

Cordova School District

675 Second Street
PO Box 1330
Cordova, Alaska 99574-1330

December 2011

Message from the Superintendent of Schools

Happy Holidays! As many of the classrooms “gear up” for the excitement that comes with the holiday season, parents/adults also have similar responsibilities in “gearing up” at home as well. Please note that during the holiday season, each of our children are at risk several times higher than normal. Drug and alcohol availability in our community, combined with the winter conditions makes for deadly combinations that are not fair for young children to deal with. Please take advantage of every opportunity to visit with your children regarding the dangers that await them during this especially vulnerable season.

Semester Break coincides with our holiday break. With this year’s school calendar, the end of the first semester is December 21. School for students will resume January 9 (teachers begin January 5). As the district begins to consider calendars for next school year, please feel free to contact your child’s building principal for next year’s suggested calendars. The calendar options are also available on the website at www.cordovasd.org

Congratulations Ms. Cara Heitz, Alaska 2012 Teacher of the year! After nearly a nine month process of applications, essays, videos, and interviews the award became a reality during the Alaska Association of School Boards Annual Conference in November. The community of Cordova is invited to attend a special presentation January 5 in the Mt. Eccles Commons by EED Commissioner Mike Hanley. The award presentation begins at 8:30 A.M. with a reception following.

Congratulations to senior Sophia Myers, for scoring among the top students in the United States that were involved with taking the PSAT test. Of nearly 1.5 million high school students taking the test, the National Merit Scholarship Program is recognizing Ms. Myers for her accomplishment.

Innovative Learning Program (ILP) building project is nearing completion. This classroom sits where the district office was once located behind the high school. Upon completion, the remaining modular will be removed. With the final details of moving the furniture/equipment into the classroom in the next several weeks, please look forward to an “Open House” invitation later in January.

Tip Off Tournament is scheduled for January 19-21. The Annual “Tip Off” promises again to be a great tournament for both athletes and fans. Teams invited this year include: Nome boys and girls, Yakutat boys and girls, Palmer girls, and Ketchikan JV boys.

Dr. Linda Chamberlain, a renowned brain research specialist that targets adolescent brain development, will be in Cordova to participate in the teacher inservice/training. She has agreed to come early to do a community presentation on the adolescent brain. Dr. Chamberlain is one of the better speakers I have listened to. With so much going on with our adolescents, she will put it all into perspective for you during a special presentation January 4 in the Mt. Eccles Commons at 7:00 P.M. I encourage the entire community to be in attendance for this great presentation.



Inclement Weather? Although poor weather can be expected in Cordova, it always provides a challenge in dealing with it. In addressing significant snowfall situations, please listen to KLAM radio for current updated information on school closure or the possibility of a delayed start (starting at 10:00 A.M. allowing snow removal to take place). The school district will monitor the conditions and will report the decision to KLAM radio prior to 7:00 A.M. as well as list it on our website. To receive a regular “Avalanche Update” please contact “Hoots” at hoots@ctcak.net, or telephone him at 424-4668 (home) or 429-4668 (cell).

Best Wishes.....As we ready ourselves to say good-bye to 2011, I trust this update will keep you informed to the many school activities. Do not hesitate to contact this office for more information on any topic, at any time. I wish you the very best during the holiday season. Life goes by at a tremendous rate! Slow down and take advantage of the precious times during this great season. Jim Nygaard, Superintendent of Schools

Calendar Events

Dec 22 - Jan 8 Semester/Winter Break
Jan 4 Dr. Linda Chamberlain Community Mtg.
Jan 5 Cara Heitz 2012 Alaska Teacher of the Year Presentation
Jan 13 - Jan 14 Basketball - Home
Jan 19 - Jan 21 Tip-Off Tournament
Jan 20 Inservice - No School
Jan 27 - Jan 28 Basketball - Home
Feb 17 - 18 Basketball - Home
Mar 9 Third Quarter Ends
Mar 10 - Mar 18 Spring Break

Cordova School District

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