

October 31, 2017

School Starts 8:30

Lunch 12:20-1:05

Preschool Starts: 12:30

Dismiss 3:05



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Upcoming Events :

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Nov. 21 In-service | No School |
| Nov. 22 | Early Release |
| Nov. 23 | Thanksgiving No |
| Nov. 24th | Thanksgiving No |
| Dec. 4th | Holy Day No School |
| Dec. 9th | Saturday School |
| Dec. 19th | Holy Day No School |
| Dec. 23rd | Early Release End |
| Dec. 24th—Jan. 8th | No School |

Principal's Corner

Greetings,

A big thank you goes out to all the parents who were able to attend our parent/teacher conferences! It's always great to catch up with everybody, especially those I don't run into very often. In no way do I want to downplay the importance of our moms who attend, but I do want to give a shout-out to all the dads who were present! My guess is that $\frac{1}{4}$ of the conferences were attended by our dads. This was most evident with our younger students, so we hope this will be a continuing trend. I really do appreciate everybody who was able to participate. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please don't hesitate to contact the school. Thanks!

Our high school wrestling season is well underway with the first two tournaments already behind us. The first tournament was in Homer and the Head of the Bay Cougar Wrestlers ended with an impressive 25 wins, while only allowing 5 losses. This past weekend in Seward Max Kusnetsov swept his opponents with a 9-0 record, giving him the Outstanding Wrestler Award for the tournament. Other notable wrestlers were Dia Martishev who finished 5-1 and Anthony Kalugin who ended the weekend with a 6-2 record.

Students from kindergarten through sixth grade enjoyed a field trip to the Sea Life Center in Seward on October 6th. It was a long one-day trip, but enjoyed by both staff and students. The exhibits and presenters seized the students' attention for the duration of their stay. I hope each student who attended had the opportunity to share their experiences with members of their family. This trip was funded through a grant from Exxon Mobile, so there was no cost to students or the school.

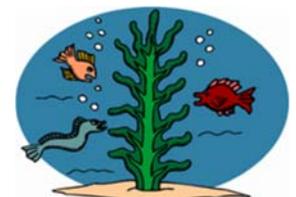
Our instructional shift towards Personalized Learning is making some headway. Teachers will be trying out some of the new strategies in their classrooms between now and our next Early Release and they will then share the strategy they liked the most during our *next Early Release on November 22nd*. We will do this a few times to give teachers some fresh ideas as we move forward. On November 29th we will have a representative from Education Elements, the company spearheading our instructional shift, come down to visit our school. I will look forward to sharing the takeaways from this meeting.

During the early hours of Sunday, November 5th daylight savings time ends. So, before you go to bed Saturday night don't forget to set your clocks back one hour and enjoy the extra time! Even after this change it won't be long and the students who walk to school will be doing so in the dark. *Especially when there's no snow it can very difficult to see students who are wearing dark clothing.* With an abundance of student drivers please be conscientious about the outerwear being worn by your children. If it is a dark color please have them wear some reflective tape that can be easily seen, have them wear a small flashing light, or have them carry a flashlight that will stand out in the dark. Thanks for your part in helping to keep our students safe.

Once a year there is a Road Board assembly meeting in Homer, and this year it will take place on November 14th at 7:00 PM in the Homer City Council Chambers room. As of last month the entirety of Voznesenka Loop is now a Borough maintained road. Our next course of action is to have a better plan developed for the plowing and sanding of our roads, especially on school days. We did not have a very good showing of support at the Road Board meeting in Soldotna last month, so hopefully those who live on and use the roads to and from Voznesenka School will find the time to attend the meeting right here in Homer. The more people who attend the more important our road issue will be perceived. **If only a few people attend, it is unlikely that any changes will be made to how our roads are maintained in the winter.**

Have a great month,

Mike





**Cougar Pride: Safe
Respectful
Responsible**

Adult Basic Education Classes

Learn to fill out forms!

Become a citizen!

Learn to read, write, or speak English!

Free Classes for Adults! An instructor can visit Voznesenka for weekly classes or tutorials if there are a minimum of three students interested in any area of course work including: Career Preparation, English as a Second language, Citizenship Studies, or GED preparation.

Classes in Homer on Kachemak Bay Campus available to get your GED (high school diploma), pass a college entrance test, or work on skills needed for a job.

**All classes are free! (Some may require textbooks.)

Call Pam at 235-1606 for more information or to register.

Early Release Schedule

Students will be dismissed at 12:45 on the dates listed below. There will be no preschool. Per negotiated agreement teachers will use this time to collaborate. These are great days to book dental and doctor appointments.

Nov. 22

Dec. 22

Feb. 7

March 19

April 4

May 1

NOVEMBER 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|--|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Daylight Savings Time. Move clocks 1 hr back | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 Road Board Meeting in Homer @ 7:00pm | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 Inservice No School | 22 Early Release 12:45 | 23 Thanksgiving No School | 24 Thanksgiving No School | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |



Personalized Learning

Dear Voznesenka School families,

How would your child answer this question, “*Where do you want your learning to take you and how can KPBSD help you get there?*”

Personalized Learning in KPBSD empowers every student to reach their lifelong learning potential.

We want to directly connect your child to rigorous learning that is relevant and an excellent preparation for life, college, and the careers they will encounter after high school. The deliberate integration of personalized learning (PL) into every classroom in the school district over the next three years will accomplish this KPBSD goal. Our school is in Wave 2 and will begin our formal PL work sometime this fall.

[Learn more about PL](#), or read on:

Personalized Learning in KPBSD

Personalized learning shifts from a one-size-fits-all factory model of education to better prepare students for the jobs and needs of *their* future. The design of instruction and the classroom allow educators to respond to the individual needs of students—instead of expecting students to fit the current mold or adapt to unsuccessful learning structures. PL does not replace teachers with computers. Many of our teachers implement elements of PL in their classrooms right now, and we will now build on this foundation to create an even better learning environment. Key elements your child will experience include:

Teachers integrate digital content, which allows for a differentiated path and pace based on individual student needs

Teachers use targeted instruction based on specific student needs and learning goals

Teachers use current and relevant data to help inform instructional decisions and groupings

Students engage in ongoing self-reflection that promotes ownership of their learning

*When will PL formally start in KPBSD schools?

Every KPBSD school is doing some degree of work with personalized learning. However, the formal work of individual schools and teachers working directly toward personalized learning will be rolled out in three “waves” over the next year.

Wave 1 Schools began their work in spring 2017, and will continue in the fall of 2017.

Wave 2 Schools will begin their formal work with Education Elements in the fall of 2017.

Wave 3 Schools will begin their formal work with Education Elements in the spring of 2018.

Are you curious, or do you have a question? Please visit the [KPBSD Personalized Learning Blog](#), and check out the [FAQs](#). There’s also a link on the KPBSD homepage: www.kpbsd.org.

I recognize that you may have questions concerning personalized learning and what this will entail for your student(s). Please contact me directly with your questions. I look forward to a great school year at Voznesenka and our work together!

Sincerely,
Mike Wojciak

