

**Seward  
Middle  
School**

# May Newsletter

**May 1, 2016**



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## GENERAL NEWS

Yearbooks have arrived and will be distributed on Friday, April 29. If you have not yet ordered your 2015-2016 Seward Middle School yearbook it's not too late. Bring \$23 cash or check (made out to Seward Middle School) to the front office to purchase your yearbook.



Silvers Gear For Sale:

**T-Shirts \$12**

**Sweatshirts \$25**

Gray or Blue.

Get them now they are going quick.



## Summer Vacation

Enjoy Summer break May 19 – August 22

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR MAY

- ⇒ Wednesday, May 4th: Early release day for students at 12:50
- ⇒ Monday, May 2nd: School Board Meeting at the High School 6-8pm.
- ⇒ Wednesday, May 18th: Last day of school!
- ⇒ Thursday, May 19th: Staffs last work day.



# PRINCIPALS NEWS

## May Message

April and May are the busiest times of year at Seward Middle. Rather than update you on some recent exciting opportunities we've experienced, I'd like to share with you upcoming events which you may want to place on your calendar:

May 2 School Board Meeting—Seward Middle will present, including a couple musical numbers from our ukulele and guitars class!

May 2 and 5—6<sup>th</sup> grade transition orientation, Sessions 1 and 2. Our new 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be introduced to their new classrooms, learn procedures, and ask questions about middle school life.

May 3—6<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Hope

May 4--we'll be accepting a \$3000 grant from Seward Community Foundation for a gardens and planting project around the middle school.

May 4-5--Grade 7-8 Math Bowl in Homer, overnight at Augusta Lind's place

May 9—8<sup>th</sup> graders are heading up to the HS for an orientation and scavenger hunt.

May 10—Site council work session of tech device policy and managements at Seward Middle

May 10 and 14—Borough track meet at Soldotna High

May 11—Drama production in auditorium at 1:30

May 16-17--Final instructional days at the middle, and clean up/shut down.

May 17-18--8<sup>th</sup> grade overnight at Trail River campground—bus leaves at 1:00. Look for details, and how you can be involved in a letter shortly.

May 18—6<sup>th</sup> grade KFT boat trip, and end of year BBQ at pavilion at park.

Our ALICE drill went well, and as a collective (Fire, EMS, Police and Troopers) we learned a few things. We plan on making some adjustments, and adding more realistic components, contacting support, and automated notifications as we practice more in the Fall. Big thanks to Officer Brockman as our mock intruder. If you have any questions about this event, please give me a call at 224-9025.

Big thanks to the volunteers who supported our team at this year's home track meet! It takes a village to run a successful meet, and it takes a village to run a school. Thank you for your support this year! I'm looking forward to, and am excited about next year! It's been a privilege service you and your children!

Sincerely,

Andy Rothenberger

## TEACHERS NEWS



Parents/Students please take time to visit the teachers sites below. If absent this is where you and your child need to check for assignments.

- **Mr. Barnwell** (rbarnwell@kpbsd.k12.ak.us): <https://sites.google.com/a/g.kpbsd.org/mr-b-s-6th-grade-09-10/>
- **Ms. Gal** (jgal@kpbsd.12.ak.us): **Math 8:** <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/10432>  
**Math 7:** <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/10433>  
**Math 6:** <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/11214>
- **Ms. Hammer** (ahammer@kpbsd.k12.ak.us): **PowerSchool:** <https://ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/public/home.html>
- **Mrs. Liljemark** (mliljemark@kpbsd.k12.ak.us): <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/10875>
- **Mrs. Nichol** (cnichols@kpbsd.k12.ak.us): <http://bit.ly/scisamurai>
- **Mrs. Journey-Scrive** (kjurneyscrive@kpbsd.k12.ak.us): [www.scrivosuperstars.com](http://www.scrivosuperstars.com)
- **Mrs. Williamson** (mwilliamson@kpbsd.k12.ak.us): <https://ps.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/public/home.html>
- **Mrs. Walker** (mwalker@kpbsd.k12.ak.us):

**Language Arts 7:** <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/10435>

**Language Arts 8:** <https://kpbsd.instructure.com/courses/10436>

**STUDENTS CHECK WITH YOUR TEACHERS WHEN THE LAST DAY IS TO TURN IN MISSING ASSIGNMENTS!**

## STAFF APPRECIATION DAYS

Be sure to let the following staff know how much you appreciate them!

**May 2:** National Principals Day.

**May 2-6:** National Teacher Appreciation Week.

**May 2-6:** School Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week.

**May 6:** National School Nurses Day.



# MS. WAGGONER'S ART CLASS

Seward's students, from kindergarteners to seniors in high school, have created art for the annual Art For Parks Show. All art in this show honors the beauty of the Kenai Fjords National Park. It will be located at the NPS Information Center, and the opening will be a part of the First Friday Art Walk on May 6th beginning at 6 pm.

Katelyn Lemme



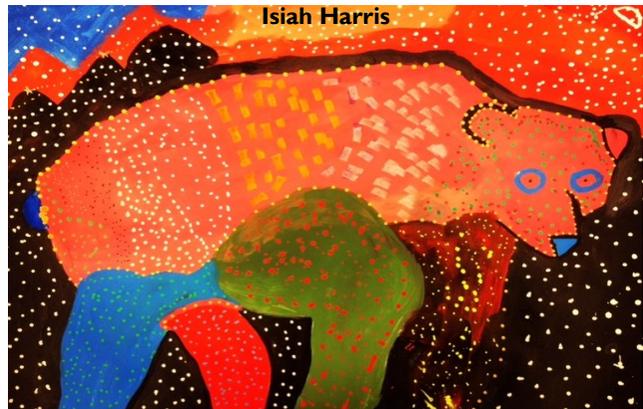
Katelyn Correa



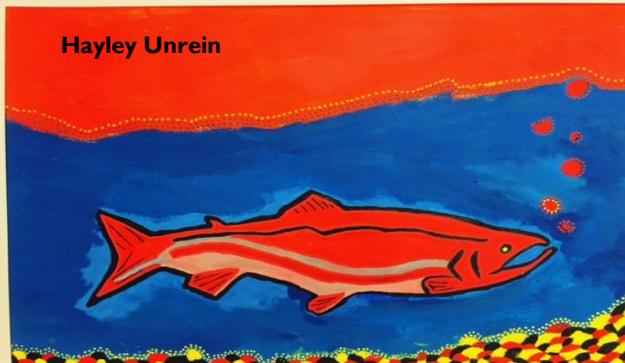
Hana Cooney



Isiah Harris



Hayley Unrein



## NURSES NEWS



### Youth Mental Health First Aid Conference

I recently attended this conference through the school district this past month. One of the main goals of this emerging nationwide program is putting a positive spin on providing care to our children who maybe experiencing a mental health problem. When we say we are providing “First Aid”, we generally think of a person having a physical problem. I think it is rather clever that they are using that concept to provide help for youths with mental health problems. Historically, having a mental health problem has a negative stigma. We describe the person as being a nut job, mental, psycho, and weird.

There are hurdles with mental health problems such as they are not always obvious and the young person may not even know how to express the problem. Worse yet, he/she may not know he/she is experiencing a mental health problem. Mental health challenges or disorders can occur in childhood but often manifest in adolescence or early adulthood. In the United States, **half of all lifetime cases of mental illness begin by age 14.**

The program’s action plan priorities involve assessing for risk of suicide or harm, listen nonjudgmentally, give reassurance and information, encourage appropriate professional help and encourage self-help and other support strategies. The person providing the mental health aid recognizes that there is a mental health problem and makes referrals for appropriate treatment and help. Their job is not to treat or diagnose the young person.

Nurse Yoly

## SPORTS NEWS

### Track Meets

**Friday, May 7**—Nikiski Invite @ Nikiski 10am

**Tuesday, May 10**—Borough Prelims @ Skyview –Time TBA

**Saturday, May 16**—Borough Finals @ Soldotna High School– Time TBA

**Thank you to all the volunteers that helped out with the home track meet Friday, April 29th!!!!!!**



## MS. PECHUZAL'S ART CLASS

We are immersed in an exciting and challenging fourth quarter focused on drawing. Highlights included a visit from Marc Swanson, University of Alaska Fairbanks science educator, who taught about the scientific illustration of bones. Through close observation and drawing, students learned to differentiate between the tibia, ulna, and patella of different animal species. Students then used scientific bone illustrations drawn in pencil to create chalk pastel artworks based on the style of master American painter Georgia O'Keeffe, who often used bones in her stark, yet monumental compositions.





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Office Hours: M-F 7:30-3:00



#### Seward Arts

Council's summer scholarship applications are now available at the school office. Stop by the office and pick one up or download application here:

<http://goo.gl/dj1kpEi>

Scholarships are available for drama, dance, art classes, arts camps and music lessons. All applications are due May 6th.

[www.sewardartscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:www.sewardartscouncil@gmail.com)



Seward Bluegrass Camps For Kids age 8-16 welcomes new and returning campers the week of July 11-15 at the Resurrection Lutheran Church. Professional Bluegrass musicians will teach beginners to more advanced players the guitar, mandolin, banjo, bass, voice and Ukulele.

Register and pay online for the Seward Camp at [bluegrasscampsforkids.com](http://bluegrasscampsforkids.com). You can inquire about scholarships at that site, or write to [bluegrasscampsforkids@yahoo.com](mailto:bluegrasscampsforkids@yahoo.com). For more information contact Kate Hamre at [907 350-2562](tel:9073502562) or Shiloh Parkerson (for kids camp for 5-7 year olds) at [650-745-6190](tel:6507456190).

## DISTRICT NEWS

**Collective Bargaining:** Review current offers, and negotiation timeline at "[School District Collective Bargaining.](#)" Share your thoughts about issues to be addressed in collective bargaining: details and [online public comment link](#).

**KPBSD Budget and Finance Updates:** If you missed one of the budget meetings, review the [FY17 Community Budget Meeting PowerPoint](#) and visit the [KPBSD Finance webpage](#). Participate in Governor Walker's [Sustainable Future: conversations with Alaskans](#) through an interactive revenue and expenditure model that "allows you to fix Alaska's budget your way."

**The Alaska State Legislature:** Visit the [KPBSD and the Legislature](#) webpage, and [follow the Alaska State Legislature](#) to track bills, locate and contact your legislators, and access committee information.

**Key Communicators:** [KPBSD Key Communicators](#) help people in their local communities learn more about KPBSD, while also assisting the school district to learn and understand more about what people in our schools and community think, feel, and know.

**School Safety Closure or Delay Start information:** Parents and guardians, school safety is a top priority in the KPBSD. It's important for you to know what to do before, during, and after a school emergency, weather related delay start, or school closure. [Learn more here](#).

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