Do Good Work, Be a Friend, Every Day - September 28, 2020

Principal's Message -

Greetings,

In-Person Blended Learning will be here soon. Below are a few more details to add color to our program.

- **Covid stays out of our school** - Each morning we greet our students outside to confirm they are masked-up and ready to learn. Families send their child to school free of Covid symptoms but we'll do a check before students enter the building.

- **We stagger our multiple entrances** - we'll meet you out front the first two days. Then we'll use multiple entrances to keep our cohorts and learning pods safe.

- **After the first two mornings**, starting at 9:15am we'll open our fields for Second Grade students and higher. This allows for some supervised outdoor movement before doors open at 9:30am.

- **School meals** continue to be free through December. We still need families to complete the Free/Reduced Meal Application as this provides our Title I funding.

- **Students will be in Learning Pods**. Safety procedures keep our learning pods at 17 but some will be even fewer. Let us know if you want your child in one of these reduced-size classrooms.

**Upcoming Events:**

- **October 5th** - 'In Person' Blended Learning begins if in Yellow Zone
- **October 13th** - Title I Annual Meeting and STEM Night
- **October 15th** - "Great Alaskan Shakeout." Earthquake Drill at 10:15am
- **October 16th** - End of First Quarter
- **October 29-30th** - Parent/Teacher Conferences
All students receive two hours of certified teacher every day. Even the smaller learning pods receive two hours with a certified teacher. We are lucky to have the support of Title I funding to make this happen.

Students can receive direct instruction via digital learning platforms. This is especially important for quarantined students. Teacher Google Meet lessons and activities will continue to be posted on their current platforms. For many this is Google Classroom.

Clean your hands. Students start with clean hands and continue throughout the day. Masks stay on except for drinking and eating.

Wear a fresh mask each day. Supply your child with a clean mask each day.

Outdoor Movement Every Day - weather permitting. We understand that time to stretch and grow is good for the mind. Make sure your child is ready for outdoor movement time every day. PE is once a week and this too will be outside as long as possible.

Progress Monitoring - Is my child on grade level? Teachers conducted beginning of the year assessments. Make sure you understand this data and watch that your child continues to grow throughout the year.

School Events - while Pastries and Parents (who doesn't like doughnuts) was my favorite, Family Events have now gone virtual (no food). Our October 13th Title I Annual Meeting will be followed by STEM activities including take home kits.

Additional Home/ School activities - our Service Project is a great way to keep your child engaged in good citizenship activities. This project culminates during our Veterans’ Day Celebration. Word is that Arty will have a new book to share with students on that special day. (See below)

In-Person Blended Learning - uses learning tools similar to those in Remote Learning (make sure your child has headphones for school). This allows for a smooth transition between In-Person and Blended, whenever that may happen. We also built this considering students that may need to quarantine during these trying times.

Communication is key - call our office. We have additional staff at Arctic Light that are here to help with your needs. Some of these extra staff members include: Mrs. Holman (Behavior Specialist); Mrs. Randolf (MFLC); Mrs. Steiner (AK-Rises Counselor); Mr. Hoy (Instructional Coach).

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Mr. Keener
Principal – Arctic Light K-8

**Seven Weeks of Service**

Our Community is doing [Seven Weeks of Service in Alaska](https://www.sevenweeksofservice.org) from September 13th-October 31st. We are tracking our hours (between 1 - 10 hours a week), type of volunteer work, and who is doing it (student, family, or staff). We will thank everyone in November for their great, intentionally kind work.

Service ideas:

- [List of service ideas]

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A Day in the Life of a Student at Arctic Light

A short description of what to expect during In-Person Blended Learning.

Visit the Seven Weeks of Service in Alaska website for more information and for helping us tally our community efforts by week.

Welcome back 2.mp4

counselor corner

Hello Families!
It is October and we are focusing on issues of Respect and Generosity, more specifically, it is Red Ribbon time and we teach students to say No to the use of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco products, and to say No to bullying. Respect is viewing someone with care and with an awareness of healthy boundaries and structure. We teach respect directly by explaining expected behaviors, and we teach respect by modeling respect back to children, and to others that they see us interacting with. We are generous in that we show we care about everyone, and we care about our own bodies. Please review these themes during October. We sustain our Caring Community together.

Kate LaSota  
School Counselor  
Arctic Light K-8  
(907) 356-2038 x28038
COVID-19 Daily Decision Tree
Review this decision tree every day before reporting to in-person school.

For Students

Has the student traveled outside Alaska within the past 14 days?

Yes

Stay home for remote learning.

No

Has the student been in close contact* with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or been asked to self-quarantine because of close contact with an infected individual?

Yes

Travel outside Alaska = Home for 14-day quarantine OR 2 negative COVID-19 tests separated by 7-14 days (see Alaska Travel Mandates).

No

Close contact = Home for 14 days from last contact with no symptoms. A negative test does not end quarantine period.

Yes

COVID-19 symptoms (no test) = Home isolation for 10 days and until symptoms have resolved for at least 24 hours UNLESS you have the district-approved doctor’s note saying symptoms are not COVID-19 related and symptoms have resolved for at least 24 hours.

No

Positive COVID-19 test = Home for 10 days since first symptoms and at least 24 hours since last fever without fever-reducing medications. Clearance from Public Health required to return to in-person school.

Go to in-person school.

* Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 for 10 minutes or longer.

Updated August 31, 2020

Join us on Facebook

Military One Source

Kagan Professional Development Thursday, Sept 24th.
Staff engaged activities that promoted active learning and better understanding of emotions. (See poster below)

Coach's Corner 9/28/2020

We know our students are going through a lot right now. One way to consider helping them at home is to consider creating a *calm-down corner*. For moments when your child feels overwhelmed, try Designating a safe space at home where they can go to calm down. Maybe the space could include fidget tools, calming music, comfy pillows, coloring pages and books. Basically, whatever you think will help your child to unwind and feel more like themself.

Thank you,

Nick Hoy
Instructional Coach