



Valdez City Schools

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www.valdezcityschools.org

March 25, 2025

Dear Valdez City Schools Families,

The safety of our students and staff is our top priority as we prepare for the potential eruption of Mount Spurr, located approximately 180 miles from Valdez. Mount Spurr is currently at an Alert Level YELLOW (ADVISORY) according to the Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO). While an eruption is not imminent, volcanic unrest continues with increased seismic activity, steam plumes, surface deformation, and elevated gas emissions.

In partnership with the City of Valdez's Emergency and Disaster Management Department, we are actively coordinating an appropriate crisis response plan should the situation escalate. If an eruption and subsequent ashfall occurs, there are potential impacts to Valdez roads, air travel, and utility systems. Ash could create slippery road conditions, damage vehicle engines, and disrupt air travel across the region.

Our schools are equipped with protocols to protect students and staff. If there are any significant changes, we will provide ongoing updates via text, phone calls, email, social media, and our website. Please stay tuned for further communications as we continue to monitor the situation closely.

In the meantime, we encourage all families to review their emergency preparedness plans.

1. Ensure that emergency supplies, such as water, food, medications, and masks, are stocked.
2. Confirm in Powerschool that all contact information for parents, guardians, and emergency contacts are up-to-date. Please note: in the event of an emergency early dismissal, only listed guardians and emergency contacts would be able to pick up a student from school.
3. If your child has a diagnosed respiratory condition, review your child's safety plan. Parents with students who self-carry inhalers should ensure it is unexpired, has available dosage, and the child knows how to administer it. If the diagnosis has not yet been reported to the school and a child's medical needs have changed, please contact the front office to update our records.

Additional information pertaining to Mount Spurr can be found on our website at www.valdezcityschools.org/mountspurr. Key resources for monitoring the situation include:

[Alaska Volcano Observatory: Mount Spurr Current Activity](#)

[National Weather Service - Volcanic Ash Advisories](#)

[State of Alaska Emergency Information](#)

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We will continue to keep you informed as we move forward with our preparations.

Sincerely,
Jason Weber
Superintendent
Valdez City Schools