



Paul Banks Elementary School

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
1340 East End Road – Homer, AK 99603 – (907) 226-1801
Principal, Eric Pederson

October 1, 2017

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 had their first meeting at the end of September. They reviewed our school development plan. Next month, we begin our journey in Personalized Learning. Our school development plan may change as we grow through the Personalized Learning process.

Funding and financial budgeting continue to be a topic of concern for our school district. There is a budget meeting on Oct. 17th at 5:30 pm. This will take place at Homer Middle School. This meeting will provide an overview of our budgeting process. All community members are invited to attend. This spring we will be facing challenging decision as we work within our school budget. Please get involved, your voice matters.

On the 20th of October, there is no school, it is an in-service/workday for staff. We will be focused on instruction as well as working on the 2nd year of our school initiative plan, the violin program.

Early Release days will again be used to help our teachers focus on their instruction. This last Early Release Day, grade levels collaborated to review Personalized Learning strategies. The next Early Release is October 25th. Students will leave at 12:50.

October 26 and 27 are our parent teacher conference dates. As a reminder, we will not have school on those days. If you have a concern, please do not wait until this date. Our 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. If you do not have time to stop by, but would still like to give us positive or constructive feedback, please visit www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/schools.aspx?id=3526 and fill out a school survey.

October 31, is our Halloween Parade. We appreciate your support in not having students wear scary costumes.

I want to thank the Paul Banks PTA and their volunteers for all of their support during the start of the school year. The greenhouse produced some of the sweetest carrots and spuds on the Peninsula. They have already started their first afterschool activities. I hope to see many of our students participating in this great opportunity. Thank you to all who have volunteered to make this possible.

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