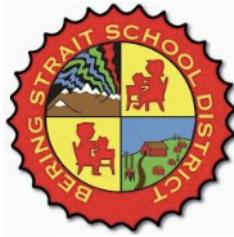




ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
BERING STRAIT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**JAMES C. ISABELL SCHOOL**  
Teller, Alaska 99778  
**Contact number: 907-642-3041**



**December 10th, 2025**  
**Parent/Guardian and Community Newsletter**

Dear Families and Community Members,

The holidays are fast approaching, and we are feeling the excitement throughout the school and community! We have several fundraisers coming up to support our basketball program. Many parents have already stepped up to help by baking goods and assisting with organization. It is wonderful to see such strong community involvement supporting our teams, players, and students.

Next week is our Holiday Program, and by popular request, we will include a short play. We look forward to seeing families there! 6:00pm in the Gym.

As a reminder, Quarter 2 ends on January 9th. We will celebrate academic achievement and attendance with prizes beginning at 3:00 p.m. that afternoon. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on January 14th from 3:30–5:30 p.m., and snacks will be provided.

The community is also gearing up for winter traditions. Eskimo Games are scheduled to begin on Christmas Day and will continue until New Year's. In addition, Coach Fred will be hosting a Holiday Basketball Tournament from December 21st–24th, with all proceeds benefiting our varsity basketball program.

Our next AEC Meeting will be on December 15th from 12:00–1:00 p.m., where important school topics will be discussed. Families and community members are encouraged to attend.

Thank you for your continued support, involvement, and commitment to our students. We wish you all a warm and joyful holiday season!

With love and gratitude,

Mr. Reid Jackowick  
Principal  
*James C. Isabell School — Teller, Alaska*

## **Parent Teacher Conferences (Q2)**

- January 15th, 3:30-5:30pm

### **Tutoring & Academic Support**

All of our teachers are available after school to support students academically.

Please reach out to them directly to schedule and reserve a time. Our students deserve this opportunity for extra help and enrichment!

## **Student Council Spirit Week**

Our student council members—Agnus, Kymani, Nadine, and Taylor—have created some wonderful ideas for Spirit Week during our last week before Christmas break.

### **Monday – Pajama Day:**

Come to school cozy in your favorite PJs.

### **Tuesday – Ugly Sweater Day:**

Wear your best (or worst!) ugly holiday sweater.

### **Wednesday – Cultural Day:**

Celebrate and represent your culture with pride.

### **Thursday – Santa's Workshop Day:**

Dress as Santa, Mrs. Claus, elves, reindeer, the Grinch, a tree, a present—anything from Santa's workshop!

### **Friday – School Spirit Wear Day:**

Show your Aklaq pride and wear your school spirit gear.

## **Upcoming Student Events & Attendance Incentives**

- **Staff vs. Student Basketball Game:** Students must maintain good attendance to participate.
- **Fun Fridays:** Students with perfect attendance for the week receive free treats from our school store.
- **End of Quarter – January 9th:** There will be some exciting attendance prizes from both Teller Traditional Council and the school.

## **Student Safety Reminder**

Parents and guardians, please continue to monitor your child's online and social media use. There are some concerning trends circulating online, including:

- Making paper darts with thumbtacks
- Rage-baiting or intentionally provoking peers
- General unkind or disrespectful behavior

Your support in guiding online safety and respectful behavior is greatly appreciated.

## **School & Community Involvement**

- **AEC Meeting:** December 15th, 12:00–1:00pm. The community is always welcome and encouraged to attend.
- **Family Night:** December 15th from 7:00–8:00pm. Join us for a fun evening of decorating Christmas cards!

## **Upcoming Dates and Events**

- January 8th: 4pm, School Board Meeting
- January 8th: 7pm Bake walk
- January 9th: End of the quarter/semester, all assignments must be turned in
- January 9th: 7:00-8:00pm AEC meeting in Library
- January 13th, 7:00, Family Literacy Night
- January 15th: 3:00-3:30 Awards Ceremony (Semester 1 grades and attendance)
- January 15th: 3:30-5:30, Parent Teacher conferences
- January 16th: Basketball Home Game Against Koyuk
- January 19th: Student council spirit week
- January 23rd-24th: Basketball goes to White Mountain
- January 30th-31st: Basketball Home Game Against St. Michael
- February 10: Norton Sound Mitten Making, Community Welcome
- February 13th-14th: Basketball goes to Savoonga
- February 13th: Valentines Dance
- February 20th-21st: Basketball goes to Brevig Mission
- February 24th-28th: Bering Sea 1A BSSD Conference Regionals at Unalakleet
- March 13th: 3:00, end of the quarter celebration
- March 15th-20th: No School, Spring break
- April 6th-10th: Pike Fishing

### School Health choice Do's and Don'ts

Do	Don't
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Fruit Leather	Gum
Fruit	Candy
Vegetables	Caffeine water
Water	Soda
	Caffeine drinks

## **Updated Open Gym Schedule — Starting Wednesday, October 29th**

We are excited to share the new open gym times to ensure fair access for all students and community members:

### **Open Gym Times**

#### **Monday-Thursday**



- **Pre-K – 4th Grade: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**
- **5th – 8th Grade: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM**
- **High School Girls & Ladies: 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM**
- **High School Boys and Men: 9:00 PM – 10:00 PM**

#### **Friday**

- **Pre-K – 4th Grade: 6:00 PM – 7:15 PM**
- **5th – 8th Grade: 7:15 PM – 8:30 PM**
- **High School Girls & Ladies: 8:30 PM – 9:45 PM**
- **High School Boys and Men: 9:45 PM – 11:00 PM**

 *Please enter through the back gym door.*

Thank you for helping us keep gym time fun, safe, and equitable for everyone. See you on the court! 

### **Quick Reminder on Open Gym Expectations:**

To keep open gym a safe and enjoyable space for everyone, all students and community members must follow our behavior expectations.

Gym list if:

- Bully or harass others
- Fight or intentionally harm someone

- Cause disruptions or refuse to follow staff directions
- Create unsafe situations inside the gym or at the gym entrance

### **Cell Phones Revisited**

- Students are not allowed to have cell phones during the school day. Please review the student handbook.
- The cellphones shouldn't be in the lockers, this is still a learning distraction
- 1st violation student gets the cell phone back at the end of the day with gym list, 2nd violation student's parent or guardian has to pick up the cell phone and sign the document that they are picking up the cell phone, 3rd violation student needs to turn in their cell phone at the beginning of the day or they have to keep their belongs in the office and the office will be like their locker.

### **Stay Connected to Learning**

- Check PowerSchool regularly for grades and homework updates.
- Review your student's backpack for items that should remain at home, such as toys, candy, or other distractions.

### **Safety & Communication**

- Monitor your child's phone and social media activity. Please report any concerning messages to the school so we can provide support.

### **Attendance Matters**

- Good attendance starts with good routines! Encourage your student to get to bed early and be well-rested for school.
- Sports and extracurriculars are important—please help balance these with school attendance.
- Fun Friday incentives
- End of the quarter gift bags

### **Child Find Activities:**

- The Bering Strait School District is conducting Child Find activities to meet federal and state requirements. Child Find helps identify children who may need extra support or specialized education services, ensuring every student has the opportunity to learn in the best environment possible.

### **Pay to play Saturday**

- Teller Tribe is paying for all students for open gym on Saturday. All you need to bring are your gym shoes.
- Adults still need to pay.