



3rd-6th Fireweed Academy Newsletter

October 3, 2016

WELCOME SUSANNAH WEBSTER!

Parental involvement is a crucial component to your child's success in school and parent volunteers help create a vibrant and unified school community. Susannah Webster is our new, first time ever, Volunteer Coordinator, and her job is to streamline the volunteer process.

There are as many ways to volunteer as there are Fireweed families and we welcome you to contact our volunteer coordinator to find out how you can contribute. We'll work hard to match parents (or grandparents, aunts or uncles!) with work that fits their schedule, time and talents. Please consider joining our volunteer pool today in order to make this process more efficient.

To learn more, email fireweedvolunteer@gmail.com or call/text Susannah at 907-299-4317

And don't forget to complete the online volunteer screening. Start here:
<https://www.applitrack.com/kpbsd/onlineapp/application.aspx?starting=true>

6th Grade Spaghetti Fundraiser!

The 6th graders will be hosting a spaghetti lunch on October 7th at Big Fireweed (in West Homer building). This is a fundraiser for the annual 6th grade field trip. Please come in and participate with us!

When: October 7th

Where: Fireweed Academy

What: 6th Grade lunch fundraiser

How: come, donate \$3-5, and enjoy the meal!

Who: Fireweed students, families, and staff.



ANCHOR RIVER COHO EGG TAKE NEXT WEEK



We will be heading to the Anchor River on October 6 for a program hosted by the AK Department of Fish and Game. We will learn about the life cycle of the Coho salmon and return with fertilized egg for our classroom incubation tank.

A Note from the Nurse

October is National Child Health Month

The CDC, Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, recommended a month be dedicated to help teach parents about the prevention of childhood illnesses and diseases, and injuries. The CDC recommends the following for children and parents;

-Children should 1) learn to wash their hands to prevent infections; 2) eat breakfast before going to school; 3) not smoke and avoid the smoke of others; and 4) exercise, play safely, and use protective gear.

-Parents should 1) read to and be actively involved with their children; 2) get their children vaccinated; 3) get their children health-care insurance; 4) check for health hazards in their home and eliminate them; 5) place children weighing less than 80 lbs in child safety seats and all others in safety belts in rear seats of automobiles; 6) seek medical advice if their child is slow to learn; and 7) avoid tobacco and drug use and limit alcohol.

None of this information is “new” news. We could all add a few things to the suggestions above. But it is a start. It is an acknowledgement of some of the ways we can take care of our children and ourselves every day and a gentle nudge by the CDC to do more. You can go to cdc.gov for more information.

Flu season is here. Washing our hands, getting adequate sleep, keeping our hands away from our faces, and coughing/sneezing into our sleeves are simple ways to help prevent the spread of illness. Getting a yearly flu shot is another. We are fortunate in Homer to have many options available for flu shots.

Homer Public Health Center-235-8857: flu vaccine for ages 6 mo – 18 yrs. Available for those who are underinsured. Done by appointment. No longer able to provide adult vaccine.

Safeway Pharmacy-226-1060 (then push 4): They can bill insurance. Call for more information.

Private Providers - Homer Medical Clinic(235-8586), Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic(235-7000), and Seldovia Village Tribe Clinic(226-2228) call for vaccine availability and cost.

Your school nurse, Laura Peek

West Homer Elementary and Fireweed Academy 3-6th

PICTURE RETAKE DAY... October 14th

If you missed picture day this is your opportunity to order pics.

If you do not particularly like your child's photo, bring the **WHOLE** packet in for a trade in.



BUSING INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding busing for your student, call First Student at 235-7513. They can tell you bus numbers, pick up and drop off times, etc.

Upcoming 3-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!

October 6 th	Anchor River Salmon Egg Take
October 7 th	Guest Speaker: Matt Steffy on our Natural Community
October 14 th	Guest Speaker: Matt Steffy on our Natural Community
Friday Oct 21 st	End of The Quarter - No School - Teacher In service Day
Wednesday Oct 26 th	Early Release Day - School out at 1:45
Thur./Fri., Oct 27 and 28	Student led parent teacher conferences

Volunteer for the KPBSD calendar committee

The KPBSD is recruiting members to review the 2017-2018 school calendar and make recommendations to the Board of Education for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Details can be found here http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/students_parents.aspx?id=688 Questions? Email Natalie bates at nbates@kpbsd.k12.ak.us or call 907-714-8858. Apply by October 3, 2016.

Volunteers-required screening

Read this...School District News... Mandatory Volunteer Screening

Anyone interested in being a school volunteer needs to complete an online form and agree to a background check; only criminal activity will be checked. All information will be kept confidential and information can only be accessed by a few members of the Human Resources department.

*****NEW***** We are now using **Pre-employ, Inc.** as our background service company. Pre-employ will be conducting more thorough background checks which require DMV searches. **The background checks will take between 5 to 10 business days to receive a result.** Please complete the volunteer application well in advance of when you would like to volunteer. After a background check is started, the volunteer will receive an email from Pre-employ letting them know they are running a background check and it will contain a link to Pre-employ if the volunteer would like to know the status of the background check. They

will also receive an email from KPBSD once their volunteer application is approved or notifying them if there are any conditions to their approval.

To complete the screening process, visit the District's web page at www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us and click on Employment, then click on Volunteer, then on Volunteer All Vacancies, and find the location where you wish to volunteer. Click the 'Apply' button that corresponds to that location, then follow the instructions. Please contact the Human Resources department at 907-714-8888 if you have questions.