The school year is now in full swing and there are a few things we want to bring to your attention.

**Attendance Matters**
Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student’s academic success. As children grow older and more independent, parents play a key role in making sure students get to school safely and on time everyday. Remember, **EVERYDAY MATTERS!**

**Cold and Dark Outside**
While it is still fairly warm outside, the rain has begun and cold conditions are knocking on the door. It is the time of year when you and your student(s) need to begin preparing for the colder conditions. Hats, gloves, boots and winter coats will be needed for all students very soon. Also make sure they have on reflective tape as they walk to school or the bus stop so that they can be seen. As always, we can support any family that may need assistance for these items, just contact Jen Mickelson our FSSC 742-0513.

Don't forget that our first Family Night is Nov. 2nd. This is always a great time for families and we can’t wait to see you here!
"You cannot climb the ladder of success dressed in the costume of failure." — Zig Zigler

Hats off in building; headbands should be functional.

Remove earbuds and respond to greetings in the hallway.

Message matters!
No drug/alcohol/weapons content.

Shirts should cover beltline or be tucked in.

Shirt must cover shoulder.

Pants must completely cover all underwear.

Rule of thumb: at least past fingertip for shorts, skirts and dresses.

Footwear should be appropriate.

“Style is a way of saying who you are without speaking.” — Rachel Zoe
Begich Middle School's 3rd Annual Community Resource Family Night

Nov. 2, 2017
5:30pm-7pm
Begich Middle School

Family Dinner * Fun * Great Information
We would love to see you here!

Relationships Matter Most
Michael Jerue is the Title VI counselor at Begich Middle School. While Michael was born here in Anchorage, he is an Athabascan from Holy Cross along the Yukon river in western Alaska. Michael enjoys living a subsistence lifestyle that he learned from his grandpa and grandma, Wilson and Barbara Jerue. He feels so fortunate to be able to fish, hunt and gather his traditional food year after year.

Michael went to school right here in Anchorage at Fairview Elementary, Central Middle, and graduating from West High School in 1987. After graduating he attended Haskel Indian Nation University where he earned a B.A. Business Management with an emphasis on tribal government. Upon completion of his B.A. Michael returned to Anchorage and began working in the Title VI Indian Education department at West High School is Alma Mater. After five years He then transferred and began working with Cook Inlet Tribal Counsel at four different schools (Dimond and Bartlett High Schools and Wendler and Mears Middle Schools). In 2010 Michael came back to the ASD Title VI team as a community counselor at Begich Middle School.

When not working Michael enjoys cooking, music, traveling, spending time with family, fishing, camping, and boating. He can almost always be found helping others.

Thank you to the many families that gave permission for their student to be seen at the Healthy Spot Clinic at Begich Middle School this year.

When the additional paperwork is received, the student will be called from class for the physical exam. We will prioritize students who need a physical for school sports and then on a first come, first served basis.

If you have any questions about our services, please call: 223-2680

The 21st Century after-school program started Monday, September 11. Our goal for this year is to: help students use positive communication and social skills to interact effectively with each other. Here are some of our exciting upcoming events:

- Fieldtrip to botanical gardens
- Samoan language instruction
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Cooking club
- And more!

There are still a few spots open so come in and fill out an application today!
Appropriate footwear is an absolute MUST! In the event a student forgets, loaner socks and shoes are available in the locker room. PLEASE BORROW! Inappropriate footwear (open-toed shoes, sandals, dress shoes, boots, etc.) tends to put students at risk for injury and may also create unsafe situations for others. Inappropriate footwear results in an AUTOMATIC LOSS OF PARITCIPATION POINTS and the student must SIT OUT THE ENTIRE CLASS. Students do have the option to complete a PE Makeup Form to earn back points, but sitting out (especially on a block day) is not a good use of time in a movement-based class.

We are so committed to facilitating active participation and promoting good hygiene, that we provide time at the start and end of each class for students to change footwear/clothing, use the restroom, wash hands (especially after being on the floor/touching equipment), and freshen up (apply deodorant). Students will be moving and active during class. Few things are worse than sitting next to someone that has gotten hot and sweaty and no longer smells fresh and clean (body odor is an awkward topic at any age)! We have great partners in the community so if you need footwear or clothing please just let a PE teacher know. We will do our best to get you what you need (no cost to you). Students are encouraged to take clothing home once a week or more frequently as needed. Please label all items so in case something is left out, we can get it back to the correct student. Our lost and found bin is located in the MPR.

Here at Begich, we hope to instill a love of the great outdoors and classes will be going outside in all types of weather. Drizzle or light snowfall won’t prevent a class from going outside so please be prepared with outdoor shoes that can get wet and dirty. During the fall, we tend to have a lot of goose droppings on campus. Our weather changes and sometimes station changes are made mid-day. For outdoor activities, students need to dress for personal comfort (that means to dress in layers like sweats, sweatshirt, light coat, raincoat, gloves, hat, sunglasses, etc.) and to ensure active participation. As a school, teachers do not send students back to lockers during the first five minutes of class to allow sweepers to catch tardy students and to allow all teachers to start on time. If something is forgotten, we have an assortment of loaner items available and ask that items borrowed are returned at the end of class. Once a class exits the building, individual students returning to use the restroom or to retrieve forgotten items is very problematic and negatively impacts other teachers/their classes.

Get out and play 60 minutes every day!

~Ms. Gamble, Mr. Maslen, Mrs. Moore, Ms. Osborne, and Mr. Szymanski
Pay Attention to Attendance: Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student’s academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student’s academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.