

Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School Information Packet Index

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Fronteras Staff

Jennifer Schmidt-Hutchins, Principal
Solveig Eidsness, Administrative Secretary
Shawn Sasser, Secretary 1
Kami Koecher, Secretary 1
Hector Pantoja, Language Acquisition Tutor K-8
Mary Carmen Hernandez, Language Acquisition Tutor K-8
Sheila Smith, Language Acquisition Math Tutor 4-8th
Jill Bang, Tutor Advisor
Shelli Franckowiak, Art
Alexis Brown, Music
Guin Hill, P.E.
Philippe Onfray, Kindergarten
Cassie Husmann, Kindergarten
Natalie Martinez, 1st Grade
Jen Renée, 1st Grade
Rebeca Wright, 2nd/3rd Grade
Mayra Cabret, 2nd/3rd Grade
Omaira Rivera, 2nd/3rd Grade
Ivonne Draper, 2nd/3rd Grade
Sandra Page Carranza, 4th/5th Grade
Eugenia Smith, 4th/5th Grade
Amanda Strickler, 4th/5th Grade
Jacqueline Rosa Rivera, Middle School
Yuliya Saxon, Middle School
Jennifer Lavea, Middle School
Shannon Isley, School Psychologist
Fawn Hand, Records Specialist
Gwen Schneider, Special Education
Reneé Fink, Recess/Lunch Monitor
Rose Blakely, Recess/Lunch Monitor
Amber Menashe, Recess/Lunch Monitor
Seanne Easter, Recess/Lunch Monitor
Alan Figon & Liz Leverty, Custodian

Additional Instructional Support Staff Fronteras provides students with additional academic and language support in the classroom and in small group settings. This additional support is designed to meet a student's learning style and skill level. It is our goal to meet each child's needs and to keep them challenged in both their Spanish and English academics.

First Day of Instruction for grades 1st through 8th is Tuesday, August 15th. School begins at 8:00am. Students are dismissed at 2:35pm. See website for bus schedules.

Arrival Times and Pick Up Times All grades K-8 begin class at 8:00a.m. Students may arrive at 7:45a.m. Pick up is at 2:35p.m. Picking up your child(ren) on time is very important. We realize occasional situations occur in which you might run late. Please make every effort to be on time.

Dropping Off Items or Picking Your Child Up Early Please leave forgotten item(s) at the front desk. Item(s) will be delivered at an appropriate time. Please enter your child's afternoon dismissal change in School Dismissal Manager (SDM), then call the front desk when you arrive in the parking lot. We will call your student from class and send them out to you.

Parents/Visitors Please sign in at the front desk prior to going to any area of the school to volunteer.

Kindergarten Roll-In First day for Kindergarten is Tuesday, August 22nd. Kindergarten parents will be called to schedule a Roll-In day and time.

Kindergarten Roll-In is designed to provide our Kindergarten teachers time to meet individually with parents and students for a brief orientation and completion of the assessment profile for each student. The Developmental Profile is required by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. This scheduled time allows interaction with the students, both one-on-one, and in small groups. Our teachers will use this time to compile information and make decisions on the appropriate instructional level of each student. The information obtained during the Roll-In will provide a baseline for instruction and be used to determine grouping for various academic areas. The goal is to develop and establish a positive partnership between the home and school, with an easy transition into Kindergarten while developing learning plans that are tailored specifically to make certain each child will be challenged and successful. Beginning Tuesday, August 22nd, school begins at 8:00am. Students are dismissed at 2:35pm

Professional Development Days In order to better meet the goals for Fronteras' English and Spanish instruction, we have incorporated additional professional development opportunities for staff, by way of early release Fridays. Our early release Fridays occur the first Friday of most months. See 2023-24 school calendar on our website for early release dates. Early release pick-up time is 12:30p.m.

Cancellation of School Due to Weather or Disaster The local radio and t.v. stations announce the closure of Mat-Su schools. The Superintendent, along with the recommendation from the Troopers, make the decision to close schools due to weather. The school district will send out an Ed-Connect message notifying families of the closure, and school cancellations are posted on the district website.

Amigos Amigos Chair, Misty Adams, is responsible for sending out mass email notices regarding upcoming events and special dates to remember. There are times when it will be necessary to send out multiple emails in a day asking for immediate help or reminders for next day events. We do our best to be as efficient as possible, but as with life, things come up that we cannot control. We ask for your patience and understanding.

Early Release Days Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School will release all students at 12:30p.m. The first early release Friday is September 1, 2023. There are a total of eight (8) early release Fridays. Early release days are designed to allow the staff to work cooperatively on unit projects as well as be trained in specific professional areas. Bus service is available for students on all early release days. However, the Boys and Girls Club is not open on early release days, but student may be picked up by parent in the Boys and Girls Club parking lot.

Student Conferences Student/Parent/Teacher conferences are held in October and February this school year. These conferences allow the student to share, along with the teacher's guidance and encouragement, progress and achievements. Most conferences will be held in the school gym. Please make certain to bring your child with you to the conference in February; this is the Student-Led conference.

Report Cards Fronteras' report card is based on standards and goals set for the curriculum. The report card is the formal record of your student's progress and achievements in regard to state standards and benchmarks. Report cards are posted to ParentVue.

Bi-Weekly Newsletters The school newsletter is an important tool in communicating events, activities, and classroom projects/lessons. The newsletter is electronic and is emailed every other Friday afternoon. Please read the newsletter for important announcements, information, and celebrations.

Field Trips Our field trips are planned specifically to fulfill the curriculum and learning goals for our school. Strong social skills are an important part of our school culture, and field trips are a great way for real life teaching and learning to occur. Not every grade level will go on a field trip during the school year. Field trips are designated for students enrolled in that grade level.

Outdoor Clothing Per MSBSD policy, our students go outside for recess unless it is -10 degrees or colder. Students need hats, gloves, boots, snow pants/suit, and a warm coat every day once it snows. **PROVIDE THESE ITEMS FOR YOUR CHILD EVERY COLD DAY.**

Academic Policy Committee Academic Policy Committee meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of most months at 6:00pm via ZOOM. Meeting dates and agendas are announced ahead of time. Everyone is invited to attend.

APC Board Members

Kirsten Mason, Amanda Strickler, Alexis Brown, , Jason Prestien, Rosie Carter, Katrina Moller, Jennifer Schmidt-Hutchins, Misty Adams (CML)

Lunches Please remember to send your child with a cold lunch or items that heat quickly and easily. Keep in mind that heated food must cool before it can be eaten which cuts into the 30 minute lunch period. We request that foods such as Top Ramen be prepared ahead of time and put in a Thermos. Please do not send soda in lunches or for snack.

Checking Your Child's Progress

ParentVUE (online grade book)

We cannot stress enough the importance of checking *ParentVUE*, the online grade book for upper grades. *ParentVUE* will show your child's weekly work, test results, work habits, and missing work. If you do not have a computer at home, you are welcome to use one at the school to access your child's information. As there is a direct correlation with class work completion and learning, please make every effort to check *ParentVue* at least once a week to monitor that your child has successfully completed and turned in all of his/her work. Thank you for your constant support and effort in following up *with your child* regarding their missing work. **Grades K-5 do not have homework**

Missing Work Due to Illness If a student is absent due to illness, the student has the number of days absent to complete the missed work and turn it in without being considered late.

Example: two days out sick = two school days to complete and turn in missed work.

Middle School (6-8 grades) Assignment Policies This policy differs from the elementary grades and is explained during the Open House.

In the Event of an Emergency Evacuation of Our School Career Technical High School is our emergency evacuation destination. Each school in the district is required to perform specific safety drills. These include: monthly fire drills, bomb threat, earthquake, and ALICE (formerly known as Lockdown). Keeping with district policy, Fronteras has an Emergency Operations Plan with an Incident Command Structure. In the event of such an emergency (which would require our own facility to be determined as unsafe), we will evacuate to Career Tech High School and the Emergency Plan would be put into effect.

Fronteras Clothing Fronteras Spirit Gear is for sale periodically throughout the school year. Amigos Chair, Misty Adams, will provide information early and often as clothing options become available. Students are encouraged to wear Fronteras clothing any day of the week, but especially while on field trips. The signature black, gold, and red colors make the students easily identifiable. Spirit Gear is available year round via the link on the Fronteras website.

Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School - Preparing Students for a Diverse Society

Dear Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer! As you can see by the statement above, our focus is to provide an education that supports current learning trends and challenges in order to enhance future opportunities. We believe it is never too early to begin preparing students for a prosperous future. Whether students are college bound or trade bound - being employable is key. Again, our goal at Fronteras is to prepare our students for a successful future. That means they must be equipped with the skills necessary for the challenge of a competitive job market. We strive to offer our students all the advantages that are within our ability.

At Fronteras we take the time to learn each student's strengths and work to eliminate weaknesses. We celebrate successes and encourage constant improvement. We value hard work, good attendance, cooperation, positive attitudes, and helpfulness. Our students are encouraged to demonstrate **RISE** behaviors in and out of school. These behaviors include: showing **R**espect, having **I**ntegrity, being **S**elf-Disciplined, and being **E**ngaged in one's own education.

While our students are taught academics in both English and Spanish, we rely on the home for extra support and encouragement to maximize student learning and success. We view education as a team approach, and it is our goal to help our students understand that hard work is the key to success. We expect students to take pride in their work and give their best effort with each assignment and project.

It is through the strength and intellect of the group that we maintain our highest standards of education and decision making. Methodology and teaching curriculum are continually discussed, debated, and argued. After all is said and done, we remain professional colleagues in all respects. We welcome new ideas and new approaches. Every decision made is based on what is good for student learning. Your child's education comes first.

Looking forward to a fabulous school year!

Most Sincerely,

Jennifer Schmidt-Hutchins