



# SEWARD MIDDLE SCHOOL APRIL NEWSLETTER

## General News

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**Progress reports will be mailed home the week of April 16th for students that are failing a class.**



Did you know you can make online payments for student fees? You can access the online payment system through PowerSchool, under Student Fees, through the KPBSD website, under the Students/Parents tab or through the KPBSD app, under online payments. There is a 3.61% per transaction fee for the service, not a source of revenue for the district.



Middle School students may not hang out inside the Elementary building after our school releases and before the Elementary School releases. Students should ride the bus home, have another place to stay if they must wait, or may stay in the tutoring classroom at the Middle School to work on schoolwork.

## Important Dates

- April 2:** Track practice starts. \$60 track fee due.
- April 3:** PEAKS testing 6th grade.
- April 4:** PEAKS testing 6th grade.
- April 4:** Early Release at 12:50pm for students.
- April 12:** Site-Based Council meeting 6:30pm at Seward High library.
- April 20:** No school vacation day.





## Principals Desk

We're going through the book FISH!, by Lundin, Paul, & Christensen in our staff newsletter, and this past month, we've learned a lot about attitude and how it affects our environment. FISH! challenges us to choose our attitude each day. (This is not only for us, but for our students as well!) We can come to class with a moody attitude and have a depressing day, or we can choose to be "World Famous," like the Seattle Pike Place fish market. Working in a fish market is cold, wet, smelly, sloppy, and difficult, but the folks there choose to make it sunny, playful, cheerful, and great! One guy, in particular, resisted the idea that it could be different, until he made the choice to try. Now he calls himself a believer, and chooses his attitude every day. We can too. After we choose our attitude each day, we have to be ready to take risks to make our environment a better place. In order to change culture, we sometimes have to take risks with no assurance of success. Think of it this way, the risk of doing nothing is greater than the risk of acting. The last concept we discovered was that sometimes we stop learning and growing, and there can be many reasons for that. Life and work are hard, and sometimes just to keep on keeping on takes courage. But when you become aware of this, you have to stop and remember... "You have within you more resources of energy than have ever been tapped, more talent than has ever been exploited, more strength than has ever been tested, and more to give than you have ever given." So, take care of yourself first, and get ready to start making choices about the attitude you're going to have each day, learning and growing! Every choice, every day, allows us to create a work of art in our classrooms, with our students and our community. You make a difference in lives every day too. Will you choose to make a positive or negative impact? What kind of indelible mark will you leave at the end of the day?

I try to highlight the fabulous "above & beyond" things our teachers and staff are doing each week in our staff newsletter, but sometimes someone stands out and deserves extra recognition. This time of the year is when BP sends out notification of the Finalists for BP Teachers of the Year, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District had 5 finalists. Our own Carlyn Nichols was one of those 5 and she deserves a little extra recognition and a pat on the back for a job well done. She was nominated and chosen to represent KPBSD, and we are very proud of her for that! Way to go, Mrs. Nichols!!

Jenny Martin

Principal, Seward Middle School

907-224-9000

"No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship." Dr. James Comer

## Teacher News

**Parents/Students please take time to visit the sites below. If absent this is where your child needs to check for assignments. To access canvas and PowerSchool icons press Ctrl and click on icons.**

- **Canvas:**  **PowerSchool:** 
- **Mrs. Bauer:** <https://ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/public/>
- **Mr. Ellsworth:** Remind: <https://www.remind.com/join/swms6t>

Please join for up to date texts and emails!

Canvas: Science: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/38138>

Math – Red Book: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/48398>

Math – Blue Book: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/48401>

- **Ms. Hammer:** <https://ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/public/>
- **Mrs. Liljemark:** <http://www.lilglobalvillage.com>
- **Ms. Moniz:** <https://ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/public/>
- **Mrs. Nichol's Canvas class page:** <http://scisamurai.com/index.html>
- **Mrs. Walker:** LA 7: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/38118>  
LA 8: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/48824>
- **Mrs. Journey Scrivo:** [www.scrivosuperstars.com](http://www.scrivosuperstars.com)

Mrs. Scrivo has set up accounts using the Remind app. Please sign up for the classes your child is in so that you can get reminders about important dates and deadlines. Thank you!

Blue Language Arts: [remind.com/join/3h3cbh](https://remind.com/join/3h3cbh)

Silver Language Arts: [remind.com/join/343ka](https://remind.com/join/343ka)

Social Studies A: [remind.com/join/8e2g67](https://remind.com/join/8e2g67)

Social Studies B: [remind.com/join/bluesoci](https://remind.com/join/bluesoci)

## 3rd Quarter A/B Honor Roll Students



**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** BENGIMIN AMBROSIANI, NICKOLAS AMBROSIANI, NORA ANDREWS, DENALI ANOWLIC, STELLA DOW, LORELEI JACKSON, MIA NAPPI\*, QUIN WADE, ETHAN WILLIAMS.

**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** OZZY DEEL, ALY GUERNSEY\*, PAXTON HILL, ISABELLA KENNAH, CONNOR MARTIN, PORTER ROCKWELL, SHANTELE SNYDER\*, ALEXI WALKER\*, MARY WITHROW.

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE:** WREN DOUGHERTY, GAVIN FOOTE, KARLYE EBBERSON\*, JOSEPH FOUTZ\*, JAMES MILBURN, BRYAN MITCHELL, HANNAH SCHILLING\*, SHELBY SIEMINISKI\*, CHYNNA STANLEY, EMILY UNREIN, DANIEL VO\*.

**\*4.0 GPA**

## School Spirit Week

Spirit Friday Every Friday until the end of the year. Wear Seward Middle School shirts to show your school spirit!



**4/6**—Spirit Assembly at the end of the school day. We’re celebrating the end of state testing and kick off Spirit Week.

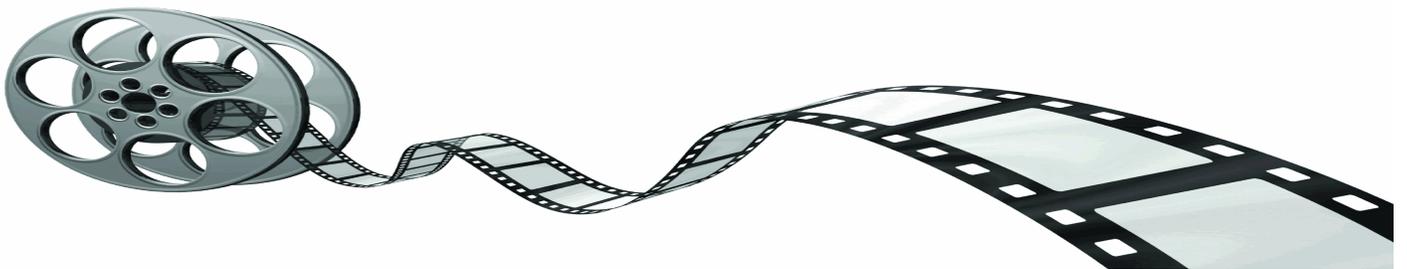
**4/9-4/13** - Spirit week – Theme days to show school spirit.

**4/13**—Spirit Night – Fun activities, dance, and boxed food collection for the Food Pantry.

**5/23** - End of school activity at Lowell Point!

## 2018 KPBSD Film Festival

Twenty-five Seward Middle School students participated in the 2018 KPBSD Film Festival on March 22 at the high school. About 150 students participated in this event districtwide, with about 40 student film entries. Film projects like these require mental focus, a sense of composition and story, the integration of multiple technologies, and a whole lot of grit. Completed projects from Seward Middle included, “How to Be an Alaskan Mermaid”, “Randy and Todd’s Tubular Prankshow”, “The Cheesy Superhero”, “CNM”, “Cars 8”, and “When Pigs Fly”. Seward Middle School was well represented by these young filmmakers who will have many opportunities to share their expertise in the years to come.



## Silvers Of The Month

SILVERS OF THE MONTH DEMONSTRATE QUALITY CHARACTER THROUGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT AND ACADEMIC CITIZENSHIP.



**Nora Andrews**  
**6th Grade**



**Isabella Kennah**  
**7th Grade**



**Mikya Wallace**  
**8th Grade**

## Sports

### Track Schedule:

Start date: April 2

End date: May 12

**Head Coach: Lori Allen**

**Assistant Coach: Myla Liljemark**

- ⇒ Friday, April 13—Homer Invitational @ Homer 4pm.
- ⇒ Thursday, April 19—Skyview Invitational @ SOHI 3pm.
- ⇒ Friday, April 27—Seward Invitational @ Seward 3pm.
- ⇒ Friday, May 4 —Kenai Invite @ Kenai 3pm.
- ⇒ Tuesday, May 8—Borough Prelims @ Nikiski 3pm
- ⇒ Saturday, May 12—Borough Meet Finals @ SOHI (Hosted by Nikiski)



**\*Participation forms and \$60 fee due on the first day of practice 4/2.**

## Library

### Keep Calm & Read On!

Did you know? Seward Middle School has had the most Overdrive logins of all the schools Kenai Peninsula Borough School District!



#### Seward Middle— 2643 logins

K-Selo	- 952
SoPrep	- 941
Nanwalek	- 788
SoHi	- 603



Don't know what **Overdrive** is?

It's our Digital Library and it's available to all KPBSD middle and high schoolers!

**You can access our digital collection OverDrive 24/7!**

(<http://kpbsdhs.lib.overdrive.com>)



You can borrow titles using your student ID number and personal password and enjoy on your computer, tablet, smartphone or eReader device. Read right in the internet browser or download using the free OverDrive app. At the end of the lending period, titles automatically expire so there are never any late fees. Our digital collection has grown and we now have 1800 ebooks and 339 audiobooks. These can be accessed anywhere in the world, as long as there is an internet connection.

Visit our digital collection through the OverDrive link at the district web page or at <http://kpbsdhs.lib.overdrive.com> and read on!

If you need help using the OverDrive app, watch the short video:  
[Click here to view this lesson](#) about Using the Overdrive App; or click on the QR code.



Happy Reading! - Mrs. Haskins

## Nurse

### Mumps Outbreak in Alaska

Currently, there has not been any known documented case in Seward. Most of us have been vaccinated with two doses of MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) as children. Unfortunately, some of us who have received the two doses can still get the virus but vaccinated individuals will usually experience a less serious infection. Mumps is caused by a virus and highly contagious. If you have been infected, symptoms should be apparent within 18 days. It is spread by coughing, sneezing, talking, sharing cups and utensils or touching contaminated surfaces. Common symptoms include fever, headaches, painful facial/cheek swelling ie. swollen salivary glands under the ears or jaw and jaw soreness. Other symptoms may include fatigue, muscle aches, loss of appetite and respiratory symptoms. If you have the mumps, Alaska's Public Health organization recommends self-isolating for 5 days after facial swelling begins. Avoid all public places ie no work, school, church, and other social activities. Wash your hands with soap and water to decrease spread of illness. Call your health care provider and tell him/her that you suspect you may have the mumps and you will get instructions on what to do and may have you avoid the waiting room.

Nurse Yoly



## School Resource Officer



Good morning everyone! I am happy to say we are in the final stretch. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing Spring Break. I know some students went on vacation, while others logged some serious video game hours. However, you decided to recharge your batteries, it is good to see everyone back and hitting the books. As the weather continues to warm, I am longingly looking at both the mountains and the bay in anticipation for this summer's activities. This is one of my favorite times of the year, as the entire summer and fall just seems so full of promise. If I had an endless supply of money and all the time in the world, I still don't think I would be able to accomplish all the recreational activities I plan for! But to me, that is what makes this time so great. It seems like the whole of Alaska is emerging out from under its blanket of winter for us to enjoy and take part. Come on summer!!!

This month I wanted to chat for a minute about the issue of self-awareness. I have lived in Seward now for about 8 years. While I absolutely love the small town vibe that comes with living here, I will admit there are still some things that perplex me. I myself went to school in a very large high school in Colorado. I believe my graduating class was north of 750 seniors, which is more than we have in K-12 here. The entire school population was over 2500 students. And that was just one of three high schools in the city I lived. So there was a very different mindset compared to the one I see here. I am always amazed when I walk the halls and I see lockers jammed open, or even worse, just left wide open. I cannot count how many times I have seen an electronic device just plugged into an available outlet in the hallway, with no one around. This is a foreign concept to me, since where I went to school, your stuff would be gone, and most likely your locker trashed.

I 100% agree that everyone should respect personal property, and in a perfect world, this would not be an issue. But unfortunately we do not live in a perfect world. There are people in this world who will and do take advantage of those who are complacent with their property. Let's say hypothetically, you left your iPhone in the hallway, and came back to find it gone. Of course you are going to report it. And I will do my due diligence to try to follow up on it and try to find the person responsible. But there is an entire school of students there and one of me. I cannot be in all the hallways, and cannot watch everyone's belongings 24/7. There are a number of old-timey sayings that could apply here. An ounce of prevention beats a pound of cure is one that comes to mind. As satisfying as it may be to get your belongings back, it pales in comparison to never having your belongings taken in the first place. I can tell you that I lock my vehicle every time I leave it, and my front door is always locked on my house. It is not that I live in fear, or don't trust anyone, but I don't want to provide an opportunity for someone to take advantage of me and steal my things.

In my class I talk about the difference between a soft target and a hard target. Generally speaking, I use this as an example of why students should always be paying attention. When I was brand new in the Coast Guard, I was stationed in Alameda, just outside of Oakland. Being young and brand new, I did not have a car, like many of my fellow Coasties. So I walked everywhere. At least once a quarter there was a story of a young enlisted person who was robbed. Inevitably they had headphones jammed in their ears, or left their stuff lying next to them on the bus. They were soft targets. They did not pay attention to themselves or their surroundings, which allowed someone to take advantage of them. Thankfully, we do not deal with robberies in Seward, like what happened in Oakland. But there is still issues with theft, and we can do our part by paying attention to our belongings. Lockers have locks for a reason. I am not saying you have to leave everything you own locked up. But if you make yourself a hard target for theft, there will be a much lower chance of you losing your property to someone else.

I understand that the trust that we have as a community is part of what makes this town great. But I want to implore you to take ownership with your own belongings. Of course it is not the victims fault the theft happened, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't do our part to prevent it in the first place. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this or anything else any further, please do not hesitate to contact me. That is what I am here for!!!

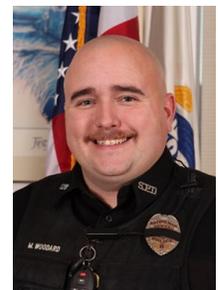
Until next time,

Morgan Woodard

Seward Police Department

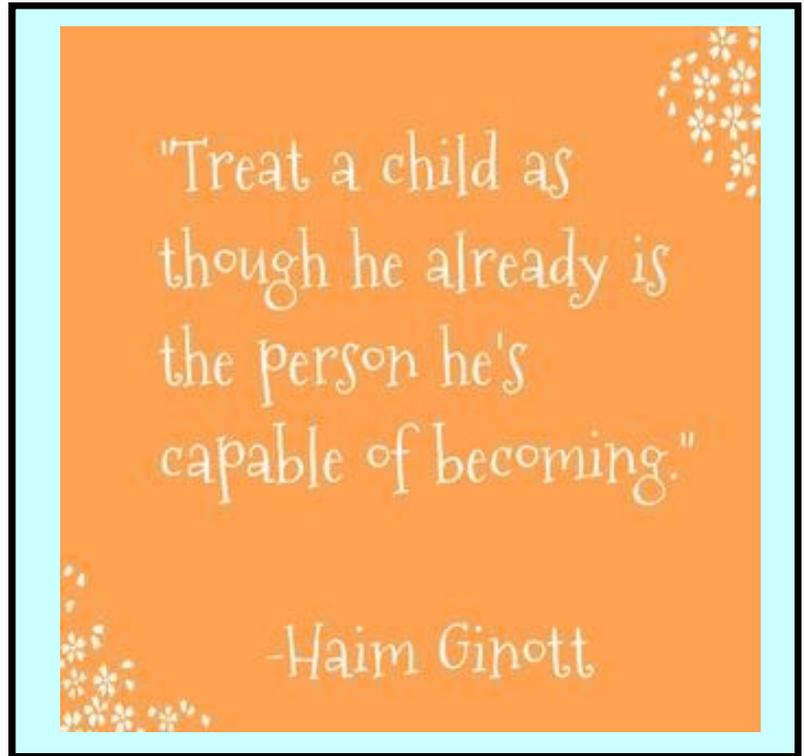
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**We're on the web**

<http://sewardmiddleschool.blogs.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/wpmu/>

## District News

### Collective Bargaining Public Comment Opportunity

Please share your thoughts about issues to be addressed in collective bargaining negotiations with the KPBSD, and the Kenai Peninsula Education Association (KPEA), and the Kenai Peninsula Education Support Association (KPESA). The process includes items for discussion such as compensation, employee benefits, health care, and work environment that one or both sides want to address for possible revision.

### Funding for KPBSD schools – Learn. Get Facts. Act.

KPBSD counts on the state and borough to fund public education. Everyone can be part of the fiscal solution, and [you're invited to participate in a February community budget meeting](#). Then, have conversations with friends, neighbors, schools, and elected officials. Visit our Finance Department page to learn more.

#### Popular Links

[Early Release Days](#)

[Bus Routes and Student Transportation](#)

[Lunch Menus](#)

[Mobile App](#)

[New-To-District Students](#)

[Parent Student Handbook](#)

[PowerSchool navigation tips](#)

[Safety Protocol at KPBSD Schools](#)

[School Calendars](#)

[School Delays and Closures](#)

[School Development Plan Goals](#)

[School Start and End Times](#)

[Strategic Plan: 2017 - 2022](#)

[Volunteer in a neighborhood school](#)

[Common links for parents and students](#)

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures.