



Club Meeting

Susitna
Meets at Everett's
Restaurant at the
Mat-Su Resort
1850 East Bogard
Road
Wasilla, AK 99654
Time: Wednesday at
06:00 PM

Speakers

**September 18,
2024**

[Todd Smolden](#)
Governor Dunlevy
Education Plan

**September 25,
2024**

[Club Assembly](#)
followed by a board
meeting

October 02, 2024

[Mat-Su Candidates](#)
Joint meeting with
the Greater Wasilla
Chamber of
Commerce for a
candidate forum
ahead of the
November
elections.

October 09, 2024

[Louisa](#)
[Branchflower,](#)
[Onward & Upward](#)
Onward and

Sep 18th: Todd Smolden, Director of the Mat-Su Valley Office of Gov. Dunleavy

Todd Smolden, Director of the Mat-Su Valley office of Gov. Michael Dunleavy
Governor Dunleavy's Education Plan

Wednesday, September 18, 6:00pm

Meet in Person at

[Everett's at The Mat-Su Resort](#)

Via Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5415605940?pwd=ZFJWk1lZbnJSTHpaOGY1KzErbTIVdz09>



Highlights from MatSu School Superintendent Report

Dr. Randy Trani, Superintendent of the Matanuska Susitna Borough School District (MSBSD), along with John Notestine, Public Information Officer for the school district, were our guests at last week's meeting. Dr. Trani

Upward offers a variety of programs that educate and engage participants to step outside of their comfort zones to discover their strengths.

October 16, 2024
[Brenda Shelden](#)
 DG Official Visit
October 16, 2024
[Brenda Sheldon](#)
 District Governor Presentation

October 23, 2024
[Isaac Smolden](#)
 My House Production Team

October 30, 2024
 Club Assembly followed by a board meeting
 TRF - upcoming fundraiser

November 06, 2024
[Kim Erickson](#)
 The Rotary Foundation and End Polio Now

December 18, 2024
 Club Holiday Party & Officer Elections

Events

November 9th
The Rotary Foundation Fundraiser

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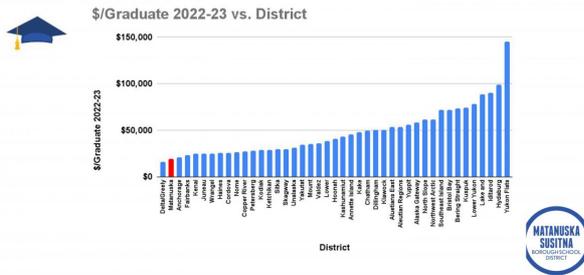
presented an interesting array of facts and figures about the current state of our borough's K-12 schools. The overall news was very positive. If you missed the meeting last week, you can view the [slideshow](#) with all the details here (we have permission to share the slides).

A few highlights from the presentation:

Enrollment is flat this year compared to the growth that has been experienced in previous years. The school district has hired demographers to provide more insight. Generally speaking, student enrollment tracks job growth, so, while the Valley's population may continue to grow, K-12 enrollment will not grow unless there is a corresponding increase in jobs.

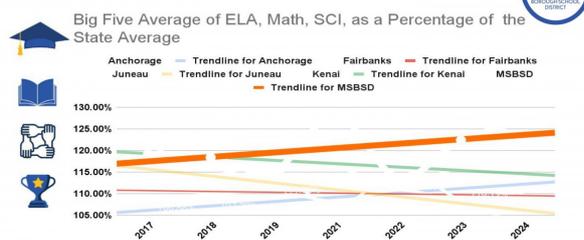
Cost per graduate: MSBSD is second in the district in terms of cost and is the least expensive of the five biggest districts in the state (Anchorage, MatSu, Fairbanks, Kenai, Juneau).

Cost Per Graduate: 22-23 Report Card to the Public



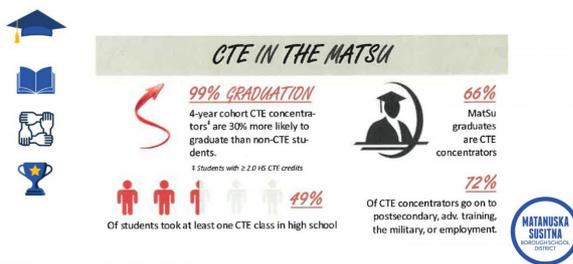
Trends are improving: MSBSD has steadily been improving in testing results for ELA (English/language arts), Math, SCI (Science)

2024 AK Star: Comparison to the Big 5 and State

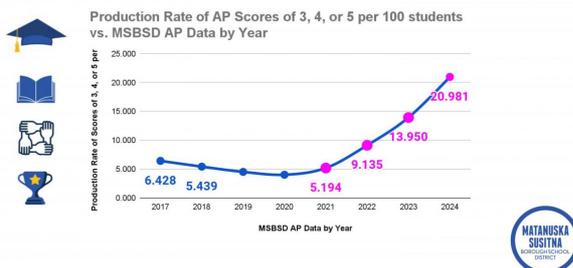


Career Technical Education (CTE): MSBSD has made this a priority and the results are showing up in graduation rates and the number of students that go on to post-secondary education, advanced (vocational) training, military or employment.

CTE: MSBSD Career Technical Education Leader



Advanced Placement: MSBSD College Prep Leader



[new club](#)

[Sep 24th: Anchorage Downtown Rotary - Josh the Otter Program](#)

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Club Leaders



[Aaron Coman](#)
President



[Kimberly W. Erickson](#)
President-Elect



[Samantha Shannon](#)
Secretary



[Erin Cruz](#)
Treasurer



[Rodger Cheadle](#)
Club Director



[Kathleen M. Timm](#)
Attendance Secretary



[Marty T. Metiva](#)
Club Membership

End Polio Now Update - Sep 2024

September 2024



Bad News – Good News

We are still fighting polio in Afghanistan and Pakistan. To date there are 34 cases. The surveillance teams are equipped and able to track and find cases much more readily than in the past. As a result, more cases have been discovered. The good news is that once cases are discovered, precautions can be made effectively.

World Health Organization. Numbers now at 34. **Wild Polio Virus Summary:**
The number of wild polio cases for 2024 as of Sept 1, 2024 is 34. There were 17 in Pakistan and 17 in Afghanistan.

Rotary Foundation **End Polio Now** **VIRTUAL SESSION BEGINS OCTOBER 24TH, 2024 • 12 PM MT 2 PM ET • 7 PM SCOTLAND**

FOCUS ON POLIO World Polio Day

SPEAKERS

Join experts from University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine and Rotary International who will provide a unique perspective on our mission to **End Polio Now!**

Gordon R McNally
Rotary Foundation, Trustee, 2024-25
Rotary International President, 2023-24

Dr. Mark Joffe
Chief Medical Officer of Alberta
Infectious Disease Specialist

Chris Etienne
Rotary International Director
2024-2026, Zones 28 & 32

To Register for the virtual session scan code

OR Use link below
https://endpolio.com/meeting/register/023d0ypeny0289VUwch3r8t33A_SLuM/registration

For more information:
Ingrid Heisch - RFEID
| ingridr@gmail.com
Duncan Conrad - EPN Lead
| duncanconrad7@gmail.com

World Polio Day

Time to start planning your World Polio Day Event!
Get ideas at [EndPolio.org](#). Register your event at <https://www.endpolio.org/register-your-event>. Sign up for our zone world Polio day events Oct 2 and Oct 24.

Jude Rein's fall moose hunt

Adam Rein was one proud papa when his son, Jude, sent him a message from the field during last week's Rotary meeting. Adam added to his happy bucks for this one!



Membership
Chair



Adam Rein
Club
Service
Projects
Chair



Josh Waisanen
Club Rotary
Foundation
Chair



Cheryl L. Metiva
Club
Service
Chair



Lynn Mitchell
Club Youth
Services
Chair



Robert Allan Grogan
iPast
President



Samantha Jo Aarthun
Club
Fundraising
Chair



Jack W. Timm
Past
Presidents
Chair

Birthdays

Lynn Mitchell
September 16th
Dan Phillips
September 18th
Lisa Phillips
September 22nd
Wanetta Lemley
September 23rd
Adam Rein
September 27th

David Wayne
Cucullu
October 1st
Rodger Cheadle
October 5th
Randi C Madison
October 6th
Warren Mitchell
October 9th
Brittany Reed
October 11th
John Norbert
Klapperich
October 16th
George Wichers
October 26th
Deborah M
Waisanen
October 28th



Josh the Otter - Fall 2024 School Presentations

Deb Waisanen has organized several Josh the Otter kindergarten presentations over the next few weeks. Volunteers are needed to assist!

- Fri September 20th 12:50pm: **Goose Bay Elementary**
- Fri September 27th 1:05pm: **Tanaina Elementary**
- Thu October 3rd: 2:15pm: **Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School**
Call/text Deb at [907-355-1069](tel:907-355-1069) to volunteer



Catherine Cheadle
October 29th

Wedding Anniversaries

Samantha Jo
Aarthun
October 15th
Dan Phillips
October 16th
Lisa Phillips
October 16th



Why could you join Rotary?

Rotary
District 1700



The Rotarian
Minute
Essentials

#30 – September 6, 2024

1' to discover an aspect of Rotary

Why could you join Rotary?

Joining Rotary is a unique opportunity to make a positive impact on both local and global communities.

As a member, you'll connect with like-minded individuals who are committed to service above self.

Rotary provides a platform to contribute to meaningful projects that address pressing issues like clean water, education, and disease prevention.

It's also a fantastic way to expand your professional network and develop leadership skills.

You'll find a strong sense of camaraderie and support among members, who share a passion for making a difference.

Additionally, Rotary's global presence means you can engage in international projects, broadening your perspective and understanding of diverse cultures.



By joining, you'll be part of a respected organization that has a tangible impact on the world, all while forming lasting friendships and growing both personally and professionally.

It's an enriching experience that truly transforms lives, including your own.



The Rotarian Minute is a creation of District 1700. Please send any comments or suggestions to lemminute1700@gmail.com

Sep 21st: Interact - Planning to form a new club



**Planning meeting to sponsoring a new Interact Club!
Saturday, September 21st
12:00pm**

The first committee meeting to form the new MatSu Valley Interact Club will be held at 570 S. Knik St., Wasilla, AK 99654.

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self.

Interact clubs organize at least two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Rotary club sponsors mentor and guide Interactors as they carry out projects and develop leadership skills.

Questions?
Aaron Coman or Erin Cruz

Sep 24th: Anchorage Downtown Rotary - Josh the Otter Program

**Anchorage Rotary Club Meeting
Tuesday, September 24th
Petroleum Club
[3301 C St Ste 120, Anchorage, AK 99503](https://www.google.com/maps/place/3301+C+St+Ste+120,+Anchorage,+AK+99503)
12:00pm - 1:00pm**

Past President Rob Grogan will be presenting the opportunity to expand the Josh the Otter Water Safety program to Anchorage area kindergartners. To encourage Anchorage clubs to take on this project, Susitna Rotary is offering to provide a Josh the Otter costume for use during the first 3 years and to cover half the cost of the books in the first year. Participating clubs will sign a one-page memorandum with Susitna Rotary.

Contact Rob at [907-355-4394](tel:907-355-4394) if you can help with the presentation to the Anchorage Rotary Club that day.

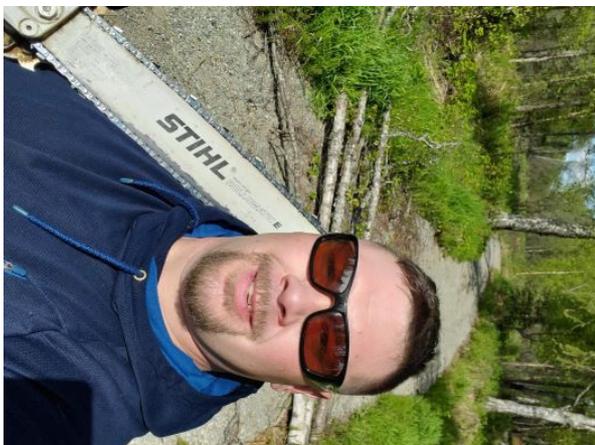




Sep 28th: Trails Work Party

Saturday, September 28th
12:00pm
Little Su Rotary Park
Work Party

Bring your gloves, shovels, and rakes as we make more progress on the trail expansion at the Little Su Rotary Park. Friends and family are welcome to help!



Oct 5th: TRF Fundraiser Planning Meeting

The  ROTARY

Planning meeting for the
Rotary Foundation (TRF) Fundraiser
Saturday, October 5th



10:00am

Want to be involved in organizing the Valley Rotary clubs' annual joint TRF fundraiser this fall? Then come to the next Foundation Fundraiser meeting on Saturday, **October 5th**, to discuss the upcoming event.

The meeting will be held at 570 S. Knik St., Wasilla, AK 99654.

This year's fundraiser dinner and auction will take place on **Saturday, November 9th**, at Evangelo's restaurant.

Tickets: \$75 each or \$700 for a table of 8 (includes VIP benefits)
Tickets will be available to order online soon
Maximum of 150 tickets sold

Each club is expected to contribute:

5 live auction items

10 silent auction items

1 basket for a "live auction teaser"(value ~\$250) - Susitna's basket theme is **Rotary Bling**

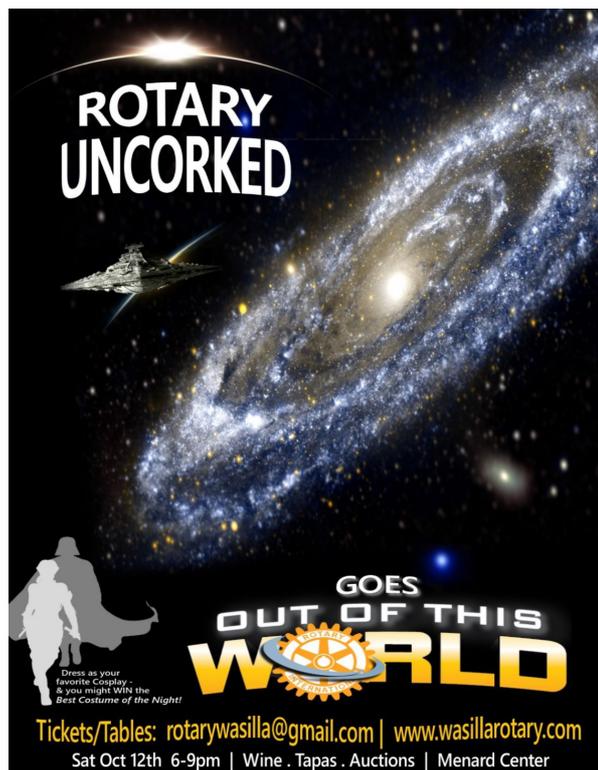
Please consider donating your time, talent or treasure (new items only) to this fun and important fundraiser to support the Rotary Foundation. Stay tuned for sneak previews of some of the auction items!

Questions?

Josh Waisanen
Susitna Rotary Club Foundation Chair
(425) 350-5729

Oct 12th: Rotary Uncorked - Goes Out of This World

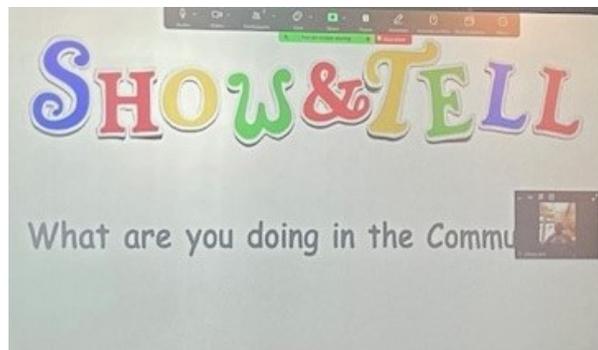
Wasilla Rotary club's annual Rotary Uncorked is right around the corner! Wine. Tapas. Auctions. All monies raised by this event go to local service organizations and scholarships. It's that time of year again!!! Wasilla Rotary Club is excited to announce that 2024 Rotary Uncorked theme is **Rotary Uncorked - GOES OUT OF THIS WORLD**. Get your best alien, astronaut, or Chewbacca outfits ready! Get your tickets today @ <https://www.wasillarotary.com/>! We blast off at 6pm on October 12th!



Show & Tell

Susitna Rotarians and friends are involved in many community activities. President Aaron has introduced a new effort to showcase some of the many ways our members support the community outside of Rotary.

If you have a community event you would like to promote, please email Erin Cruz and Kim Erickson so that we can publicize it in the weekly slideshow (Erin) and weekly bulletin (Kim).



Date			Event	Location	Contact for more info:
Oct	19th	Sat	Operation Iron Warrior Chili Cook-off	VFW Post 9365	Jeremiah OperationIronWarrior@gmail.com
Oct	26th	Sat	KHITZ 107.1 Presents The Matsuvian Monster Bash	Everett's	Erin-she 907-203-9499





Save the Dates!

Susitna Rotarians have lots of opportunities in the upcoming months to serve the community and have some fun. Mark your calendars and stay tuned each week for more details as the various events unfold.

Date	Event	Location	RSVP required?
Sep 21st 12:00pm	Sat Interact - sponsoring new club Committee meeting	570 S. Knik St. Wasilla	No - contact Erin Cruz for questions
Sep 28th 12:00pm	Sat Trails Work Party	Lil Su Rotary Park	No - contact Adam Rein for questions
Oct 5th 10:00am	Sat TRF Fundraiser Committee meeting	570 S. Knik St. Wasilla	No - contact Josh Waisanen for questions
Oct 12th	Sat Rotary Uncorked Goes Out of this World	Curtis Menard Sports Center	Purchase tickets in advance
Nov 9th	Sat The Rotary Foundation Fundraiser	Evangelo's	Purchase tickets in advance
Dec 18th	Wed Club Holiday Party & Officer Elections	TBD	
Mar 2nd	Sun Iditarod Restart Party & End Polio Now Fundraiser	Tryg & Kim Erickson Willow, AK	No ... bring family and friends
Apr	RYLA		Yes - volunteer to chaperone
May 1st	Thu District Assembly	Juneau	Yes - register through DACdb
May 2nd-4th	Fri-Sun District Conference	Juneau	Yes - register through DACdb
May 21st	Wed Big Lake Library Cleanup	Big Lake Library	No ... bring family and friends
Jun 7th	Sat Lil Su Classic River Cleanup	Lil Su River Pavilion	No ... bring family and friends
Jun 19th	Wed Passing of the Gavel	TBD	TBD
Jun 21-25th	Sat- Wed Rotary International Convention	Calgary, Canada	Yes - register in advance

**Save
the
Date**



Sep 21st: Girdwood Rotary's Chili Cookoff



DACdb - Download the Mobile App

Want to know what is going on in the club? Download the DACdb IGNITE Mobile App today!

Scan the QR code in your App store:

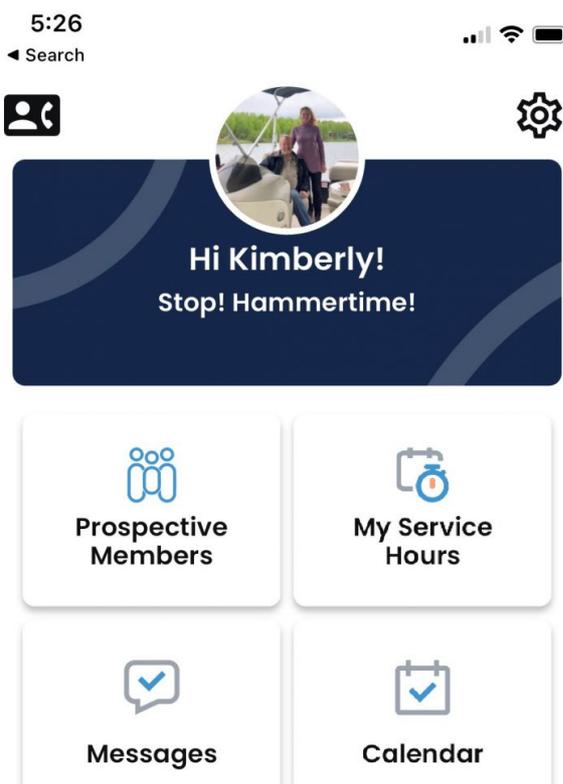


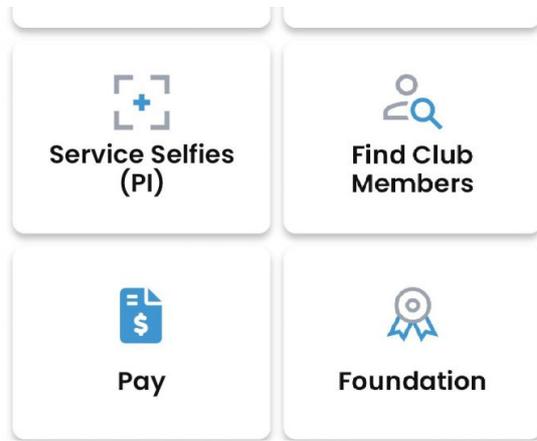
The App icon looks like this:





Your user name is your email address. Once you get into the App, you have all these options!





Youth Exchange Message 2024

Tuesday, April 23, 2024



Would you like to embark on an adventure as a **Rotary Exchange Student** and transform your world perspective? Now is the time to contact us as we start recruiting for the 2025/2026 school year! Interviews will be conducted in **September & October**. Check out additional information on the [Youth Exchange Page](#)

RYLA Link Page



Click image for upcoming RYLA Events

