



Bulldog Bites



Nikiski Middle/High School

May 8, 2012

FROM THE PRINCIPAL-MR. CARSTENS

TWO SHOPS OPEN!!

After the “Winter to Remember” for a variety of reasons, it sure has been nice to bask in the glory of the sun this spring. Seeing our high schoolers on the soccer fields, the middle schoolers out practicing football, and the track athletes running on anything that does not have snow (everywhere except our track...), brings a smile to my face. This all means one thing: school is almost over and change is in the air.

Our main change for next year will be the addition of a welding teacher for the 2012-13 school year, which includes a section during our middle school elective rotation. This position will be posted in early May and a decision will be made before I leave for the summer. This will be the first time in my seven years at Nikiski Middle/High School that we will have multiple teachers in the vocational department, as we were able to work with John O’Brien and Tim Peterson in district office to make it happen. Another class we will offer for next school year will be a culinary arts class during both semesters. These classes will add a new dimension to our school and provide more opportunities for career and technical skills to our students.

As with any close of the school year, we will also experience our fair share of good byes. Moving on to a different position in the district will be Gary Wiebel, one of our school counselors. He has been assigned to River City Academy in Soldotna, Ninilchik, and a few other small schools. Justine Reese (alternative ed), Callie Hruby (6th grade special ed), Kara Bethune (title VII aide), and Geoff Clark (music) all have chosen to move on and pursue other options.

Finally, our retirees include David Means (special ed aide), Teresa Sibolboro (custodian), and Debbie Falk (guidance and career assistant). I would like to publicly thank these fine people for their many, many years of hard work and dedication to Nikiski Middle/High School. Your presence will be missed, but we wish you well as you explore greener pastures.

With retirements and people moving on, we will also have new faces in our building. We currently have Mr. Jeremy Anderson from Oregon to replace Mr. Clark in our music department and Debbie Carstens will be our new guidance and career assistant. Welcome aboard Jeremy and Debbie!!

CALENDAR COMMITTEE SURVEY

In the Fall 2012, the Calendar Committee will be reviewing the 2013-14 calendar and setting up the 2014-15 and 2015-16 calendars. The committee is soliciting input from students, parents and staff prior to giving their recommendations to the Board of Education. (Note: currently approved Districtwide calendars for 2012-13 and 2013-14 are located at http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/students_parents.aspx?id=20403.)



VICE PRINCIPAL—MR. BOSTIC

Tips for Teens

_ Be the change you want to see.

Too many teens, and adults for that matter, complain about what others are doing instead of looking at themselves. We are powerless over what other people do, but we have total control over ourselves. Every one of us can make a difference.

_ Serve others.

Serving others not only makes a difference in their lives, it makes us feel proud. It is a scientific fact that service to others makes us both healthier and happier. Look for and create opportunities to serve. Practice sharing random acts of kindness with people around you.

_ Teach love and respect.

Share what you learned at Challenge Day as often as you can. Not only will it help spread the messages of love and respect, it will also be a great reminder for you.

_ Be a positive leader!

Have fun! Smile and celebrate often. Enjoy yourself without hurting others. Appreciate your friends, family and yourself. Be gentle with yourself and with others. Remember we all know what it's like to be hurt and teased. Make people want to act like you act and feel like you feel.

_ Remember you are a role model to others.

You decide what kind! Your friends, little brothers and sisters, and everyone else around you learn more from what you do than from anything you say. Don't do anything you wouldn't want your little brother or sister to do. Your role modeling is your best teaching tool.

_ Empty your emotional balloon on a regular basis.

Find safe places to share what's in your heart. Find adults and friends who you trust who will listen to you. Share all the feelings in your balloon so you don't have to numb them out and they won't leak out on the people who you love. Remember to dance, cry, sing, laugh, play and find other safe and healthy ways to fully express yourself.

_ Teach the adults in your life.

Share what you learned at Challenge Day with every adult who will listen. Remember adults have a lot of power to support you in making the world a better place. Encourage them to get involved. Seeing an inspired teen can change an adult's life forever.

_ Compliment and thank others.

Let the people you love know that you love them. Remember to use put-ups, not put-downs. Everyone loves to be appreciated. Look for the good in others. If you think something nice, say it! Remember if you are not a part of the solution, you are part of the problem. A kind word from you may even save someone's life some day. Give lots of hugs!

_ Remember you are 100% responsible for your own choices.

Avoid blaming others for your mistakes. When you are wrong or you hurt someone, say you're sorry. It takes a bigger person to admit they were wrong than it does to blame our behavior on others. Anger and resentments hurt all of us. Saying sorry allows for healing to take place both with the other person and in our own hearts.

__ Interrupt put-downs, teasing and all other forms of violence.

Be a stand for others and they can be a stand for you. We all know what it feels like to be hurt. None of us likes it so why not make it stop? Stand by what you believe is right. Even if people seem to turn against you at the time, they will admire and respect you in the long run if you stay true to yourself and your values. Friends who won't respect you for who you are and what you believe are not real friends. Remember not to laugh at or tell sexist, racist, homophobic or any other hurtful jokes. They only add to the lies we learn about others and separate us from potential friends. Remember everyone deserves equal respect.

__ Follow your heart.

We all have dreams. Find yours and only hang out with people who will support and celebrate them. Never settle for anything less. We all have special gifts and talents. Do whatever makes your heart sing!

__ Take care of your environment.

At school, at home and in the community, the way you treat yourself and the way you treat the world is a reflection of the way you feel inside. Remember to do your part and a little bit more. We are all connected. Exercise regularly, empty your emotional balloon and avoid alcohol, drugs, tobacco and other mood-altering or self-destructive behaviors. Remember that every choice we make in some way affects everyone around us.

__ Make positive art.

Express your thoughts, beliefs and emotions through poetry, music and art whenever possible. Art is not only a great way to express yourself but it is also a great way to bring joy and to share your gifts with others. Make posters, buttons, paintings, songs and poems that help bring the lessons of Challenge Day to others.

__ Become a Mentor.

Share your lessons, love and support with younger peers. Make a difference in the lives of others. Blog your 'Acts of Change' online. Share your accomplishments with others. Celebrate accomplishments! Share service ideas. Create new possibilities. Give and get support. Connect with teens and adults all over the country who share your vision for the world.

__ Meet a potential new friend every day.

Just say hello to everyone you see. Share a smile with someone who seems down. Offer your support to a stranger. Remember that a kind word or compliment can be the first step in creating a lifelong friendship.

__ Tell the truth.

Trust works both ways. The only way you can ever truly trust another person is to be trustworthy yourself.

__ Just listen!

The gift of listening is the best gift you can ever give another person. Avoid giving advice unless the person asks for it. You don't have to fix a person or change them. All you have to do is care enough to listen.

__ Enjoy learning.

Ask questions. Find out why things are the way they are. Be a leader. Think for yourself. Form your own opinions. Express your beliefs and stand by them even when your friends pressure you to go along with the group.

__ Welcome and include others.

We all know what it feels like to be new to a group, school or community. Look for people who are being left out and find ways to love them.

Best regards,

Shane L Bostic

MRS. ZIMMERMAN-SIXTH GRADE

Congratulations to the following students for winning in their category at the school forensics meet in February: Jamie Yerkes, Sarah Nash, Ashlee & Emilee Tiner, Hallie Tauriainen, Kim Schilling & Skylar Freeman. In March, these ladies went to the district competition & here are the results: 2nd place Humorous Prose: Sarah Nash & 1st place Interpretive Reading Single: Jamie Yerkes.

In Literacy class we continue to read from TweenTribune.com. This is a great site that enables students to understand current events. I choose the article that will be read. On Tuesdays & Thursdays we have continued with our SSR (silent sustained reading). Fridays we have dedicated to reading the Peninsula Clarion & focusing on front page news.

In Language Arts this quarter, we have completed a formal research paper on a person who has had a positive impact on society. Students will follow up with an oral presentation to share with the class on the person they researched. We also are reading a new novel & continue with Reader's Workshop.

In Social Studies, we finished up with our final map, Australia. We continue to study the Jr. Scholastic magazine which is a great way to stay updated on current events, geography, practice our map skills & comprehension skills.

In explorations, we have been studying health out of the Harcourt Brace textbook. We've been focusing on Chapter 3 Personal health & fitness. Our next project is to create & video tape PSA's (Public service announcements) to share with the entire 6th grade class.

Grade checks will happen on May 15 to determine those students who are eligible to attend the May 22 fourth qtr. celebration field trip. We will be traveling to the North Peninsula Recreation Center & Pool. We need about 4 parent volunteers. Volunteers need to go through the KPBSD background check. Be looking for permission slips on May 16 for those who qualify.

I'd like to extend a special thanks to parent volunteer, Ann Nash, who has helped me weekly with odds & ends. I've had a very rewarding & exciting year at the middle/high school. Have a wonderful & safe summer!

MRS. DURRANT-SIXTH GRADE

In 6th grade Science we are starting May off with a Science Fair. Your child should have talked with you already about what they wanted to do for their project. Some important dates are:

April 26	Tell the teacher what your experiment is
April 30-May 4	Do research on your topic at school
May 7-11	Began the written report
May 11	Complete the experiment at home and make the board
May 14-15	Finish report
May 16	Board and report due to teacher

For Math in May, the students will finish up area, and study volume and integers.

MRS. HRUBY-STUDY SKILLS

We only have a couple weeks left, so these students are really concentrating on getting their work in and keeping their grades up so they are able to go on the 6th grade field trip to the Rec center and pool. Once a week, we check grades on Power-school and the students fill out a postcard to send home. I go over the grades with each student and talk about how they are doing in each class and the reason for low or high grades. This is a good way for my students to know if they have missing assignments or how well they are doing in their classes.

Middle School Campout May 17-18

Congratulations, we have seventy 7th and 8th grade students eligible to attend our end of the year camping trip to Hidden Lake Campground May 17th - 18th. 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.



MRS. BROWN—MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH

In Course 2, we are finishing up the year by practicing percentage and percent change. We continue to use the laptop computers to supplement the curriculum and encourage the students to use www.classzone.com at home as well to practice their math skills.

In Course 3, we are finishing up the year by discovering Linear Equations and their graphs. This will be a great way to send these students off into Algebra class next year. Continue to encourage your students to use www.classzone.com at home to practice their math skills through the end of the school year and into the summer months.

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 nearly completed our 4th quarter fitness testing based on the Presidential Fitness Challenge; we will complete our last fitness test, the Mile Run, when the sun finishes uncovering our track. 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.

MR. DOTH—MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE

Spring has come to Middle School science! Despite the excitement of spring and the rush of the end of the school year, we are still plowing forward and working hard. 7th grader are working hard to learn the mysteries of ecosystems. It is amazing to watch as everything we have learned this year comes together. 8th graders have unlocked the world of physics only to find themselves in the throes of chemistry. Atoms and molecules are bursting about as we try and get everything done. All and all, our 8th graders of 2012 are going to be ready for anything that high school science will throw at them! I hope everyone has a safe and amazing summer vacation!

MS. NIEMCZYK-LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 7: Currently 7th grade Language Arts is in the midst of the Research Project. Students chose topics 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. 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.

Language Arts 8: 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.

MR. BJORKMAN-MIDDLE SCHOOL HISTORY

Recently in middle school history we have been working feverishly to finish out for the year! While struggling to stave off sickness, attend musical rehearsal, football camp or track; I have been impressed by my 7th and 8th graders in their efforts to overcome the extremely busy schedule that this time of year brings.

For 7th grade, we have been studying the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World as well as Greece and Rome. In 8th grade we have been studying the multiple factors that led up to the Civil War. In the coming weeks, there are many things for students to look forward to as we debate the down fall of the Roman Empire, The 7 Wonders of the Modern World, slavery, states' rights, and The War Between the States.

For the Middle School as a whole – 7th and 8th graders who have passed all of their classes and have stayed out of trouble with the office have the opportunity to go on our annual camping trip to Hidden Lake on May 17th and 18th. We look forward to this trip each year and it is a great opportunity to learn about the outdoors and for many it is their 1st experience camping! We also have the last dance of the year for middles school on May 11th at 7:30pm here in the commons.

I hope that everyone has a safe and extremely enjoyable summer! I look forward to seeing everyone again August 21st!

MR. ZIMMERMAN – SPANISH

What a great year in Social Studies and Spanish in room B203. There was one constant throughout the year as the over 130 students passed through the classroom, and that was the high quality of students here at Nikiski Middle High School. It is always nice to reflect on the year's trials and tribulations, and to recognize all of the student's achievements.

As the school year winds down and students wrap up their courses, I can't stress enough the importance of continuity in successfully learning a foreign language, such as Spanish. If your child is going to pursue a second year of Spanish, I highly recommend the following free Spanish tutorial website: www.studyspanish.com. A few hours a week delving into the lessons offered on this site will help any serious Spanish student stay fresh for the next upcoming school year. May all of you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

MR. ADAIR-SCIENCE

Physics class has been involved in several labs as we wrap up the fourth quarter of school. Students used their newfound knowledge on optics, light and lenses to produce real and virtual images as well as using the focal length of converging lenses to produce fire! (in a controlled safe environment of course). Students have been working away on their "Design Your Own Experiment" project that started in January. These are student driven experiments that will involve formal lab reports as well as a presentation to the class. We will finish up the year exploring the general and special theories of relativity.

Geology has been learning about karst topography and karst regions on planet Earth. Plate tectonics is always covered in Geology and students just finished projects where they got to teach their peers a section in our text book. Currently we are exploring how the Rocky Mountains were formed and soon we will study oil and volcanoes.

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.

MR. RIDDALL—PE

Pushing Hard To The End!!!

The weight lifting classes are working hard to reach the end of the year. Maxes will be completed on May 21, 22, and the 23rd. Many students have set or reached personal records in the last few weeks and have benefited from the SST program that is in place. Weight training will continue through the summer starting on June 4th at the North Peninsula Recreation Center. Basic and Team Sports classes will finish up activities on the May 23rd and be cleaning out P.E. lockers. It has been a pleasure working with these students to increase knowledge and understanding about what constitutes personal health and fitness. I hope students have enjoyed the time and will continue being active over the summer. Lifelong fitness and development of enjoyable activities are a must to remain healthy. Have a great summer break!!

Mr. Riddall

MS. WIDMAN-ART

The Borough Art show this April was a huge success. There was a record turnout of Nikiski families that came to the opening event. Art was brought from most peninsula high schools and the three central peninsula middle schools. Winners from Nikiski included: Colleen Dempsey, Honorable Mention in Painting, Cory Carr 2nd place in Sculpture, Kaden Spurgeon, Tristin Apted, Dylan Griffith, and Haley Conti 3rd place in sculpture, Jessica Dauwe Honorable Mention in Drawing, Josh Brown 3rd in mixed media, Marilynn Davis 2nd in drawing, and Orren Hyatt 2nd place in altered photography.

In middle school Lillian Denison took 1st in Drawing and 3rd in Sculpture. It was wonderful seeing aspiring young artists from the Kenai district. We are currently displaying art at Nikiski high school along with the theatre production on May 4th and 5th. Some of the work from the art show will stay on display for the next week at the school.



Portrait by Marilynn Davis

MR. JOHNSON - VOC ED

It is that time of year when the end is near. Time to finish up projects, clean up the shops and study for all those final exams.

CAD/Cam students have mastered the new PlasmaCAM machine and are ready for the next one. Thanks to Mike Peek and his contacts we will be getting a Versacam plotter/cutter next year to further the student's education in C-n-C machining.

Manufacturing started out the semester with a team teaching project. We were joined by the Art Class and Video Class for a metal sculpture project. The second half of the semester is a plethora of independent projects ranging from auto repair to the towers of Hanoi.

Occupational tech student are finishing up their candle holders and key chains.

Construction has made great progress on the triumvirate theater, the stage is built, or should I say the stage is it set...

All in all it has been a great year for Nikiski Middle\High schools Vocational department.

MR. JACKSON-SPECIAL EDUCATION

One of the challenges I have seen and had to face head on this year is trying to get students interested in reading. Knowing that the keys to getting the students I am working with to read was a combination of high interest and small quantity led me to the Alaska Department of Fish and Games booklet titled Out Smart Outback II. AK DF&G generously donated 10 copies of the survival and first aid booklet to my class.

We have spent fourth quarter going through both the first aid and the emergency survival sections of the booklet. Students were asked after each sub-section to have a meaningful conversation about what the topic they had read meant and in what type of situation the information they learned would or could be used. At the end of the unit, students will be given the small, 4"x5" booklet to keep as a handy reference.

Some of the first aid procedures covered are the ABC and D's of first aid (Airway, Breathing, Circulation and Defibrillation), Choking, Fractures, Heart Attacks and Strokes. Students were very interested in learning about how to provide a basic level of emergency care in the event that they, a loved one or even a stranger needed to have care.

Some of the Backcountry skills that they have read and learned about include Signaling, Shelter building and Fires. Knowing that many Alaskans spend a great deal of time outside, I felt it was a good review for what to do in an emergency situation that would provide the best chance of survival in an emergency situation.

I believe that my goal of introducing material for these students to read that was of interest and at the same time not overwhelming in quantity has proved successful. Students read text and answered questions that demonstrated comprehension, vocabulary and skill. Learning has occurred and with the exposure to safety and first aid, my hope is that if any of them need it they will recall enough to save a life. My biggest hope for each of them, is that they continue to read.

MS. BOYLE-READ 180

We just finished reading the Documentary novel "Nothing But The Truth" by Avi. Students loved this novel because it was written as a play and they were each assigned their own role. We had great discussions and debates about school policy, the consequences of only telling part of the story, and how our actions can affect others around us.

As the school year is wrapping up students have been given assessments to compare their reading growth since the beginning of the year and there has been some outstanding gains. I would love to take credit it for this but the truth is that the scores reflect their hard work and eagerness to want to do better and learn. I really would like to recognize some of our "Reading Rock Stars" In 6th Grade Melissa Anderson and Sydney Treider improved their lexile score by over 130 points. In seventh grade Mark Weathers improved by over 180 points while Patrick Perry more than doubled his score. In 8th grade Micheal Alvey, Kellijo Crouse, Logan Griffel, Ruben Sepada, and On-nalee Wilson also improved by leaps.

As a comparison assessment and one adopted by the district, edperformance also recognized students who strived to improve in both reading and writing. Ruben Sepada surpassed the district expectations in reading, which was something that did not come naturally easy and he had to work at. Katy Odis was the most improved, improving her score by over 550 points.

In READ 180, during the individualized computer portion, Amy Porter has almost completed the entire curriculum, which would include more than 35 sections. This shows true resolve and dedication.

For our last big project students are going to go through the motions of writing a short story themselves. They will get to pick a genre of choice and focus on all the important elements that are necessary in making a story complete. They will have peers critic/edit them and they will make the suggested changes. This will be a process, both fun and challenging.

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.

Geometry

The Geometry class is just completing a unit on polygons, with main emphasis on parallelograms and other special quadrilaterals. We will then end the school year with a unit of study on circles and circle properties, including angles inside and outside of a circle. The first part of the unit will review all the various line segments that intersect circles in some way; such as diameters, radii, chords, secants and tangents. We will cover central angles and arc measurement, and the relationship between the two concepts. We culminate this unit by exploring both angle and arc relationships among the segments in circles, using this as a means of determining segment and arc length. We also develop the general equation of a circle on coordinate grid.

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, which are triangles that do not have a right angle in them. We will next cover trigonometric identities. These identities are useful whenever expressions involving trigonometric functions need to be simplified. They are especially useful in Calculus, where students will be faced with the task of finding derivatives and integrals of trigonometric functions. We will end the year with vectors, parametric equations, and polar equations 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.

Advanced Algebra

The Advanced Algebra class will be ending the year with the study of 'Exponential' and 'Logarithmic' functions. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions are inverse of each other; Logarithms are used to solve exponential equations, and vice versa. Students will learn how to graph each function, how to convert between exponential and logarithmic form, and how to use one form to solve equations presented in the other form.

“It's not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives. It's what we do consistently.” -- Anthony Robbins, best-selling author

MR. CLARK-BAND/CHOIR

Things are finally beginning to wind down in the music department. We have participated in all Mass Band and Choir events in both the high school and middle school. This coming Tuesday, May 8th, will be the final concert of the year for all of the music classes. The only other public performance we'll be having is our performance at graduation.

At the time of writing this letter the musical theater class is going into their second week of performance on George M! The kids have worked very hard on putting together a good show and I know that their second weekend will be an even more spectacular show.

On a more personal note, I want to thank everyone in the Nikiski community for welcoming my wife and I into such a wonderful area. It has been a wonderful year full of learning, working, and growing. In the words of George M. Cohan, my wife thanks you and I thank you.

MR. HOOPER-ALTERNATIVE ED

Alternative School Math

We have a couple of end of the year incentives to keep students working hard through the end. First is a rock climbing trip for students that are making the most of our program and are on track to pass all of their classes. The second incentive is one that only Mr. Hooper can pull off, "Shave Away May" will enable the student that masters the most standards in the month of May to shave Mr. Hooper's beard on the last day of school.

MRS. JENNESS-YEARBOOK

Online Yearbook ordering is officially closed, but don't fret! You can still buy this year's Silver Scribe the old-fashioned way, in the Nikiski High School front office. Books are now \$65 and a limited number have been ordered, so time is short! Make checks out to Nikiski High School. The book is all color and all awesome! Don't miss out.

MRS. RIBBENS-LIBRARY

Thanks to all of the kids who check out books on a regular basis. It is so much fun seeing kids take reading seriously. Thank you to Parents for encouraging your kids to read. Our library has many, many books covering any interest your child might have.

Numerous studies have proven over the years that reading over the summer increases kids ability to start up the school year in full gear. I encourage Parents to provide books or public library time for your kids to be able to read over the summer. If you haven't had a chance to see the new Kenai Public Library, this would be a great time to CHECK IT OUT.

ATTENTION: All lost book fees and Late Fees are due before the end of the school year. Email notices will be sent out to all students with fees. Overdue listings will also be posted at school. Parents please ask your child if he/she are missing books or have late fees.

Have a great summer and read a lot of books!

A Fund Raising event for The American Cancer Society.

The logo for Relay For Life is displayed in a 3D, isometric style. The words "Relay For Life" are written in a bold, sans-serif font. "Relay" is in orange, "For" is in yellow, and "Life" is in a lighter yellow. The letters have a slight shadow and depth, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

Students and Staff from our school along with members from our community are joining together to fight against cancer. We are also celebrating those who have survived and remembering those who have died from cancer. Relay for Life is the main fundraising event for American Cancer Society. The money raised funds cancer research, support services, education and MANY other things

Our NMHS Mini Relay For Life is what the committee is calling "A Party With A Purpose". There will be a survivor lap, luminary service, live music, games and activities and of course food.

Students are being encouraged to get pledges, sell candles and invite cancer survivors to the Survivor Lap. Kids can walk alone or as part of a team. Permission slips were sent home last month. If the form never made it home, kids can pick one up at the booth before school, at lunch or from Mrs. Ribbens.

There will be some great prizes for the top fund raisers and for several of the games and activities.

Families are welcome.

Date: May 23rd (the last day of school)

Time: 2:45 – 9:45pm

Opening Ceremonies: 3:00pm

Survivor Lap: 6:00pm

Luminary Service: 7:30 pm

Closing: 9:30pm

Final Lap: 9:45

COUNSELORS CORNER-MR. WIEBEL, MRS. SNOW, MRS. FALK

Summer School for high school students only, will be held at Nikiski North Star Elementary School June 4 through June 22nd 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Students that need to make up credit are encouraged to sign up for summer school. Please contact the Nikiski High School Counseling office at 776-9400 for more information.

Student Scheduling-High school students have completed their course requests for next year through Power school. Middle School and rising 6th grade will complete requests for electives by May 11th. Parents may view course requests on Power school under the Class Registration tab on the left side of the grades page. We are still in process of “tailoring” schedules to meet individual student needs. Final schedules will be available on Power School in August. Please contact the Counseling Dept. if you have any questions 776-9400.

Making the Most of Your Summer From the Guidance Office – Suggestions for Students

Summer is quickly approaching. For students that means fun, sun, family vacations and summer jobs. But summer can also mean scholastic, scholarship and professional opportunities.

* **Summer Jobs – Don’t Settle for the Norm!**

Instead of settling for the norm, use your ingenuity to find a job that is fun and will help you with your scholarship and college applications.

First, decide what interests you. This could be anything from animals, children, medicine, journalism, law, music, etc. Then phone some related professionals or organizations in your community and inquire about any opportunities. If at first you don’t succeed, volunteer as an intern. Frequently, what starts out as an unpaid internship ends up as a paid position.

* **Community Service Can do Double Duty.**

Sure, community service looks great on applications and resumes. But there’s much more to it than that. Community service is a great way to become active in the causes that interest you. It can also be a fantastic way to meet people.

Think that community service has to be dull? Dreary? Indoors? Think again. This is summertime, after all; pick something outdoors. That way you’re in the sun, having fun and helping save the world.

Can’t find any good opportunities in your town? Create your own! If you’re interested in sports, volunteer to coach or assist with little league team. If you’re concerned about the environment, volunteer at environmental agencies, forestry and park services. If you like kids, volunteer to assist with mentoring or summer programs. The list goes on.

* **Scholastic and Scholarship Preparation – Get a Head Start**

Summer is an excellent time to research scholarships and colleges. With just a little preparation, you’ll be one big step ahead of the competition.

* **Make it Happen!!**-Whether it’s work, vacation, community service or scholarships, a little creativity and ingenuity can go a long way. Use these suggestions as a starting point and make the most of your summer.

These suggestions brought to you by FastWeb and the Counseling Office at Nikiski Middle High School.

For scholarship and summer program opportunities please log on to www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us click on “Student/Paents” click on “One Stop:”

ACT Test @ KPC—June 9, 2012. Register at www.actstudent.org

SAT Test @ KPC—June 2, 2012. Register at www.sat.collegeboard.org

MRS. THOMPSON-INTENSIVE NEEDS

This year is almost over and we are winding down. With that we did some great crafts for Mother’s Day. These are true Alaskan crafts. The students tie dyed t-shirts then made them into bags using the Alaskan staple of Duc Tape. Along with the bag each made a beautiful card. They had to think of all the words that described their mother. Hope All the mothers enjoy these handmade gifts.

Our classroom will say good-bye to Jarrod Edwards as he will graduate. We will miss him a lot!!! We also wish him the very best with this next step in his life.

Happy Summer to All!!!!



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

PO Box 7112
Nikiski, AK 99635

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KENAI, AK 99611

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Check out our Daily Bulletin at
ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/bulletin/10

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 8	Soccer vs. Palmer
May 8	Band and Choir Concert 7:00 p.m.
May 12	Soccer vs. Homer
May 11	Middle School Dance
May 11-12	Track Regions @ Grace Christian
May 15	Awards Night for Seniors 7:00 p.m.
May 17-18	7/8 Grade Campout @ Hidden Lake
May 17-18	Soccer Regions @ Skyview
May 21	Walk Practice 8:30 a.m.
May 21	Graduation 7:00 p.m.
May 23	Students Last Day
May 23	Relay For Life 3:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SENIORS:

Tuesday, May 15	Senior Scholarship Awards Night. 7:00 p.m. in auditorium
Monday, May 21	<u>SENIORS LAST DAY</u>
8:30 a.m.	Senior Walk Practice in the Gym
12:00 p.m.	Senior Barbeque
7:00 p.m.	Graduation Ceremony
9:30 p.m.	After Grad Party @ NCRC

