

December 1, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The holiday season is already upon us. It does not feel like it with the late start of winter. We hopefully will be getting some snow and cold weather. Please send your child to school with proper clothing such as hats, gloves, boots and snow pants. If you need any help outfitting your child, please contact your child's teacher or myself, and we can help you out. Our goal is to ensure all of our students are warm and safe.

We have had three release days this year. Thank you for your support. I know the change in routine can sometimes be a challenging situation for many of our working families. As the administrator of Paul Banks, I feel the time has been well spent. Even though we, as a school, are doing very well, there is always room for improvement. This collaboration time has allowed us to work in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to plan and assess how we are doing on our school goals, specifically in the areas of the state standards, differentiation for all students, as well as mapping instruction and assessment.

Speaking of school goals...our attendance rate for the past three months has been 93%. As you all know our school goal this year is 96%. We are very close to reaching our yearlong goal. This not only gives our students the best educational opportunity, it also is one of the indicators the state uses to rate its' schools. Please help us reach our goal by getting your child to school on time. All that being said, if your child is ill, please keep him/her at home. With winter, comes sickness. A sick child regains health by staying home.

Sprout and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Child Find Program will be offering free screenings for children newborn through 5 years of age. The screenings will be held at Chapman School on December 10, 2014. We will screen your child's early development, motor skills, speech, early learning concepts, vision & hearing. Call 235-8671 to schedule an appointment. Please help spread the word to other families who may not receive this notice.

I would like to end by saying thank you to the PTA. They continue to support our students and teachers to reach new levels of success. If you have missed the past few meetings you can find the minutes and activities on Facebook.

Enjoy the holiday season!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Pederson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric Pederson