

A Note From Mr. Krause

Nenana City School Principal

Old School: *Anything that is from an earlier era and looked upon with high regard or respect. Can be used to refer to music, clothing, language, or anything really.*

As I sit down to write this short newsletter note, I'm listening to Bob Seger and hoping it gets warmer soon (it's minus 45 this morning!). There have been several students who have taken to calling me "Old School". I think it must have something to do with the music I listen to.

I looked "old school" up in the Urban Dictionary; I liked what I found! *Anything from an earlier era and looked upon with high regard or respect.* Being "old school" can be an excellent thing. If you're "old school" you're someone who pays tribute to the past.

I'm listening to Bob Seger because I felt like I needed to access my roots a bit. I was born and raised in the Detroit area and Bob Seger is from Detroit. My parents grew up in Detroit, my mom lost two siblings in the Rouge River, and my dad's father died too early. My entire history is from Detroit. I take the "old school" label from my students as a compliment.

Showing up to work everyday, working hard, and taking care of family is the old school way I learned from my parents. Treating others with respect and decency is old school behavior that I see a lot of in Nenana. During the NIT Basketball Tournament I loved watching all the folks from Minto, Fort Yukon, and Nenana having mini family reunions. I asked one guy from Minto who his family was on the Minto Team and he said, "Man, almost everyone in this gym is my family!" He rooted for Minto and then promised me he'd root for Nenana in the girl's game. I saw him the next day and he made good on his promise!

Nenana City School has a proud tradition of honoring the past. I think it's important that we tap into that tradition when planning for the future. Our school district is in a time of change and looking to shore up our finances, we're searching for a new superintendent, and our staff is always trying to provide the best education possible for our students. It's my hope that Nenana City School can be an "old school" school district in the *best* sense. As the principal, I welcome your opinions and advice about how to provide what's best for our Nenana students. Feel free to stop by or give me a call.