspirational, and FUN educator! He is coming to share his knowledge about brain science and learning, through the art of juggling! He has been teaching for over 40 years, and has shared his love of movement with friends all around the world. Most importantly, he is magic with kids --- capturing their attention with his big personality, his encouraging manner, and his goofy-yet-genius teaching methods.

W.E. C.A.R.E. Sports is located in Oregon, and they offer school programs throughout the Pacific Northwest. Mag is especially fond of Alaska, and tries to spend a few weeks in our state every year, sharing the programs with our children.

Thanks to our Girdwood PTA and FVCS, Mag will be here on Wednesday, November 7th.

You are invited to join us for to learn new skills with your child and share a giggle or two.

I hope you join us for this fun event! Wear your gym shoes and some comfortable clothes, and get ready to laugh as you learn!



Family Fun Night with Scott "Mag" Hughes

Date: *November 7, 2018*

Time: *6:00-7:30pm*

Location: *Girdwood School Gym*

~Cassie Quinn, P.E. Teacher



Thank you to Brigid Kuber, our Halloween Carnival organizer, and to the many parent and student volunteers who helped make the carnival a successful and fun event.

Our next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14, at 3:15pm.

The annual Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 8 in the Girdwood School gymnasium and commons. Applications are available here at the school in the entry way, the post office, or by emailing a request to the PTA at pta.girdwood@gmail.com.

We are in need of volunteers to help run the snack bar and we will also be looking for donated baked goods to sell. These can be dropped off at the school on Friday, Dec 7th. Please come out and get some early shopping done and support the Girdwood PTA at the same

School Play

Mrs. Wells and the cast of "Hurricane Smith", have been working hard practicing after school. They are looking forward to presenting a great show on Thursday, November 8, and Friday, November 9, at 7:00 p.m. on the Girdwood School Stage. The PTA will be serving dessert during intermission. We look forward to a spectacular production!

Big Brothers Big Sisters Drop-Off Bin

For those of you who don't know, 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.



Sign up for FVCS Classes!

Four Valleys Community Schools has classes going on now for community members of all ages. They should be rolling out many new ones shortly, just in time for the holidays! 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

Anchorage School Board

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Deena Mitchell, vice president

Alisha Hilde, clerk

Elisa Snelling, treasurer

Bettye Davis

Dave Donley

Andy Holleman

Superintendent

Dr. Deena Bishop



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.



DonorsChoose Grant Requests for Girdwood preK-8 School

1. All I Really Need Is A Ukulele <https://www.donorschoose.org/project/all-i-really-need-is-a-ukulele/3663984/> . Requested by our music teacher Mrs. Erin Wells, this project qualifies for additional funds from Chevron. Help bring a class set of ukulele's to Girdwood School. We are already 1/2 way to reaching our dream.

2. [Greenhouse Science: Designed For Sustainability](#) Requested by the primary teachers, this grant will upgrade our new school greenhouse by adding solar power and a rain water catchment system. The extra bonus is that our grant qualified for Samsung's matching grant offer. Samsung has pledged a 50% matching grant for any donation for this school-wide project (e.g. \$10 = \$15; \$50 = \$75).

Mrs. Leola Rutherford
6th Grade, Room 203
Girdwood K-8 School
Anchorage School District, Alaska
rutherford_leola@asdk12.org



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.glaciervalleytransit.com or contact Sam Marshall, Operations Manager, at 907-382-9908.

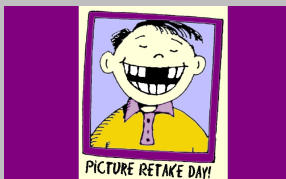
Thanksgiving Pie Social

To the Girdwood School Community: We will be holding the annual Thanksgiving Pie Social on November 21, 2018 during your child's lunch period. Friends and family are welcome! The 7th and 8th graders will host the social to give thanks to you for all your gracious donations and support of our school. Without your support, we would not be able to pay for our extracurricular activities or succeed in the way we do. So come and enjoy homemade pies baked by the 7th and 8th graders at our Thanksgiving Pie Social.

Sincerely,
The Girdwood Student Government



Picture Retakes



Picture retakes are scheduled for Friday, November 2. This is for those students who were absent, forgot portrait money, or who would like to have their pictures retaken. For those getting retakes, please make sure to return the original portrait packet.