



# Bulldog Bites

Nikiski Middle/High School

May 8, 2013

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL-MR. CARSTENS

Even though it's May, it looks and feels like April with all the snow on the ground. However, we still have our soccer players kicking around the ball between mountains of snow and our track athletes running around surrounded by snow that brings an extra chill to the air. Spring is here, nonetheless, and with it the end of the school year. It has been another great year of learning and participating in all the activities we have to offer. Here are some of the highlights:

- Many different awards for student excellence earned
  - Our new senator painting us in a positive light with our many CTE offerings
  - NMHS was showcased at a school board meeting in November
  - Many, many different volunteers throughout our building and a couple of local churches putting on hospitality rooms to our various events
  - Hosted our final state wrestling tournament that went extremely well
  - Many students accepted to college and other post-secondary institutions including one student to attend Harvard University
  - The school's water was shut down for a day, but everyone pulled together to make sure all were taken care of
  - National Merit Scholar Finalist
  - Prudential Spirit of Community Award winner; only high school student in the whole state
  - Collaborative meetings among staff were very productive
  - Instituted a "tailgate" activity for each of our main high school sports
  - Art department wrote a grant to create a mural for the school; much positive press on this as well
  - Multiple students in the Caring for the Kenai finals, including a second place finish
  - Arts night in the fall, Nikiski's Got Talent in the winter, and "The Music Man" in the spring
- There are many other highlights, but this alone makes me proud to be the principal at NMHS with all the staff, students and community that makes this school successful.

With the end of the school year come the good-byes that we have to say as well. Leaving us this year are:

- Jake Eveland, MS interventionist
- Lois Solmonson, Intensive Needs Aide
- Kelly Brewer, Title VII Tutor

Thank you all for your service, you will be missed.

I hope all of you have a wonderful summer and I look forward to another amazing year in 2013-14!!

Dan Carstens  
Principal



# MR. BOSTIC - VICE PRINCIPAL

Last week Nikiski Middle/High School had the opportunity to host an amazing group of fifth grade students during the Annual Step Up Day. The Class of 2020 quote was printed on the back of the T-shirt that they received on their visit. The quote from Mark Twain reads:

*“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.”*

As we look forward to the upcoming summer and school year, how will we make decisions that impact our future?

- Spend time with family and friends to continue to build lifetime memories.
- Focus on positive achievements and look for new opportunities.
- Set Academic, Athletic, and Activities goals that challenge you to be your best.
- Think about how you would like your future to look and what you can do now to reach those dreams.
- Serve others in the community through volunteering.

Thank you for an amazing year on our campus. We are proud of your achievements and look forward to hearing about all of your summer adventures.

Explore. Dream. Discover.

Best Regards,

Mr. Bostic

# NURSE GLYNES

Your Nikiski National Honor Society did a stellar job yesterday with the Blood Bank drive. There were 25 units of blood collected. This could potentially save 75 lives. The employees of the LifeMobile were impressed by our numbers and the dedication of the NHS students.

Thank-you for letting them take time out of your day to do this.



## **MRS. JONES - UPWARD COLLEGE BOUND**

**Upward College Bound:** It has been fun leading this small group of high school students. Eight kids were in the group last year, and this year we were allowed to grow to 16 kids. We meet Tuesdays after school and this select group of students receive tutoring for their classes. We focus on students bringing up their GPAs, and we also get to do fun activities and learn about different cultures. For example, we took a field trip to the Anchorage Museum in April, and the Upward Bound Students learned about Alaska Native Cultures and Art. The students handled themselves extremely well in public. They even kept a positive attitude when our bus broke down on the way home. All Upward Bounders also focus on exploring college and career options. I meet individually with the Upward Bound Seniors and help them with their more specific post-secondary plans.

Thank you to the below Upward Bound Tutors and Volunteers. You've done a great job this year!!  
Ashley Epperheimer, Rebecca Wheeler, Brittany Sexton, Lincoln Johnson, Mr. Adair, Ms. Widman

Congratulations to the below students who were selected for the Upward Bound 6 week summer program at University of Alaska Fairbanks!

Kymee Thurmond and Christian Wall

Congratulations to Upward Bounder, Tiffany Lopez, who was accepted into the extremely competitive Veterinary Science section of ASRA this summer! Also, congrats to Kerry Ross, she had the most drastic GPA improvement this quarter. She currently has a 4.0 GPA. Impressive.

## **MS. THOMPSON- COLLEGE AND CARREER**

**DECISION DAY 2013—WEDNESDAY, May 15, 7:15-8:15**

**Breakfast and Guest presentation for Seniors and their Parents to recognize students who have made a postsecondary education decision.**

Decision Day 2013 will be happening on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a day designed to recognize all of our seniors who have taken steps toward attending some sort of postsecondary education or training next year. Breakfast and a guest presentation about how to successfully transition out of high school will be held in the library from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. Parents and seniors are invited. There will be t-shirts for seniors who have completed an application or have a military basic training start date. Seniors will also be recognized during the assembly at the end of the day.

## **MR. HOOPER - A.D.**

Spring sports are in full swing! We had 3 Middle School and 2 High School Track meets last week and our soccer teams each are in the midst of playing 9 games over a span of 14 days. We are busy preparing (aka shoveling) the track for the 3A/4A Region Championships on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Middle School football camp also kicked off last week.

## **MRS. THOMPSON-SPECIAL NEEDS**

Our exciting event for the end of the year will be celebrating the graduation of Katrina We are so excited for her to experience this wonderful event.



**CONGRATULATIONS KATRINA!!!!**

We are also winding down our end of the year activities. We are making our final meal of the year—A great Pepperoni Pizza Casserole!!!



We will also be doing our last craft project for our wonderful mothers. The students are excited to get their cool crafts wrapped up and taken home for Mother's Day.

With all of the events happening I know most of the students are ready for summer vacation. I hope that everyone has a restful, safe and FUN SUMMER!!!

# MRS. ZIMMERMAN-SIXTH GRADE

Wow, it does not seem like summer vacation should be right around the corner, but it is!

In Language Arts, our focus is on RESEARCH. Students chose a deceased person in history who had a positive impact on society. This 5 week project has the 6<sup>th</sup> graders digging for information. In class, we have discussed what an APA formatted research paper looks like. I provided an example of a paper I did myself. We have gone through all parts of this paper & even set up our own paper in class together on a Microsoft Word Document. Students were expected to have a minimum of 3 reference materials: 1 book, 1 encyclopedia & 1 internet site. Many students found a wealth of information at our library & the Kenai Public Library! These research masterpieces were due MAY 7! We continue our DOL practice.

In Social Studies, our focus is on current events and daily geography. Students have brought in a lot of current events happening in our world today & we discuss the facts, their opinions & solutions.

We are gearing up for the BIG middle school camping trip May 16 & 17. We've been talking to students about this since the beginning of the year.

In order for a student to qualify s/he needs the following:

*70% or higher in ALL classes ALL year*

*NO in school or out of school suspensions*

*NO more than 2 office referrals*

It has been an honor & privilege teaching your students this year. I sincerely hope you all have a wonderfully relaxing summer. We will see you next school year! Don't forget to stop in & say 'hi' to your 'old' teacher.

# MRS. DURRANT-SIXTH GRADE

This last quarter found the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math students working hard to master fractions. The students are working on geometry now and are learning about lines, angles, triangles, and quadrilaterals. For their last unit this year, the Math students will be working with integers.

In Science the students had been learning about the classification of living things. They are now learning how electricity and magnets are related by making an electromagnet. The Science students will finish up this unit by building a telegraph and a motor.

# MS. NIEMCZYK-LANGUAGE ARTS

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts:** Currently 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts is in the midst of the Research Project. Students chose a topic that interested them, researched it, and are now working on their papers. These will be used as feature articles in small group created magazines. The project is designed to introduce students to academic, analytical writing—which will comprise the majority of writing they are required to do for the next 5 years. It also incorporates individual creativity with the magazine format and continues to build on existing interpersonal skills. Students are also finishing up small group Literature Circles on a book that their group selected. 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 our final round of Ed Performance testing. 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. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts:** We are ending the year with Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The kids and I are all thoroughly enjoying it and it is a nice way to finish up. I am extremely proud of how the students have stepped up to the challenge of reading Shakespeare in its original form. We are reading the play aloud in class with the students each reading one role. Students are relating their own lives and experiences to concepts and themes found in the play. These are some of the richest, and for me rewarding, discussions we have had all year. We will finish off the unit with a May Day celebration. 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 hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer.

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts:** We just finished reading William Shakespeare's play *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*. We read the play aloud in class, stopping frequently to discuss the play's action and themes. Students have come to the conclusion that not much has changed in human nature in the past 600 years! The first three quarters of the school year focused on writing and the writing process. Fourth quarter has been more literature based with shorter writing assignments all related to literature. The second week of May brings with it our final round of Ed Performance testing after which we will compare *Julius Caesar* to the movie *Mean Girls*. 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.

# MR. BAILEY-QUEST & 7<sup>th</sup> SOCIAL STUDIES

**Nikiski Middle Quest** students have recently earned top recognition for their involvement in various district and state challenges or competitions during the past quarter and school year! These latest challenges had students exercising their creativity by planning and producing digital film projects (some submitted to the KPBSD Juried Film Festival), exploring the world of stocks and economics by completing the 15-week statewide “Stock Market Game”, and developing their collaborative problem-solving skills by qualifying for and competing at the Alaska FPS (Future Problem Solving) State Bowl:

\*At the KPBSD Juried Film Festival, with over 44 entries submitted district-wide, **Jaylen Uhls’s** film “Back Button” earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Junior Division, and **Sarah Nash’s** “Imagination Disaster” film earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Intermediate Division! Of the 4 total ribbons awarded at the festival, and voted on by all attendees, Nikiski Middle won 2!

\*6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders have just completed the 15-week “Stock Market Game”, where they build and monitor a portfolio of stock purchases (up to \$100,000). With almost 40 teams (mostly high school) from around the state participating, Nikiski Middle Quest teams had the top 2 highest ranking teams (portfolios) in the entire state! In just 15 weeks, the 1<sup>st</sup> place state team from Nikiski Middle (Garrett Ellis & Jaylen Uhls) managed to increase their portfolio value by over \$17,000!



7<sup>th</sup> grade Quest students **Jamie Yerkes, Sarah Nash, Melanie Sexton, and Aaron McCollum** completed practice problems earlier in the year and qualified for the state level FPS (Future Problem Solving) competition in April! Earning a qualifying position at state FPS was quite an accomplishment for this rookie FPS team, and they followed that by winning a 2<sup>nd</sup> place team award for their FPS State Bowl Action Plan presentation skit!

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies:** The class I’ve had for 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies this year has led to a variety of interesting discussions and debates.

In the course of the past quarter, students have explored many aspects of Ancient Greece – such as the geography of the region, mythology, Athens democracy, conflict and comparisons in the region, and many of the achievements which Ancient Greece is known for. Throughout the course of the school year, students have developed a broader appreciation and understanding for various ancient civilizations who’ve helped shape the world we know today. Students have brought great attitudes, willingness to learn, and their middle school humor and personalities to 3<sup>rd</sup> hour social studies this year.



# MRS. BROWN-MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH

Congratulations, we have 70 middle school students eligible to attend our end of the year camping trip to Hidden Lake Campground May 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>. Students eligible did a great job all school year, both with their behavior and academically. We will be meeting the next couple weeks during homeroom to plan what equipment each student needs to bring and plan meals for the trip. We are looking forward to another fun trip. Parents of eligible Campers, please watch for the information about camping to come home with your child, sign the parent signature pages, and return them in a timely manner.

# MR. ANDERS-MIDDLE SCHOOL P.E.

There is a lot happening at Nikiski Middle/High School in Physical Education for grades 6-8.

So far this quarter our classes have participated in Track and field event such as the high Jump, triple jump and shot put. We have completed our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter fitness testing based on the Presidential Fitness Challenge. Many students will be receiving a certificate for their efforts by meeting the national award benchmarks. As the days are warming up we are outside more and more and our softball unit is in full swing. Students are encouraged to keep a sweatshirt and outdoor sneakers on hand for the days we will be outside.

# MRS. JENNESS— INTEGRATED HONORS PROGRAM

Yearbooks will be distributed on Tuesday, May 14 for seniors and Wednesday, May 15 to underclassmen. Distribution will be at lunchtime. Students may still purchase books in the office for \$65. There are a limited number of yearbooks available, so act quickly! First come first served for this great-looking book of memories of 2012-2013!

Students who are signed up to take Advanced Placement English Language and Composition will be meeting with Mrs. Jenness in the library on May 9 during Bulldog Block to discuss the class and the summer assignment. In order to take the class, the summer assignment must be completed by the time we return to school in August.

# MR. MORIN-BIOLOGY

Congratulations to Aedreena Nicks from Mr. Morin's 3<sup>rd</sup> period Biology who placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Caring for the Kenai competition, we are so proud of you! She joined fellow Nikiski High School students Jayton Rizzo and Shaylee Rizzo in the top 12 competitors.

This last quarter is flying by and we are hoping spring shows up soon so we can head outside again to explore the natural world. The two life sciences classes are exploring the world of angiosperms or flowering plants. They will be finishing up the year looking at the diversity in the animal kingdom. The biology students will finish out the year with a project

Finally, three students from Mr. Morin's classes were rewarded for their hard work and great attitude all year long with a raft trip that will happen on May 8<sup>th</sup>. We will spend the day collecting invertebrates and exploring the flora and fauna of our magnificent Kenai River.

Thank you to the students and staff of Nikiski Middle/High School for allowing me to student teacher with you this year. I have had a fabulous year and hope to see all of you around next year! Have a great summer! - Ms. Kara

# MR. BROWN- STUDY SKILLS

We have had a great 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of work. My 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> hours have really put in some serious effort to keep themselves organized. PowerSchool has proven to be a tool that truly informs not only the student of their grades, but allows teachers, parents and coaches to assist students in keeping on top of their studies.

Students that are in athletics utilize PowerSchool on a daily basis to keep up on their studies on athletic road trips. Most of today's students have internet on their cellphones. This allows my study skills kids, that are in sports, to access their grades; all the while keeping focused on their team goals. Several of my wrestler's (that are also in my study skills class) are required to use Power School each day. As we approach the end of the year, it is even more crucial that students keep organized and focused on their studies. For several Nikiski High School students, study skills is an important link in attaining their diploma.

# MR. JOHNSON - INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Industrial Arts is the opportunity to work with different forms of media; while, learning a skill that can put you to work after high school, and be applied to future career choices. Here is what we have been doing:

**CAD/CAM** We are excited to end the year with great success; we used the Shop Bot, Plasma/CAM and Versa/CAM (a vinyl printer) to make great things that the school and community can use! This program has expanded significantly allowing students to demonstrate their individual creativity in wood, metal, and vinyl. When you see one of our new banners cheering a Nikiski success or advertising for our local community, another 21<sup>st</sup> century skill is being demonstrated!

**Occupational Technology** is our exploration of vocational arts for our younger students. Our middle school students will be working in the wood shop, building cheese boards and production projects. Students learn to use tools, equipment safety, as well as leadership and collaborative roles while learning the process for each project.

**Woods classes** will be styling projects through the joinery, woodturning, and production. These students demonstrate their creative talents and artistic flare while learning the detail behind wood-working. The students are enjoying using the new wood lathes that we have added to the shop over the last four years.

Nikiski Middle High School has offered many opportunities to students to gain employability skills for their future, and we look forward to demonstrating these skills in our community!



## MS. WIDMAN-ART

Fourth quarter began with two weeks of mural making whirlwind. We were fortunate to have a resident artist to help us plan and produce our school's first large scale mural. The most valuable part of the experience was how the students at Nikiski were able to observe the creative process in a two week time frame. All classes were actively involved in brainstorming, planning, sketching, and revising in order to create a beautiful end product! The mural will be hung at Nikiski Middle High this month!! Thank you to all who helped including: Nikiski PTSA, Charlie's Pizza, The Grouchy Old Woman B&B, Nikiski Foods and Cad Cam classes, The Alaska State Council on the Arts and many others ! Stop by and check it out.

Most classes are moving onto three dimensional works for end of the year projects.



Middle School Students work with our resident artist Justine Pechuzal.



Half of the finished school mural "Tides and Ties"

## MR. ADAIR-SCIENCE

Biology has been covering a wide variety of topics lately. Genetics, life classification, bacteria and viruses to name a few. In the next few weeks students will briefly take a snapshot look at: plant diversity, amphibians, insects, reptiles and birds. Biology has been using online learning tools as well as being able to watch some very interesting internet podcasts from Montana State University. Our students today truly have a wealth of resources at their disposal which makes education exciting and productive.

Physical Science is finishing up their unit on the basics of electrostatics. Students have literally been "shocked" during this unit and have also enjoyed building circuits and learning how to use multi-meters to measure current, voltage and resistance. Coming up soon will be a look into the topic of magnetic fields as well as some geology topics.

Chemistry is almost at the finish line of an exhausting year of difficult and in depth topics. We recently conducted precipitate reactions in the lab. These highly motivated young adults will finish their year examining and experimenting with oxidation-reduction reactions and electrochemistry. Great job Chemistry crew, you have should be proud of enduring a year of difficult material.

## MR. ZIMMERMAN-SPANISH

Fourth quarter projects for Spanish II and world history were completed early in the quarter and were great successes. The Spanish class conducted research on and produced a multi-media presentation on animals or insects found in the Spanish speaking nations of the world. The project was capped off with the students making piñatas of their assigned animals/insects. Stop by to see an emperor penguin, piranha, wild boar, armadillo, king swallow-tailed butterfly, and a lynx.

The world history classes produced historical newspapers of world civilizations. It was impressive to see all the hard work and research culminate in a newspaper complete with advertisements, political cartoons, and a classified section.

# MR. THOMPSON—MATH

The end of the school year is fast approaching. Encourage your child to strive to do their best until the very end; and then they will be able to have a great summer.

## Math Analysis:

The Math Analysis class is focused on applications of trigonometry. At present, they are learning to use the Law of Sines and Law of Cosines. Both of these laws are used to solve oblique triangles, triangles that do not have a right angle in them. We will end the year with vectors, parametric equations, and polar equations as time permits.

## HSGQE Math:

The HSGQE Math elective class has been focusing on solving word problems lately. The key to solving word problems is to read the problem carefully and come up with a strategy to fit that type of problem. Students then have to apply some of the various computational skills that we have worked on this year in class to solve the specific problems. We will culminate the year with a week of rocket building. We will build some paper rockets, launch them with compressed air, and use trigonometry to calculate how high they go. It should be fun.

## Geometry:

The Geometry class will attempt to cover two more units of study this year, polygons and circles. The unit on polygons begins with angle properties of polygons based on number of sides and ends with an emphasis on parallelograms and other special quadrilaterals. We will then end the school year with a unit of study on circles and circle properties as time permits. AP Calculus:

The Calculus class has been busy doing practice exam problems in preparation for the AP exam. After the AP exam, we will finish the year with a general review of the course and a final test. The main focus points of calculus are the derivative and its applications, and the integral and its applications.

That's about it from the world of mathematics in Mr. Thompson's room at present.

"Be happy. It's one way of being wise!" -Sidonie Gabrielle Colette

# MRS. JOHANSEN-FOODS

This semester in Foods we've been VERY busy, it seems time is flying by.

We've made some great dishes using vegetables. One of the kid's favorites is "Stir-fry", a great way to use leftovers and experiment with new veggies all the while practicing knife skills and safety. Yeast was next on our agenda. Due to limited class time we chose some "cool rise" recipes including cinnamon rolls, pretzels and butter horn rolls. The students then demonstrated these lessons by completing a "Spring break" assignment practicing a recipe including yeast for their families. We touched on Legumes, (not a favorite with kids) but they made hummus dip, red bean pie and black bean brownies. While resident artist, Justine, was here we made meals for her experimenting with vegetarian dishes. Stock and homemade soup was next on our "to do" list. That was a 3 day lesson. Much to their surprise, kids who "didn't like soup" were coming back for seconds, realizing homemade is better than canned.

Each semester I find a community project that the kids can get involved in. This semester we baked desserts for a fund raiser for a child in need. Each group chose and made a dessert. They presented cookies, cakes, pies, and quick breads. It was a very rewarding project.

These last couple of weeks we have prepared homemade "candy flowers" to complete the "dirt cup" (homemade chocolate pudding) to celebrate our "Volunteers." I was impressed with the creativity! All students have completed their "Student demonstration." What fun to see them properly use the techniques and skills they've learned in class. We will have an end of the year campfire/cookout incorporating an assortment of picnic foods.

The school year is quickly coming to a close. I have enjoyed my 1<sup>st</sup> year of teaching and look forward to next school year. Whether you're picnicking, Barbequing or just making a family meal this summer get your kids involved!!! Have a happy summer! ~Ms. Marilee

# MR. ANDERSON-BAND & CHOIR

The end of the year is quickly approaching and I'd like to tell you about some of the fun events coming up. The band and choir students are practicing very hard to make the end of the year successful and we're all excited to share our musical talents with a supportive audience. Here are a few dates to mark on your calendar.

- ◆ May 9<sup>th</sup> @7:00 PM – Band Pops Concert
- ◆ May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM – Combined Band Night with Nikiski North Star Elementary Band

It's going to be a fun and rocking end to a great year! We hope to see you there!!

## MR. KORNSTAD, SR - VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

I would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of a couple of students in Video Productions. At the principal's request Seth Carstens, with the assistance of Andrea Warren, created a DVD for the parents and students of the class 2020. (That's right! The incoming class of sixth graders will graduate in the year 2020). Seth produced the video explaining firsthand what students, teachers and administrators think about sixth grade at Nikiski Middle/Sr. High School. Andrea helped with the interviews and mass production of the DVDs. Each family received a copy of the DVD at Step Up night. Thank you Seth and Andrea for a job well done!

## MR. SWABY-WELDING

*We are nearing the end of the first year of welding here and we are wrapping up the last of this year's projects. It has definitely been interesting this year with some of the equipment challenges we faced, but we are now starting to get a hold on things. We have received some new equipment that will give the students more room to grow as they come back to the class room. With even more equipment on the way it will allow us to work towards maximizing our time in the shop.*

*I really have to thank everyone, especially the students, for being as patient as they have been. I also want to thank the staff here for being as helpful as they have been to me. This has really been a huge learning curve. The year started out rocky and I was overwhelmed with trying to put everything together but as the year progressed it seemed to smooth out and give me something to look forward to. I have really enjoyed seeing the growth of the school over this last year and all of the accomplishments of the students and staff.*

*Overall I am the most impressed with my Middle School students and the goals we reached in the short amount of time that I had to spend with them. Even being my largest class they were able to accomplish so much. We had to double up in booths and we play with fire every day. I got to admit that I was a little scared when I had them light up the first torch. What set me more at ease was watching how they helped each other with the readiness and the student teaching and the alertness. It really has been amazing to watch these classes develop over the course of nine weeks with each group. So thank you to all of the Middle School teachers for working with all of the students I had the pleasure of meeting this year.*

*I can't wait to see what next year will bring us! Thanks to everyone for making me want to turn this into a career instead of just a job,.*

## STUDENT NUTRITION SERVICES MARILEE, KARLA, DOROTHY

There is new information available through your student's power school account. Click on lunch planner and you are able to see the balance of the account, a summary of what they have purchased, as well as an average of what they are spending. Check it out!

As the school year comes to an end we will not be allowing students to charge so be sure that they have money on their accounts. Use their power school account to see if they need money.

Sack lunches are available for students going on field trips. They are covered under the Free and Reduced lunch program as well as for sale. Please give us 24 hour notice.

Lastly, students' free and reduced benefits for this year will be carried over to next school year for the first 30 days of school. New applications for the 2013-2014 school year will be available in August.

We look forward to serving your students next school year. Have a good summer!

## MR. KORNSTAD, JR - MATH

Hello everyone! I am excited about the things we have done in Algebra this year. We have developed the use of iPads in the classroom to the point that we have one class that is now functioning smoothly without paper. All resources the students need to practice and learn are on the iPad with, of course, the exception of the instructor. As the instructor, I introduce and teach math concepts and examples while students take notes, and practice inside of a digital notebook. Once material has been presented in a lesson, students are free to differentiate their learning through the resources provided in the iPad. This helps students and me to keep track of their learning without having to keep track of papers. The great paper chase has always been a challenge in math class for both students and teachers.

One method we use to do this is through an application called Penultimate, which is a digital notebook linked directly to the students' [Evernote](#) accounts where students store and organize electronic notes inside of a notebook that is shared with me. This has created a powerful way for students to organize and keep track of their learning while helping me to evaluate what they know. Learning to use devices such as iPads is becoming the norm in the professional world and we feel that it is important to expose our students to it. We are seeing them respond positively to this type of 20<sup>th</sup> century learning. We have some really great kids here at Nikiski, and I am privileged to work with them!

Both Evernote and Penultimate can be downloaded for free on any computer or mobile device with Internet access, or you can simply login to your account from any computer at [evernote.com](#). We are really starting to see students beginning to take responsibility for their learning! Math at Nikiski...it's awesome!!

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

PO Box 7112  
Nikiski, AK 99635

PRESORTED STANDARD

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School Website! Follow link from PS daily bulletin or  
<http://nikiskimiddlehighschool.blogs.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/wpmu/>

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## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

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|--------------------------|---|
| <b>May 14</b>            | <b>Senior Awards Night</b>                                |
| <b>May 20</b>            | <b>Graduation</b>   |
| <b>May 22</b>            | <b>Last Day of School for Students</b>                    |
| <b>August 5</b>          | <b>Football Begins -<br/>Cross Country Running Begins</b> |
| <b>August 9 &amp; 12</b> | <b>Registration</b>                                       |
| <b>August 12</b>         | <b>Volleyball Begins</b>                                  |
| <b>August 20</b>         | <b>Student's First day back to School</b>                 |

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR SENIORS:**

- May 14-Awards Night @ 7:00 p.m.**
- May 15-Decision Day Breakfast @ 7:15 a.m.**
- May 20—8:30 a.m.—Walk Practice  
11:30 a.m.—Senior BBQ  
7:00 p.m.— Graduation**
- June 30—FAFSA Deadline for APS/  
Alaska Advantage Education Grant  
candidates.**



