

Principal's Corner

Dear Taku Families,

Happy Holidays. I hope you enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving. Please review the updates below.

Attendance

Attendance is key to student success. Thank you for having your student at school every day unless they are sick.

Cold Weather & Winter Darkness

- Please make sure your student has winter gear. We go outside every day unless it is colder than negative 10 degrees.
- We sent home reflector tape for you to put on coats and/or backpacks. We want students to be seen during these dark months.

Winter Behavior Screener (SAEBERS):

We will be completing our winter behavior screening during December. The teacher rating scale is used to assess various risk factors for each student in their classroom to determine students at risk for challenging behavior. The screening will be used to help us look at the effectiveness of our schoolwide and classroom structures as well as what additional supports students might need. This screening is completed by teachers and will not take away from instructional time nor require input/answers from students. If you have any questions, please contact me.

● Title 1 Update

- Please see Taku's Title 1 goals below.

■ Goal #1: Increase reading proficiency by 5% at all grade levels.

- Kindergarten (Fastbridge Assessment): Improve from 20% to 25%
- 1st grade (Fastbridge Assessment): Improve from 31% to 36%
- 2nd grade (Fastbridge Assessment): Improve from 43% to 48%
- 3rd grade (MAP Reading): Improve from 52% to 57%
- 4th grade (MAP Reading): Improve from 42% to 47%
- 5th grade (MAP Reading): Improve from 42% to 47%
- 6th grade (MAP Reading): Improve from 51% to 56%

■ Goal #2: 70% of all students will feel that others care about them or feel there is a positive peer climate at school. This is measured by the school climate survey in February.

- 3rd-5th Grade: Improve from 67% to 70%
- 6th Grade: Improve from 37% to 70%

Do you know your student's grades? Is your student missing work? Parents can check their student's grades and work at any time using Q Parent Connect.

- Login into [Q Parent Connect](#). Use this link to reset your password: [Reset your parent password](#)

If you need assistance, please call the office and we can help you get access.

We are so grateful for all of our students and families. If you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call or email.

All the best, Chris
Chris Opitz, principal

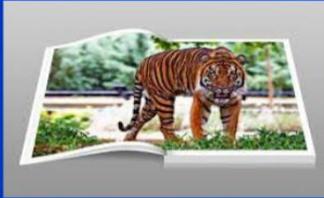


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Taku Specialist News

December 2021

Library



In our library, we are learning about folk and fairy tales. Once upon a time, we all lived happily ever after. Wishing all our Taku families a joyous start to winter -- with lots of wonderful family legends.

Ms. Johnson



Music 

Hello Taku families! My name is Danielle Menapace and I am the music teacher here at Taku. I have been enjoying getting to know all of the students here at Taku. In all grade levels we have been singing, playing instruments and learning many elements of music.



PE

Healthy Futures Logs:

- November Healthy Futures logs are due December 1st.
- There are no Healthy future logs in December or January.

Gym Shoes

- Reminder: your student needs a clean, non-marking pair of gym shoes to leave at school for PE class.
- Thank you, Mrs. Washington



Art

Starting in January, most grade levels will begin their clay projects for the school year. Clay is a highlight for many students, and for me as their teacher! I look forward to seeing what great things they will make!

-Ms. Feucht

Health

In Health class, we learned about Nutrition during the month of November. We will take a look at Healthy Habits during December and learn how to take care of our bodies by eating well, exercising, sleeping, and getting regular check ups with a doctor.

Katrina Rhodes



Fastbridge 2021-2022

FastBridge is the ASD benchmark assessment for students in grades K-2 in reading and mathematics. Grades 3-6 may also use FastBridge as a progress monitoring tool. FastBridge utilizes curriculum-based measures and is used by schools as part of the ASD Comprehensive Assessment System to support informed instructional decisions.

FastBridge will only be administered in-person during the benchmark windows listed below:

- Fall 2021: September 7 - September 17
- Winter 2021: November 29 - December 10
- Spring 2022: March 14 - April 1

Results for students that were assessed during a benchmark window will be available in Q ParentConnection the week after each benchmark window closes.

Link: [ParentConnection Login Information](#)

Happy Holidays Taku Tigers!!

A note from your friendly school nurse:

- Please ensure that your student is not applying cologne or perfume prior to coming to school. We have staff and students with scent allergies, and we want to keep them safe while they are here.
- Laboratory based COVID testing is available at Taku. It's a great option for you or your student if they need to get tested. Results come back quickly, with the average turnaround time being about 18 hours. Click the link below if you want to sign up; please note it is completely optional. You only have to sign up once. If you need help signing up or have questions, feel free to call Nurse Laura during school hours.

<https://beechtree.rymedi.com/#/registration-form?irbuuid=bdfc13af-f77b-4778-b666-feaa965a1360>

- Winter is in full swing! Please make sure your student has all the proper winter clothing for outdoor recess. If you have gear that your student has outgrown, please consider donating it to Taku. We are looking for snow pants, jackets and boots if you are cleaning out your winter closets.

Laura Beckett, RN, BSN
School Nurse



December 2021

12/7 – PTA Meeting 5:30 p.m.

12/17 – **No School** (State released-grade reporting day/End of 2nd Q)

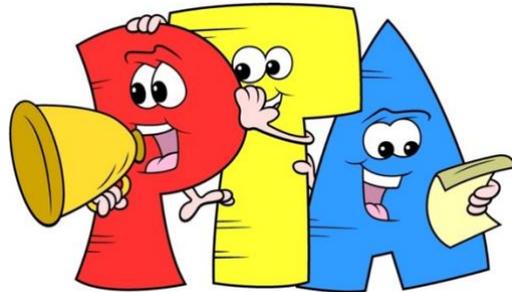
12/20-12/31-**No School** (Winter Break)

January 2022

1/3 – Classes begin

1/11/22 – PTA Meeting 5:30 p.m.

1/17– **No School** (Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday)



Taku Families,

Our wonderful PTA is looking for a Treasurer and Yearbook Coordinator.

Please email Laurel Olsen-Piscoya at [Olsen-piscoya laurel@asdk12.org](mailto:Olsen-piscoya_laurel@asdk12.org) or Amy Johnson at johnson_amy@asdk12.org if interested.

Thank you!

A big **THANK YOU** to Mr. Tom, our BPO, for keeping our school and playground safe and clean!



H

Happy Holidays from Taku!
Have a safe and fun Winter Break.