

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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perseverance pays off and we are in the new school...

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Jack Foster, Superintendent



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

BUSINESS OFFICE

ALIO is online and training is underway. Budgeting is now the focus.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The focus this month has been on NCLB Highly Qualified processes.

SPECIAL EDUCATION & PARENTS AS TEACHERS

A focus on training for staff.

INSTRUCTION

Curriculum work and Assessments has been our focus.

TECHNOLOGY

Finalizing the setup, building a new network and deploying equipment in New Stuyahok.

MAINTENANCE

Finalizing the punch list for New Stuyahok.

New Stuyahok's New School is Open!



"Chief" Ivan Blunka School opened its new doors for students on March 2, 2009. I had the pleasure of being there to welcome the students for their first day. I felt very proud to be just a little part in this eight year project. It was a very smooth opening considering with all of the restrictions. Right after the gym assembly, the teachers were teaching in their classrooms. There will be lots of things that need to be fixed but that will be worked out in the coming weeks.

I want to give Wassillie Wonhola a special thanks for

being there for the gym assembly.

There will be a committee developed soon to decide on what date to have the grand opening and all of what may be involved in that project. This will have to be at the beginning of next year. Due to a state of granting a use permit for sewer and water facilities, which says we may not to have any activities above the normal school day's routine, we have had to postpone the grand opening until next fall.



New Stuyahok students with teacher Minty Ruthford in their new classroom.

“Alaska Energy: A first step toward energy independence” legislative hearing

What we are finding out about the money coming from the state and federal government is that it is still too early to really have much detail. Nine legislative members came on Sunday for an energy conference committee hearing and they listened to our concerns. Rick Dallmann is working on individuals that might help us write grants, help in anyway to obtain some of the construction-related money. Jon Clouse is also working on other sources. It also good to see Peter and Kay in Dillingham on Sunday for the energy hearing with the Legislators and also Peter for testifying at the conference. It may be May before we really know what will receive for our budget.

Legislative Information

Below is some material that is being forward from our senator's office.

The U.S. Department of Education has posted two websites on the stimulus – aka ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) with regard to the education funding it contains. Those websites are:

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>

- Overview of the Act;
- Implementing ARRA (fact sheets, budget info, state allocations);
- USED Plans and Reports;
- Learning More (State Fiscal Stabilization Fund and School Modernization funding);
- News;
- Video; and
- Additional Resources

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/modernization/index.html>

- Overview of State Fiscal Stabilization Fund for school facility repair, renovation, and modernization and the School Construction Tax Credits provisions
- Legislation (ARRA and ARRA Tax Act)
- Resources
- Links

Alaska and School District Specific Estimates:

If you are looking for specific information about what your school district may receive via the stimulus, USED's preliminary Title I allocations by school district can be found at:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/titlei/fy09recovery/alaska.pdf>

These are preliminary numbers. As Alaska has a waiver from USED to use alternative data to determine districts' eligibility for Title I funds, the final district Title I numbers will have to come from Alaska DEED.

In addition, very preliminary state-level estimates for all of the formula programs funded under ARRA are available at:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/09arrastatetables.pdf>

The programs listed at this link include Title I, Ed Tech, IDEA State Grants, IDEA Preschool Grants, IDEA Part C Infants and Families, Voc-Rehab, Independent Living State Grants, Services for Older Blind Individuals, Federal Work Study, State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and Pell Grants. According to USED, these allocations are preliminary estimates based on data available on February 19th. Allocations based on new data may result in significant changes from these preliminary estimates.

For those of you interested in Head Start, CCDBG, or other US Dept. of Health and Social Services news about the ARRA, no new information has yet been posted at

<http://www.hhs.gov/recovery/index.html>

You might, however, want to take a look at the redesigned website for the Administration for Children and Families

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc>

Recruiting

We are starting the process of recruiting. We hope that one of the board members and come to Anchorage job fair on April 17-18.

QS2

Suzie Gaffney has been working with individual sites in SWRSD to present their 2008 SCCS data and to help these sites develop their own Community Engagement Proposals. Earlier in the year, the school board asked that the four sites being served create proposals to increase community engagement and to improve peer climate. Togiak is finding new ways to bring the community to their new school for after school, evening, and weekend activities allowing students and adults to be together. New Stuyahok has created three planning strands (school climate, student voice, and cultural activities) at their school to do just at the board directed. After reviewing their SCCS results, Manokotak teacher staff created a list of ideas that will be soon be the core of their community engagement proposal. And finally, Aleknagik is interested in improving school climate through a teacher book group and their first book is Richard Curwin's Discipline with Dignity.

**BUSINESS OFFICE**

Lee Ann Andrew, Director of Administrative Services

ALIO Training

March 9-11 Bob Ricci with the ALIO software was in Dillingham training the staff on the payroll portion of the program. We will be entering February's payroll into ALIO to see how the conversion went and if all goes well we will do March's payroll in ALIO for the first "live" payroll. We had a few issues with how the checks were printing with the accounts payable checks but have that fixed so there should be no issues with payroll checks.

Fuel Bids

We should know AVEC's final decision on the fuel bid by the time of the board meeting. Currently they have selected Delta Western but have found there may be a problem with it and will let us know when they know more.

Budgeting

March 12, the consultant with C.O.R.E. came out to make sure we are on track with the FY09 budget and with the development of FY10 budget. With funding being tight it is very important we are accurate.

State Permits

With the increased activity with the gaming permit it is imperative for the business office to get accurate records from the sites that are running bingos. The business office has spent a lot of time deciphering some of the reports so we have been working on fine tuning our procedures that will satisfy the state's reporting requirements. According to state regulations separate gaming permits are required for each site that is running bingo or raffles. We are in the process of applying for those.

Policies and Procedures

Currently the district policy requires an item \$500 or more to be on our fixed asset inventory as equipment. Throughout the state, districts are changing the threshold to \$5000 which is the federal amount and audit requirement. Before moving the fixed asset system to the new software program the district needs to decide whether to keep it at \$500 or move it to \$5000. The business office is researching the issue to find out what would be the best for the district.



CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

David Piazza, Director of Instructional Programs

Curriculum (Deb Endicott)

March is always a busy month for curriculum with last minute preparation for the upcoming high stakes testing and making decisions about next year's curriculum. New teachers on board with questions and experienced teachers needing clarifications, has provided the department with many e-mails, phone calls and discussions.

With the accounting department, we created a spreadsheet order form for teachers to complete for the consumables portion of their textbooks. This went out to the sites and a due date of March 20th so we can order materials. With this new tool, we will be able to control the cost of purchasing non-essential materials and reach the goal that each teacher will have all the materials in their classroom by the time school begins in August.

Professional development continues as we get closer to the Standard Base Testing supporting all teachers through their curriculum. At this point in the year, it basically comes in as questions about teaching strategies and options. Response to Instruction

is going to become a part of our collaborations next year and we are preparing for that training. We have even begun to collect information for the 09/10 all-district in-service for August. As new people are being hired into the district, pre-planning their training is organized.

We continue to work with the Science Curriculum team to evaluate our existing program and to make recommendations about the curriculum. Our team is planning to meet at district office toward the end of March. One MS science teacher is piloting a course from the Alaskan Sea Grant for possible alternative resources added to the Biology curriculum and I am taking two courses from Creative Conservation with the same goal to establish other Science curricular areas.

We re-organized the Teacher of the Year program this year to facilitate smoother transition for our district candidate to participate in the State Teacher of the year program. Principals were given a deadline to submit their candidates and I am happy to report, we have two very highly qualified individuals.

Manokotak students at work in science class.



Ekvok students ready for learning!



Those teachers will complete a portfolio that is to be submitted to the district office for selection of the Teacher of the Year. That same portfolio can be further developed and submitted into the State selection committee. Other similar programs were also re-organized for Instructional/Special Education Aide of the Year and Classified Employee of the Year awards.

Math in a Cultural Context continues to grow. This supplemental program to our math curriculum is starting another module for the 3rd – 5th grade on fractions. Teachers will be attending a workshop first part of April to establish the foundation to this new module. This group is ready to get their Summer Institute going and have published their invitation to attend to all the schools. Currently we have one new teacher who expressed the interest to attend. That makes 22 of our teachers having experience using the program in their classrooms.

We will be having two students from UAS Education Program participating in rural practicums in their education programs in April. Our district will host one elementary student teacher in Clarks Point and one secondary student teacher in Togiak. This method of professional development and support offers our district valuable insight to possible hires in the future. We have hosted other student teachers in the past from this program and have had great success with it.

The Curriculum Specialist along with the Media Specialist spent four days working at the new Stuyahok library cataloging and shelving the books there. The end product after three long days is a library open to the students where they can go and check out books for their learning and for their pleasure. Book sets were collated and organized into the many new cupboards for teachers to use as a resource for their literature courses.

SWRSD participated in a State EED New Teacher Mentor and Student Progress study by providing the department with names of new teachers who are being mentored by the State. These teachers student progress will be looked at by the

EED to show how being mentored will show improvement in student academic progress. The State does provide professional mentoring to all new teachers into Alaska and this district has benefited greatly.

I also participated in the district wide Spelling Bee and Battle of the Books competition as a judge and learned how to facilitate both of the competitions. What an exciting time for all.

Counseling/State-wide Assessments (Steve Ito)

District wide Terra Nova testing for grades 5 & 7 occurred in early February. 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 is nearing completion. 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.

Students have been completing the IPT for Limited English Proficiency.

Student Records/PowerSchool Support (Nate Preston)

Third quarter grades are being entered. We are working to provide automation between PowerSchool and the district’s Special Education management system SEAS.

eRate

The district is still waiting on word of its appeal regarding the full funding of the Tandberg Video Conferencing equipment as anticipated.

The process for next year’s application concluded on February 12th. We now begin the waiting period while our application is reviewed. This is a normal process, but, we don’t usually hear from them regarding our application until the summer months.

Media Center (Shannon Clouse)

In February I went to New Stuyahok with the state library coordinator, Jacque Peterson, and our curriculum specialist, Deb Endicott, to put the new school library together. We unpacked and shelved about 143 boxes of fiction, nonfiction and reference books. We also went to the old school library and pulled books to add to the new collection, about 60 boxes worth of books. After four full and eventful days of hard work we could stand back and look at a gorgeous, functional library.

I have also been busy with receiving and sending out books for the RIF program. Almost all the books for our eight schools have been accounted for and are being sent to sites as they come into the district office.

Battle of the Books

Southwest Region Schools had eight of our nine schools participate in Battle of the Books at some level during the 2008-2009 school year.

Teams participated in "practice battles" in December and then met head to head via Distance Delivery for our District Championship the first week of February. Togiak School, Chief Ivan Blunka School, Manokotak and Clarks Point participated at the 3/4 grade level. The Togiak Husky team consisting of Kiley Katchatag, Kaytlyn Gosuk, Peter Gust and Avery Moore, coached by Vicky Maahs-Dawson, were our 2009 District Battle winners. Unfortunately due to the horrible storms that during February, our 3/4 grade team got weathered out of the State tournament.

The 5/6 grade level had participants from Aleknagik School, Clarks Point School, Ekwok School, Chief Ivan Blunka School and Togiak School. Our district winners this year were from Clarks Point School. Their team consisted of: Samantha Clark, Kayla Wassily-Walker, Alyssa Bushey and Kaylee Wasilly-Waker. Their team was coached by Doug Bushey.

The state Battle for 5/6 grade took place on February 25th. Clarks Point was in the same bracket with Annette Island, the Archdiocese of Anchorage and Klawock. Clarks Point ended the

in a four way tie for 37th place with Klawock, Bristol Bay and Southeast Island.

Our 7/8 grade participants were Ekwok School and Togiak School. Our 2009 District champions were the Togiak Huskies. Their team consisted of Nathan Gosuk, Nekayla Martin, Beverly Echuck, and Andrew Green. The Togiak Husky team is coached by Patricia Wick.

The Togiak Huskies battled at the state level on February 26th in the same bracket with Aleutians East, Kenai, Kodiak and Yukon Flats. They placed 25th out of 33 teams.

Spelling Bee

The 2009 Southwest Region Schools District Spelling Bee had a total of eight participants in third through eighth grade. Each school that participated had two student representatives, one for the K-4 division and one for the 5-8 division.

- **Koliganek School:** Ashleanne Ishnook & Aquila Kapotak
- **Manokotak "Nunaniq" School:** McKenzie Nanalook & Karina Catalone
- **New Stuyahok "Chief" Ivan Blunka School:** Casey Konukpeok, Janae Panamarioff
- **Togiak School:** Bobby Gust & Kendall Wassillie.

Typically in our district Spelling Bee the winner from the K-4 Bee joins the older students in their 5-8th grade competition. This year we had a draw and two students joined the older group. Casey Konukpeok from New Stuyahok and McKenzie Nanalook from Manokotak were the winners for the K-4 Bee and both participated in the Bee that determined our district Spelling Bee Winner.

Kendall Wassillie from Togiak School was our overall winner for the 2009 Spelling Bee this year. Kendall spelled "reckless" correctly to win the Spelling Bee for Togiak School and spelled the word "gazelle" to win for Southwest Region Schools District Spelling Bee. Kendall is an eighth grade student at Togiak School and was coached by teacher Jon Sharp. Kendall will now be participating in the Alaska State Spelling Bee, which takes place in Anchorage on March 4th.

Runner up for this years Spelling Bee was Karina Catalone from Manokotak School.



FEDERAL & STATE PROGRAMS

Jon Clouse, Federal/State Programs Director

New Stuyahok Project

Travel to New Stuyahok to assist the technology team set-up, configure, inventory, and a plethora of other activities occurred from February 8th to 10th. It was a great experience, the new school looks and feels incredible, and I am excited for the students, teachers, and community in New Stuyahok to begin the educative process in the new school.

Grants

An application for the Improving Literacy Through Libraries grant was completed and submitted on March 5th, 2009. This grant opportunity would allow for an upgrade to the most current library cataloging database and expand that database to all of our schools. It would also put a library paraprofessional in each of our schools and provide training for those library

paraprofessionals in the areas of media and library resource management as well as K-3rd grade reading instruction. Unfortunately, the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant that the district applied for was not awarded.

A budget worksheet for the various grants has been included for your information.

Highly Qualified Teacher Efforts

Several teachers traveled to Dillingham on the weekend of March 14th to complete various Praxis II assessments. These Praxis II assessments are one of several ways in which teachers can become highly qualified (as required by the No Child Left Behind Act) in the content areas that are taught by those teachers. Many more teachers are slated to take Praxis II examinations in April.



Twin Hills students proud of their art work!



SPECIAL EDUCATION

Lee Webster, Director of Special Education

State Special Education Conference

The Special Education staff attended the Alaska State Special Education Conference in Anchorage last month. The State mentoring program paid for the travel and accommodations for seven of our teachers to attend, although six took advantage of the offer. This is to support the effort of the state to retain new teachers in special education. They attended a pre-conference where the state gave all of them hard copies of the state manual even though the regulations are up for review again this year. Three of our veteran teachers also attended the conference. As expected, there was a strong push for RtI, Response to Instruction, at the conference.

Training

Lisa Ilutsik, the Special Education administrative assistant, and I attended two days of training using the SEAS on-line IEP program. We learned a lot that neither of us knew about the functionality of the program. The entire staff, except for the one teacher who chose not to attend, joined us on Thursday afternoon that week to learn more about the program. It was a very productive training.

Child Find

This month we began the formal Child Find screenings in the villages. The PAT educators put on another hat to help make this possible. They came into Dillingham in Janu-

ary to train with me on the DIAL-3 preschool developmental screening instrument and took testing kits back with them to begin screening the 3-5 year olds who are not attending Head Start or Kindergarten. The purpose of the screening is to identify students with developmental delays.

The special ed teachers at the sites will be working with the PAT educators to complete the Child Find screening. All of the screening completed by March 6th. We've already seen the need for further testing for a number of the students. The staff will be reviewing the results and sending a letter to parents sharing that information. Parents of those students with whom we need to do additional testing will be notified and consent will be requested. Parents have the right to refuse further testing, but we hope they will consider the benefits of working as soon as possible with those children who have potential developmental delays.



New Stuyahok Parents as Educators program activities.



EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Steve Noonkesser, Technology Coordinator

New Stuyahok School Opening

The Technology Department traveled to the new 'Chief' Ivan Blunka School to prepare the network and technology assets for the arrival of students. The crew worked three, sixteen hour days preparing the technology systems for the new school. During our visit over three hundred (300) new technology assets were deployed. Some examples include a new student data server in the data closet, new laptops for the high school students, two additional mobile laptop labs for the middle school, all new network equipment, and all new desktop computers for each of the elementary classrooms. Non-computer items include two kits of digital still cameras available for teachers to check out as well a kit of digital video cameras also available for check out. The new network and facilities are nice and students should enjoy increased services.

ASTE Conference

After returning from New Stuyahok the majority of the technology department and a number of site personnel had an opportunity to attend the Alaska Society for Technology in Education (ASTE) conference. During the ASTE conference

team members attended lectures and hands-on workshops dealing with current trends and issues related to technology and education. The conference also provided a venue to meet and share successes and solutions with other educators from across the state, with rural educators making up a large portion of the membership.

Les Parks and Jon Clouse also presented at the conference on workstation cloning and image management at the conference to a packed session. Les is rapidly becoming recognized as an expert at the state level in workstation and laptop deployment.

As usual the conference was a good learning experience and we all came home with new ideas and things we can improve on in our own program.

AIMS Web and Data Access

Here in Dillingham Corey Evans has been working on solutions on how to best make AIMS Web data available to teachers and principals in a format that is easy to understand and allows teachers identify and meet needs of our most at risk students.



FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE

Rick Dallmann, Maintenance Director

NEW STUYAHOK SCHOOL COMPLETE!

We did get moved into the new school finally on March 2nd. There were a few delays with discharge permitting, but we did finally get the approval on February 20th and were then able to do the chlorination of the entire school.



We are certainly working through systems and finding a few missing or broken items furniture items.

We want to give Gene and his staff a big thanks for helping us with the move up on very short notice.

The teacher housing was also given permission for discharge and we have also moved into those units.

We will be working on the demolition and abatement of the old school site this spring.

Bulk Fuel Projects

Three bulk fuel upgrade projects at Twin Hills, Ekwok, and Koliganek are moving through the design phase and are looking at being funded next year through the Denali Commission and the Alaska Energy Authority.

Ekwok

Ekwok is participating in a program with the Alaska Building Science Network. They will be doing a site assessment at the school and village

March 10th through the 13th. They are looking at upgrades to the gym lighting system and possible upgrades with energy efficient lighting.

Impact Aid and Funding Options

I am looking at the Federal Impact Aid program for construction projects and will determine what grant programs we are eligible for and where we have the best chance to be awarded funds. I am going to concentrate on life and safety issues like upgrading our fire alarm and sprinkler systems at the smaller sites.





Aleknagik School

Jeff Ambrosier, Lead Teacher

New Staff Member

We would like to introduce our long term substitute, Donna Loucks. She is taking over Mrs. Simm's class while she is out on maternity leave. Mrs. Loucks is not new to Alaska or our district. One of her first teaching assignments was in Levelock back in the (well, quite a while ago). She most recently was in Koliganek this past fall, so she knows our district quite well. She is fitting in very nicely and the students have made a great transition.



Busy Spring

This past month has been full of activities. BBAHC came and did a presentation on injury prevention and tobacco which all the students participated in. The Terra Nova test was given to the 5th and 7th graders, and the state test (SBA) will take place early next month. For the next month, it would be great for the students to get some extra practice at home. When shopping for groceries or other items, involve your child in determining sales tax (for the older students) or asking the younger ones to add up some of the items. Asking them to compare prices to find the better bargain or simply asking them their multiplication tables are great ways to get them thinking about math.



Activities

Kelly Ilutsik coached the basketball team this season. The middle school team from Dillingham made an appearance at our gym and this past weekend our kids went down for a tournament in Dillingham. Its great seeing the kids work together cooperatively.

Thanks

So many times we as teachers don't make enough phone calls home to let parents know what a great job their students are doing. I would like to take this time to let the parents know that you all have a great group of kids. Of course there are things that come up in the course of the week that need addressing, but all in all we as teachers are very lucky to have a great group of kids.





William 'Sonny' Nelson School

Stan Dancer, Lead Teacher

The Year is Flying By!

The year has really been flying by. We are already at the end of the third quarter and the school year will be over before we know it. The Middle Grade students just completed their first aid class. The instructor was pleased with the way the students listened and learned.

Well, once again we had to reschedule our basketball tournament and pinewood derby until March 20-21. We have had some great donations from AC, N&N Market, Penair, and the Walcott family among others to raffle off and to give out as door prizes. We are still anticipating around 60 athletes to participate.

We went to two basketball tournaments in February. At the New Stuyahok Tournament, the

Middle School Coed team took 2nd Place in the Boy's Division, and at the Dillingham Tournament they came in 3rd in the Boy's Division while the girls came in 4th in their division. Congratulations!

The students are just completing a compare/contrast of a bird from Alaska to one from Africa. While researching their bird, the students are learning about Africa and how to properly use a Venn Diagram.

The lower grades celebrated the 100th day of school by playing "Pick a Penguin" where they did or found 100 things. They capped the day off with snacks. They are also writing letters to a friend or their parents.



Manokotak 'Nunaniq' School

Herman Gerving, Principal

Raising Student Voices

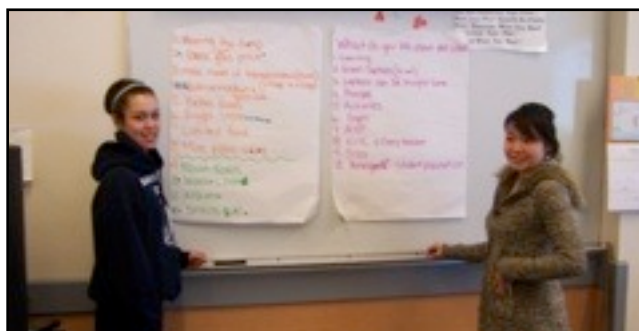
Kelli Wallona and Ariel Gloko began the implementation of the Raising Student Voices and Participation (RSVP) process at Manokotak Nunaniq School by facilitating a small-scale student summit with the journalism class. The process will be extended to all middle and high school students later this month. In the photo, Kelli and Ariel display what the attendees identified as specific things they like about our school and several local issues they would like to address.

We look forward to hearing more from the students in the upcoming summits.

Assessments

Testing continues to be a necessary focus for the staff of Manokotak Nunaniq School. We recently completed the Quality Schools/Quality

Students survey for staff and students grades 6-12. Students in grades 4 and 12 completed the National Assessment of Education Progress with visiting test administrator, Steve Foy, on February 26. We are currently amidst English language proficiency testing (IPT), which will need to continue after spring break due to many students' absences for Fur Rondy and Native Musi-



cale during testing week. Our staff has collaborated to intensify reading, writing, and math instruction in the several weeks leading up to the upcoming SBA and HSGQE exams.

D.A.R.E. for Elementary Students

Trooper Daniel Sadloske introduced the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program to students grades K-2 and 3-5 on March 3, 2009.

There are ten lessons for the students, with the final lesson a Culmination/Graduation Day. The students were very excited with the first presentation and we look forward to Trooper Sadloske's next classroom visit after spring break.



Staff Take Advantage of Summer Staff Development Opportunities

Nunaniq School staff member Lida Storch will attend the Basic Arts Institute for two weeks in Juneau this summer. She will attend with 24 other Alaskan educators who will experience how the arts can increase student performance

and motivation. Lida is very excited and we are proud that Manokotak Nunaniq School will be well-represented at this year's Institute.

Nunaniq School staff member Dana Bartman will participate in the Rural Alaska Principal Preparation and Support (RAPPS), which kicks off with a summer institute at Anchorage. We are pleased to have a participant in this exciting opportunity, which is designed to train and assist in the development of new principals.

QS2 Inservice

In response to last year's Quality Schools/ Quality Students survey results, Nunaniq School staff generated numerous ideas to improve school climate and connectedness during the teacher inservice with presenter Suzie Gaffney on February 21. Suggestions included:

- Implementing RSVP fully to ensure students' opportunities to participate
- Extending the RTP class to parents, community members, and even interested students
- Inviting and encouraging parent participation in classrooms
- Introducing more vocational classes
- Hosting arts and crafts nights for community and students
- Encouraging more community presentations to students (such as SAFE)
- Researching parenting classes that might be offered through community entities
- Establishing a student helper group to support the community's fishing captains.



Twin Hills School

Rod Lindberg, Lead Teacher

February was a good month despite the crazy snowstorms and icy conditions everywhere. We had a Valentine's Day party and all the younger class made cards for each other and their parents.

Barbara took an "Art in the K-8 Curriculum" class online from the University of Alaska and has shared some of those projects with her class. They've been very fun. The students love trying new art. In March they are going to make Yup'ik masks from homemade clay. The kids are looking at traditional masks and planning their own creations.

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.



Koliganek School

Joel Lovesee, Principal



Activities and Projects are the Focus

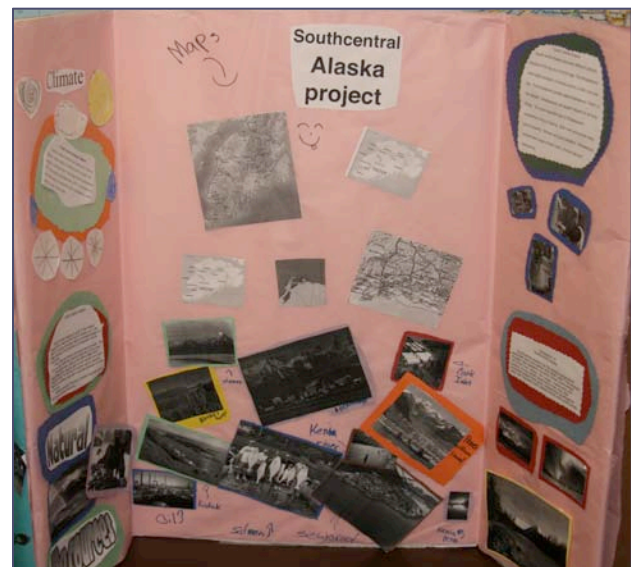
The 3rd quarter is coming to a close with lots of activities, projects, and excitement. Two teachers received professional development by attending the Special Education & ASTE conferences in Anchorage.

Our barrage of testing continues. The Terra Novas have been administered to the 5th and 7th grade students and the IPT's have been given to all identified students. We can now focus strictly on the SBA's, HSGQE's, and ACT's that will be given in April.

Mrs. Pam Johnson's 3rd-6th grade class had a parent presentation where each group showed their computer generated slide shows, read an Alaskan poem, and created a story board over the several regions of Alaska. They concluded the presentation with native foods from each of the regions.

Richard Rau, our high school language arts teacher, along with the Junior and Senior classes, led an all day Dr. Seuss birthday celebration for the elementary school. They supervised creating hats and bookmarks, playing musical chairs and maze games, and having a coloring and hat making contest. The day culminated by everyone enjoying birthday cake and watching the Cat in the Hat movie.

We look forward to continuing success and finishing the year out strong just like it started.





Clarks Point School

Doug Bushey, Principal

Third Quarter Draws to an End - Looking forward to Spring!

The third quarter ended having had the students take the Terra Nova, NAEP, NIES, and the IPT assessments. The students are receiving instruction for test taking strategies in preparation for the SBA along with practice assessments similar to the actual SBA's. The faculty and staff are making plans for the 2009/2010 school years. The CSC had a workshop during Spring Break to plan activities for the upcoming school year in order to meet the needs of the students and their many functions.

The K through sixth grade students is looking forward to attending the Ekwok basketball and pine-wood derby tournament March 20 & 21. They are hoping it will not be postponed again. The students are hoping to report that their cross-country trip by snowgo to Ekwok and back was fun and filled with opportunities to learn about the items and knowledge needed for safety and protection.

The Student Council is proud to report that the 5th/6th grade Battle of the Books team defeated their challengers in the district to receive 1st place. The last time a team from Clarks Point won was eleven years ago. Go Falcons. The Clarks Point 3rd/4th grade team received 2nd place by one question. Congratulations to Togiak for 1st place. The students are already looking forward to next year's competition.



5/6 Grade Battle of the Book Team
Left to Right: Kayla Wassily-Walker, Samantha Clark, Alyssa Bushey and Kaylee Wassily-Walker.



3/4th Grade Battle of the Book Team
Left to Right: Tiffany Melovidov, Kurtis Bushey and JB George.

