

October 1, 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is hard to believe that we are already three weeks away from the end of first quarter. The leaves are changing colors and ice will soon appear on blacktop. Please continue to drive safely when dropping off and picking up students. You may want to start sending students to school with hats and gloves so they can stay warm when they play outside during recess.

The Site Council reviewed our two new goals for this year. As I mentioned during the open house, one goal addresses attendance. Last year's attendance rate was 91.5%. With your help, we need to raise it to 96%. For the month of August we were 94%. We are on the right track. On the back of this letter you will see a daily breakdown of our attendance. Our other goal addresses teachers implementing the new Alaska standards into their instruction. The staff has been diligently working on mapping the standards for the school year as well as planning assessments of the standards. Many of you have already seen their work in your classroom newsletters.

I want to thank the Paul Banks PTA and their volunteers for all of their support during the start of the school year. Their greenhouse produced some of the sweetest carrots on the Peninsula. They also started their first afterschool activities and movie night.

October 24 and 25 are our parent teacher conferences. As a reminder, we will not have school on those days. If you have a concern, please do not wait until this date. This staff welcomes parent communication to best meet the needs of your child. Together we can enhance your child's education. My door is always open and I know the same applies for the teachers.

Thank you for supporting our school and staff here at Paul Banks Elementary. All of you deserve credit for making Paul Banks a special school. Our teamwork will continue to make Paul Banks a five star school.

Sincerely,

Eric Pederson