

BULLDOG BITES

Nikiski Middle/High School

May 4, 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - MR. CARSTENS

Another school year has come, and is now just about gone. Our seniors are busy with scholarship applications and our staff is diligently encouraging all of our students to finish strong. Just like every year, it has been a crazy spring with changes in staffing and people coming and going. The roller coaster of having one foot in this year and the other in next year feels like riding on an elevator, only someone else is pushing the buttons and I'm not always sure what floor I'm on. It is, however, still Nikiski and the people and community are phenomenal.

I wanted to recognize a few people who will be leaving us next year and let them all know how much we appreciate them and make sure they know they will be missed: Vern Kornstad (computer teacher, etc.), Jim Coburn (custodian), Gary Wertz (counselor), Darren Zibell (history teacher), Ted Riddall (PE teacher), Kara Abel (math), Megan Fowler (special education), Jordan Brown (college and career guide), Kristina Stadelman (intensive needs aide), Nora Ribbens (library)

This may not be an all-inclusive list as some things are still in flux. With all of the changes, many teachers will have a different or changing assignment and we will hire a few new folks as well: Jennifer Hornung (HS physical science), Dylan Hooper (full time math), Sierra Ward (only here one period to teach a coding class), Mark Lane (new PE/AD), Joetta Wolf (new special education/intensive needs), yet to be hired (6th grade math/science)

Again, we continue to be fluid in our changes as we are working hard to ensure all of the needs of our students are met. In fact, we are also applying a slight modification to our schedule for 2016-17. Instead of having a 30 minute bulldog block, we are adding 15 minutes to period five in order to have a 45 minute class period. This will allow students to earn credit during that time and open up their schedule for more flexibility. It will be posted to our website and Facebook soon. If you have questions or concerns as to what it means, please contact me.

Finally, it has truly been a wonderful year. I feel like we have persevered through a difficult funding season and will continue to have a high level of service to our students. The work has been hard this year, but at the same time, it has been rewarding with the focus on our students. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer break and is ready to return this August for another awesome year at Nikiski.

Sincerely,

Dan Carstens

NMHS Principal

MR. BOSTIC-VICE PRICIPAL

As we finish the 2015-2016 school year strong and begin to prepare for the opportunities that are before us, now is a great time to be a part of the NMHS family. The NNS 5th grade students visited NMHS on April 26 for their Step-Up Day to get to know their new school. The students were able to share the community and school activities that they are currently connected with and how it makes them and their community a better place. Students were encouraged to take advantage of the academic, social, athletic, and service opportunities that NMHS and the Nikiski community offer. The middle school student council provided the students with a tour of NMHS. Parents of 5th grade students were welcomed to NMHS on the evening of the 26th to learn about their child's transition to middle school. They were excited about the differentiated level of opportunities and the quality of the staff that will be teaching their children. I am excited to see what the class of 2023 will accomplish and I know their legacy will be built on solid citizenship and scholarship.

As time continues to fly by, I wanted to say thank you to the graduating class of 2016 for all that they have done for NMHS and the Nikiski Community. They are a high performing and well-rounded group who I hope will one day return to Nikiski to continue to build a strong and vibrant community.

MRS. FOWLER - INTENSIVE NEEDS

Our classroom has lots of exciting things going on this spring. One of our students has been accepted to Project SEARCH and three of our students are preparing for graduation this May. Our class has also begun working in the high tunnel garden at the Soldotna Food Bank. They are helping grow the food that will be used by the food bank. We will also be birding again soon and visiting the Kenai Wildlife Refuge. This month, our high school workers also had the chance to teach a yoga lesson to the Kindergartens at Nikiski North Star. We may also have our students featured in an article for the Peninsula Clarion.



Brandon Hanifen

MRS. RIBBENS - LIBRARY

Dear Students and Parents of NMHS.

There is a lot to celebrate in the NMHS Library this year. We have had a very busy year. Without doing an exact statistical report. I know we have checked out at least 2,300 books. In addition, kids and staff have checked out over 950 eBooks from Overdrive since June of 2015. Overdrive is the school district on line eBook check out program that is available to all 6th -12th grade students and staff.

There has also been a HUGE weeding process going on all school year. Old, outdated and damaged books have been removed from our library system. Through this process hundreds of books have been given away to families in our community. I still have hundreds of books left to give away but they will be packed up by May 11th. Come on in and take a look at the free books before they are gone.

There were three Battle of the Books teams this year. The High School team took third place in the district competition. Team members Margy Cox, Rowen Patterson and Kaitlyn Hoeldt did a terrific job getting the books read. It was a big job above and beyond homework duties. It was a joy working with these wonderful young ladies.

The Nikiski Middle School team WON the District competition and went on to take 7th place at State. The Middle School team members were Brenden Boehme, Aura Petrick, Boden Quiner and Emily Hufford. Most of these kids read 3011 pages or more. They are a power house of readers. I see a great future for them.

The 6th grade team had fun too. It was a first time experience for Libby Brinner, Ruca Gray and Kamron Stewart.

This was my last year of coaching the Battle teams. It has been a delight coaching these past many years. Kids PLEASE continue to read and parents please keep encouraging your kids to read.

The Library has hosted two large Scholastic Book Fairs this year. It's so fun watching the excitement and energy in the room as kids wonder through the book sales area and purchase their very own books to take home.

The library is going to look different next year. A huge makeover will take place.

I would like to say goodbye to all of the kids here at school. I will not be back next year. I will be moving on to other interests in my life. I want you all to know that you have been very special to me. I have enjoyed seeing you every day. I'm not sure if I'm allowed to say I love you guys, but I do. Please always strive to be kind to each other.

Thank you to all of you who check out books on a regular basis. Please continue to READ, READ, READ. This is a skill that you will keep with you your whole life.

Have a wonderful summer. I might be in a few times to sub next year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ribbens

MR. BAILEY - QUEST & SEVENTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

Nikiski Middle Quest:

As the school year nears its end, the Nikiski Middle Quest students have been working on finishing various individual and group projects, as well as preparing for math academic meets in the district.

*Stock Market Game: The Alaska stock market game is drawing to a close over the next couple weeks, as students find out how much their portfolio investments have gained in value over the course of the 3+ month game. Several Nikiski students have consistently been in the top 10 statewide throughout the course of the game, with some pretend portfolios raising in value over \$10,000 (based on actual market value data).

*Digital Film making projects: Several students have completed all the planning, storyboarding, and filming of their digital film projects, and are using computer software to edit and transform their clips into finished products. *Logic/Reasoning Problems: besides completing challenging logic problems, some students went to the next step by creating their own unique logic problems (with accompanying clues and problem solving grid).

*Career Exploration: 8th graders completed several career and personality surveys, as well as Excel graphs showing their particular strength areas – self-reflection and analysis information that may help them consider the variety of options that may fit into their future.

*Student-designed projects: A few students designed their own project or pursuit (with weekly and quarterly goals) centered on personal areas of interest.

*Mock Trial: Students have been preparing opening and closing statements, as well as witness questions, for a mock trial that they plan to present to a class (including peer jury) – who will argue their side of the case and convince others more persuasively?

*Math Meets: A good number of Nikiski middle students prepared for their participation in a couple different district math meet competitions this quarter. Several 6th graders (Trista Apted, Dianne Nasibog, Griffin Gray, Ami Olson, Mady Stichal) admirably represented NMHS at the 4-6th grade “Trimathlon” meet in Kenai on April 28th (with Trista Apted taking 3rd place overall in prime factorization!). An 8th grade group is planning to represent NMHS at the middle school (7-8th) math meet in Homer in early May as well.

MRS. BARROWS - MIDDLE SCHOOL LANGUAGE

Language Fundamentals:

Students in my Language Arts Fundamentals classes have recently finished reading the book, *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli. This book sparked many conversations on friendships and treating others the right way. Students were able to use this book for their book report in other classes if they chose to.

We are finishing up some testing to see how much growth in reading and language arts the students made. Over the summer, it is important to continue reading daily to keep building those reading skills and avoid sliding backward in those same skills.

Overall, it has been a great year!

MR. JACKSON - MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE

As we approach the ending of another year, I look back on where each of my students were and how far they have come. I am thankful to see much progress in so many of these young people. Often times I put students in a position to come to grips with the reality that they are indeed ultimately responsible for their own learning. It may take a while, and with some it may takes days; but for the most part, when given the opportunity, students will choose to learn.

Being responsible for learning is a key point that I emphasize with middle school students; my hope is that they will not only continue to practice this throughout school, but in every aspect of life. Something I would encourage you as parents to do is to model learning something new. It may even be a great opportunity to spend some time learning how to do something new with your son or daughter.

Take advantage of the summer, there are so many great activities here. Learn how to tie flies and go fly fishing. Learn how to identify edible plants, mushrooms, and berries.

Learn how to be a learner, it is a great skill to learn.

MRS. HORNUMG - SIXTH GRADE

Thank you Nikiski for a wonderful second year. As I write this I can't believe it's almost over. My sixth graders are, one by one, turning into seventh graders. Before I let them go on however, I have a lot more to teach them. The science classes will be working to put all of what they've learned this year into practice. We are working on a final unit in which they will be investigating how our climate is changing, who is to blame, and how nature is adapting to these changes. Mrs. Zimmerman and I have teamed up to allow the students to research characteristics of a polar animal and how each animal is adapting to a changing climate. This research will be used for a narrative for language arts and also for a final project in science.

In addition to the research they are doing, they will also be a part of some STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) projects which Mr. Doth and I have been working on. Mr. Doth and I have teamed up to create some design challenges where teams of students are asked to engineer something. They are given criteria and constraints for each design. An example is the bridge building design challenge I piloted this week. Students were asked to build a bridge out of only four pieces of standard sized paper. The bridge which could hold the most weight won. I ended up with a three-way tie for first. These students were able to build a bridge that held 262 washers without breaking. Not bad, huh?

I have absolutely enjoyed this year of teaching and am very excited about the future of this school and the energetic students I will be working with. Thank you again for a great year Nikiski!

MRS. ZIMMERMAN - SIXTH GRADE

Wow, it does not seem like summer vacation should be right around the corner, but it is! In 6th grade Language Arts, our focus continues to be on writing. This quarter's genre is narratives. Mrs. Hornung and I are venturing into an interdisciplinary unit on Alaska animals. Students chose an Alaskan animal to research in class and have been researching for the past two weeks. This project focuses on animal adaptation due to humans, and pollution. Students have been writing their information in outline form, and have started brainstorming for their narratives. Students will be using the same information for another project in Mrs. Hornung's science class later. We continue our DOL grammar practice as well as our Spelling Word of the Day. In Social Studies, our focus continues to be on current events and daily geography. Students have brought in a lot of current events happening in our world today and we discuss the facts, their opinions and possible solutions. We are also currently writing a dream travel narrative. We are gearing up for the BIG middle school camping trip May 17 - 18. We've been talking to students about this celebration since the beginning of the year. In order for a student to qualify s/he needs ALL of the following:

- 70% or higher in ALL classes ALL year
- NO in school or out of school suspensions
- NO more than 2 office referrals.

In 7th grade LA, we continue our parts of speech review along with Word of the Day. Seventh graders have been reading Greek Mythology and enjoying them. It has been an honor and privilege teaching your students this year. I sincerely hope you all have a wonderfully relaxing summer. I will see you next school year! I might even have some of you in class again, but if not, do not forget to stop in to say 'hi.'

MR. ANDERS - MIDDLE SCHOOL PE



There is a lot happening at Nikiski Middle/High School in Physical Education for grades 6-8. With the early spring we are getting out more and more. Our softball unit is in full swing, and we are already using our track. So far this quarter our classes have participated in track and field event such as the high Jump, triple jump, 4x100 meter relay, 1600 meter run, and 100 meter dash. We are continuing our weekly strength and conditioning workouts and weekly mile runs. Students are also participating in a variety of team and cooperative games throughout each week. Students are reminded to have a sweatshirt or light jacket on hand for cooler days.

You can find

Kenai Peninsula Borough SD

in the app store.

Available on the App Store | Google play | QR code

MR. DOTH - MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

Middle school science is wrapping things up and looking forward to some last minute fun in B115! 7th Grade classes are finishing up their biology curriculum and plan on doing some really fun dissections of both the common worm and the leopard frog. Although things are hectic this time of year, lets continue to stay the course and finish up strong. 8th Grade classes are going to be wrapping up their chemistry units and then working on a series of engineering challenges. Look for some crazy rollercoaster building and some super fun boat challenges down in the middle school wing! Be well young scientists, and finish strong!

FULL YEAR CELEBRATION MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPING TRIP

As is tradition, middle school students who are eligible will earn a two day overnight campout at Hidden Lake Campground. To be eligible, students need to have maintained a 'C' average or above for all four end of quarter grades this school year. The campout is scheduled for May 17th-18th. Since the campout is prior to the official end of the Fourth Quarter, there will be eligibility checks for Quarter Four beginning at the Quarter Four mid-quarter. Quarter Four grades will continue to be observed and eligible students will be notified if they have lost their eligibility due to their Quarter Four grades by May 9th.

Students who are eligible will begin meeting during homeroom and will form camping groups. The groups will decide which campmate will be responsible for packing the group equipment such as: camp stoves, tent, firewood, food. Students will be responsible for providing their own personal camp gear such as a sleeping bag and appropriate clothing. Please start having conversations at home about eligibility and camp equipment. Watch for information to come home with eligible students. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Brown.



MS. NIEMCZYK - MIDDLE SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS

7th Grade Language Arts: I'd like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege and pleasure it has been to teach your children this past year, and I look forward to having them back in my classroom in August. Currently in 7th grade Language Arts, we are writing fictional stories that focus on creativity, inference, and working through all stages of the writing process. Students like to jump in and start writing a story before they have figured out the setting, climax, and most importantly, the ending. By practicing planning, students are developing life-long writing skills and writing far more interesting and creative stories. It is an enjoyable way to end our year. The last few weeks of the school year are flying by and are jam packed with the Middle School Celebration Camping trip, spring sports, and football camp. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer.

8th Grade Language Arts: When we came back from Spring Break and I introduced our last unit of study—Narratives, the kids were a little skeptical about writing their own novel. It seemed like a daunting task that many students did not think they were capable of doing. Now that we are a month into the project, that attitude has shifted and kids are finding the task to be not only manageable but fun. If you haven't heard the plot for your child's novel, please ask him or her—they love to talk and share their varied ideas. I am extremely proud of how the students have stepped up to the challenge. I'd like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege and pleasure it has been to teach your children this past year. I have had the majority of these kids for two years now, and it is a little bittersweet knowing that I won't have them in class next year. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer.

9th Grade Language Arts: As the year winds down the students are completing their final Argumentative essay of the year. For those in Biology, this essay counts in both classes and is a position paper for or against the Theory of Evolution. Students not in Biology are writing their position papers on which of the four presidential candidates would make the best president. Needless to say, these essays are sparking some lively debate and discussion. I am pleased that so many students are aware of the presidential candidates and are informed on many of the key issues! We will finish up the year with a live version of the board game *CLUE* as a final project for the novel *And Then There Were None*. The kids are looking forward to this. I'd like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege and pleasure it has been to teach your children this past year. I have been fortunate enough to have had most of these kids in my class for either the past two or three years and it has been fun watching them mature and grow into young adulthood. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer.

MRS. JENNESS - LANGUAGE ARTS

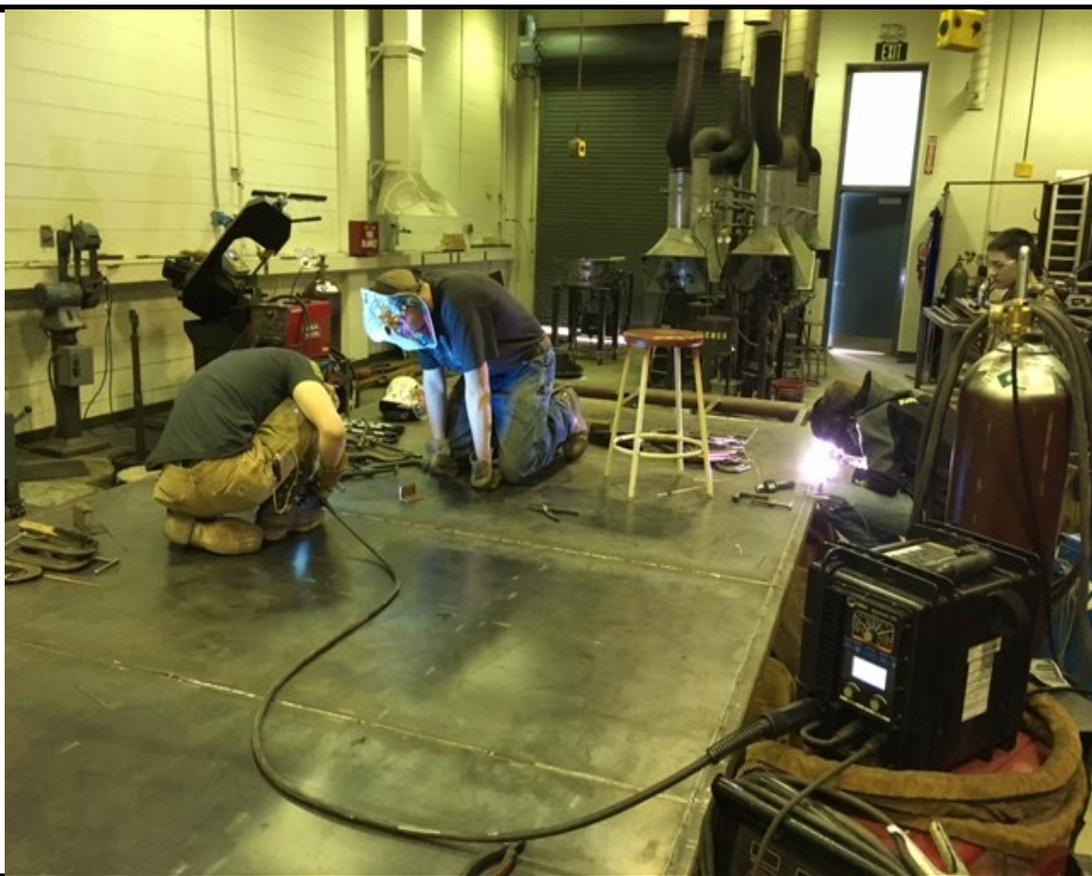
We will be handing out yearbooks on May 9. You may still purchase a book for \$65 in the office. The yearbook staff has done a fantastic job this year and you will want to make sure you have your very own copy of this book of memories!

Hats off to the cast and crew of The Wizard of Oz, who worked tirelessly to put together this production of the classic musical! I was thrilled to see the dedication of many of our students who helped out even though they weren't officially "in the musical". It is this spirit of cooperation that makes Nikiski High/Middle High School such a special place. Much appreciation to the staff members and community volunteers who donated their time and talent. Thank you for supporting the arts in Nikiski.

My AP class is gearing up for the exam on May 11. Parents please make sure your student gets plenty of rest and good food! The class has worked hard and I hope their test scores reflect their level of dedication.

MR. REID KORNSTAD - WELDING

Hello from the welding shop. Students have been busy on a variety of levels this quarter, from practicing different welding processes, to finishing up projects, to shop cleaning and maintenance, to even getting Mr. Johnson's massive flatbed trailer closer to moving out the door. This thing is heavy duty! Made entirely of steel including the deck, the finished empty weight will likely tip the scales at over 2500 lbs. It is a triple axle beast that's 100 inches wide and almost 20 feet long. Let's just say we know how to over-build things bid and strong on the North road. Need anything moved that is LARGE? Give us a call!! In the picture we see Michale Meyers using the MIG to weld the seams on the deck as Dakota Hupp assists, and Warren Gage is honing his TIG skills as he welds the sheet metal decking down the edges. Nice work guys! Welding rules!!



MR. PORTER - HS MATH

Algebra I has been really doing a great job with factoring polynomials. Geometry has finally gotten into trigonometric ratios. They really seem to be liking the trig ratios too. Calculus has been a major area of focus these past couple of weeks because we are ramping up for the AP test. The test is Thursday, May 5 and I am pumped to see how well they do! Statistics made a few mathematically developed guesses for the Nenana Ice Classic. We had a couple of close guesses but no winners. We will try again next year!

MR. ZIBELL - HS GOV/HISTORY

Alaska History: The seniors are currently working on their Graduation Paper on Social Studies. Topics vary widely from conspiracy theories, to Blackbeard, and the Works Progress Administration. The freshman Alaska History class is also working on a research project. They are focusing on a wide range of current issues such as marijuana legislation, set netting, to the legality of nonresident hunting and fishing guides operating in Alaska.

World History: We are currently studying the Cold War. The sophomores just finished learning about Mao Zedong and wrote some excellent open letters to Mao. The next project the students are working on is an investigation into the death of John F. Kennedy. Students are engaging in an academic game of clue. They will research and then write a memo on who they believe is the culprit behind the death of President Kennedy. If you were unaware, in October of 2017 the National Archives and Records is set to release 3,600 never-before-seen documents that may shed new light on the JFK's murder. For what it is worth, I do not think it was Lee Harvey Oswald, alone, in the book depository.

Who do you think it was? The CIA? Lee Harvey Oswald? Illuminati? KGB? The Mafia? Lyndon B. Johnson? Or the Man with the Black Umbrella?

MR. ERNST - ALT ALGEBRA/STUDY SKILLS

Alternative Algebra:

Dylan Hooper and I teach this standards based math course out in the Blue Portable. The freshman that we have this year are doing a fantastic job producing evidence of their mastery of the state standards in mathematics, and it looks like they will all be able to successfully transition back to the regular curriculum for their sophomore year at the same level or above that of their regular education peers!

HS Study Skills:

My Study Skills class students are working hard every class to keep their grades up and find academic success in school. Families can keep up to date on the progress of the classes of their children by using PowerSchool or Canvas on their home computers.

Alternative LA 9 Alternative Life Science

This is a great hybrid freshman class that combines the skills of writing and close reading that are the subject of language arts with the scientific information and investigative skills of life science. We are working on developing vocabulary knowledge to enhance close reading while learning how to write in a variety of forms and for many purposes. Students write every day in class. Currently we are working on the research writing form and answering life science worksheets using complete, grammatically correct sentences. Our current topic in life science is on the world of plants, a fitting subject for spring time.

MRS. ABEL - HS MATH

It is hard to believe that the end is already here! It has been such a pleasure teaching my students in Business Math and Geometry this year. We have had such a wonderful year together and I'm almost sad that it is over...almost!

Business Math will be finishing up the school year by presenting their business plans to the class. They have been working on developing businesses throughout this last quarter with their partners. Marketing, employment, and inventory are some of the different considerations students have had to explore. We have some exciting new business ready to sprout up including shoe stores, coffee shops, and a fabrication shop. It should be a fun time!

Geometry has just finished up a short study of trigonometry and are getting ready to start extending their knowledge of area, perimeter and circumference. We have been using the computer program IXL as reinforcement and many students have found the practice to be extremely helpful.

It has been such a great year and I am thankful for the opportunity to have taught such bright students. Have a wonderful summer!

Mrs. Abel

MR. D. BROWN - STUDY SKILLS/TEAM TEACHER

We have had a great 2nd Semester! My 1st and 4th hour study skills classes have made some great progress this year. One of my main goals is to not only teach good study skills, but to exemplify how those skills could help students in life.

Each Tuesday, my class sends home a postcard addressed to their parents. On the card, they have outlined their current grades and percentages. This gives parents a quick snapshot of how their child is doing in their classes. Many of my students don't have home computers, thus, rendering PowerSchool ineffective for many working parents. I was surprised to have the students so committed to consistently sending the cards home. On several occasions, when I would walk in my classroom, the kids would already be at their computer, accessing PowerSchool and completing their post cards. Again, we set up a solid routine, the kids bought in, and now it is an automatic response!

The same can be said in life. Once you establish a positive routine (exercising, paying bills on the same day, eating healthy foods...), it becomes a positive life skill. The kids in study skills classes have established a great study skills routine. I only hope that some of those skills translate themselves into their lives.

MS. DILLON - CHOIR & BAND

Hello Music Lovers!

The end of our year so far has been wonderful! After our excellent showings this quarter at High School Mass Band, Middle School Mass Band and Middle School Mass Choir I have never been more proud of our students! They performed well and were so incredibly kind, on task, and enthusiastic!

We have been working hard and are getting ready for our next band and choir concert of 2016, A History of Rock and Roll! Our performance on Tuesday, May 3rd at 7 PM is sure to be an outstanding tour of popular music!

It has been a great school year and I'm so excited to be joining the students and staff at Nikiski Middle High School again next year! These students have risen far above my expectations and I am amazed by the dedication and artistry of these lovely students! Can't wait to see you at our upcoming concert!



Have a wonderfully musical day!

MR. HOOPER - ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Spring sports are in full swing! Our teams have been enjoying this beautiful weather. Our soccer teams are ramping up to play seven games over a span of ten days beginning May 5th. Six of the game are home games. We are gearing up to host a middle school track meet on May 6th. Stop on by and watch our Bulldogs run. Our high school track team is looking to make an impact at the state meet with nine athletes in the running for state places. Middle School football camp is starting May 2nd.

Check out our website for the latest schedules. www.nikiskiathletics.org

There is a link to our Fan Shop where you can order custom Nikiski Apparel.

Nikiski
100% CUSTOM
1 or 100 - No Order Minimums!



Customize Logo,
Activity & Year
Choose color

DESIGN NOW ▶
MY LOCKER

Mr. Rizzo—Musical Theater

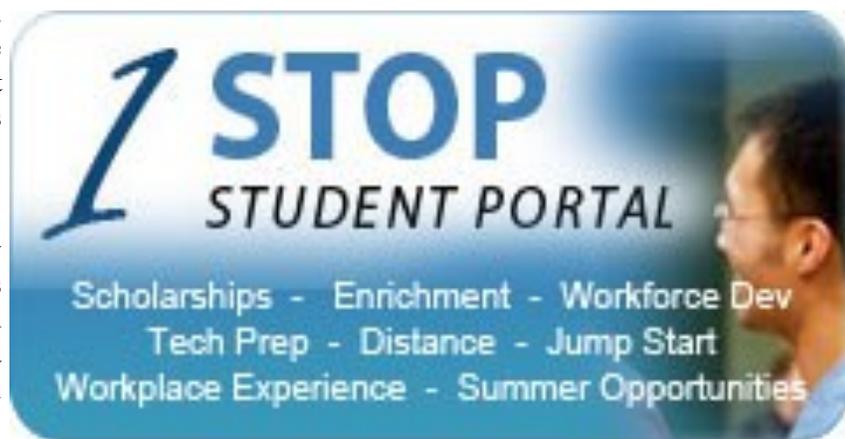
Our musical theater class has been hard at work rehearsing and memorizing lines for our school play *The Wizard of Oz*. Please come and checkout all the hard work from these kids and producers. Our next show times are May 6 and 7 in the Nikiski Middle/High School Auditorium at 7:00 P.M. Admission cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.



MS. GAUNT/MR. WERTZ-COUNSELOR NEWS

A wealth of information pertaining to scholarships, enrichment opportunities, career and tech, and workforce development may be found on the One-Stop Student Information Portal. Students, parents, and staff may access the portal at <http://onestop.kpbsd.k12.ak.us>.

Each year students may apply for the UA Scholar Award. Applications must be applied for online, or postmarked, by May 1 to be eligible for the award. Laurie Fowler, who is with the UA Scholars program wishes to remind students and parents, "This is a great keepsake for families!" Even if a student is unsure what their plans are for the following school year they should apply.



SENIOR NEWS!

Graduation season is upon us! May is a busy month for our Seniors with several important events happening. Each year thousands of dollars in scholarships are awarded to graduating high school seniors. Please plan on attending this years **Senior Awards Night** on *Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.* Even if your child is not a senior this year please attend this event as it is a great way to see what kind of scholarships are out there for future graduates!

- **Graduation Walk practice** will be held Monday, May 16, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. All seniors must be at walk practice. Girls who plan on wearing high heels the night of graduation are encouraged to bring them to walk practice.
- The 2016 **Graduation Ceremony** will be held the evening of May 16, 2016 at 7:00 P. M. in the Nikiski Middle/High School Gymnasium. Friends, family, and community members are all encouraged to attend!
- **After-Grad party** will be held at Jumpin Junction from 10:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M. All seniors are encouraged to attend. It will be fun night of fellowship, games, and winning prizes! Parents who are donating food may bring food to the school kitchen the *night of graduation*.
- The Graduation Ceremony will be **STREAMED LIVE**. Watch for more info on the school website.

MR. ZIMMERMAN - SPANISH/US HISTORY

The school year is quickly coming to an end and what a great year it has been. I would like to inform all of my Spanish students and parents that we will be moving to a blended learning environment next year and we will be using the online resources of Middlebury Interactive Languages. This will be quite different than other curriculums we have used in the past. I am confident it will be a unique and productive way for our students to learn Spanish. Remember, frequent practice over the summer will allow those Spanish I students to pick right up where they left off when they transition into Spanish II. There is a wealth of online resources to help you stay familiar with the language over the summer if you so desire.

Changing subjects, I am excited to be teaching U.S. History once again next year. Part of what we do in U.S. History is current events. I encourage you to engage your child in lively discussion regarding those current events that are not only taking place on the local, state, and national level, but also those that occur around the globe. I hope your summer months are filled with great adventure and good health.

MR. MORIN - CARING FOR THE KENAI

Students participate in Caring for the Kenai which allows students, and staff, to extend their learning beyond the classroom in meaningful ways. After several rounds of judging we are proud to announce Nikiski Middle/High School students have been chosen among the top 12 ideas. Evangeline and Marguerite Cox were awarded 1st place with their project "Breath for Pets." Breath for Pets puts oxygen masks in the hands of Kenai Peninsula first responders to save both domestic and wildlife animals in emergency situations. Evangeline and Marguerite claimed \$1,600 for their project.

Also placing in the top 12 were Katelyn Moore and Drew Davis whose project prepared emergency "To Go" bags for disaster preparation. Katelyn and Drew were awarded \$400.

As finalists these students were invited to the CFK V.I.P Awards banquet hosted by Tesoro and held at the Challenger Learning center in Kenai. Congratulations Evangeline, Marguerite, Katelyn, and Drew! For more information on Caring for the Kenai you may visit their website at: <http://caringforthekenai.com>.

MS. WIDMAN - ART/DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY/PE

Spring brings about a busy time in the year with youth art month in April! The Borough Art show was a success with several of our middle and high school students placing in almost all categories. Additionally, we had two students come away from the state art competitions with recognitions. Zykiah Cooney in 3rd and Tayalur Moore with an honorable mention. Great work!

NHS was able to partner with Nikiski North Star to help their student body repaint and beautify their playground.



MRS. WARD - SCIENCE

It has been a pleasure to be a part of the Nikiski community and spend the year with a great bunch of students. We are wrapping up the year with scientific modeling of earth-sun-moon interactions in geology, nuclear chemistry in physical science and building electrical circuits in physics. Thanks to all for a great year and hope you have a safe and wonderful summer!



**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
NIKISKI MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

PO Box 7112
Nikiski, AK 99635

PRESORTED STANDARD

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Nikiski Middle-High



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 4	Early Release Day
May 5	AP Calculus Exam—7:40 A.M.
May 6 & 7	Wizard Of Oz—7:00 P.M.
May 11	AP English Exam—7:40 A.M.
May 12	Senior Awards Night—7:00 P.M.
May 16	Middle School Awards Assembly
May 16	Graduation-7:00
May 18	High School Awards Assembly—8:25
May 18	Last Day of School for Students
May 19-21	Regions Soccer @ Kenai
May 20-21	HS Track Regions @ Colony
May 27-28	HS Track State @ Dimond



July 27	Football Begins
Aug 3	HS Volleyball Begins
Aug 23	First Day of 2016-2017 School Year
Sept 7	Picture Day

Yearbooks are still available for preorder for \$65. There are a limited number of books available, don't miss out. The Yearbook staff has been working hard to cover all the great sports, activities and student life of Nikiski Middle High School to capture forever the amazing memories of 2015-2016. If your student is interested in being on the yearbook staff next year, have them come see Mrs. Jenness. We are always looking for hardworking, outgoing Silver Scribe Staff Members!

Please contact the office with any questions: 776-9400