

November 1, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are already in the second quarter. Soon black ice will be upon us. Thank you for driving slowly in the school parking lot. Please start sending your child to school with boots, hats and gloves for outdoor recess.

The Site Council is an advisory board that provides direction and leadership at Paul Banks. The Council is made up of parents, community members and staff. Members represent their constituents by bringing ideas from the people to the Council. At the bottom of this letter you will see the members of the Council. Feel free to talk to them about the Council or ideas that you would like to bring up for discussion.

It is my honor to announce that Paul Banks Elementary is one of 75 out of 501 schools recognized by the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development as a *five star* school. You can read the entire media release at <http://education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/>. West Homer Elementary also earned this same honor.

Paul Banks' students, parents and staff share a great sense of pride in the successful PreK-2 program we offer the community. Our unique configuration helps us stay focused on the fundamentals of education with an emphasis on early intervention and developmentally appropriate practices that nurture our young learners. We are excited that the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development have found a way to celebrate the terrific things happening for students of all ages in public schools in Alaska. We are honored that our students' achievements were among those recognized.

Last month I had a meeting with First Student. The bus drivers wanted to thank parents for making eye contact with the drivers when crossing our yellow curbs into and out of the school. If your child misses the bus in the morning call First Student and they will work out a plan to have your child picked up. Please do not chase down the bus or have your child run up from the rear of the bus. Their phone number is 235-7513.

As always, I have an open door policy. If you ever have a concern or issue, please do not hesitate to come and speak with me.

Sincerely,



Eric Pederson

Site Council Members

Daniel Bunker
Derek Bynagle
Eric Pederson
Erin Briscoe
Jenny Martin
Jeri McLean
Ray Archuleta
Stevana Roy