



Ole Steller Yeller

March 15, 2010

The Importance of Attendance: *Learning is Cumulative*

H Green



Value education and give it high priority in your family! Convey a positive attitude about school and treat going to school as part of the normal course of events, something that is expected of your child.

Let him/her know that school is the most important thing in his/her life at this time, and that his/her future job opportunities will depend on how well (s)he handles his/her present “job” (school). Help him/her develop good study and work habits and praise him/her when (s)he is successful. Get to know your child’s friends as they have more influence with him/her at this time in his/her life than you do. Get personally involved in school activities, go to sporting events, attend plays and concerts, join the Parent Group/Advisory Board, volunteer, read the school paper. Know what’s going on at school [*McKenny Independent School District*]

Students usually begin each new school year with excitement and enthusiasm – even if they don’t show it to adults. The anticipation of new classes, new friendships, and renewing old friendships provides real motivation for daily attendance at school during those first few weeks. Unfortunately, after a brief time some students, particularly those at the middle and high school levels and those who don’t do well in school, become careless about regular attendance. Missing a few classes seems inconsequential to them. Sometimes it seems insignificant to parents as well.

The teaching/learning process builds upon itself: Each lesson presented to students is based upon or related to those that preceded it. Just as we can never regain a

moment of time wasted, the child who misses a day of school also misses a day of education which cannot be retrieved. Indeed, research shows that those children who attend school regularly are more likely to be successful during their school years.

Success after graduation is a second reason for regular school attendance. If young people don’t develop the habits of good attendance and prompt completion of assignments while they’re in school, when will they learn these things? Their success as adults in their chosen occupations is dependent upon these habits. From experience, most teachers know that students’ success in their school years is directly related to the importance that parents attach to education. If parents believe and act as if the child’s education is important, the child will most likely believe it too. So it is with regular attendance at school. When parents believe that consistent attendance is important and communicate that belief to their children starting in the elementary years, unnecessary absences from school will be dramatically reduced [*Polson K12 District 23*].

What can Parents do?

1. Let your child know that you expect him/her to attend school every day. Explain that, just as you have a job, it’s his/her job to go to school and learn.
2. Set a time for doing homework each evening and a time for going to bed. Unfinished homework and too little sleep are common reasons why parents hear the words, “I don’t feel good,” on school mornings.
3. Get involved with your child’s school. When (s)he sees you in the halls or the classrooms (s)he’ll understand that school is important.

The Importance of Attendance (Continued)

Attendance patterns are formed early in life. Children who develop good attendance habits in the early grades will be more likely to continue them throughout their school career. That's important, because students who miss school miss out on carefully planned sequences of instruction. They miss out on active learning experiences and class participation. They miss out on the opportunity to ask questions. They are more likely to fall behind. And they are more likely to drop out [*Copyright © 2003 The Parent Institute*].

I know that it is getting warm and we have more light and the temptation to go outside is all to real. However, please continue to urge your child to go to school and resist the temptation to skip classes.

The Steller Auction is Friday, March 26th...

We are in need of items for the auction! We are asking each Steller family to donate one item and find a local business willing to donate one item. Auction proceeds will help provide laptops for our classrooms. Please start bringing your items to the office March 1st. There will be a designated area for you to leave them along with Auction Donation forms to indicate value and donor names. We will make sure to give recognition to all donors.

Many thanks from the Steller 9th Grade class! These students are responsible for the Annual Steller Auction and they need your support.

Sincerely,

Jean and Philip

(9th Grade Class Representatives)

ASD Climate and Connectedness Parent/Guardian Survey

Parents of Students in grades K – 12

The 2010 Climate and Connectedness Parent/Guardian Survey is being administered to provide schools with information about perceptions and experiences related to school climate and connectedness for use in setting school goals and redirecting resources. This is an annual survey implemented and analyzed jointly by the ASD departments of Safe and Drug Free Schools and Assessment and Evaluation. The survey will take place between March 22 and June 30 of 2010.

Parents/Guardians should complete one survey for each child in school. There are many different ways to access the survey:

- Mailing of paper surveys—Surveys will be mailed with students' SBA and HSGQE test results during the first week of June. There will be a separate mailing for parents/guardians of juniors and seniors not taking the HSGQE retest and parents/guardians of kindergarten, grade 1 and 2 students. All of the surveys will be in self-addressed, postage-paid mailers, making it easy for parents/guardians to return the surveys directly back to the Assessment and Evaluation Department.
- ASD Web site—ASD Web site: http://www.asdk12.org/depts/assess_eval/climatesurvey.asp
- Parent Connect — As of this year we are providing a fourth optional link through Zangle's Parent Connect. A survey link will appear on the page where you access your account.
- ASD Facebook page — A link to the survey can be found on Facebook.

What to Do About Senioritis...Make Your Senior Year Count

Seniors, you have worked hard for three plus years, taking tests, completing projects, and preparing for what comes next...after high school. When senior year rolls around, some students are tempted to take it easy the last few months and school becomes more of a place to socialize than take seriously.

Students can mistakenly believe they can put less than 100% into high school their senior year. The truth is your senior year, the entire senior year, is actually more important than they realize and is actually of particular interest to colleges and potential employers.

Usually referred to as senioritis, taking it easy senior year may seem like a nice break, but is likely to do more harm than good. It's not a new thing, it's been around long before I, and your parents, went to high school. I remember making so many trips to the beach the last quarter of high school I probably could have made it there with my eyes closed.

Senioritis can jeopardize your chances for success after high school. Because it will more than likely affect your grades, your attendance, possibly your references ...and college admissions officers, potential employers, the military, etc are able to look at this when you turn in your application...there's a really good chance any "relaxed" performance your senior year can make a difference in their decision

In order to make a point let's look at the senior with applying to college:

Many college applications (including the Common Application) require you to list your senior courses, including information about course levels and credit hours. It will be very obvious to the admissions officers if you've decided to "take the year off."

Many colleges also include as part of the application a form called the mid-year grade report. Your counselor completes this form with first-half grades and sends it to the colleges to which you've applied. It then becomes a crucial part of the application folder.

When you are accepted college acceptance letters include warnings to students such as "Your admission is contingent on your continued successful performance." This means colleges reserve the right to deny you admission should your senior year grades drop.

It is not at all rare for a college to withdraw an offer of admission when grades drop significantly over the course of the senior year.

Colleges are also going to want to know you have continued your involvement in activities, sports, and volunteer work. For example, did you remain committed to the internship or career-focused job opportunity you were in at the beginning your senior year. Colleges know these meaningful and significant experiences not only help you to make informed decisions about your education they will be important in your ability to have career goals and remain focused on a plan to achieve them.

Keep in mind that your senior year is your opportunity to strengthen your skills and broaden your experiences, in school and out, to prepare for all of the challenges ahead. A successful senior year can help launch you on the path to a successful future.

If you have any questions regarding your current status, or how you can stay focused during the last few months of school, be sure to let me know.

Keep up the good work,
John

Library Notes – March, 2010

CONGRATULATIONS to Steller's Battle of the Books team. **Lorryn Wilhelm Maya Heubner**, and **Arthur Bell** represented Steller at the district Senior High Battle of the Books at Service High School. They took 4th place. New Battle of the Books titles for 10 -11 will be out soon.

Overdue Books - Overdue notices will go out on Monday, March 1. The beginning of a new quarter is an excellent time to go through your locker, backpack, bedroom, bookshelf, the CAR, anywhere you may have had a library book. Bring the ones you have finished and get some new titles for the next quarter. Lost books should be replaced or you can pay the \$25 replacement fee. Talk to Karen to arrange replacements.

One of our newest graphic novels, Watchmen, is missing. It's been in the library for about a month and has already disappeared. If you have it, or know who does, please help it get back to the library so others can enjoy this wonderful book.

Career Resources

Juniors should schedule **SAT** tests for the spring. You then have a chance to re-test in the fall if you desire. Register online at www.collegeboard.com

Financial planning for college should begin this spring, along with college selection. Many helpful resources can be found at the College & Career page. <http://stellerlibrary.wikispaces.com/Career%20%20college> It is also linked to the Steller website and the student portion of the FLASH.

The AKCIS website has college, career and financial aid info. Go to www.akcis.org. passwords available in library. look under financial aid for local scholarships. College board and Petersons offer similar assistance.

Also check out West HS Scholarships101..linked on the college and career page of the Steller website. This excellent resource gives you step-by-step instructions for finding scholarships and financial aid.

Nurse's Notes



Building Our Youth's Developmental Assets

Each month, in addition to the Nurse's Notes, I will include The Search Institute's "Ideas for Parents" a mini-newsletter containing suggestions and ideas on how to build your child's assets. This month's focus is Support: The Nurturing Nature of Support.

More information can be found at the Safe & Drug Free School's link via the ASD website, The Search Institute www.search-institute.org, or by contacting me directly. I also have a great book on developmental asset building in Alaskan youth if you are interested.

Spring Intensives & Travel

If your student is participating in travel or an overnight intensive, the health office will need updated medical and medication information. Please check with your student as he/she should have paperwork for you to review and return to the health office prior to intensives.

Donations

Lunch, snack, and drink donations are needed for students who forget or don't have lunch. Lunch and snack items that do not require refrigeration or freezing and have a good shelf life work best. Suggestions for donations include: soup cups, granola bars, oatmeal, juice boxes, etc.

Nurse Wendy

ideas for parents

Practical Suggestions for Building Assets in Your Child

FAST FACTS

ASSET TYPE #1: Support

The more love, support, and adult contacts a child has, the more likely he or she is to grow up healthy.

41%

*of youth surveyed by Search Institute experience at least three of the six support assets.**

What Are Assets?

Assets are 40 key building blocks to help kids succeed.

* Based on Search Institute surveys of almost 100,000 kids in 12th-grade youth throughout the United States.

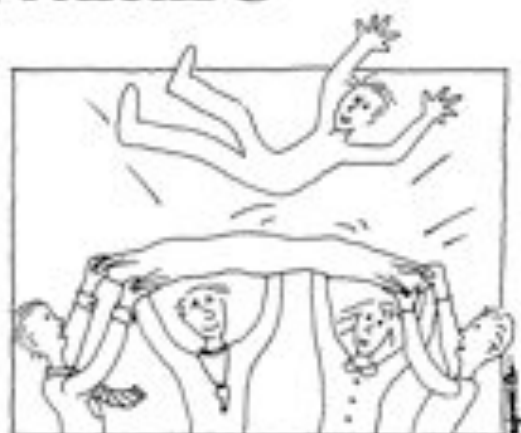
The Nurturing Nature of Support

Who are the champion supporters in your life?

These champions are important. They cheer us on when things go well. They stick with us when life throws us a curve ball. They listen. They ask questions. They smile. They hug. They're people we enjoy being around.

What kind of a champion are you for your child? Are you a fair-weather supporter? A rain-or-shine supporter? What's your unique way of supporting and loving your child?

Your love and support for your child are critical. But you can't go it alone. You need others. Your child needs others. How supported and cared for does your child feel by teachers, neighbors, coaches, grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents of their friends, youth workers, and mentors? These other key adults



are important players in helping your child jump over the hurdles in life. In fact, the more supportive adults your child has, the better. And by nurturing and loving all the children in our communities, we help them grow to be loving, caring people themselves.

Look for future newsletters for details on all six support assets!

6 Key Areas of Support

Search Institute researchers have identified six support assets that are crucial for helping young people grow up healthy. Check the areas of strength in your child's life:

- Family support—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
- Positive family communication—You and your child communicate positively, and your child is willing to seek you out for advice and counsel.
- Other adult relationships—Your child receives support from three or more non-parent adults.

- Caring neighborhood—Your child experiences caring neighbors.
- Caring school climate—School provides a caring, encouraging environment for your child.
- Parent involvement in schooling—You are actively involved in helping your child succeed in school.

Name Three

Have each family member name three ways the family supports her or him.

1
2
3

Support Through the Years

Age Ways to Love and Support Your Child

- 0-1
 - Hold your baby and look at her or him during feedings.
 - Respond to your child's needs.
 - Take delight in your child's development.
- 2-3
 - Cheer your child on as he or she masters new skills.
 - Touch your child often. Hug. Cuddle.
 - Say 'yes' more than you say 'no'.
- 4-5
 - Encourage your child's thinking abilities by exposing her or him to new situations.
 - Play with your child, letting her or him choose the type of play.
 - Find other caring adults to participate regularly in your child's life.
- 6-10
 - Encourage your child as he or she learns new skills.
 - When you and your child disagree, point out you still love her or him.
 - Answer all your child's questions.
- 11-15
 - Accept the identity your child is forming.
 - Affirm independence and interdependence.
 - Be available to listen.
- 16-18
 - Continue to show affection for your teenager.
 - Let your teen overhear you complimenting her or him to someone else.
 - Ask for your teen's opinion or advice on something important.

Helpful Hints

Tips that make supporting your child easier:

- Adjust the way you support your child as he or she grows.
- Identify your own sources of support and what you can learn from them.
- Ask your child what kind of support he or she likes best and why.
- Watch for non-verbal clues from your child saying he or she needs your support.

Quick Tip:
The best way to love your child is to love yourself.

More Stuff You Can Use

What Kids Need to Succeed: Proven Practical Ways to Raise Good Kids. This book gives practical tips for building assets in young people. (Available from Search Institute, 700 South Third Street, Suite 210, Minneapolis, MN 55415; 1-800-808-7028.)

Final Word

**"Children need to know that, whatever else may happen, their parents love them."
—Michael Popkin, Ph.D., director of the Active Parenting Program**

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SPRING





STELLER SECONDARY SCHOOL
2508 Blueberry Lane Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 742-4950 FAX (907) 742-4966
"ONLY THE EDUCATED ARE FREE"-EPICTETUS
Harlod Green, Principal

Dear Anchorage Merchant:

On March 26, 2010 Steller Secondary School will hold its annual auction to raise funds to support educational travel, technology, and other school events. Steller is an alternative school in the Anchorage School District. We are a small school of only 300 students that is focused on self-directed education and community building.

Our students and parents are in the process of requesting a variety of items and services that can be auctioned off for this very worthwhile event. The auction is dependent on the generosity of merchants like you for its success. Any item that your company would be willing to donate would be wonderful. Your help in enhancing educational opportunities for our students is appreciated.

We also wish to extend an invitation to you to attend the auction, a very enjoyable community event. All contributions will be recognized in the auction program and in our school newsletter.

Thank you,
Harlod Green
Principal

Tax ID # 92-6000078

Spring 2010 Intensives

Pottery and Mosaics

Danielle Sjoden

Students in this class will learn the basics of wheel thrown pottery, including bowls and cups. Students will also complete two hand-built pieces.

When students are not working on wheels, they will design and create at least two original mosaics. Students are encouraged to find unique materials to add to their mosaic designs.

Credit: Elective

Course Fee: Approximately \$40.00

Pyrography

Gerald Brown

Pyrography is offer described as the art and science of burning pictures in wood and other materials. In this class beginning students will learn the techniques associated with burning pictures on wood. Returning students will be allowed to progress at their own rate. Grade will be based upon attendance, behavior and improvement in their work.

Cost will be \$40.00 if they need a burner and \$20.00 if they already have a burner.

Credit: Art

Internship Intensive

Jennifer Wadsworth

Your goal in the Internship Intensive is to have the chance to experience career and volunteer opportunities that are available within specific areas of interest to you. You will be arranging your internship and contacting the person who will be supervising you. During the two-week Intensive period, you will need to be available for at least forty hours of service at your workplace. You will be setting goals and performance objectives for your supervisor to review while performing you internship. And you will have a chance to share your experience with others at the end of the intensive.

Credit: Elective

Grades: 9-12

Spring 2010 Intensives

Spring Mountain Intensive

Jen Strauss

Grades 7-12

If the idea of having a springtime relationship with nature is your idea of fun, then the Spring Mountain Intensive is for you. This class will deal with the basics of backpacking and wilderness travel. We'll spend the first two days discussing appropriate gear, food, first aid, and map reading. Students **MUST** have appropriate gear for this class, especially footwear. **Well fitting boots are a must and should be purchased prior to the class in time** to be broken in for the trips. Not doing so is likely to result in **painful blisters**. Students are required to provide their own gear and food. Much of the gear may be borrowed or rented from REI or AMH. Food may be purchased almost anywhere, but weight concerns will guide your decisions.

Beyond the gear issues, with some luck, we'll have good weather for our multi-day trips up Eagle River Valley and the second trip as the weather allows. As always, what we are able to do will be determined by the weather. This intensive is early enough that it may limit our trail options because of snow cover at lower elevations. Nights are also likely to be cool with temperatures that may drop below freezing, so you will need a sleeping bag rated to +20 degrees Fahrenheit or warmer and a sleeping pad (no air mattress).

Other than gear, you will need to be in good hiking condition; so walking some distance (1 to 2 miles daily) in the weeks leading up to the intensive would be a good idea.

It is not likely that we'll see any wildlife close up, because of the size of our group, but having a pair of binoculars is always handy for viewing things at a distance.

Beyond this, the wilds of Alaska always provide some of the most spectacular viewing in the world and should provide us with plenty of breathtaking moments that you will be able to capture on camera, should you choose to bring one.

One final note; we will need at least one chaperone on each of the trips and will need more than one to help with the driving to and from trail heads, so if your parents can help with either the driving, chaperoning, or both please have them contact Jen at Steller. The following is the itinerary for the intensive.

- May 3-4 Classroom and Day hikes
- May 5-7 Backpack the Eagle River Valley Trail (20 miles round trip)
- May 8-9 Weekend off
- May 10 Debrief last trip and plan for the next one
- May 11-14 TBA, but could be Caines Head, Eklutna Lake/Glacier, etc.

Credit: Physical Education or Elective



Spring 2010 Intensives

Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT)

Shanley Driscoll

(This class will be taught by the Chugiak Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co. and Shanley will assist. Philip will be the teacher of record and supervise the course content)

This class focuses on the essentials of emergency medical and trauma care. This class will cover an introduction to the EMS system, legal and ethical issues to emergency care, medical terminology and basic anatomy and physiology as well as the care of patients in emergency situations. You will have an opportunity to ride along in an ambulance to assist in gaining work experience and medical knowledge.

Upon successful completion and examination you will receive CPR certification and for participants who are at least 14 years of age, a 2 year registration as an Emergency Trauma Technician.

Class fee will be dependent on size of the class ~\$250 per student (less if more than 10 students register.)

.25 Science Elective

Grades: 7-12

Dual college credit in Health Science (3 credits) may be available via UAA, UAF, or UAS (separate fees apply.)

Black and White Photography: A Lost Art?

Ken Varee

Students will learn the basics of SLR camera operation, black and white darkroom technique and basic enlargement display. Steller is one of few schools that still has an operational darkroom! It's a little like magic as kids develop film and make prints for our Stand and Deliver Photo Gallery.

Students need a non-digital Single Lens Reflex 35mm camera.

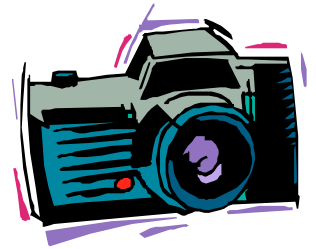
Class Fee: \$30

Grades: 7-

Class limited to 15 students, non-repeaters.

Parent volunteers welcome!

Credit Count: Elective



Creative Writing --Epics--

Peer Taught Daniel Jarlson

This is a peer taught intensive taught by Daniel Jarlson. It will cover the basic elements of epic writings, including what separates an epic from other fictions and what sub-genres are present within epics. Over the course of the two weeks, students will learn these elements, analyze how they are present in the classic epics, and use them to write their own epic stories.

Credit: Elective (must petition for academic credit)

Spring 2010 Intensives

Outdoor Adventure

Leigh Anne Bonney

Do you enjoy the outdoors and want a bit of variety during the Spring Intensive? If so, this Intensive is for you. We will be participating in a variety of outdoor activities around Anchorage during the two-week Intensive. Activities will include hiking in the Chugach Mountains, biking the Coastal Trail, mountain biking on the Hillside, playing frof and Ultimate Frisbee, and going on a camping trip where we will be hiking and biking. We will also try and help out the community by doing a day of trail work. **Parent volunteers and drivers will be needed.**

Credit: .25 Physical Education

Grades: 7-12

Cost: \$10

Going Public: A Community Art Intensive

Nina Bonito Romine

Students will work closely with the Downtown Partnership and other Steller business partners to produce artwork out in the local community: outdoor murals downtown, sidewalk-chalk art, and sculptures in public parks are just some of the possibilities. All the art will be student-designed, with students working both individually and in groups. This provides an opportunity to get our name out there and remind people what Steller's all about, as well as let students make their mark on the local environment.

Class Fee: \$25

Parent Volunteers welcome

Credit Count: Elective

Video Production

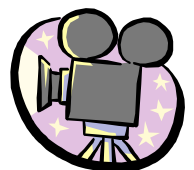
Svetlana Jackson

Ever want to make a short movie or a commercial? Do you dream of becoming the next Steven Spielberg or Martin Scorsese? Well, you have to start somewhere and this class is just the ticket! In this class, you will learn the basics of video production, script writing, storyboard production, audio and camera techniques, interview techniques, editing (including titling, and music) and porting to final product.

You will need a video camera (digital preferred) for this class or access to one and a couple of tapes. Students will be working with a partner on a project of their own choosing (within limits). We'll spend the first week learning the basic techniques and the second week on the editing and porting to DVD. Then we'll put on a show for the school on Friday, May 14 during lunch in the MPR. Come join us for the fun!

Credit: Elective

Fee: \$10



Spring 2010 Intensives

Indoor/Outdoor Games & Activities

Toni Stark

Let's bring some of the WINTER FUN outdoors in May.

Suggested Activities: (Indoor Sports)

Table Tennis • Badminton • Volleyball • Soccer • Fencing • Gym Hockey • Bowling • Swimming • Golf

And: (Outdoor Sports)

Soccer • Baseball • Frolf • Basketball • Others

(Suggestions from students are welcome!)

Student Aides needed.

Credit: P.E. or Elective Credit available

Grades: 7-12

Cost: \$30



Frolf Intensive

Troy Fast

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the basic skill and knowledge associated with the game of Frisbee golf or Frolf. Through active participation, students will develop the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue Frolf as a lifetime activity. In addition, this course provides students with opportunities to improve physical fitness, and practice positive personal and social skills.

Grade level: 7-12

Credit Count: P.E.

No fee

Ultimate Jerry Link

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the basic skills and strategies associated with the game of ultimate through active participation in the sport. The rules of the game lend themselves well to conflict resolution, and the practice of positive personal and social skills. This course will provide opportunities to improve physical fitness.

Grade level: 7-12

Credit Count: P.E.

No Fee

Spring 2010 Intensives

Galapagos Islands

Philip Fleckenstein and Jean Poulsen

This course is offered as a science elective credit that will study the ecosystems of the Galapagos Islands. We will look at and identify the flora and fauna of many spots throughout the Galapagos.

Grade Level: 7-12

Costs: TBD

Prerequisites: none

Credit Count: Science Elective



Steller 2010 Graduation

Alaska Center for Performing Arts - - Discovery Theater
May 18th - 3:00 pm.

Poll Shows Alaskans Support Keeping Exit Exam by 3-1 Margin

JUNEAU – A recent Dittman public opinion poll commissioned by Sen. Con Bunde, R-Anchorage, shows that 74 percent of Alaskans support keeping the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam, also known as the exit exam. Currently there is a bill in the Legislature that would repeal the exit exam.

Bunde, who authored the original exit exam language when it was passed into law in 1997, said the Dittman poll results clearly indicate that the public still supports the exam as a way to ensure that possessing a high school diploma means graduates can demonstrate basic competency in reading, writing and arithmetic.

“Currently in the Senate, there is, in my view, a misguided effort to do away with the high school graduation qualifying exam. This poll shows that three-quarters of the people of Alaska do not want it to go away,” Bunde said. “That’s a pretty substantial level of support.”

Bunde said the idea to do away with the test is rooted in a well-intended push by some groups representing students who have had a difficult time passing the exam.

“Last year there were 8,008 graduates who passed the exit exam and received a high school diploma. At the same time there were 270 high school seniors who were unable to pass the exit exam, and therefore received a certificate of attendance,” Bunde said. “So, the question is, should we dilute the value of the diploma for the thousands who passed it just to accommodate the few who do not? I don’t think we should, and clearly, almost three-quarters of the Alaska public don’t think we should, either.”

The Dittman poll was conducted February 9-22, 2010. The bill to repeal the exit exam, SB 109, recently passed out of the Senate Education and the Community and Regional Affairs committees and is currently sitting in the Senate Finance Committee.



Alaskans Support High School “Exit Exam”

Approximately three-out-of-four Alaskans support keeping the high school graduation qualifying exam.

QUESTION: *“Currently, Alaskan students must pass the high school graduation qualifying exam, commonly known as the “exit exam”, in order to receive a diploma. There is a bill before the Alaska State Legislature to eliminate the exit exam. Opponents of the exit exam say it keeps hundreds of Alaska students from earning diplomas and getting jobs, and is a waste of classroom time and resources. Supporters of the exit exam say that graduation rates have risen since the exit exam took effect, and that the exam is a useful tool to evaluate the performance of teachers and schools, and ensures students demonstrate at least minimum skills in reading, writing and math before receiving a diploma.*

What is your opinion -- do you feel the state should remove the exit exam requirement or should it be kept?”

STATEWIDE RESULTS:

24%	Remove exam
74%	Keep exam
2%	Unsure

Support for “Exit Exam” is strong and consistent throughout Alaska.

CROSSTABULATIONS:

		<u>Remove exam</u>	<u>Keep exam</u>	<u>Unsure</u>
<u>REGIONAL RESULTS</u>	Rural	27%	73%	--
	Central (Fairbanks)	25%	72%	3%
	Southcentral	24%	75%	1%
	Anchorage	24%	71%	5%
	Southeast	19%	81%	--
<u>POLITICAL RESULTS</u>	Democrat	25%	74%	1%
	Republican	19%	78%	3%
	Non-Partisan	27%	70%	3%
	Other	18%	82%	--
	Not registered	13%	81%	6%

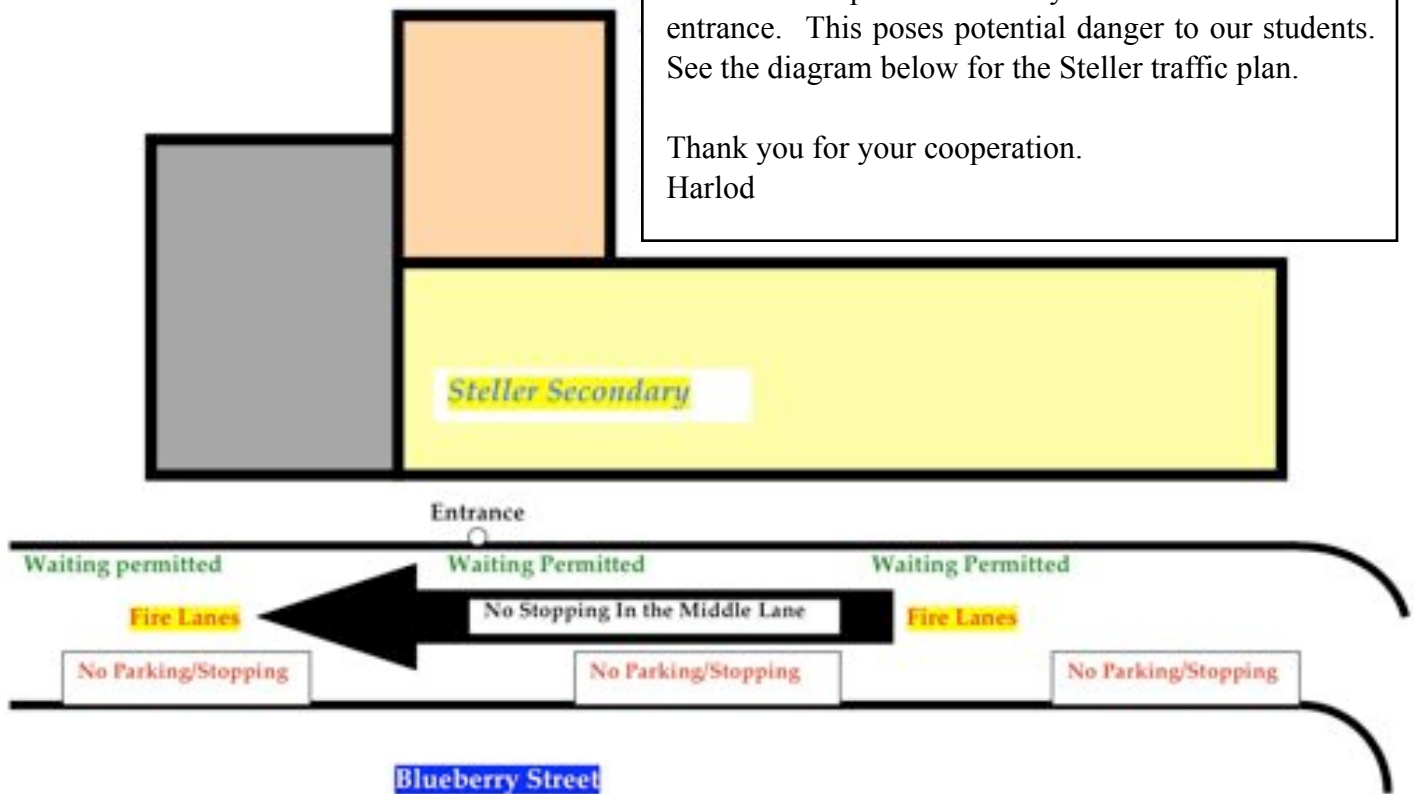
HSGQE / SBA Testing Schedule

Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday April 9 thru
1-Apr	2-Apr	5-Apr	6-Apr	7-Apr	8-Apr	Wednesday April 14
SBA	SBA	SBA	SBA	SBA	SBA	SBA
8th & 10th	8th & 10th	8th & 10th	7th-9th	7th-9th	7th-9th	7th-9th
Science	Science	Science	Reading	Writing	Math	Read, Write, Math
	Make-up	Make-up				Make-up
			HSGQE	HSGQE	HSGQE	SBA
			10th-12th	10th-12th	10th-12th	8th & 10th
			Reading	Writing	Math	Science
						Make-up

Parking Concerns

I have had some parent complaints regarding folks parking their cars and leaving them in the mornings. Please do not park and leave your vehicles at the front entrance. This poses potential danger to our students. See the diagram below for the Steller traffic plan.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Harlod



Hello to the Steller Community;

As I walk through the halls of Steller on my days that I come to be a sub (TA) or help out, I can't stop to think of how my years at the school were so rewarding. I look about the school with a different outlook that all the students, staff and parents have given me over the years. What a wonderful feeling it is to know that I was a part of something much bigger than just a building with children in it. Adults teaching basic math or reading. It was a community of learners, staff that taught of different ways of thinking and parents that were willing to go the extra mile to make the whole school run.

There have been many changes over the years and as with any changes some were good and some that were not so good but always Steller kept plugging away, always striving and evolving to make it better for the students that walked the halls. This is what in my mind made Steller unique and a step above all other schools that I had been at. I always came to work and did what I thought was my job, to support the teachers and administration to the best of my ability. If I could make it easier on them then they would have more time to teach these wonderful ideas and young minds the philosophy that is Steller's own. Never really thinking that what I did made a huge difference but knowing deep down that I helped in shaping the youth of Anchorage in small ways I kept going.

This all changed on January 29th, the day I retired and I walked into the MPR and saw all the students with staff and parents standing and clapping and cheering. Receiving emails after emails from former students and staff and realizing that the difference I had made was bigger than I had ever thought. Reading those messages and that 10 minutes in the MPR looking into the faces of everyone I suddenly became aware of how I have touched so many and how the whole community has touched me.

I want to thank you all for all the wonderful years. The Staff and Administration of the school for letting me spread my wings and allowing me to do more than a normal BPO would do and the thoughtful gifts and mementos that you presented me. To the parents thank you for all the support that you have given me in those extra tasks I undertook and the wonderful lunch. To the students, who are the essence of the school. Thanks for listening to me as I lectured you on the rights and wrongs of things. To let me talk about the passion of history, the world, stocks, sports, respecting of each other and the school. Thank you for those wonderful signed books, hockey stick and letters and the best of all just being yourselves and all the kindness and respect you gave me.

You are all the best,
Eugene

Gifted Mentorship Program 09/10 Information

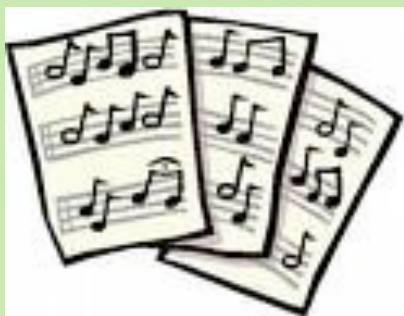
The Gifted Mentorship Program pairs talented/gifted juniors and seniors with a mentor in a career field of great interest to the student. With the help of a coordinator, the mentor and student develop an independent study course based on a college-style internship. Students receive .5 elective credit and a letter grade for successful participation in the program.

We will be recruiting students at Steller for this year's summer school program, as well as next year's school program. Interested current sophomores and juniors are welcome to attend informational meetings to be held at Steller in the library during lunch on Thursday, April 15th in the library/computer lab. Ms. Wiley, Steller's mentorship coordinator, will review the application process, mentorship requirements, and answer questions about the program at the meeting. Students with GPA's over 3.5 and/ or high standardized test scores will be invited to attend the meeting. Curious students and parents can also come to hear about the program. Summer school will be happening this year; incoming seniors will be given priority because of the limited number of students that will be accepted. If you can't attend the meeting or have questions, please call Ms. Wiley at 575 6885 or email at Wiley_Lisa@asdk12.org

Steller Secondary School Current Students and Mentors

Erin A. - Rebecca Zubro, Providence, ER Nursing
Wade B. - Mike Crotty, AFD, Paramedic Medicine
Nora C. - Felicia Czekaj, Providence,
Clinical Laboratory Science
Gina G. - Roberta Garvey, Pediatric Surgeons of AK
Pediatric Surgery
Hannah G. - Gordon Thompson, Architecture
Michael K. - Liberty Helgeson, Providence,
ER Nursing
Madeline K. - Katie Larson, Alaska Zoo,
Environmental Activism / Wildlife Biology
Samantha M. - Libby Brown, Providence,
Neurological Nursing
Caitlyn P. - Shannon Jensen, Alaska Zoo,
Wildlife Biology
Emily S. - Dr. Dwight Ellerbe, Plastic Surgery
Arvin T. - Joe Hickel, Hotel Captain Cook,
Culinary Arts
Karlie W. - Lynne Young, Orthopedic Physicians of
AK, Athletic Training
Robin W. - Andy Weiss, KPB, Architecture

Service Area Band Festival



Steller's [Mr. Toba] band class has been invited to join the Hanshew MS Band to participate for the Service Area Band Festival, on Thursday, April 15th.

The time and location: Service HS gym. The concert will start at 7:30 p.m.

Parents, staff and students are encouraged to attend the festival and support our band program.

Peninsula Puffers Asthma Camp

This is a six day (June 27-July 2) program for kids with asthma and many also have food allergies.

The program is held in Copper Landing at Camp Kushtaka. Dr. Jody Butto is the medical director and ed. director for camp. She will be on-site with Dr. Kathy Case and Dr. Teresa Neeno. They were lucky with their funding this year and can offer scholarships to a majority of the campers. The camp web-site is <http://www.aafaalaska.com/camp/index.php>.

See Nurse Wendy for more information.

Steller Lost and Found

We have two iPod nanos gathering dust in our lost and found. Please come identify and take them home.

In addition there are 4 cellphones that have been here for over a year.

Lastly – one very nice men’s analog watch that would like to go back to it’s owner.

Thanks
Steller Front Office

Haiti Fundraiser Report



This year, Steller Secondary School partnered with The American Red Cross of Alaska – Haiti Earthquake Relief to raise money to help support those impacted by the earthquakes that devastated Haiti on January 12, 2010. The American Red Cross is working with its partners in the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network, including the Haitian Red Cross, and other partners to assist those affected by this disaster.

We asked students and their families to empty their coin jar, search couch cushions, check old pockets, and empty car coin stashes all in an attempt to put that spare change to good use.

Steller students got to work bringing in spare change, selling paper red cross logos to hang on the wall, and popcorn during lunch. The paper red cross logos slowly took over an entire wall. Everyone seemed to

enjoy seeing which advisory group had the most logos. Each day, a “Red Cross/Haiti Update” was written on our announcement board and included an interesting fact about coins and a fact about Haiti or the Red Cross. Students voted each week on which teacher they wanted to see get duct taped to the wall in our “stuck for a buck” fundraiser held during lunch on each Friday of our two-week coin drive. Students, staff, and even parents then bought strips of duct tape to stick a Steller teacher to the wall. In our second week of fundraising students were able to purchase valentines that were delivered to their classrooms. On the last day of our fundraiser, Jen Strauss and Danielle Sjoden’s Advisory groups hosted a valentine dance with the \$475.73 proceeds benefitting the fundraiser.

In the end, we were able to raise \$2,535.86, an impressive amount for a school of only 263 students.

Thanks again, to all of you who worked so hard and donated money to make this fundraiser so successful for the American Red Cross of Alaska Haiti Earthquake Relief!

2009-2010 2nd Annual Alaska State Thespian Conference

March 25th - 27th
at
West Anchorage High School

Hosted
by
International Thespian Troupe #700
&
TBA Theatre

Registration Fee of \$50.00 includes admission to all
Master Classes and Performances

Conference Schedule

<p>Thursday 3/25</p> <p>2-3:30 3:30-5:30 7:00</p>	<p>Registration Get to know you Party Cyrano's: You Cant Take It With You</p>
<p>Friday 3/26</p> <p>10:00 - 10:15 10:15 - 11:15 11:15 - 12:30 12:30 - 1:15 1:15 - 2:30 2:30 - 3:45 3:45 - 4:00 4:00 - 7:00 7:00 - 9:00</p>	<p>Introductions and Conference Schedule Panel Discussion Master Class 1 Lunch Master Class 2 Master Class 3 End of the Day Meeting Setup for "Kitchen Sink" "Kitchen Sink"</p>
<p>Saturday 3/27</p> <p>10:00 - 11:15 11:15 - 12:30 12:30 - 1:15 1:15 - 2:30 2:30 - 3:45 3:45 - 4:00 4:00 - 6:30 6:30 - 8:00 8:00 - 9:00</p>	<p>Master Class 4 Master Class 5 Lunch Master Class 6 Master Class 7 End of the Day Meeting Setup for "Scrambled Eggs" "Scrambled Eggs" Reception</p>

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Age: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

Parent Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I want to perform in "Kitchen Sink"

The Conference 3/25 - 3/27

Join local theatre professionals for three days of theatrical workshops, performances and fun. Students of Middle School and High School are invited to register and attend this event which is intended for all levels of experience. The conference is hosted at West Anchorage High School, using the recently renovated and beautifully restored historical Anchorage High School Auditorium.

Master Classes

Every student will participate in seven different theatrical workshops. These trainings will offer in-depth study in all areas of theatre including dance, technical theatre, acting, and movement. Each class is instructed by members of our team of professionals. Students are expected to come ready to learn and discover important theatre techniques. These Master Classes offer a variety of fundamental tools every theatre student needs.

Panel Discussion

Theatrical pros from the community will discuss one of the most controversial topics we find in theatre today: the inclusion of women and minorities in the modern theatre. Students are invited to engage our panel with questions and comments. YOU are part of this panel!

How To Register

Send in the registration form on this brochure with a check for \$50.00 made out to West Anchorage High School to reserve your space. Registrations will also be allowed at the door, but space is limited. If you will be entering into the Kitchen Sink performance, please contact Wayne Mitchell at Wayne@tbatheatre.org. Mail your form and check to:

Thespian Conference
Attn: David Block
West High School
1700 Hillcrest Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517

Registration fee: \$50.00

Lunch

Conference attendees will be given a 45 minute break for lunch each day. Space will be provided for attendees to enjoy their lunch on campus. We suggest bringing a lunch and getting to know the staff.

SHOWS!!

Cyrano's "You Can't Take It With You"

Included in your registration fee is a Thursday Night ticket to see the Pulitzer Prize winning play, "You Can't Take It With You" by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, and directed by Dick Reichman. "This romantic comedy and timely American classic written in the late 30's pokes gentle fun at the tax system, welfare, market capitalism, and materialism and encourages individuals to pursue happiness, hobbies and family instead of only the pursuit of money and status."

- <http://www.cyranos.org>

"Kitchen Sink!"

You got Talent? Of course you do or you wouldn't be attending the conference. Well put it out there for all to see. Indicate you wish to perform in Friday evening's performance and tell us what you will present. Monologues, short skits, your prize winning DDF entry, singing, dance... you name it. We want everything INCL UDING the "Kitchen Sink." Contact Wayne Mitchell at Wayne@tbatheatre.org and indicate you will present during the performance to secure your spot. SHOW US WHAT YOU GOT!

"Scrambled Eggs"

Oh man... You Gotta See This! Get ready for some Guerilla Theatre. Each group of four performers will be given a script. They will rehearse, memorize, block and otherwise prepare their performance. Then they show up Saturday night ready to perform. Oh.. did I mention there's a slight "twist?" Yeah it ain't called "Scrambled" for nothing. If you think you got game.. then bring it to "Scrambled Eggs."

Summer Language Study

–Middlebury College, (Middlebury, Vermont) is now offering middle/high school immersion language programs in the summer at 4 different campuses around the country. (Ohio, Vermont, Massachusetts and California)

Online visit: <http://www.mmla.middlebury.edu/>

Concordia Language Camps also continue to be a favorite.

Concordia Language Villages <clv@cord.edu>



University of Oregon Visit

The University of Oregon Representative, Kenley Jones, will be in town on Saturday March 27, 1:00 pm at the Hotel Captain Cook.

You may RSVP by March 23 at <http://admissions.uoregon.edu/jduck>

He will be happy to answer your questions about this fine university.

Is a tourism career in your future?
ALASKA TRAVEL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION
Scholarships

The ATIA Foundation is offering over \$20,000 in scholarships to help you reach your educational goals!

2010 ATIA Foundation Scholarships Available

Over \$20,000 in scholarships will be awarded in 2010 to worthy Alaskan applicants who are planning a career in the Alaska travel industry. Completed applications are due by March 19, 2010 for consideration by the ATIA Foundation scholarship committee. Visit www.alaskaatia.org for application information.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Are you going to UAA?

Need help getting started?

Attend

Step in to UAA days

at King Career Center

**Join us on April 6, 7 or 8
8-10:30 a.m.**

The University of Alaska Anchorage will be on hand to speak with you about:

- ✓ Admissions ✓ Orientation ✓ Financial Aid
- ✓ Academic Advising ✓ Course Placement* ✓ Course Registration
- ✓ Housing & Residence Life
- ✓ 2009 tax info needed for help with FAFSA application.

*ACCUPLACER placement testing will be available.
Registration for testing is 7:30-8 a.m. Testing fee is \$15.

Need transportation? Ride the KCC bus! (No return bus from KCC)

UAA

Parents are welcome!





Rural Alaska Honors Institute - RAHI

University of Alaska Fairbanks

P.O. Box 756305

201 Brooks Building

Fairbanks, AK 99775

Telephone: (907)474-6886

In State Toll Free Phone: 1-800-478-6886

Fax: (907)474-5624

Web Site: <http://www.uaf.edu/rahi/>

<fyrahi@uaf.edu>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Juniors and Seniors in High School

FROM: Lorraine B. David, RAHI Program Assistant

DATE: March 4, 2010

SUBJECT: 2010 RAHI Student Application

The deadline is fast approaching for interested students to apply to the RAHI summer program. The summer program runs from June 1 to July 15, 2010 and is FREE to any accepted student. The RAHI program can help you prepare for college and you earn college credit for the courses you take with us.

Application and all attachments must be submitted to the RAHI office by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, **MARCH 31, 2010**.

Please visit our website at www.uaf.edu/rahi/ to download the brochures and the application or call us toll free at 1-800-478-6886 if you have questions or need the application faxed or emailed to you.

Thank you.

Wed Mar 17		Staff Lunch by Nina & Philip AG
Thu Mar 18	7pm – 8:30pm	Parent Group Meeting
Wed Mar 24	3pm – 4pm	Lottery Deadline
Thu Mar 25	6pm – 7:30pm	Ad Board Meeting
Fri Mar 26		No School - Inservice
	4pm – 10pm	Steller Auction
Thu Apr 1	8:30am	8th & 10th Grade SBA Science
Fri Apr 2	8:30am	8th & 10th Grade Science make-up
Mon Apr 5	8:30am	8th & 10th Grade Science make-up
Tue Apr 6	8:30am	7th-9th Grade Standards Based Assessments - Reading, Writing, Math
	8:30am	10 Grade Exit Exam
Wed Apr 7	8:30am	7th-9th Grade Standards Based Assessments - Reading, Writing, Math
	8:30am	10 Grade Exit Exam
Thu Apr 8	8:30am	7th-9th Grade Standards Based Assessments - Reading, Writing, Math
	8:30am	10 Grade Exit Exam
Fri Apr 9	8:30am	SBA Make-ups
Wed Apr 14	7pm – 8:30pm	Parent Group Meeting
Fri Apr 16	TBA	Sophomore Day
Wed Apr 21	6pm – 7:30pm	Ad Board Meeting
Fri Apr 30		4th Qtr. Ends for Steller

Mark Your Calendar

STELLER SECONDARY SCHOOL
2508 BLUEBERRY STREET
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

