



V o z n e s e n k a S c h o o l K P B S D



School Schedule:
School Starts 8:30
Lunch 11:50-12:35
Preschool Start 12:30
School Dismissed 2:25

Principal's Corner

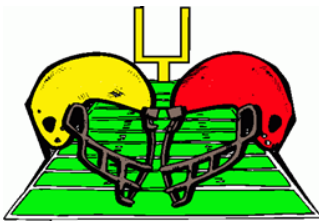
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- October 9 Holy Day No School
- October 14 Holy Day No School
- October 17th Saturday School Early release

Greetings,

So, what to say? It's been a very trying start to the year with all the new rules and expectations that Covid 19 brought to our school. I know the changes have been more than some families have been able to accept, which I totally understand. We're doing everything we can think of doing to minimize mask wearing for our students, but it isn't something we can completely eliminate. To date, the cases in our region have remained low since the start of school, which will positively affect how we progress to a more normal school environment. The mask requirements have been very difficult to traverse. I am keenly aware that we have people on both sides, and in the middle, of the mask debate. For now, we need to follow the protocols the district has put in place. **Thanks to all for your patience and understanding, regardless of where you stand.**



Football season is well underway, with a powerful force of Voz students on the field with the Homer Mariners. **Two home games have already been played, with a third taking place against Soldotna at 3:00 on Saturday, October 3rd.** The last two home games were wins against Seward and Kenai and they are going to be playing hard to keep their perfect home record. Hope to see you there!

You may have noticed a few improvements around the school. As you are coming down into the school grounds, you'll notice a fresh new coat of tar to bring you down to the tar play area. The smooth surface will make snow removal and walking much easier this winter. Additionally, you will notice several new lights on the main building that do a great job of brightening up our facility. **Thanks to Michael Reutov for his installation expertise and to the VCCI for making the new lights and tar a possibility!**

We have a few new faces that you'll notice this year too. **Katie Bynagle is our new interventionist, Paul Robinson is our custodian that supports all of the HOB schools, and Angie Polushkin is a new instructional aide.** *We feel very fortunate to have these staff supporting our school and students!*

Please know that our district has imposed a symptom free protocol at school. If your child stays home due to an illness or comes to school with a recognized illness a school nurse will be contacting homes to follow up with parents about school attendance and learning options for your child.

On a positive note, volunteers are now welcome in our schools! There is still a mask mandate for parents, visitors, subs, and volunteers; however, any changes towards a less restrictive environment are welcome.

Take care,
Mike



"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style."
Maya Angelou

Early Release Dates

Early release dates are cancelled this semester, with the exception being the end of the quarter days. There will be no preschool on the dates listed below.

Saturday, October 17th

Friday, December 18,

Friday, March 5

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Vacation Holy Day	10
11	12	13	14 Vacation Holy Day	15	16	17 End of Q1 Dismiss at 12:45 No Preschool
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Symptom-free School Protocol: How does this affect you and your child?

The vast majority of students sent home for symptoms of illness will not have COVID-19. Adherence to the Symptom Free Schools Protocol keeps our schools open and safe. If your child stays home with symptoms of illness or is sent home by the school, they may continue to learn remotely. Talk to your teacher and your school nurse. Set yourself and your student up to win before you get the call from your school nurse. Create a transportation plan. Your school nurse can guide you through your choices of staying home, getting tested and understanding when your child can return to in person learning. The symptom-free protocol along with wearing masks, keeping physical distancing when possible, and frequent hand washing will help keep us healthier. Have questions? Challenges? Call your school nurse. Together we can get through this.

[Symptom Free school protocol.pdf](#)

School Nurse

McNeil Canyon Elementary

Port Graham School

Susan B. English School

Voznesenka School

KPBSD EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

BEFORE A SCHOOL EMERGENCY

✓ Parents Should Be Prepared

- Contact information** entered in PowerSchool is used to make emergency contact with parents. So that KPBSD can keep you informed, make sure your child's emergency contact information is accurate, current, and updated as needed. That information may be used during an emergency to generate automated phone messages, emails, or text messages to parents from schools or the district office. **Parents need to go to the school office to update and sign their information.**
- Download the **KPBSD Mobile App** so you can automatically receive emergency update push notifications
- Become familiar with the **KPBSD Facebook** and **Twitter** social media sites where emergency information is posted

✓ Parents Should Be Informed

- Familiarize yourself with these KPBSD emergency terms and procedures:
 - ✓ **Stay Put:** A "stay put" takes place when a potential threat is identified in the school's neighborhood. All school doors are locked but classes continue inside as normal. No entry into or exit from the school is allowed. Students will not be released until the situation is resolved and the "stay put" has been rescinded.
 - ✓ **Safety Closure:** A "safety closure" takes place when a violent intruder is identified on school grounds or in the school building. The ALICE protocols will be followed. No entry into or exit from the school is allowed. Students will not be released until the situation is resolved and the "safety closure" has been rescinded.
 - ✓ **Shelter-in-Place:** A "shelter-in-place" takes place when students take refuge in designated areas to be protected from hazardous materials or severe weather. Entry or exit from the schools will be controlled.
 - ✓ **Evacuation:** In the event of certain building emergencies, students will be relocated to an appropriate evacuation assembly area. Students will be released to parents per district student release procedures.

DURING A SCHOOL EMERGENCY

Parents:

- ✓ Should **trust** that during an emergency the school and district is first doing what is needed to protect students, and then communicating to parents as quickly as possible when we have full and accurate information.
- ✓ Should trust that staff and students are prepared for emergency situations. Schools participate in emergency drills throughout the year, and staff and emergency responders know the best procedures for keeping students safe.
- ✓ **SHOULD NOT call or rush to your child's school** Phone lines, staff, and local roads are needed for emergency response efforts.
- ✓ **SHOULD NOT phone or text your child** The sound or vibration from cell phones and phone conversations could put students in danger. Also, students need to be paying attention to the instructions from trained staff. Conflicting instructions from parents may put a child's safety at risk.

AFTER A SCHOOL EMERGENCY

How will I be reunited with my child?

Parents and guardians will be directed by school or public safety officials to their child's specific location. This information will be distributed via the previously discussed emergency modes of communication. Students will be released **ONLY** to parents and guardians or other designated individuals who are documented as emergency contacts. All individuals will be required to present a valid picture ID such as a driver's license, military ID, or passport. Please remember to bring your ID with you and inform your child's emergency contacts that they will be required to show proper identification if they are picking up your child.

The reunification process can be time-consuming, so everyone is urged to be patient.

Recovery:

Following the emergency, we encourage parents to:

- Listen to and acknowledge your child's concerns
- Provide reassurance that your child is safe
- Assure your child that additional prevention efforts are being put in place
- Seek help from school personnel or a mental health professional if concerns persist

Should your child have serious concerns in response to an emergency or crisis, contact your school directly for information and guidance.

QUESTIONS?: Please contact your school principal or office.



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL "SAFETY CLOSURE" INFORMATION

After extensive research and study of historical and recent school safety incidents, the U.S. Department of Education issued a new document with new guidelines for school safety entitled "Guide For Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operation Plans." One of the major findings was that the lone option to *lockdown* was no longer enough. It was stressed that "as the situation develops, it is possible that students and staff will need to use more than one option." In order to give our staff and students more options to protect themselves, KPBSD adopted the A.L.I.C.E. protocols to be used when the presence of a violent intruder necessitates a "Safety Closure." A.L.I.C.E. is an acronym for:

ALERT Use Plain and Specific Language. Avoid Code Words

Get the word out! Notify authorities and those in harm's way of the danger at hand. The objective is a conveyance of plain, clear, concise and accurate information, not an issuance of a command. The goal is to empower as many individuals as possible with the ability to make an informed decision as to their best option to maximize their chances of survival!

LOCKDOWN Barricade the Room. Silence Mobile Devices. Prepare to EVACUATE or COUNTER if Needed

Locking down and barricading entry points may still be the best option in some situations. The noise of cell phones and phone conversations could put students and staff in danger so all mobile devices should be silenced. ALICE training includes instruction on practical techniques to assist in better barricading the room. Pre-Planning and obtaining of materials can improve the ability to barricade. The time in Lockdown can be used to prepare for the use of different protocols (i.e. Counter or Evacuate) as the incident proceeds and situational information is supplied.

INFORM Communicate the Intruder's Location in Real Time

Inform is a continuation of Alert and uses any means available to pass on real-time information.

Communicate real-time updates throughout the incident to those involved. This can be accomplished through the use of video surveillance equipment, public address systems, or electronic updates. Updates during an incident allow those involved to make sound decisions about how to react and what steps, if any, to take next. Information should always be clear, direct and, as much as possible, should communicate the whereabouts of the intruder. Effective information can keep the intruder off balance, giving people in the school more time to further lockdown, or evacuate to safety.

COUNTER Create Noise, Movement, Distance and Distraction

This protocol is used only as a "last-resort" or "worst-case" option if those involved have not been able to find a secured area, or their secure area has been breached. Staff and students are trained in disruptive actions that create noise, movement, and distance to distract, confuse, and gain control through age appropriate tactics. ALICE does not endorse civilians fighting an active shooter, but when confronted directly in a life-and-death situation, individuals should use any actions necessary to defend themselves.

EVACUATE When Safe To Do So, Remove Yourself From Danger Zone

The goal is to safely put as much time and distance between the threat and our staff and students as possible. The decision to evacuate can be made at any time during the incident based upon information that becomes available. Evacuating to a safe area takes people out of harm's way and hopefully prevents civilians from having to come into any contact with an intruder. Evacuation is the number one goal! When Evacuation is one of multiple protocols that are safely available, Evacuation should be the first choice.

It is important to understand that these protocols are age appropriate, not sequential or chronological, and those involved have the ability to change protocols as an incident progresses.

KPBSD's change to the use of A.L.I.C.E. protocols has been done in conjunction with our local law enforcement agencies. These agencies also participate in the training of staff and students.

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Parents/Guardians/Students
FROM: Kevin Lyon, Planning and Operations Director
DATE: Fall, 2020
SUBJECT: **AHERA School Management Plans**

As mandated by Federal Regulation 40 CFR PART 763, known as AHERA (the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, enacted in 1987), local educational agencies must notify parents/guardians/students in writing each school year about the existence and location of AHERA School Management Plans for each school building within their jurisdiction.

Currently, copies of all AHERA School Management Plans are located at the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District's Central Office and at the Kenai Peninsula Borough Maintenance Office. In addition, a copy of the individual AHERA Management Plan for each school is kept on site in the school's administrative office. AHERA Management Plans may be inspected at any of these sites.

Your school, Voznesenka Elementary School, has been inspected for the presence of asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM), and none were found.

If you should have any questions concerning the AHERA School Management Plans or asbestos-related activities, as the designated Local Education Agency's Asbestos Coordinator, I can be contacted at the School District's Central Office or phone (907) 714-8875.

State testing updates

To meet federal regulation surrounding the federal funds Kenai Peninsula Borough School District receives and distributes to qualifying schools we are informing parents that all teaching staff in Kenai Peninsula Borough School District meet state of Alaska teacher certification requirements.

To meet federal regulation surrounding the federal funds Kenai Peninsula Borough School District receives we are providing this link to [School Index Rating](#), or <https://education.alaska.gov/compass/>. When statewide school closures to students occurred in spring 2020 due to COVID-19, the state required assessment (PEAKs) was not administered and therefore Commissioner of Education Michael Johnson notified districts that the 2018-2019 rating would be carried forward.