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February 16, 2018

Dear Frontier families,

**Mark your calendar** for our annual English and Mathematics assessments for grades 3-9 and Science for grades 4, 8, 10. Grade 10 students only test in Science.

**Please contact your Frontier Academic Advisor** to confirm your participation and if you have any questions. For your convenience, we will offer PEAKS concurrently at both our Anchorage and Eagle River offices. You are welcome to sign your children up for PEAKS at the Frontier office nearest you.

**Learn more about PEAKS.** Parents are able to locate resources for the PEAKS assessment, including directions for PEAKS Practice tests, called Online Tools Training and PEAKS Tutorials (under Frequently Asked Questions), on the ASD website at [www.asdk12.org/PEAKS](http://www.asdk12.org/PEAKS). Parents can also access practice tests using the Quick Guide PDF made available at our website PEAKS page: [www.frontiercs.org/peaks/](http://www.frontiercs.org/peaks/).

**English and Math Schedule:** The first PEAKS day at Frontier is for English, and the second day is Math. Grades 4, 8 and 10 have a third day which is Science.

Students	Days-Dates	Check-in Starts	Test Begins
Grade 3	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 4	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 5	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 6	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 7	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 8	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>9:00 A.M.</b>
Grade 9	(Mon/Tue) MAR 26/27	<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>9:00 A.M.</b>

**Science:**

<b>Students</b>	<b>Days-Dates</b>	<b>Check-in Starts</b>	<b>Test Begins</b>
Grade 4	(Wed) MAR 28	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 8	(Wed) MAR 28	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Grade 10	(Wed) MAR 28	12:30 P.M.	1:00 P.M.

**Timing:** Session lengths vary by grade level, content area, and student individuality. Students in grades 3-8 usually require an hour and a half for English and Math, while grades 9-10 require about two hours. Grades 4, 8 and 10, usually require an hour for Science.

**Student participation:** Parents have the right to make educational decisions for their child. Parents are encouraged to contact me or their academic advisor if there are any questions about their child’s participation in state or district assessments.

**Purpose:** The Performance Evaluation for Alaska’s Schools provides us with valuable information to help students, parents, and Frontier in the following ways: Overall, assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process with a purpose to provide information and insight for home school parents regarding ways to adjust the instruction to respond effectively to the learning needs of their child(ren). The purpose of the PEAKS summative assessment is to provide parents and schools an overall picture of a student’s progress in meeting the Alaska standards at his/her grade level.

PEAKS results help Frontier to improve education through self-study guided by our ongoing accreditation initiative with AdvancED. The assessments help us identify areas of strengths and weaknesses. They also enable us to better monitor our improvement efforts. Frontier uses assessment results to continually re-evaluate the direction the school is going toward achieving our mission statement: *“Frontier Charter School is a learning organization that helps families teach students to take responsibility for their own learning. Frontier serves full-time homeschool families in the Anchorage School District who are pursuing academic excellence.”*

Thank you,  
**Gerald M. Finkler**  
Principal