

Greetings to the Alaska Gateway Educational Community:

August has started at a very fast pace. I have been getting to know the school communities in Alaska Gateway School District (AGSD). I attended culture camp in Tetlin and have visited Tanacross and Northway schools. There was a lot to learn and see. I even learned to make a birchbark basket. In addition, I attended the Visible Learning training in Fairbanks. I am learning new things every day.

Recently, I attended the Superintendents' Meeting in Juneau. The main discussion was about Governor Dunleavey's veto of a one-time increase in public school funding. Inflation continues to rise and school budgets are not able to keep up. The budget cut of \$87.5 million to education for the one-time increase will only impact districts and schools ability to provide needed services to students.

I have been attending the New Teacher Inservice that started August 9th. Some of the topics covered are: procedures for the school year; dual enrollment for students; resources for teachers and students; technology; and school grants. Master schedules for all AGSD schools have been developed with the help of Amy Werly, Curriculum Director, and the school principals. All AGSD schools will have six-period days. District wide collaboration will be on Wednesdays afternoons during early release for students.

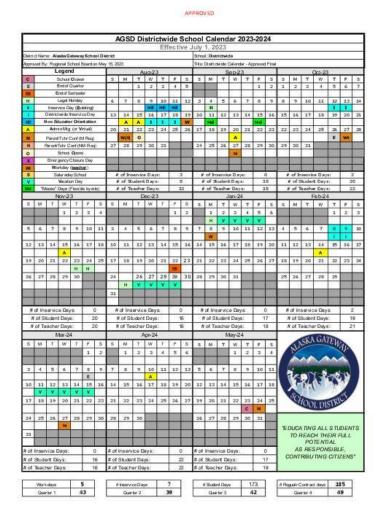
Please welcome Elaine O'Rourke to AGSD as our new Special Education Coordinator. She has a lot of experience and is a great addition to the district administration team. In addition, Cynthia Neumann has taken the position of working in Pre-K and being the Gap Coordinator for Tok School. Welcome to you both.

I am already seeing great things happening in AGSD and the school year is just beginning. This is going to be a great year!

Please remember that I can be reached at the AGSD district office, 1313.5 Alaska Highway, Tok, AK 99780, by telephone at (907) 883-5151, or through email at pmayer@agsd.us.

Patrick Mayer, Superintendent, Alaska Gateway School District

Seat "C" has opened up in the Alaska
Gateway School District Regional
School Board. Seat "D" is also open.
Shawn Champagne is the interim Board
Member for Seat "D" until the spot is
officially filled. Stop by the district
office today to pick up an application!



Welcome to August from Alaska Gateway School District:

I am sure families know what August means. Here in Alaska we have fairs, fish camp, hunting, and traveling with families together. For children, August means last summer outings, returning to school, and a return to school routines. Some parents may already be hearing rumblings of not

wanting to go to school. Others may see excitement and joy at the thought of returning to their classrooms. Either way, students return to school on August 22, 2023.

Here in Alaska Gateway School District, August means inservice, or meetings to help prepare for the coming school year, among many other things. Staff in the district office have been preparing for meetings, gathering resources, working on schedules, and doing all of those behind the scenes things that help make our schools run smoothly. Teachers will be preparing their classrooms for their students, working on lesson plans, and getting supplies ready. I was here two years ago, working as a teacher at Northway School. Returning to AGSD and working in the district office, I have hit the ground running (even wear tennis shoes everyday). I am thankful to be back and it feels like returning home.

New teacher inservice started on August 9th and we have several new administrators, principals and teachers joining our team this year. Suzanne Bell did a great job setting everything up and during the first day I saw wonderful things happening. There was listening, learning, discussions, collaboration, and best of all, lots of smiles. I am sure people were nervous, but it did not show. These new educators bring a lot of experience, ideas, and a love of learning that I could imagine will be showered on our students in the coming year. I believe every school in AGSD will see great things this year and I am looking forward to it!

There is one thing I know for certain...the 23-24 school year is moving closer day by day. Ready or not, hear it comes! I am excited to watch our students excel and grow!

Micki Adgate, Director of Human Resources and Communications

If you would like to contribute to AGSD's insertion of the Mukluk news, please contact Micki Adgate, Director of Human Resources and Communications, 907-883-5151 Ext. 108 or madgate@agsd.us.

There are new procedures for attending future Alaska Gateway School Board Meetings via Zoom:

- 1. You must provide your full name upon entering the zoom room. It is necessary to identify yourself to fully participate.
- 2. The chat feature in Zoom meetings will no longer be available during board meetings. Every person needs to be heard and will be given an opportunity to be heard in board meetings. Just not through the chat feature.



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