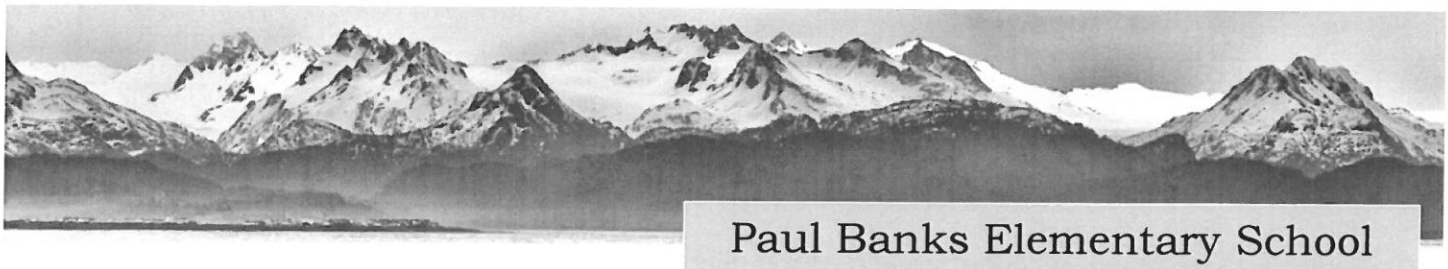

Paul Banks Elementary School

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

1340 East End Road – Homer, AK 99603 – (907) 226-1801

Principal, Eric Pederson

3/1/20

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are quickly approaching the fourth quarter. How time flies when you are having fun. The days are staying brighter longer and the recent snow has provided much fun for our students.

I am again headed to Juneau and D.C., as the president of the Alaskan Elementary School Principal Association. While there, I will speak with our legislators about education and funding. As a state, we have to make some very tough decisions. I encourage all of you to write your senators and representatives and share your thoughts. If you would like support in having these conversations with Federal, state or borough members, please do not hesitate to ask.

Being a PK-2 school, we are able to focus in on age appropriate activities such as the Read-A-Thon and Bingo for Books. As many of you know public education is once again under the public microscope. This is not all bad as it causes us, as educators, to reflect on our practice and to continually hone our skills. Many of you have made positive comments about the effort of Paul Banks teachers and staff. The best way to complement our teachers is to talk to your friends, who do not get the opportunity to experience Paul Banks first hand.

This last Saturday, we had an awesome event that brought our dads, grandpas, uncles and other great male role models together. Dude's Having Pancakes with Kids is something I have wanted to do for a long time. I need to give a shout out to Red, Doug Koester and the entire PTA for pushing me (and buying all the supplies) to make this happen. Frankie Webber, Jeff Vance, and many other who helped pull off the cooking and actual activity. Be looking for the next event!

Once again, I would like to thank working parents for supporting our early release days. I know these days may be inconvenient. Please know that these days are useful for our ability to collaborate.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with your children. This is an incredible community and the amount of volunteers we have in our school is fantastic. As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments please feel free to stop in and share them with me over a cup of coffee. My office doors are always open.

Have a wonderful March.

Sincerely,

Eric Pederson