



Community Update – March 2021

District Calendar

March is...

Youth Art Month
Women's History Month

Upcoming ASD Events

Friday, March 5

End of third quarter. State released grade reporting day.

March 8–12

Spring Break

Monday, March 15

Beginning of fourth quarter. Middle and high school students return to in-person learning.

Thursday, March 18

Online lottery system closes for applications.



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

New COVID-19 Travel Guidance announced for ASD Staff and Students

Updated travel guidance for Anchorage School District staff and students is now available on the ASD website. This guidance applies to all ASD staff and students regardless of age who return from travel outside of Alaska.

Travelers have two options:

- Travelers must submit negative COVID-19 test results from a test taken no earlier than 72 hours prior to arrival in Alaska; or
- If a traveler chooses not to get a COVID-19 test, the traveler must maintain strict social distance for 10 days after returning to Alaska.

Please visit the [District COVID-19 travel guidance website](#) for more information.



Bond-Funded Construction on Track for 2021 Occupancy



Earthquake Recovery and Educational Improvement Projects at Eagle River Elementary School and Gruening Middle School are well underway, and both schools are expected to open for occupancy by the start of the 2021–22 school year.

Improvement projects at Eagle River Elementary School include kitchen modifications, new flooring, new LED lighting and control systems, electrical outlets, intercom, classroom instructional audio system, security system, and visual display boards. These improvements will be completed concurrently with previously funded earthquake repairs, seismic improvements, and roof replacement.

Gruening Middle School earthquake recovery and educational improvements

include damage repairs, seismic improvements, and roof replacement, as well as security, efficiency, mechanical/electrical, and environmental upgrades. Improvements will increase the building's lifespan by 25–30 years.

Both projects are funded by the two-year bond that passed in 2020. The cost of the earthquake recovery and educational improvement projects covered in the 2020 bond will total \$42,510,000. ASD has more than 7.8 million square feet in facilities and maintains the largest public facility footprint in the State of Alaska.

Anchorage School Board Approves FY 2020–21 Preliminary Budget

The Anchorage School Board voted to approve the fiscal year 2021–22 preliminary budget and authorize an upper limit spending authority of \$841,318,521 during its Feb. 16 board meeting.

The total Anchorage School District managed funds for fiscal year 2021–22 are about 4.6 percent below the prior year.

Additional information regarding changes in revenue and expenditures specific to each fund can be found in the [budget document](#), as well as programmatic and staffing changes specific to academic programs and support services.

The proposed budget will be submitted to the Assembly no later than the first Monday in March.

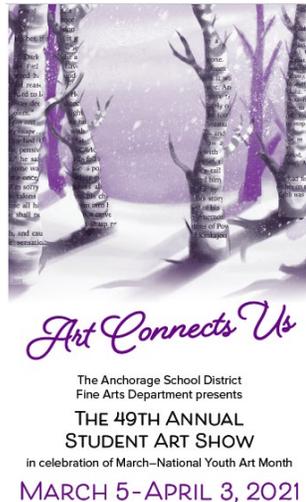
After Assembly approval and the Legislative session has concluded, the District will produce an adopted budget, incorporating any necessary changes.

Good Things:

ASD Recognizes Students During 49th Annual Youth Art Month

“Art Connects Us” is the theme of this year’s 49th student art exhibition at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center. The exhibition is presented in conjunction with National Youth Art Month and acknowledges visual art programs in American schools.

There will be an outdoor projected digital display event on the Anchorage Museum lawn every night at sundown starting March 5 through April 3. The Anchorage Museum will also host an online gallery under its



“current exhibitions” tab.

The community is invited to attend “drive-in” digital display slideshow events every Friday throughout March at the following school sites:

- March 5 at 7 p.m., Service High School
- March 12 at 7:30 p.m., East High School
- March 19 at 8:30 p.m., Service High School
- March 26 at 9 p.m., Chugiak High School
- April 2 at 9 p.m., West High School

ASD COVID-19 Testing Sites Throughout March

Throughout the month of March, the Municipality of Anchorage will be conducting COVID-19 testing at select ASD sites. This COVID-19 PCR testing service is open to the public and free of charge.

Testing will be conducted by Visit Healthcare, and testing trailers are located in school parking lots. Testing is NOT conducted inside schools. You do not need to register in advance, but doing so may help to get your results faster.

COVID-19 Testing Sites at select ASD schools

Testing times are 8 a.m. through 7 p.m.

Monday, March 1 at Lake Otis Elementary

Friday, March 5 at Benny Benson Secondary

Saturday, March 6 at Williwaw Elementary

Monday, March 8 at Central Middle

Friday, March 12 at Ptarmigan Elementary

Saturday, March 13 at Taku Elementary

Monday, March 15 at Creekside Elementary

Friday, March 19 at Airport Heights Elementary

Saturday, March 20 at Lake Hood Elementary

Monday, March 22 at Northwood Elementary

Friday, March 26 at Nunaka Valley Elementary

Saturday, March 27 at Willow Crest Elementary

Monday, March 29 at Wonder Park Elementary

Anchorage School Board: Elisa Vakalis, President
Margo Bellamy Dave Donley Alisha Hilde Andy Holleman Starr Marsett Deena Mitchell
Superintendent: Dr. Deena Bishop

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@ASD_Info
@DrDeenaBishop

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