

HAROLD KAVEOLOOK SCHOOL

North Slope Borough School District



March 22, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope that all of the students enjoyed their three-day weekend. The teachers had a wonderful in-service on Friday led by Nathan Freeman. Mr. Freeman is the educational technologist for the school district. He traveled to Kaktovik on Monday and spent time with teachers and students all week. On Friday, he taught the teachers how to use the new 3D printer that arrived several months ago. Teachers now have a much better understanding of how to use this awesome piece of technology and how to best use it to further students' educational needs. I would like to thank Mr. Freeman for his time and expertise.

There will be a High School Spring 2021 Mix-Six Volleyball season for the NSBSD! Practice will begin soon and there is travel planned for the team. More information will be made public once it has been communicated with principals and coaches. Please note that a number of students are ineligible due to failing grades during the 3rd quarter. They will need to do credit-recovery in order to be eligible to travel. More information about credit recovery can be received at the upcoming parent-teacher conferences.

Please note that there will be school this Friday, March 26. This had previously been listed as a vacation day, but is a snow make-up day from earlier in the year.

Parent-teacher conferences will be postponed one week. They will occur on Tuesday, March 30 and Wednesday, March 31. Report cards will be distributed at conferences. We have been having a network issue with the teacher's online grading system. The IT individuals in Utqiagvik have been working very hard to resolve the issue, but it has caused a delay in getting the 3rd quarter grades processed. Furthermore, we have several teachers out of the building this week. Thank you for your patience and flexibility. Marie will be contacting parents shortly to put a schedule together. Thank you, Marie, for your excellent help with this important task.

Thank you to all the students and staff that participated in last week's Read Across the Slope activities. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time dressing up and several of the doors have been decorated with the classes' favorite books. I believe that Erin Hollingsworth, the district librarian, will be announcing the winners of the door decorating contest shortly. Once I have the information, I will pass it along to you.

Currently, the Association of Alaska School Boards is collecting information and opinions on the School Climate and Connectedness of HKS. Students have had the opportunity to complete the survey in school, but we would like to hear from parents and community members as well. The more people that complete the survey, the more accurate the data. Everyone is encourage and allowed to complete it. It takes about 10 minutes. Please go to <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/aasb/360040family>. The last day to complete the survey is March 26.

The HKS Student Council Leadership Team is organizing a Spring Carnival for Kaktovik. It will be April 17 from noon to 6 pm at the school. Plans include sledding, building snow caves and wind blocks, snow machine sled rides, ice bowling, and possibly some inside games. We plan to have a bonfire and sell hot dogs, smores, and even a roasting stick! In addition, we will be selling hamburgers, pop, and candy from the school store. Stay tuned for updates as we get closer to the big day!

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I would like to extend a congratulations to Katie, Ann, and Erin, the district librarian. On Friday, March 19, they presented at the Alaska State Library Association annual conference. They represented HKS and the district well as they spoke about the challenges that both COVID-19 and living off the road system presented when trying to set up the new school library. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the students and school of Kaktovik.

Recently, Ketil Reitan visited the school and spent some time talking with students and staff about his experiences as a musher. The students asked wonderful questions and sat patiently as they learned about the Iditarod, Norway, and the challenges and benefits of being a dog musher. Ketil even shared some of his secrets for staying warm on the trail. Thank you so much, Ketil, for volunteering to share your knowledge and time with us. We appreciate it very much.

The students of HKS will be taking the annual state tests this year. The PEAKS (Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools) will be administered at HKS the week of April 12-16. More information will be provided as the date gets nearer.

If you have any concerns about COVID or the school's actions during the pandemic, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or speak to one of the representatives on the HKS COVID-19 Response Team.

Alicia Solomon- SAC President/Parent
Carolyn Kulukhon- SAC Member/Parent
Leroy Stigen- Plant Manager
Randy Linderbaum- M&O Staff
Mary Catherine Rexford- Health Aide/Parent
Amanda Kaleak- Mayor- City of Kaktovik/Parent
Nathan Gordon, Jr.- KIC Board Member/Parent
Brandi Going- Classified Staff/Parent

Kim Kaleak- Parent
Lorrie Scoles- HKS Counselor
Michael Lancaster- HKS Teacher
Norma Gordon- Clinic Staff/Parent
Nora Jane Burns- School Board Member
Shantel Linderbaum- HKS Food Service
Rita Fischer-Akootchook- Transportation
Edward Rexford, Sr.- NVK President

Please be safe and don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at school 640-5800 or by cell at 907-440-7030. Please note that Ann has a new cell phone number- 907-412-0729- Please update your contacts, her old number is no longer active.

Sincerely,
Todd Washburn, Principal

Mondays- Girl Scouts @ 6 and 7
Tuesdays/Fridays- LEGO Robotics @4:30-6
Monday, Thursday/Friday- Student Store @5-7
March 30 & 31- Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 26- SCHOOL
March 26- Last Day for SCC Survey
April 10- Teacher In-Service

April 12-16- PEAKS
April 17- Spring Carnival @12-6