

## Message from the Superintendent

Every day recently seems to be better than the day before. I am constantly reminded of why we choose to live in such a beautiful location. I know that we all have been enjoying our late summertime weather and at times it is difficult to sit inside and work while the sun is shining so brightly. The warm sunlight outside has only helped to increase the amount of positive energy radiating from inside the building walls as well. Our School Board members have been working very closely with me, in a very open and positive way, to give our district the tools that it needs to successfully educate our students.

We have now been in school for a month and everyone is getting settled into their school year routines. Everyone from the Kindergarteners to the Seniors are making new friends as well as getting to know their teachers. Our sports programs are off and running. We are doing as we always have been doing and showing the other districts why Valdez is district to beat.

The school district is working with staff to find ways to increase the efficiency of our operation and to make sure that our focus remains on the students. We are planning on doing a bit of upgrading to the district office and some of the schools in the near future to improve the functioning of the buildings. We want to make sure that when you walk into our buildings, you are greeted with a structure that is as good as our teachers.

The Valdez City School District is committed to ensuring that we provide the best educational opportunities for all students. This year we will be discussing and reviewing all of our current fees for items ranging from sports participation to lunch fees. We will also be spending time talking with staff, community members, and students about what coursework should be completed before students walk across the stage at the end of four years. We will be discussing how we can not only provide more options for our college bound students, but we are also working hard to promote additional vocational offerings as well. We also want to extend a warm invitation to our Valdez City homeschoolers and see how we can better partner to support and enrich their homeschool curriculum.

Please help us by attending as many meetings as you are able and provide us with your opinion about what we are doing at our schools. It is only by working together that we can achieve our goal of making the Valdez City School District the premier school district in the State of Alaska.

Thank you,

Jacob Jensen, Valdez City School District