

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

BUSINESS OFFICE

New system coming online and preparations for budgeting process for FY10.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The focus this month has been on NCLB issues and challenges.

SPECIAL EDUCATION & PARENTS AS TEACHERS

A focus on training for staff.

INSTRUCTION

Writing Assessment, Math in a Cultural Context, eRate and Assessments have been our focus.

TECHNOLOGY

Site network and systems upgrades have been the focus this past month. Major upgrades to New Stuyahok and Togiak are scheduled for this coming month.



turning the corner into spring, the days are growing longer...

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Jack Foster, Superintendent

New Stuyahok School is Nearing Completion!

The doors to the new school are scheduled to open in mid-February. This is a long awaited time. New Stuyahok will be deciding when to have the Grand Opening. What a wonderful time for the community of New Stuyahok. There are not enough words or space to thank all of the people involved in making this project happen. We will have more pictures in the March board report.

Alaska Native Teacher Initiative

We will be signing a letter of agreement in support of a new program designed to increase recruitment, certification and retention of Alaska Native educators. The program will be coordinated by the Avante Garde Learning Foundation, led by former Alaska Commissioner of Education Shirley Holloway.

Visit to Togiak

A visit was made to Togiak this past month. It was a wonderful trip and it was very encouraging to see all of the community participation in the school. In particular, elders are helping students in the industrial arts courses and in the Responsible Thinking Classroom.

Student Count

We talked about what was happening with student count after Christmas. Our October official count in October was 633.5. As of the January, our count was have 642 students, with four students returning from Mount Edgecumbe.



Togiak elders assisting in the Responsible Thinking Classroom.

QS2

Using the data from the Statewide School Climate and Connectedness report, as well as the data from our school district, the QS2 Team is working to help increase youth success. Community Engagement Advocates worked with Alaska ICE staff on targeted skills training and community engagement facilitation techniques.



Happy Togiak students at lunch time!

The new building at New Stuyahok is nearly ready!



Legislative Fly-In

Topics for the upcoming fly-in include:

- Discuss issues impacting education in 2009
- Meet with legislators and other decision makers, We are scheduled to meet with 12 legislators at this time. Lee Ann Andrew helped with information to give to the legislators.
- Updated on the new legislation that will impact our district
- Show that the unity of Alaska's School Boards can effect positive change



Togiak TAP students at hard at work.



BUSINESS OFFICE

Lee Ann Andrew, Director of Administrative Services

New ALIO System Online

Accounts payable has been using the new ALIO software for a month and is successfully utilizing most functions. The program has had many conversion problems, but we are working through them. We are anticipating going live with payroll during March. There will need to be changes in the way we currently do payroll to be successful in implementing the payroll portion of the program. The changes will simplify how we do things now.

Staffing

We are anticipating hiring a full time accounts payable technician before the board meeting. Our administrative assistant/registrar will be back full time after maternity leave on February 16th. This will bring the business office back to full staffing.

Budgeting

Getting numbers together for the budget process has been delayed due to the software conver-

sion and short staffing. For the next month we will be gathering numbers from site administrators and district office staff to have a preliminary budget ready toward the end of March. The Impact Aid application was submitted early and the 403(b) IRS requirements that were to be in place January 1, 2009 have been successfully implemented.

Spending

This year the district joined other school districts through AVEC's request for proposals to obtain a fuel bid. Crowley and Delta Western were the only two bidders. As of the end of January AVEC has not made a decision on which bid to accept. The bids ranged from \$2.76 to \$3.89 with various restrictions and stipulations. The lowest original price is not necessarily the lowest overall price when stipulation costs are added in. After reviewing all costs a decision will be made by AVEC and we will decide if that decision is best for the district.



CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

David Piazza, Director of Instructional Programs

Curriculum (Deb Endicott)

The District had a successful January in-service with district wide activities and site directed professional development topics.

We are starting to move forward on the Science curriculum review project. A team of elementary, middle school and secondary Science teachers will be meeting to discuss the existing curriculum and how to improve our science education for all the students.

Two teachers participated in a 6th Grade Math in a Cultural Context Workshop in Anchorage. These two middle school math teachers will be bringing back Yupik math modules to share with their classrooms.

The Alaska State Education Department is doing a study of the New Teacher Mentor program and student progress which we are participating in. This study will show how students are showing progression in their high-stakes testing from the new teachers being mentored by experienced teachers.

We will represent our district at the State EED Alternative Assessment Content/Bias Sensitivity Review where we meet with educators from across the State to review SBT items for bias, sensitivity and accessibility for reading, writing, mathematics and science.

Counseling/Assessments (Steve Ito)

Five staff members attended the 35th. Annual Bilingual Multicultural Education and Equity conference in Anchorage January 27th- 30th. Staff from Togiak, Ekwok, Aleknagik, Koliganek and district office learned about Language, Culture and Learning in the Age of Technology.

District wide Terra Nova testing for grades 5 & 7 should happen the week of February 8th Terra Nova testing satisfies a mandated federal requirement of Alaska EED to administer a normative referenced test along with a standards based assessment (SBA).

The National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) testing begins at selected sites across the district in February. The NAEP is done every other year nationwide in all states at randomly selected schools. Results are compiled into the "Nation's Report Card" to the public.

Certified and selected classified staff are completing online proficiency testing to be certified Idea Proficiency Testing (IPT) proctors. The upcoming IPT for Limited English Proficiency students will be given the first week of March.

Student Records/PowerSchool Support (Nate Preston)

Changes to individual school calendars have been completed for sites that had to take emergency closure days due to weather in December and January. Student High School Schedules have been updated to reflect the changes that occurred for Second Semester. The "bubble-precoding" has been completed for the April Standards Based Assessments (SBA).

eRate

Since the last written board report, but previously mentioned at the January Board Meeting, the district received the Funding Commitment Decision Letter for this school year's E-Rate funding. Funding for Phone Service, Internet and Distance Learning bandwidth were funded at the 90% subsidy level as anticipated. However, the "codec" portion of the

Manokotak students at work in science class.*Ekwok students ready for learning!*

Distance Delivery equipment and the Marratech Personal Videoconferencing Service were denied funding. The District has always paid the Videoconferencing Camera costs per E-Rate rules. However, codec's have been funded in previous years. The Marratech system is an addition this year, but by E-Rate definition should qualify for full subsidy level funding. The District has submitted an appeal to these decisions, but it may be a few months before we know the final decision.

The process for next year's application is almost complete. The deadline is February 12th. While we will apply for the same level of funding as we did this current year, the amount of funding may be reduced in a similar fashion depending upon the Appeal ruling previously discussed. While we don't anticipate removal of the Distance Delivery System from the district, we may have to increase our budget to fully cover the decreased

Media Center (Shannon Clouse)

The Media Center has been busy filling requests for a variety of different units this month, as well as a nice selection of books. Teachers have been asking for units on the Human Body (primary), Human Body/Puberty (Junior High), Martin Luther King Jr., Birds, Ducks, Geese, Migratory birds, Birds in Alaska (Intermediate), Books set in China (Jr. High), Substance Abuse books (High School), China (past and present, Jr. High/Intermediate), Jr. High Books on Tape, Physical and Life Science National Geo-

graphic Series, Health: Nutrition (HS), Various Books on Tape (Primary), Flight, Genetics, Health (Jr. High).

Books requested: Their Eyes Were Watching God, Hamlet, Zlata's Diary, Never Cry Wolf, Speak, The Outsiders

Because Health (Human Body) at the Primary levels is always a popular subject we ordered a variety of books to help supplement this type of study. Also ordered were a variety of books set in China, appropriate for the Intermediate and Jr. High reading levels.

Battle of the Books Districts take place February 2nd, and 3rd. The following teams are participating: 3/4 Teams: Togiak, New Stuyahok, Koliganek, Manokotak, Clarks Point. 5/6 Teams: Ekwok, New Stuyahok, Aleknagik, Koliganek, Togiak, Manokotak, Clarks Point, 7/8 Teams: Ekwok, Togiak, Koliganek and New Stuyahok, One High School team: Togiak.

Reading Is Fundamental: We were approved by RIF for another year and have been ordering books in February. Distributions will begin again in March.

The District Spelling Bee is set for February 5th. The winner will go to Anchorage for the State Spelling Bee competition March 4th.

Shannon goes to New Stuyahok on February 9th with Jacque Peterson (the state school library coordinator) and Deb Endicott to put the new school library together.



FEDERAL & STATE PROGRAMS

Jon Clouse, Federal/State Programs Director

Boarding Home Program

The district has received two more boarding home applications within the allotted 30 day enrollment period beginning on the first day of the second semester. The state boarding home program has funds to support the additional boarding home applicants. This brings the total number of boarding home students in the district to sixteen. The second quarter reimbursement was submitted to the state on January 14th, 2009.

Consolidated Performance Report

The 2007-2008 Southwest Region School District Consolidated Performance Report was completed and submitted to the state on January

21st, 2009. The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development must complete Part II of the Consolidated State Performance Report and submit it to the U.S. Department of Education. Basically, the report provides student and staff numbers involved in both Title I-A for Targeted Assistance Schools and School Wide Programs as well as Title I-C (migrant education) information. All of the schools in the district are School Wide Programs regarding Title I-A with Title I-C funds combined into the School Wide Programs. The state will get most of the information from summer OASIS data.

Highly Qualified Teacher Plan

The Highly Qualified Teacher Plan was submitted to the state on January 12th, 2009. This

Spotlight: Highly Qualified

A Highly Qualified status is a requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act for most teachers. Subject areas that do require highly qualified teachers are numerous and account for the majority of the classes offered by our schools. These areas include elementary (K-6th grade), middle school (7th-8th grade for teachers that teach all subjects), English subjects, mathematics subjects, social studies subjects, science subjects, history subjects, art, speech, geography, music, and government/political science. Subject areas not required to be taught by highly qualified teachers include physical education, health, and bilingual/bicultural to name a few.

Southwest Region Schools is required by law to verify the subject area in which teachers are highly qualified in whatever classes this status is required, and this annual effort is now being made. The findings of this effort must be provided to the State upon request by a signed verification form along with backup documentation.

Paths to becoming Highly Qualified include:

- Taking a Praxis II assessment in a particular subject area,
- Providing highly qualified documentation from another state or district within Alaska,
- Have an undergraduate degree in the subject area,
- Have an equivalent major (thirty hours or more) in the subject area,
- Have an advanced degree in the subject area,
- Have National Board Certification,
- And, Build a HOUSSE in the subject area (only for those teachers that have been teaching before 2002).

For those teachers that do not have the required Highly Qualified status, there are NCLB funds set-aside (as required) to assist in efforts to become Highly Qualified in subject areas in which they teach. There have been several inquiries about using these funds to become highly qualified. Some have been granted travel funds for the purpose of taking a Praxis I or Praxis II test. Dillingham is a testing center for these assessments. More information about the Praxis assessments is <http://www.ets.org>.

For additional information contact Jon Clouse at jclouse@swrsd.org

plan doubles as a report in that it provides data regarding the highly qualified status in the core content classes taught throughout the district. This highly qualified status data is broken down into several subcategories including Title I, Adequate Yearly Progress status, poverty level, educators new to the profession and/or district, and by core content area. The Highly Qualified Teacher Plan provides a framework to get all appropriate courses taught by highly qualified educators including what support is provided to teachers. In addition, individualized plans for

educators that need to become highly qualified have been developed in conjunction with each teacher. Since the Highly Qualified Teacher Plan was submitted to the state, the district has received documentation from numerous teachers that meet the requirements to become highly qualified. Many more of our teachers have already begun the steps to become highly qualified by the end of the year by taking Praxis II tests or fulfilling the requirements of the High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE).



SPECIAL EDUCATION

Lee Webster, Director of Special Education

Response To Instruction

The shortened month of January involved trainings. Response-to-Instruction (RtI) framework was presented to the faculty during the January in-service. The faculty prepared instructional strategies to implement after Winter Benchmark. The task is to “practice” doing progress monitoring on 1 student this semester in preparation for implementing response-to-instruction (RtI) 2009-2010.

Instructional Materials

Instructional materials for language development and reading have been distributed to some sites. I will be going to individual sites to train the staff on using these materials as well as introducing the diagnostic tools for Tier III instruction next year.

Winter Conference

January 13-17 I attended the Winter Conference in Anchorage during their ice storms. All of the presentations at the conference this year

were centered around effective instruction and data-driven instructional decisions. It was a perfect follow-up to the January in-service the previous week. Alaska Department of Education prepared a draft document in December 2008 for statewide implementation of RtI. It appears SWRSD is slightly ahead of the game.



Days are growing longer as we look ahead to spring!



EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Steve Noonkesser, Technology Coordinator

Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2) Grant

We applied for an E2T2 grant this past month and while we were not fully funded we did receive funding for Phase I of the project. Funds from this grant will allow three teachers to attend this year's ASTE Conference in Anchorage later this month. The experience should be a good one and will give them exposure to a wide range of technologies and techniques in use across the state.

Site Technology Support

In January the technology department has been making preparations to travel to New Stuyahok and complete the technology transition to the new building. On January 26th Les Parks and Corey Evans completed a trip to New Stuyahok with the GCI agent in advance of the group trip. While there they assisted the GCI agent with hooking the old school network to the earth station via a wireless connection and unhooked the copper wire connection to facilitate transition to the new school. At the new school they hung router in new school data closet and

made an inventory of all accessible technology equipment. This circuit is now up and functional. The whole instruction and technology team plans to travel to New Stuyahok on February 8th to spend a week configuring the new building.

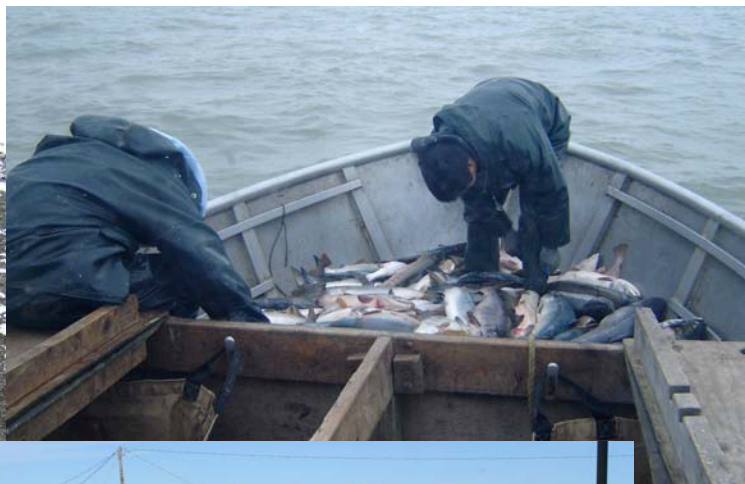
ASTE Conference

Technology department staff and a number of site personnel will be traveling to Anchorage to run and attend the state Alaska Society for Technology in Education conference. This yearly conference provides a wide range of training for district personnel each year and gives staff an opportunity to renew connections with others around the state engaged in similar fields. Several members of the instruction and technology departments are ASTE board members and officers.

2008-09 About Us! photo contest...

Each year we hold a photo contest open to staff and students across the district to collect pictures of our area, schools and activities. The pictures this year, again were beautiful and help us better tell our story to others. Here is a glimpse into 2008...







FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE

Rick Dallmann, Maintenance Director

NEW STUYAHOK UPDATE

The new school is scheduled for substantial completion February 9th.

Furniture delivery was scheduled for January 26th and got started on January 30th.

The Technology Department is scheduled to start their installation February 9th.



Commissioning and training will take place that week for all systems.

At this time we are still working through the process to obtain our Wastewater Discharge Permit actual school opening cannot happen until we have this in place. I am hopeful by the Board meeting everything will be in place.

We are expecting to be in the new building sometime the week of February 16th.

Teacher housing is also waiting for the Discharge Permit before we can occupy.

Playgrounds and final landscaping will take place in the spring.

Twin Hills

Bulk Fuel Upgrade Project is moving forward the Conceptual Design is completed and a Construction Schedule has been established. The Procurement of materials is scheduled to start May 2009 and construction to start August 2009

This is a grant-funded program through the Denali Commission and the Alaska Energy Authority

Ekwok

Bulk Fuel Upgrades Project is in Conceptual Design at 65%. Current schedule is for Construction in 2010 if funding is secured this spring the construction schedule could be accelerated and possible to start fall 2009. This is also a grant-funded project through the Denali Commission and the Alaska Energy Authority.

There are upgrades planned for the city sewer system, this project is scheduled to start in the spring 2009. The school and teacher housing are scheduled to be hooked into the city system.

This will allow us to discontinue use of our on-site septic systems.

Koliganek

Bulk Fuel Upgrade Project is in the Conceptual Design Report Phase.

In October 2008 we worked with Engineers on site to address school district needs for a new tank farm and Supplemental Heat connections to the City owned power plant. This project is scheduled for construction 2011

This is also a Denali Commission and Alaska Energy Authority funded project.





Aleknagik School

Jeff Ambrosier, Lead Teacher

Second Semester is well underway...

The second semester is well underway. The staff and students are working with the knowledge that the SBA test is only 3 months away. We are entering a busy time of the year with several tests coming up including Terra Nova as well as the IPT, not to mention the progress monitoring associated with AIMS web and ACFA. (just keeping up with all the acronyms is a full time job).

In the classrooms, Mrs Bates is specifically working on learning how to regroup in 2-digit subtraction/ Estimation and computation using models. In Mrs Burkes class, they are using the inquiry

process in science by asking questions, predicting and observing by dissecting owl pellets. They are also incorporating some of the technology standards by researching birds. In Mrs. Simms class the Social Studies group is learning how to utilize, analyze and explain information about the human and physical features of various groups of people from different cultures. Mr. Ambrosier's math class is working on Understanding Measurement techniques by creating blue prints of the classroom.

The basketball team is traveling down to Dillingham for a tournament this upcoming week. Currently there are 6 members so there will be plenty of playing time for everyone.



William 'Sonny' Nelson School

Stan Dancer, Lead Teacher

Chinese New Year & Pinewood Derby

The pinewood derby track has arrived and is assembled for the upcoming basketball tournament and pinewood derby that has been rescheduled for February 12-13. The trophies and medals are in. Except for a few more raffle items, things are ready to go. We had to reschedule it when a school dropped out at the last minute last week. It looks like there will be over 60 participants.

We did have a scrimmage against New Stuyahok on Saturday. Everyone had a good time and there were no injuries.

The students completed their AIMSweb benchmark tests last month. There has been some to significant progress made by almost all the students in both reading and math.



Congratulations to both the students and their teachers for all the hard work that has been put in so far this year.

The students celebrated the Chinese New Year on January 29 with an assembly to showcase what they had learned to community members. Afterward, everyone was treated to a homemade fortune cookie the students made the day before. Gung Hay Fat Choy!

Second quarter honor roll students were:

“A” Honor Roll

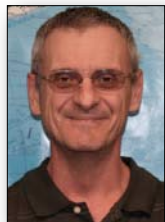
- Earlene Nelson

“B” Honor Roll

- Peter Nelson
- David Williams
- Annie Nicoli
- David Walcott
- Dawn Hurley
- Josephine Decker

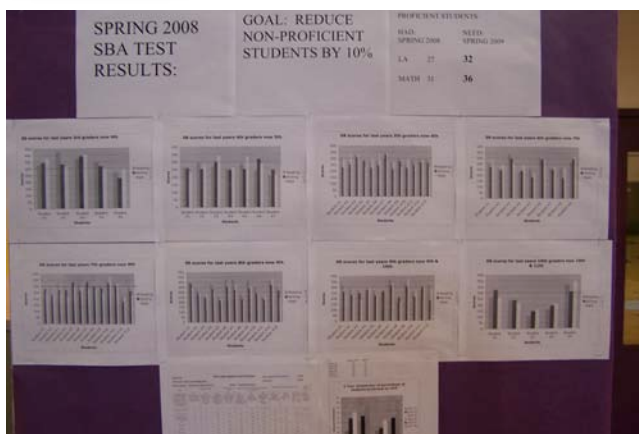


Making egg rolls as part of the unit on Chinese New Year celebrations.



Manokotak ‘Nunaniq’ School

Herman Gerving, Principal



Standards-based Assessments

KMO students are hard at work preparing for Standard Based Assessment's on April 7,8,9. All parents have been given a practice test for their child to work on. With the cooperation of all parents the students can show adequate yearly progress. Our school also has access to a great resource for preparing our kids for the State standardized tests.(SBA) We have purchased a building license for a web-based program called *Study Island*, which is accessible to students from school or home. If you have Internet access, your child can access *Study Island* from home as well as school to prepare for the state assessments. We encourage all students grades 3-8 to use this source at home or at study halls that are offered after school. We are excited about the potential benefits this program can bring to our students, and we encourage you to

take advantage of this opportunity by using *Study Island*.

Since the *Study Island* state assessment program is completely web-based, students can access it from any computer with an Internet connection and a standard web browser (Internet Explorer or Netscape). Results from students study sessions are recorded and made available to the teachers.

This includes results from sessions completed at home. The program is divided into sections based on subject (math, reading, etc.). Each section is made up of 10 to 25 topics. Each topic contains about 20 to 25 questions with explanations. All topics are accompanied by a lesson, which includes some brief information about the material covered by the questions in the topics. It is helpful to view the lesson before answering the questions in the topic.



Providing Choice

FOR OUR STUDENTS

Four seniors have opted to take elective courses via correspondence this semester. Small-business management, interior decorating and design, and an introductory art class were selected from among the offerings. The students work independently and have made quick progress. We are pleased to support our students in exploring areas of particular personal interest.

FOR OUR TEACHERS

Teachers at Manokotak Nunaniq School were provided full access to PD 360, Professional Development On-Demand, as part of January's in-service. Teachers have instant access to video segments on a variety of topics presented by top experts. Among the topics selected, reflective of the diverse needs, interests, and concerns of the staff:

- Differentiating Instruction for All Students
- Conscious Classroom Management
- Motivation
- Questioning to Stimulate Learning and Thinking
- Data Driven Decisions to Improve Results
- Secondary Teaching Strategies
- Helping Students of Limited English Skills
- Reading in the Content Areas

Teachers are encouraged to implement their learning in their classrooms with reflection and follow-up questions. Comments reflect that content reinforced current practices, as well as introduced new concepts and strategies:

- "We must continue to do what we are doing,"
- "Reinforced the importance of trust to a team,"
- "I will use a problem-solution sheet next week."
- "I learned new formats for journaling."

PD360 is a way to meet the varied needs and interests of our staff. Our technology liaison is installing PD360 content on our local server to eliminate streaming issues initially encountered online.

Assessments

Our staff is amidst the demanding assessment schedule required by the state and district.

From January to April, a number of tests will be given, including:

- AIMSweb (reading and math benchmarking)
- ACFA (reading and math)
- IPT (English language proficiency)
- TerraNova (norm-referenced tests)
- NAEP (math, reading, and science)
- SBA and HSGQE (reading, writing, math)

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our senior class continues their fund-raising efforts, recently hosting two basketball tournaments, operating the concession stand, and hosting bingo. Though the class is small, they are very productive. Students are hard at work with their advisor, Mr. Peter Wolf, on graduation plans. Their leadership is appreciated, and they are excellent role models for the younger students.

Basketball season is in full swing. Our high school teams participated in the Sockeye Classic. We hosted New Stuyahok girls and look forward to Kohkanok, Togiak, and New Stuyahok girls coming in the weeks ahead.

Our very active student council continues to meet weekly. We are in the process of compiling our portfolio for recognition as a Council of Excellence, both on the state and national levels.





Twin Hills School

Rod Lindberg, Lead Teacher

January was a short but busy month in Twin Hills. We administered the Aimsweb 2nd Benchmark test. Our students overall showed great improvement. Many doubled their reading and math scores. We also have recognized some students that need closer monitoring.

Alaska Learning Lab meets Monday through Thursday after school and the kids are doing very well. Some of the students with the highest increases on the Aimsweb tests are the Alaska Learning Lab kids.

We are all working on Saxon Math and Open Court. We have 3 different classes in Open Court and four in Math.

We started Yup'ik classes with new aide Emma White. She meets with the older kids for one hour twice a week, and the younger kids two different days and then they all meet together on Friday. The students are enjoying learning new words and singing in Yup'ik.

We received 6 beautiful books as a gift from Macy's store. They were multicultural and wonderfully illustrated. Thanks Macy's!

The older students built pinewood racecars, starting with plain blocks of wood and finishing up with 7 different shapes of wildly painted colors. We had a race one evening and lots of parents and all the students came to cheer them on. We were going to go to Ekwok for a 3-day field trip of racing and basketball but it was postponed the day of travel because of weather problems. We're looking forward to going to Ekwok later this month.

We have been having open gym night two nights a week and have added one night for adults. That is a big hit. We've just received additional funding from BBAHC so that can continue the rest of the year.

We've hired some new subs that are doing very well and the staff is working well together. February will be another very busy month with Valentine's Day, our trip to Ekwok, and preparation for more testing.



Koliganek School

Joel Lovesee, Principal

Winter activities are in full swing.

The second semester has been full of activities to keep our students and staff busy. Individual classrooms had special presentations for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and the 44th presidential inauguration. Terry Fuller from the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge visited and explained the 2010 theme for the Migratory bird calendars and Gust Tunguing Jr., Koliganek VPSO, started the Dare Program with our 4th & 5th grade students.

Aquila Kapatak won our local spelling bee that was ran by our K-





2 teacher, Rondee Jensen. Mrs. Jensen also worked with our 3rd-6th grade teacher, Pam Johnson, to coordinate activities for the 100th day of school. The day began with breakfast consisting of 100 pancakes, followed by reading story books, cereal necklaces, exercise, and math graphing activities all involving the number 100. We finished the day with a 100 item scavenger hunt.

Teachers also administered the winter Aims web tests and have seen some significant increases in scores from the fall, which is promising for the preparation of all of the upcoming state assessments.

Koliganek finished out the month with the 2nd Annual Herman Johnson Memorial Carnival. It included dog racing, turkey shoots, movies, bingo, basketball tournaments, and dances.



Clarks Point School

Doug Bushey, Principal

Looking forward to spring activities!

The third quarter began with our students taking the January Aimsweb benchmark assessment. Each student demonstrated growth in each educational area. The data collected from the Aimsweb assessment has permitted the teachers to redirect their instructional strategies to help decrease the overall achievement gap. In the first week of February the school hosted parent/teacher conferences.

The third through sixth grade students will be attending the Ekwok basketball and pinewood derby tournament in February. The students will have many opportunities to socialize with other students from around the district. Each student will enter a pinewood derby car. The students are looking forward to attending next year and hope to have their own basketball team.

The Student Council has organized several community activities such as Prize Bingo, Cake Walks, Money Walks, Eskimo Bingo, and Friday Night Movies. The Span Alaska order just arrived and the students are working hard to stock our store. Our two Battle of the Books teams are looking forward to the upcoming competition with all the other schools.



Art/Recycling Wind Chime Project



Eskimo Bingo



‘Chief’ Ivan Blunka School

Gene Anderson, Principal

Our new school continues to progress toward completion and we should be able to move to the new facility around the middle of February. The furnishings are arriving on a daily basis and some are in place already. This new facility will provide a greatly enhanced atmosphere and will help promote a positive learning environment. The staff was given an orientation to the new school to become familiar with new systems and new technology.

We continue to work towards our ultimate achievement of obtaining Adequate Yearly Progress for our school. Students are working very hard and teachers continue to monitor progress of the students by focus their lessons on the content and performance standards for Alaska students.

Our school places a special focus on culture during the week of the New Stuyahok Beaver Festival in February. Our classrooms are preparing to have activities based on various cultures of the world as well as our own culture. It is an educational learning experience as well as enjoyable activities as the students learn about various customs both local and globally. Activities include producing various ethnic items which are produced and utilized by these cultures as well as preparing and tasting different foods from these cultures. We always have a great time with these activities.



Togiak School

David Wick, Principal

I am pleased to report that Togiak School is running along very smoothly. Students are being productively engaged in all the classrooms and teachers are busy providing lessons tied to the Alaska Content and Performance Standards. Recently, the staff has been very busy conducting the Aimsweb testing. The results are showing a positive gain across the board in all grade levels since the first test earlier this year.

The Togiak staff is continuing its on-going efforts and development of curriculum mapping for the K-12 curriculum. Additionally, the staff recently participated in another webinar training on the Accelerated Math program that we are currently developing for supplementing the K-12 math program.

The RTP program is functioning very well and our numbers of referrals to the RTC room are at record lows as compared to weekly averages for the last three and a half years.

Our sports teams are up and running and it looks like our girls basketball team may be a state contender again this year.

Thanks for your continued support of all our educational efforts.

