



“HOME OF THE SILVERS”

November Newsletter

NOVEMBER 1, 2018

General News

School Hours:

Office hours Monday-Friday 7:30-3:00. **Building doors open at 7:25am.**

Items dropped off for students:

If your child calls home for an item and it is dropped off, it is the students responsibility to pick up the item from the office. If the item is needed for a current class they are in we will do our best to get the item to them.



Tutoring: Is your child needing some extra help with homework? We can help! After school tutoring will be Monday-Thursday 2:20-3:30. If your child stays till 3:30 you will need to pick them up or arrange a ride home. If your child stays till 2:50 they will be able to ride the elementary bus home.

Picture Retakes Day is: Tuesday, November 13

Forms are available at the office or order online: mylifetouch.com

Picture Day ID: AK328005Q1

Not happy with your pictures, no worry bring in the picture packet on retake day!



Important Dates for November



- November 1 & 2—Parent/Teacher Conferences—No School.
- November 4—Daylight Saving time, set clocks back 1 hour at 2am.
- November 13—Picture Retakes
- November 21— Early release for students at 12:50pm
- November 22 & 23—No School— Thanksgiving break



Principals Desk

What are you thankful for? Seward Middle School is thankful for...

...teachers who recognize the greatness in others. When they step out and appreciate what someone else is doing in their classroom, or just recognize a birthday or other significant event in another's life, they are adding to the positive vibe in Seward Middle School.

...teachers who plan engaging content lessons, special non-core lessons, social-emotional lessons, personalized lessons, field trips to explore inside & outside of our city, & time outside to soak up the sunshine on pretty days.

...coaches who sacrifice their personal time to let kids experience being part of a team or increasing personal records in running and skiing. They also ride the bus to away games and to Avtec when their teams are practicing in order to build lasting relationships with kids.

...secretaries who always have a listening ear & a smile when greeting anyone visiting the office, whether parents, students (current & past), teachers & staff, community members, or future students.

...teachers who get students out of their classrooms and do team building games with them or find ways to enjoy the outdoors as part of a lesson. What a great way to motivate and provide a positive environment.

...nurses who treat all injuries or ailments with the outmost care and attention they need, who care about the safety and well-being of students or staff, and genuinely provide a positive atmosphere wherever they go.

...paraprofessionals who come up with creative ways to let kids explore a subject area in a different way, find ways to get kids looking at their futures, & show patience and love for kids every day.

...librarians who wear multiple hats in the building, make spaces inviting, inclusive, and interactive.

...custodians who tackle tough jobs every day, but who are always willing to help out in other areas in an emergency.

...teachers who greet kids every day at their doors. Sometimes teachers have special greetings for kids, with fist bumps, handshakes, or high fives. Others just have a smile and a warm welcome to let kids know they want them here. Others call students individually by their names and ask how a special event went the night before. Others roam through the pods and hallways, recognizing those who might look lost or down that day.

...extracurricular coaches who head up special recognition and appreciation assemblies throughout the school year, take kids to special events in other cities to get them involved in academic activities.

...chefs in the kitchen, classroom, or at home who share their goodies with staff and students because they love cooking as their profession, part of a class, or just because. We love the fabulous bakers around here!

...volunteers who give of their time to be mentors to students, show them how they can contribute to their community, and offer a variety of choices when looking at who to be in the future!

...parents who send us their best every day and support our schools and community. Thank you for your kind words and encouragement throughout each year.

...students who come to school ready to learn, be respectful, shine a light during dark times, look out for one another, build others up, and always try their best to model success in a multitude of ways.

Jenny Martin
Principal, Seward Middle School
907-224-9000

"Be so invested in your craft that you don't have time to listen to the naysayers. No time for negativity. Too busy creating your future." – Jon Gordon

Teachers 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 them.



Canvas: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/>



PowerSchool: <https://ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/public/home.html>

Parents if you have not signed up with PowerSchool please do today!

PowerSchool is a place to check for grades, lunch balance, pay student fees, communicate with teachers and receive our monthly newsletter. If you haven't signed up please call the office at 224-9000 or check the parent packet your student brought home. PowerSchool

Ms. Nichols: <http://scisamurai.com/index.html>

Language Arts 8: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/53872> (students must login)

Language Arts 7: <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/63141> (students must login)

Sports



Basketball Schedule

- ⇒ **Saturday, Nov. 3** —Boys A and B team scrimmage @ Skyview 9 am—2 pm.
Girls A and B team scrimmage @ So-Prep 10 am-3 pm.
- ⇒ **Thursday, Nov. 8**—Seward vs. Skyview @ Seward 3pm.
*Girls/Boys A team at Seward Middle. *Boys/Girls B team at AVTEC.
- ⇒ **Friday, Nov. 16**—Kenai vs. Seward @ Seward 3pm.
*Boys/Girls A team at Seward Middle. *Girls/Boys B team at AVTEC.
- ⇒ **Saturday, Nov. 17**—Seward vs. Homer @ Homer 12pm.
*Both Girls/Boys A/B team will play.
- ⇒ **Tuesday, Nov. 20**—Nikiski vs. Seward @ Seward 3pm.
*Girls/Boys A team at Seward Middle. *Boys/Girls B team at AVTEC.
- ⇒ **Friday, Dec. 7**—Seward vs. Skyview 8th @ Skyview 3pm.
*B team will not travel or play.
- ⇒ **Tuesday, Dec. 11**—First Round borough tournament TBA.
- ⇒ **Saturday, Dec. 15**—Finals borough tournament @ Nikiski 10am.

1st Quarter A/B Honor Roll

6TH GRADE: Rider Allen, Maria Bunch, Keira Dixon, Abigail Doepken*, Bethany Deopken*, Martin Fink, Alex Foutz*, Brett Gilmore, Selena Hansen, Jordan Hartman*, Eli Higbee, Josie Horn, Kyana Hutchinson, Tyler Lands, Addison Lemme, Jack Lindquist*, Nia Mulholland-Kim, Deyna Pardue, Ethan Pe'a, Noah Price*, Ava Pullins, Teyla Ramsey*, Gracie Russell, Natalie Sieminiski, Aidan Schilling*, Van Shank*, Ethan Thompson, Angel Wagner*, Greyson Waldron, Tekoa Wallace, Mar-in Walker*.

7TH GRADE: Bengimin Ambrosiani, Nora Andrews, Robin Cronin, Aloshia Cross, Stella Dow, Danny Dunno, Trevor Guernsey, Sam McLain, Mia Nappi*, Ethan Williams*.

8TH GRADE: Ailania Armstrong, Teak Barhaug*, Ryker Bradford, Remington Cobble, Ozzy Deel, Dilthini Dissanayake, Allie Dixon, Renee Elhard, Aly Guernsey*, Keryn-sa Hamilton, Su McLinn*, Jazmyn Musick, Francisco Sanchez, Alexi Walker, Mary Withrow*.

*4.0 GPA

*Honor roll students have a 3.0 GPA or above AND a letter grade of a B or above.

Silvers Of The Month

Silvers of the month demonstrate quality character through school achievement and academic citizenship.



6TH GRADE
Eli Higbee



7TH GRADE
Trevor Guernsey



8TH GRADE
Dillon Tinker

2017-2018 Yearbook Cover Contest

Students of the month demonstrate quality character through academic achievement and school citizenship.

You have an opportunity to make Seward Middle School history through the school's yearbook cover contest. Seward Middle School students can submit up to 3 original artwork entries to have a shot at having their art become the yearbook front cover. All entries must meet the following requirements:

- The entry must be original art created by the student.
- The entry can be digital, photography, or hard copy (like a hand-drawn drawing)
- The entry must say "Seward Middle School" and "2018-2019"
- The entry must be "portrait" style and not "landscape."



Landscape



Portrait

Due Date: Friday, November 16, at 3:00

Submission: Submit all entries to Mrs. Liljemark either by email (mliljemark@kpsd.org) or in person

Cover Winner: All students in the school will vote on the entries with a runoff vote as needed.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Liljemark 907-224-9024

Who Is Your Hero?

Students dressed as their hero today for Halloween. The winners are!



8th grade: Ryker Bradford

Who is your hero: My mom

Why? She is my mom and gave me life.



6th grade: Rheana Smith

Who is your hero: Mary Mack

Why? Because we all wear black.



7th grade: Clayton Morris

Who is your hero: Ronnie Mack

Why? He is my favorite Motorcross Rider.

Mind-A-Mazes

On Saturday, October 13th, teams from all over the district met to compete for this year's Mind A-Mazes challenge. The challenge was to design and construct a device that will use one or more simple machines to perform the following functions in 30 seconds: ring a bell, turn a fan blade, raise an object a minimum of 5 cm, stretch a rubber band, spill a container of beans, and burst an inflated glove. Their devices were also scored by the simple machines they used, which included a lever, wheel and axle, inclined plane, wedge, and screw. Teams had one chance to trigger their machine and hope for the best.



The Shadow Bananas: Nick Ambrosiani, Ben Ambrosiana, John VanBuskirk, Ethan Williams



This year's competition was tough, but Seward did an awesome job representing the Silvers! We had two teams that participated: The Ghostbusters and The Shadow Bananas.

Team Ghostbusters was Mia Nappi, Nora Andrews, Bethany Doepken, and Abigail Doepken. They won 2nd place for the intermediate division. Team Shadow Bananas was Ethan Williams, Ben Ambrosiani, Nick Ambrosiani, and John VanBuskirk. They won first place for the intermediate division as well as the Judge's Choice award. Can't wait to see what next year's challenge is!



Team Ghostbusters: Abigail Doepken, Nora Andrews, Mia Nappi, Bethany Doepken.



Nurse

A Day in a Life of a School Nurse

Recently, a coworker told me she was told she should work at a hospital because that is where real nurses work. It is not uncommon for school nurses to be asked, what do you do? The answer to that is typically framed from the perspective of your interaction with the school nurse ie. your son who had a life-threatening allergic reaction was administered an epipen, he/she called you multiple times for immunization records, calling because your daughter is cutting herself, telephone call to a medical provider to discuss student progress and possibility of an infection occurring, or teaching a class on human sexuality to middle school students. What do I do? I take care of 5 schools: Seward MS, HS, Moose Pass, Cooper Landing and Hope. I feel like I run my own clinic. Except, I don't get to schedule the student or staff member that is having a medical and or psychosocial need. I never know when or what will walk through my doors. Nursing practice, medicine and technology has exponentially changed over the years. We rapidly discharge patients from the hospitals with complicated health needs and care. Family members are expected to learn medical terminology and care to keep their children safe at home and the school nurse is responsible to take up that responsibility when the kids are at school.

Here is a small sample of what school nurses are responsible for nationwide to keep kids healthy, safe and learning.

- Diabetic blood glucose monitoring and administer insulin.
- Administer Epipen and Narcan in emergencies.
- Daily medication administration.
- Staff training and teamwork to provide care to students because I travel to 5 schools.
- Teach MFA/CPR classes to staff and students.
- Triage kids with any medical equipment ie ventilators, cadd pumps, insulin pumps, central lines.
- Suicide Risk Assessment.
- Mandatory reporter in cases of child abuse and neglect.
- Wound care.
- Preventative teaching and care.
- Immunizations tracking.
- Height, Weight, Vision, Hearing evaluations.
- Oh yes, bandaids.

Perks of the job? Once in awhile, I get to go on a field trip to teach kids how to alpine ski or go for an Exit Glacier hike with them. I am thankful for many great memories of taking care of many students since 2009 with complex medical needs. Yet, one of my best memories of taking care of a student is rather a simple one. She is a kindergarten and I was doing a hearing test. I was adjusting her headphones for the test and she took a deep breath to smell my hair. She looked up in the air as if she had to think about what she wanted to say. She lit up and then said, "Nurse Yoly, you smell like strawberries" and then gave me a hug.

Nurse Yoly, A Real Nurse 😊

Graduated from University of Arizona in 1989 with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing.



© Can Stock Photo - csp11506014

Library



Have you checked out OVERDRIVE yet?!

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

Our Overdrive collection includes over 2000 eBooks and Audiobooks that you can read from your computer, eReader, Smart Phone or Tablet. You can access this digital collection 24/7 and the titles can be downloaded to your device for reading offline.

Log in using your school ID# and password to search the collection and checkout up to 2 items at a time. Download, renew or return your items from the Accounts page. At the end of the lending period, titles automatically expire so there are never any late fees.



From your computer, visit our digital collection through the OverDrive link at the district web page under "Students & Parents", or go to <http://kpbsdhs.lib.overdrive.com>



From your smart phone or tablet, download the free **SORA app** from the Apple Store or Google Play Store



Happy Reading! - Mrs. Haskins, SWMS Librarian

Go Global



Go Global! is a resource that provides students and parents with options to 'take learning further' in topics related to social studies.

Click this link to learn about this month's opportunities in agriculture. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dmNF2efwXqzRy4emg3VjL4VTrIJD37_TI5qp4FdhzS8/edit?usp=sharing

School Delays and Closures Protocol

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is committed to school safety, and educating every student. When the decision is made to close or delay the start of school for two-hours, an involved process takes place before the decision is communicated. Additionally, if a school make-up day is necessary, several factors contribute to determine the date for one or more make-up days of school.

In the event of two-hour school delays or closures, official announcements will be made on this website homepage, the KPBSD [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages, and shared through the [KPBSD Mobile App](#), social media, and your local radio and television stations. Schools with automated call systems may notify families directly.

Timing of the decision is crucial so we can notify transportation before busses begin their routes, employees head to work, and students and families prepare for a school day, potentially waiting at bus-stops.

The decision to close school for the day or institute a two-hour delay start is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools.

If school remains open, and you as a parent or guardian do not believe it is safe for your child to travel to school, use your best judgment to determine what is safest for your child. Please notify the school if your child will not attend, absences will be excused.

Determining to close or delay the opening of school by two hours

Standard decision process

1. Assistant Superintendent gathers information, beginning as soon as accurate information is available. Consultation and assessment includes:
 - District transportation personnel
 - Apple Bus Company
 - Alaska State Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - Alaska State Troopers (AST)
 - Central Emergency Services (CES)
 - Kenai Peninsula Borough Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
 - Homer Electric Association (HEA) and utility providers
 - Weather services
 - Onsite school district employees
2.
 - The Assistant Superintendent contacts the Superintendent of Schools to update about specific conditions and to offer a recommendation for a two-hour delay start or school closure.
3. The Superintendent of Schools makes a final decision.
4. School principals are contacted with the decision and supporting information*
 - Principal contacts school staff
 - School may implement automated call, social media post, or other type of contact message to parents if applicable.
5. **KPBSD district office will communicate and post school delay or closure and subsequent updates to:**
 - KPBSD website home page: www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us
 - Local media including: radio stations, television stations, newspapers

[KPBSD mobile app](#)

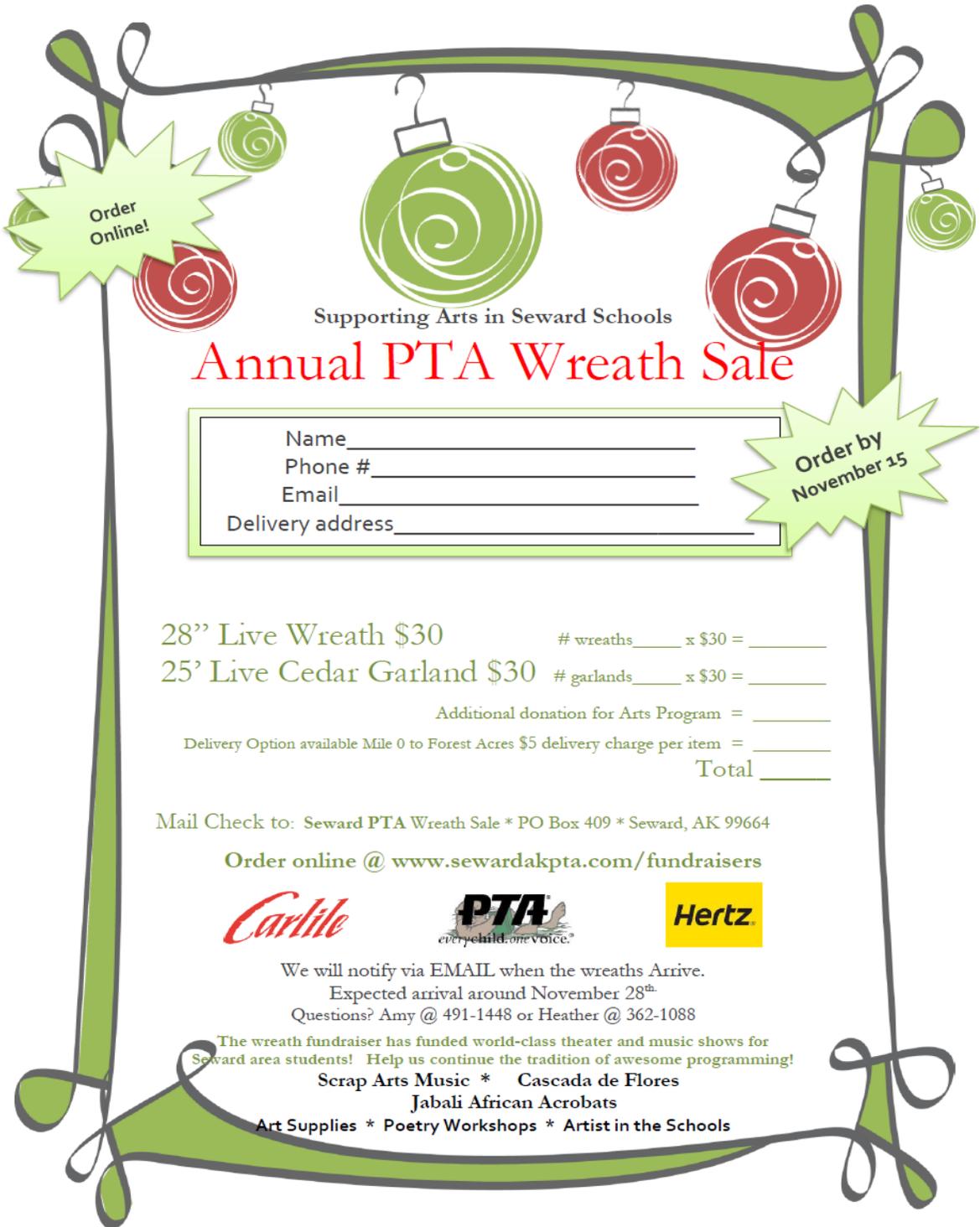
[Facebook: Kenai Peninsula Borough School District](#)

[Twitter: @KPBSD](#)

*KPBSD may be briefed with information that helps to determine that a two-hour delay start will result in school being in session for the day. At other times, the two-hour delay allows time to assess the evolving conditions, before making the decision to close school for the day. If the roads are impassable due to inclement weather, a two hour delay will give road crews additional time for sanding and plowing,



Annual PTA Wreath Sale



Supporting Arts in Seward Schools

Annual PTA Wreath Sale

Name _____
Phone # _____
Email _____
Delivery address _____

**Order by
November 15**

28" Live Wreath \$30 # wreaths _____ x \$30 = _____
 25' Live Cedar Garland \$30 # garlands _____ x \$30 = _____
 Additional donation for Arts Program = _____
 Delivery Option available Mile 0 to Forest Acres \$5 delivery charge per item = _____
 Total _____

Mail Check to: Seward PTA Wreath Sale * PO Box 409 * Seward, AK 99664

Order online @ www.sewardakpta.com/fundraisers



We will notify via EMAIL when the wreaths arrive.
Expected arrival around November 28th
Questions? Amy @ 491-1448 or Heather @ 362-1088

The wreath fundraiser has funded world-class theater and music shows for Seward area students! Help us continue the tradition of awesome programming!

- Scrap Arts Music * Cascada de Flores
- Jabali African Acrobats
- Art Supplies * Poetry Workshops * Artist in the Schools

FFA Opportunities

OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE - UNITED STATES



Organization: FFA define: Future Farmers of America

Participation: Everyone

Summary: FFA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. (Great News! An FFA chapter has just started in Seward!! Talk with Ms. Martin or Ms. Liljemark for more info!)

[Click this link for more information](#)

To join or for questions contact:

Tate Barhaug

307-254-5607

----- or -----

Kim Barhaug (temp. Chapter Advisor)

307-899-3758 or email: happytailsandyou@gmail.com

District 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](#)