



Yukon Koyukuk School District  
Administrative & Support Offices  
4762 Old Airport Way  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Kerry Boyd  
Superintendent  
kboyd@yksd.com

Telephone: (907) 374-9400  
Fax: (907) 374-9440

September 21, 2014

Dear YKSD Parents,

We have been in school for a month now and the students are in a good routine. As part of their school routine, the students' reading ability will be assessed a minimum of three times per year using Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). This assessment identifies each student's strengths as well as identifies children needing help in reading, math and writing. The written results of MAP will be provided to you by your teacher or principal in October.

It is our goal to ensure all students of Yukon Koyukuk School District are proficient in reading. Our focus will be centered on providing solid instruction, universal screenings, intervention where needed, and parent involvement.

Solid Instruction: the district has adopted rigorous reading and math curriculum. On-going training has been offered to ensure its implementation and teachers are utilizing best practices in their classroom.

Universal Screenings: MAP will be administered to all students in grades K-11 in the areas of reading, writing and math.

Interventions: Students in grades K-3 who are identified as not proficient will have individual reading plans designed. In October, teachers will be providing detailed reports to parents and will schedule parent teacher conferences for students in need of additional support. For students in grades 4-12, each school offers a range of interventions through general education during the school day.

Parent Involvement: The greatest and longest lasting benefits have been shown in children who are read to three or more times a week (Markland, 2011). The research is clear, reading to a child can make learning and achieving in school easier. Please read to your child each night. Picture books and language in simple children's books enhance children's learning and vocabulary because of the conversations between parent and child that take place around books and stories. Some of the best books to read to children are rhyming books because they help emphasize recurring patterns of sounds that are particularly helpful to the child when they begin to sound out words and letters (Fox, 2001).

Together we can make the difference in the success of our students in Yukon Koyukuk School District. We hope that you will visit your child's classroom, talk with their teacher about their progress, and ask questions regarding their proficiency and their individual plans.

Sincerely,

Kerry Boyd  
Superintendent