

FLOYD DRYDEN EAGLE GAZETTE



From the Desk of the Principal

The following is a “blast from the past” that I thought would be timely to repeat as Spring weather is upon us. I am also including a copy of our dress code in this newsletter for your use as a reminder to our kids. Thank you for the great support!

Too Many Belly Buttons or...Student Decorum: One Piece of the Puzzle!

Recently it seems that I have seen more boys’ underwear in school than would be viewed on a leisure stroll through the clothing section of Fred Meyers during the holiday season. The propensity for some guys to hike their underwear up to their shoulders and wear their size 60 waistband pants low enough to trip has the potential to result in colorful, but “PG” rated, hallways. Please join your staff and me in promoting our boys’ awareness of the difference between a waistline and a hip socket. I am going to work on getting it in the science core curriculum. In an effort to derail cries of gender bias, I will now turn my sights on the “fairer” of the two. Jeepers! I haven’t seen this many navels since I walked

through the maternity nursery of a large, metropolitan hospital. The midriff is “drifting” in the wrong direction. We are reminding our young ladies that Floyd Dryden is not the old Baywatch set. String straps, tank tops, short skirts, or any tops displaying midriff should be immediately shipped back to sunny California. Please join your staff and me in promoting our girls’ awareness of the difference between Alaska and California. I am going to work on getting it in the geography core curriculum. Student decorum is not the star of school academic atmosphere, but it does play a strong supporting role. Hoods and hats are for keeping a head warm outside, not for peering out from during class! Does that mean hoods significantly impact the academic achievement of a middle school student? I don’t think so, but it is a dissertation just waiting to be done! It’s not like we are telling our kids that they can’t wear bellbottoms to school. How come I wasn’t allowed to wear bellbottoms to school in 1970, anyway? Was there a danger of floating away if they collected too much air when walking? I mean it’s not I

I was showing the fuzz in my bellybutton or wearing pants so low I walked like a three-legged race contestant! Please join your staff and me as we continue to support bellbottoms and work to maintain our “G” rating at Floyd Dryden Middle School. I am going to work on getting it in our vision statement.

8th Grade Promotion

The 8th grade promotion will be held Thursday, June 3rd at 11:00 am in the gym. Promotion usually lasts about 1 1/2 hours. Please feel free to take your student to lunch after the program or join them here at school. If you take your student to lunch or they will not return for the afternoon, please sign them out at the attendance office.



School Happenings

5 Semester F'S or More – May Not Participate In Promotion Ceremony

Students with 5 or more semester F's may not participate in the 8th grade promotion ceremony. As past 8th graders can attest, occasionally a student with five semester F's or more during their 8th grade year might be passed to 9th grade for a variety of reasons. Even if a student with five semester F's is passed to 9th grade, they may not participate in the 8th grade promotion ceremony. This long-standing policy that allows us to acknowledge students who have academically earned the recognition of a promotion ceremony is described in our Student Handbook/Planner.

End of Year Attendance

If your student will not be attending school through the last day of school on May 26th, please notify Lori in attendance at 463-1850.

Culture Club

This year has been a great year and I couldn't let it end without thanking the people who were most helpful. First I'd like to thank Irene Marcalino for making it to most of the Culture Club get togethers and bringing her knowledge and expertise to our

students. A special thanks to Randy Wanamaker for speaking to our Cultural Leadership students. We had great artists visit this year so a special thanks goes out to Mick Beasley who instructed students on how to make copper bracelets and Donald Gregory who instructed a wood carving class. Next year is a Celebration Year so I look forward to working on regalia and would like to invite family to our Culture Club after school on Thursdays. Have a great summer, catch lots of fish and pick lots of blueberries!!!

School Lunch Information

The end of the year is coming upon us and the Juneau School District has determined that there shall be no charging (creating a negative balance) of lunches after April 18th. That date has come and gone here at Dryden, but we must enforce this rule after May 6th. So please be sure that you have money on your student's account or have them bring their \$3.00 with them to school. Our goal is to not have students going into the next school year with negative balances, so please be sure to check your students account in Power School and pay any money that is owed. Of course any money still on your student's account will carryover to the next school year. In addition just a reminder that no 8th graders will be allowed to attend the 8th

grade dance who still owes money on their lunch account.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks will be handed out the afternoon of May 26th. Yearbooks can be purchased until supplies run out. The cost is \$36.00. Don't miss out.

2010/11 School Pictures

School pictures for the 2010/11 school year are scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, September 16, 2009. More information will be available at the beginning of the school year.

Library Books...

Hey my dear, it's that time of year when library books are due we hear.

Day in, day out Pat McLear will shout:

"Bring back you magazines, books or tapes, whatever they're about. Search your locker, your backpack, your room. Get that stuff back here soon!

May 29th is the final due date.



Did you know...

Book Club of Two

My mom's a reader, and I've been lucky enough to get a steady feed of great books sent my way when my mom finishes reading them. Neither one of us is a book-club person, but the way I see it, we've got a book club of two. It's a transcontinental book-club at that—one that ranges from Vermont to Alaska. We talk at least once a week, and it's a rare conversation that doesn't involve books.

Sometimes I'll meet a student who has a book club of two with his or her parent. This is so exciting to me. It doesn't have to be anything formal, but it's a fun thing to try, and there are so many great books out there that can appeal to both teens and their parents. In fact, these books are sort of evolving into their own genre "Crossover Lit." Think of *The Book Thief*, read by tons of adult book clubs yet classified as Young Adult. Some of Jodi Picoult's novels have crossed over in the opposite direction, and of course there's that whole vampire series... what's it called again? I think parents would enjoy meeting Margaret Rose Kane and her uncles in *The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place* just as much as their kids would. Mothers who fondly remember Judy Blume might try reading Sarah Dessen books with their daughters; I promise it will be just as much fun as it was when you were in

eighth grade. And anyone who loved Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* will surely be delighted by Rebecca Stead's recent Newbery winner *When You Reach Me*.

I'm grateful to my mom for inspiring me to become a reader, and I'm glad that she's never stopped encouraging my literary pursuits. My bookshelves, filled with books sent across the country from mom to me, are a true testament to that.

So consider forming a Book Club of Two. Even if it's just for a single book, who knows where it will take you?



8th GRADE DANCE!

Everything 8th graders & parents
need to know!

What: A party to celebrate the end of middle school! The dance is a time for all 8th grade students to celebrate their accomplishments and passage to high school.

When: Saturday, May 22nd from 7:30 – 11:00 pm

Where: FLOYD DRYDEN GYM...like you've never seen it before!

Who: The 8th grade dance/party is intended only for 8th grade students who are enrolled at Floyd Dryden. It is a chance to spend a fun evening with your classmates before moving on to high school.

What do we wear? Come as you are, from regular school clothes to as dressy as you want!

Do I need a date? Absolutely not, come with your friends in a group or meet them there. It's a great time to dance, socialize or just mingle with your peers, so come and have fun!!!!

What does it cost? NOTHING! There is no cost to students. Just come and celebrate.

There will be GREAT fun with food, prizes, music, dancing, photos and MORE!
Don't miss this one time event!

PARENTS - Your help is needed!!!

You can help in many ways - donations of time, talent, money, and food!!!
The 8th Grade Dance is funded and chaperoned by parents, the FDMS Parent Group, the 8th grade committee and the community.

For more info contact **Candy Held** at 463-1850 or heldc@jsd.k12.ak.us



Thank you for the 2011 Feed the Mind Campaign

The Juneau School District would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Glacier Valley Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 70 for the continued support of Juneau's students through the annual *Feed the Mind* Campaign. Each year, the Glacier Valley Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 70 organizes this campaign and gathers donations so that schools can provide nutritional snacks and water to all students taking the Alaska Standards Based Assessments (SBAs) at elementary, middle and high schools. *Feeding the Mind* is an important way to encourage our students during lengthy testing days at school.

Thank you to the many generous community members who contributed to the campaign this year including Glacier Valley ANS Camp 70, Glacier Valley ANB Camp 70, Tlingit & Haida VTRC, Tlingit & Haida Central Council, Sealaska Corporation, Representative Cathy Munoz, Dr. Walter Soboleff, Barbara May, Barbara Searls, Marietta Hopkins, Catrina Mitchell, Andrea Cesar, Milton DeAsis, Huna Heritage Foundation, Kennecott Green's Creek Mining Company, SEARHC, THRHA, and Coeur Alaska, Inc.

Gunalchéesh!

More Thanks...

Here's a SHOUT OUT to Ms. Joan Gianotti for completing her 8th year as the 6th grade Battle of the Books team coach! Many thanks to Coach Gianotti for carving time out of her busy schedule to help out with our competitive readers.

The Dryden library now owns a copy of the Dictionary of Tlingit by Keri Edwards thanks to the generosity of the three Rotary Clubs of Juneau. The note that accompanied the book reads: "Promoting literacy and building cultural peace and understanding are two of the Rotary International's service goals. In an effort to help promote these two objectives locally we hope your students and teachers will enjoy and use this dictionary. We are grateful to the Sealaska Heritage Institute who worked with us to provide the dictionaries to the Juneau School District." Gunalcheesh to the Gastineau Rotary Club, the Rotary Club of Juneau and the Glacier Valley Rotary Club from the FDMS staff and students.

Thanks to Ms. Jennifer Ellingson and her son Tristan for welcoming students and their families to the Dryden Library on Thursday evenings. It is always nice to be warmly greeted with smiles when coming in to catch up on school work!

Bike Safety

Please remember to wear a helmet if you ride a bike and always use the crosswalk. Also remember that a good padlock will keep your bike safe here at school during the school day.

Library Books DUE!

8th Grade Students take note: If you are missing a book you will miss the dance!

Dryden has a serious library and textbook accountability tool. If an eighth grade student is missing a textbook or a library book, and has not paid the replacement fee, s/he may not attend the 8th grade dance. Make sure you are not caught in this position! Don't wait until the last minute. If you are missing a book, search for it now. If you are unable to locate it, pay the replacement cost and if the book is found later on, your money will be refunded.



FLOYD DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS:
10014 Crazy Horse Dr.
Juneau, AK 99801

PHONE:
(907) 463-1850

FAX:
(907) 463-1828

**E-MAIL
Principal**
milliroto@isd.k12.ak.us

Vice Principal
boym@isd.k12.ak.us

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.isd.k12.ak.us

FLOYD DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL Important Events

- Sept 30 Parent Conferences
- Oct 1 Parent Conferences
- Oct 4 Basketball Season Begins
Site Council @ 5:00
PTO @ 6:00
- Oct 6 QSP Magazine Fundraiser Begins
- Oct 7 Picture Retakes
- Oct 11 Early Release @ 2:00
No Student Activities
- Oct 20 Physicals and grade checks due for Basketball
- Oct 21 Basketball Games;
Girls @ FD, Boys @ DH
- Oct 18 Teacher Inservice
- Oct 19-21 No Student Attendance
- Oct 25 6th Grade Outdoor Skills
Early Release @ 2:00
- Oct 26 No Afterschool Activities
Band/Choir Concert
- Oct 27 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade
Orchestra/Choir Concert
- Oct 28 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade
Basketball Games;
- Oct 29 Girls @ DH, Boys @ FD
End of First Quarter
- Oct 29 Weekender 3:15 – 5:00
Basketball Games;
- Nov 4 Girls @ FD, Boys @ DH

FLOYD DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL
City & Borough of Juneau School District
10014 Crazy Horse Drive
Juneau, AK 99801

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