

# History of Glacier View School

The hub of the Glacier View community is our local school, where 50 Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students attend. Glacier View had a unique beginning, in a motel room at Meekin's Roadhouse, in 1962. Prior to this, parents taught their children at home with correspondence courses or with the help of a hired teacher.

In 1964, the school moved to Cascade Road Camp, where it was given the name Glacier View, because of the view of Monument Glacier. At that time, the school was housed in one portable building and had one teacher for all eight grades, with approximately 25 students.

Two years later the school moved again, closer to the highway at mile 94. Another portable building was added, one for grades 1-4, another for grades 5-8. Eventually one more portable was added for use as a "gym" and an old pink trailer was brought in for teacher housing. During those years, couples taught together, the husband as principal and upper grade teacher, the wife teaching the younger pupils. A telephone was installed but water wells proved unsuccessful, so water had to be hauled from Palmer.

Finally, in 1975, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough bought land from Mr. Wally Ling that overlooks the Matanuska Glacier, and the school was moved to a permanent site. Couples continued to teach, still using the three buildings and the trailer "Old Pink" as office storage and even a short-lived hot lunch program, cooked by one of the mothers. In 1978 a high school program was started and four additional teachers joined the staff. Enrollment continued to climb slowly until finally the school district built on permanent building, which had a gym, kitchen and one classroom.

Throughout the 80's and early 90's Glacier View retained its warm, country flavor where parents and teachers know each other as neighbors and work together to further their children's education. The school grew to six portables and one building, with several teachers, a principal and a secretary.

Twenty years after moving to its present location, work began on an addition to the one building, large enough to house all the classes, library, office, and other necessities. In the spring of 1996 students moved into their new classrooms, all of which have a breathtaking view of the Matanuska Glacier.