



# Cougar Comments

Voznesenka School: Kenai Peninsula Borough School District



September 28, 2018

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## Principal Corner

Greetings,

All of the sunshine sure made a beautiful end to our summer, as well as the start to our fall! The time between the last edition of Cougar Comments and now makes me feel like we didn't miss a beat and just jumped from one year to the next. I appreciate you tuning in again to keep up with the happenings at school.



One of our many changes this year is that Cougar Comments will be shared with parents electronically, in addition to the paper copies that were sent home in years past. It is our hope to share these electronically only in the near future. This will allow each of you the opportunity to access it whenever it is most convenient for you, while offering the opportunity to revisit this information at any time. We would greatly appreciate your feedback when it comes to the format or delivery. We are doing a lot of learning on our end as we make this transition, so thanks in advance for your patience and thoughts.

### School Schedule:

School Starts 8:30  
 Lunch 12:45—1:05  
 Preschool Start 12:30  
 School Dismissed 3:05



My face is definitely less visible this year than it has been in the past, which is due to the additional role of also being the principal in Selo. I miss the morning and after school routines of greeting and sending students home, which provided me more opportunities to connect with each of you. With that loss, I have gained the opportunity to know some awesome Selo students who come decked out with smiling faces, curiosity, and a desire to learn.

Tentatively, we are planning to host gun safety training for interested middle school students here at the school. This would take place on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, which is dependent on students completing the workbook portion, prior to the class, at home. The workbook directly correlates with the written test each student is required to pass to earn his or her certificate. Completing the workbook with friends is acceptable, but know that the test will be taken individually.



I want to give a big "THANK YOU" to Fenya Reutov and Angie Polushkin, who volunteered for picture day! It really went smooth this year and I always enjoy seeing the kids so "spiffy!"

We will not be able to offer evening conferences the night of October 30th this year. This will make a tight squeeze for a full day of conferences for October 31st.

I wish everybody a great month,  
Mike

- October 9th Holy Day
- October 19th End of the Quarter Early Release Day
- October 31st Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 1st Picture Retakes
- November 20th K-Thanksgiving Dinner
- November 21st Holy Day
- November 22nd and 23rd Thanksgiving No School



“Wisdom, compassion,  
and courage are the three  
universally recognized  
moral qualities of men.”  
Confucius

## Site Council Meeting Dates

October 30th @ Voz @ 6:00pm

December 17th @ KSelo

January 31st @ Voz

March 1st @ KSelo

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## ADHERA

**TO:** All Parents/Guardians/Students

**FROM:** David May, Director

Planning and Operations

**DATE:** Fall, 2018

**SUBJECT:** AHERA School Management Plans

### MEMORANDUM

As mandated by Federal Regulation 40 CFR PART 763, known as AHERA (the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, enacted in 1987), local educational agencies must notify parents/guardians/students in writing each school year about the existence and location of AHERA School Management Plans for each school building within their jurisdiction.

Currently, copies of all AHERA School Management Plans are located at the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District’s Central Office and at the Kenai Peninsula Borough Maintenance Office. In addition, a copy of the individual AHERA Management Plan for each school is kept on site in the school’s administrative office. AHERA Management Plans may be inspected at any of these sites.

Your school, **Voznesenka Elementary School**, has been inspected for the presence of asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM), and none were found.

If you should have any questions concerning the AHERA School Management Plans or asbestos-related activities, as the designated Local Education Agency’s Asbestos Coordinator, I can be contacted at the School District’s Central

Office or phone (907) 714-8875.

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## 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.

October 19th

October 24th

November 28th

December 21st

February 6th

March 8th



# KPBSD EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS



## BEFORE A SCHOOL EMERGENCY

### ✓ Parents Should Be Prepared

- Contact information** entered in PowerSchool is used to make emergency contact with parents. So that KPBSD can keep you informed, make sure your child's emergency contact information is accurate, current, and updated as needed. That information may be used during an emergency to generate automated phone messages, emails, or text messages to parents from schools or the district office. **Parents need to go to the school office to update and sign their information.**
- Download the **KPBSD Mobile App** so you can automatically receive emergency update push notifications
- Become familiar with the **KPBSD Facebook** and **Twitter** social media sites where emergency information is posted

### ✓ Parents Should Be Informed

- Familiarize yourself with these KPBSD emergency terms and procedures:
  - ✓ **Stay Put:** A "stay put" takes place when a potential threat is identified in the school's neighborhood. All school doors are locked but classes continue inside as normal. No entry into or exit from the school is allowed. Students will not be released until the situation is resolved and the "stay put" has been rescinded.
  - ✓ **Safety Closure:** A "safety closure" takes place when a violent intruder is identified on school grounds or in the school building. The ALICE protocols will be followed. No entry into or exit from the school is allowed. Students will not be released until the situation is resolved and the "safety closure" has been rescinded.
  - ✓ **Shelter-In-Place:** A "shelter-in-place" takes place when students take refuge in designated areas to be protected from hazardous materials or severe weather. Entry or exit from the schools will be controlled.
  - ✓ **Evacuation:** In the event of certain building emergencies, students will be relocated to an appropriate evacuation assembly area. Students will be released to parents per district student release procedures.

## DURING A SCHOOL EMERGENCY



### Parents:

- ✓ Should **trust** that during an emergency the school and district is first doing what is needed to protect students, and then communicating to parents as quickly as possible when we have full and accurate information.
- ✓ Should trust that staff and students are prepared for emergency situations. Schools participate in emergency drills throughout the year, and staff and emergency responders know the best procedures for keeping students safe.
- ✓ **SHOULD NOT call or rush to your child's school** Phone lines, staff, and local roads are needed for emergency response efforts.
- ✓ **SHOULD NOT phone or text your child** The sound or vibration from cell phones and phone conversations could put students in danger. Also, students need to be paying attention to the instructions from trained staff. Conflicting instructions from parents may put a child's safety at risk.

## AFTER A SCHOOL EMERGENCY

### How will I be reunited with my child?

Parents and guardians will be directed by school or public safety officials to their child's specific location. This information will be distributed via the previously discussed emergency modes of communication. Students will be released **ONLY** to parents and guardians or other designated individuals who are documented as emergency contacts. All individuals will be required to present a valid picture ID such as a driver's license, military ID, or passport. Please remember to bring your ID with you and inform your child's emergency contacts that they will be required to show proper identification if they are picking up your child.

The reunification process can be time-consuming, so everyone is urged to be patient.

### Recovery:

#### Following the emergency, we encourage parents to:

- Listen to and acknowledge your child's concerns
- Provide reassurance that your child is safe
- Assure your child that additional prevention efforts are being put in place
- Seek help from school personnel or a mental health professional if concerns persist

Should your child have serious concerns in response to an emergency or crisis, contact your school directly for information and guidance.

**QUESTIONS?:** Please contact your school principal or office.

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## **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL "SAFETY CLOSURE" INFORMATION**

After extensive research and study of historical and recent school safety incidents, the U.S. Department of Education issued a new document with new guidelines for school safety entitled "Guide For Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operation Plans." One of the major findings was that the lone option to *lockdown* was no longer enough. It was stressed that "as the situation develops, it is possible that students and staff will need to use more than one option." In order to give our staff and students more options to protect themselves, KPBSD adopted the A.L.I.C.E. protocols to be used when the presence of a violent intruder necessitates a "Safety Closure." A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for:

### **ALERT Use Plain and Specific Language. Avoid Code Words**

Get the word out! Notify authorities and those in harm's way of the danger at hand. The objective is a conveyance of plain, clear, concise and accurate information, not an issuance of a command. The goal is to empower as many individuals as possible with the ability to make an informed decision as to their best option to maximize their chances of survival!

### **LOCKDOWN Barricade the Room. Silence Mobile Devices. Prepare to EVACUATE or COUNTER if Needed**

Locking down and barricading entry points may still be the best option in some situations. The noise of cell phones and phone conversations could put students and staff in danger so all mobile devices should be silenced. ALICE training includes instruction on practical techniques to assist in better barricading the room. Pre-Planning and obtaining of materials can improve the ability to barricade. The time in Lockdown can be used to prepare for the use of different protocols (i.e. Counter or Evacuate) as the incident proceeds and situational information is supplied.

### **INFORM Communicate the Intruder's Location in Real Time**

Inform is a continuation of Alert and uses any means available to pass on real-time information.

Communicate real-time updates throughout the incident to those involved. This can be accomplished through the use of video surveillance equipment, public address systems, or electronic updates. Updates during an incident allow those involved to make sound decisions about how to react and what steps, if any, to take next. Information should always be clear, direct and, as much as possible, should communicate the whereabouts of the intruder. Effective information can keep the intruder off balance, giving people in the school more time to further lockdown, or evacuate to safety.

### **COUNTER Create Noise, Movement, Distance and Distraction**

This protocol is used only as a "last-resort" or "worst-case" option if those involved have not been able to find a secured area, or their secure area has been breached. Staff and students are trained in disruptive actions that create noise, movement, and distance to distract, confuse, and gain control through age appropriate tactics. ALICE does not endorse civilians fighting an active shooter, but when confronted directly in a life-and-death situation, individuals should use any actions necessary to defend themselves.

### **EVACUATE When Safe To Do So, Remove Yourself From Danger Zone**

The goal is to safely put as much time and distance between the threat and our staff and students as possible. The decision to evacuate can be made at any time during the incident based upon information that becomes available. Evacuating to a safe area takes people out of harm's way and hopefully prevents civilians from having to come into any contact with an intruder. Evacuation is the number one goal! When Evacuation is one of multiple protocols that are safely available, Evacuation should be the first choice.

**It is important to understand that these protocols are age appropriate, not sequential or chronological, and those involved have the ability to change protocols as an incident progresses.**

KPBSD's change to the use of A.L.I.C.E. protocols has been done in conjunction with our local law enforcement agencies. These agencies also participate in the training of staff and students.