

# BOXHOLDER

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While many of us are still wondering where summer went, how many realized that the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of school was also completed? Cordova Schools continue to move forward with many great projects/learning opportunities. Our recent "Report Card to the Public" represents considerable success in meeting the stringent guidelines of the Federal Government via the No Child Left Behind regulations. That combined with the Mt Eccles projects, growing technology efforts in our classrooms, and with many community grant efforts that have recently been awarded makes for a great start. Thank you to all parties that have made this first quarter for our Cordova students safe and successful. As you read the following update, please contact this office with any question you may have. Sincerely,



Superintendent of Schools  
Cordova School District



### Calendar of Events

#### October (Home Events)

10/27..7:00 p.m

School Board Budget Workshop-CHS Library

10/28-30..Parent/Teacher Conferences

10/30-31..Volleyball

Cordova vs Seward

#### November (Home Events)

11/6-7 Jr.High Basketball

Cordova vs Valdez

11/16..7:00 p.m. School Board  
CHS Library

11/13-14..Jr.High Basketball

Cordova vs Kenny Lake

11/20-21..Wrestling

Copper River Rumble Tournament

11/26-27..Thanksgiving Break

**During the October School Board Meeting**, the board voted to suspend the "Code of Conduct" consequences for 1<sup>st</sup> offense violators. The school board temporarily removed/reduced the 45-day suspension (1<sup>st</sup> offense) and replaced it with a 15-day suspension (for 1<sup>st</sup> offense). In addition they also endorsed the ASAA Activities Policy in its entirety until the Steering Committee brings a new recommendation to the board during its November board meeting.

The board action is a result of conflicting policies (ASAA and Cordova School District) after several students violated the code of conduct. After a significant investigation it was evident that those associated with activities were not consistent in their understanding of the different policies. With varying consequences between the two policies, it is the board's intent to organize a committee to draft a new activities policy, eliminating any possible confusion between the two.

Among the frustration in addressing this challenge comes much misinformation. Let it be clear that the athletes involved clearly violated the code of conduct. Parents and athletes did sign the code of conduct indicating that the ASAA policy was a "minimum" policy and the local district can administer a more strict set of consequences. This office is at fault for not recognizing the potential confusion. Thus the brief moratorium while the new policy is drafted. The committee to draft the new policy language has met Thursday, October 21 in the CHS Library. Additional meetings have to be scheduled. Those with additional questions are encouraged to contact this office.





**Mt. Eccles Construction** continues forward...although very slowly. The apparent low bidder for the renovation is Chugach Construction from Fairbanks. The City Council formally approved the winning bid on October 21. Chugach CEO's have already been to town preparing for this great project. I look to see considerable efforts in place by early November on the renovation portion of the project.

## Mt. Eccles Construction

This portion of the project will bring considerable new traffic to the area. Those with children are asked to consistently recognize the dangers of increased traffic as well as increased darkness compounding the dangers.

The gym project continues forward, although there has been a series of "downtimes" that have moved the schedule backwards a couple of weeks. Although these limited setbacks catch the

attention of many, our goal is still to have the gym covered this fall.

Mr. Tom Cohenour (City Public Works Director) is the city representative that tracks specific progress of the projects. As you may imagine, they are very complex projects and will require patience from each of us as we continue to move forward. Specific questions regarding the project can be addressed by this office or that of Mr. Cohenour.

## Safe Routes to School Grant

The Safe Routes to School Grant award was recently received by our Cordova PTA. There will be multiple components to this award including an educational component, engineering/development of raised crosswalks, addition of curbs and sidewalks near the Mt. Eccles School, and covered bike-parking structures. The grant award ranges from \$25k for the education component to possibly over \$200k for the additional listed

items (many items still need specific engineering allowing for detailed costs). The Safe Routes to Schools is a direct effort of our local PTA. Our community will benefit greatly by this effort. Many thanks to each of the PTA members that contributed their time in this great grant planning.



**Mt. Eccles Updates** are now (electronically) available each week. For those that are interested in such updates, please contact Karen Peterson at [Kpeterson@cordovasd.org](mailto:Kpeterson@cordovasd.org).

**Calendar for 2010-2011** will see school starting after Labor Day due to extended construction work during the summer of 2010. Areas such as the kitchen will need a complete rework...thus the need for a longer summer. Final Calendar recommendations will be made to the school board as early as December or January.

### H1N1 Information

**H1N1** awareness continues to be a major factor in keeping healthy. Washing hands, covering your mouth during a sneeze/cough, and staying home when flu-like symptoms appear is the best advice you will hear. Cordova Schools continues to work closely with the Public Health Nurse and the City

of Cordova in preparation of a potential pandemic issue. With limited vaccines available, please contact the Public Health Nurse for specific question regarding any flu vaccinations.

Thank you parents that have kept your children home that are experiencing flu-

like symptoms. Your efforts have allowed our children to avoid any possible contamination.

