

OCTOBER 2017

REPORT TO THE SWRS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Educating our future...



**"Ikayurtarluten
yuullgutevnun.**

**Be helpful to one
another."**

--Bristol Bay Yup'ik Values

Board of Education

Kay Andrews, President
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Superintendent's Office

David J. Piazza, Superintendent

Superintendent Travel

Superintendent Piazza and Associate Superintendent Steve Noonkesser participated in the Alaska Superintendents Association's (ASA) Fall Meeting held in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD) in Seward last month.

The first day's pre-meeting activities began with a tour of the Seward High School. Principal Trevan Walker discussed the school's "hybrid high" model detailing the options that students have to personalize their educational experience. The tour continued onto AVTEC – Alaska's Institute of Technology's Culinary Academy facility. Here participants learned about the culinary programs offered, as well as, were treated to lunch provided by the AVTEC students. Then participants were then transported to AVTEC's



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Combination Welding and Diesel/Heavy Equipment Technologies building. Instructors from both programs provided an overview of the coursework offered and the opportunities available for students who want to further their skills development in these trades. Finally, the tour concluded at the AVTEC Maritime Training Center's fire-fighter training area. A group of Lower Kuskokwim School District 9th grade students were participating in hands-on fire extinguisher training provided through Coastal Village Regional Fund programs.

The overarching theme to this year's meeting dealt with personalizing learning for each student. The meeting was led by Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Superintendent and ASA President Dr. Karen Gaborik. This year's program included welcome messages provided by KPBSD Superintendent Sean Dusek; Mike Navarre, Mayor Kenai Peninsula Borough; and Joe Arness, KPBSD Board of Education President. Pre-recorded video presentations by Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan, and Congressman Don Young were presented as well.

Full group sessions included "What's going on in education?" presented by the ASA Executive Director, Dr. Lisa Skiles Parady; AASA Policy & Advocacy presented by Noelle Ellerson Ng from the National School Superintendents Association; Health Care Authority Study Overview presented by Natasha Peneda with the Alaska Department of Administration; virtual Keynote Address by Michael B. Horn on the future of education; and a panel discussion on Personalized Learning with Anthony Kim, CEO & Founder of Educational Elements, Dr. Suzie Alka Associate Superintendent for School Improvement at Yuma Arizona, Scott Bischooping, BOCES District Superintendent in New York State, and Dr. Matt Akin Superintendent at Huntsville City Schools in Alabama. National speakers also included Dr. Dan Domenech, Executive Director of AASA.

James Fields, President of the State Board of Education, Jerry Covey, and several superintendents who chaired committees of the Alaska Education Challenge provided an update to the strategic planning project as well. Senator Peter Micciche, Representative Mike Chenault, and Representative Paul Seaton led a legislative panel discussion focused on educational funding.

Additional Reports were presented regarding: the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) National Governing Board; the Mt. Edgecumbe Advisory Board; the Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) and the Special Education Service Agency (SESA). Superintendent Piazza also presented to the group on the annual status of the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC).

Similar to the work completed by AASB at their annual conference, ASA participants also reviewed and adopted a set of Joint Position Statements that will be forwarded to the Alaska Association of Elementary School Principals, the Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Alaska Association of School Business Officials. These statements provide direction for the ASA board and members as the legislative session approaches.



Instruction & Information Systems

Steve Noonkesser, Associate Superintendent

As we head into late fall and winter is nearing, we have completed our first Exploration Week. Again this year, students and staff were excited to spend the week doing things we don't normally have the chance to do in our regular schedule. Art, music, CTE courses, courses related to Yup'ik culture and subsistence living among other all were taught. Staff again rose to the challenge of creating special courses and having to switch gears quickly for a week to do these special activities.

This past month has been one of both happy moments like our eWeek successes and sadder and even tragic ones too. The community and school in Aleknagik suffered the tragic loss of a student and we lost a highly respected elder in our region, who had given much to our students. Tragedy and loss are always difficult times and in the midst of it all it is heartening to see our communities pull together to support each other and find a way through tough times together.



INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TEAM



Les Parks
Technology Coordinator



Dianna Schollmeier
Elem. Ed. Specialist



Corey Evans
Technology Specialist



Charles Becker
Sec. Ed. Specialist

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Site Travel

Steve traveled with Superintendent Piazza to the Fall Meeting of the Alaska Superintendent Association. The conference included tours of AVTEC in Seward and discussions with KPBSD about innovative programs providing student choice. Three days of meetings were filled with discussion of innovative programs and a focus at the state level on providing greater choice for students both in traditional core classes and electives as well. There was also a great deal of talk among superintendents about career and technical education and the need to return it to a prominent place in our districts' curricula. We were unable to attend the last day of the meetings due to events back here at home. Given the timing of things it was gracious of Pen Air to allow us to make last minute changes to our itinerary to get home sooner than planned.

Steve was also privileged to attend services in New Stuyahok, along with Jon Clouse, Federal Programs Director, for elder Nick Gumlickpuk, who passed recently. It was good for the heart to see the mark he left on his community and region with people from across the region in attendance.

Instructional Team Notes

Exploration Week

- Staff have become more familiar with the planning and ordering process. A major refinement has been the use of "Amazon Wish Lists" to place orders, which allows individual teachers to select their own products and then send them to District Office staff to compile and issue a single purchase order. Previously a separate purchase order had to be issued for each teacher's order.
- Curriculum Specialist, Charles Becker, organized an instructor's training for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game "Hunter Information Training" Program. Six Southwest Region Schools staff attended the training along with staff from the Alaska Wildlife Troopers and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. This was a valuable opportunity to increase the number of SWRS staff qualified as Hunter Safety Instructors and to create a larger pool of instructor's for the broader Bristol Bay Region. It also allowed SWRS staff to build stronger relationships and share the district's vision with the members of the other agencies that attended, who were appreciative of the opportunity to attend a training locally. The course consisted of a policies and procedures training in the SWRS Boardroom on the evening of Friday, October 6th, followed by a half-day range safety activity at the Dillingham Firing Range and another half-day of testing and qualifications in the SWRS Boardroom on Saturday, October 7th.



- Southwest Region Schools staff who attended and are now fully Qualified Instructors:
 Jerry Jones (CTE Instructor - Togiak)
 Noel Bowe (Elementary Teacher - Manokotak)
 Le’Esia O’Sullivan (Special Education Teacher - Manokotak)
 Charles Becker (Curriculum Specialist - District Office)
 Ben Griese (Special Education Teacher - New Stuyahok)
 Robin Jones - (Principal - New Stuyahok)
- Having these Qualified Instructors will give the district greater flexibility and adaptability in providing the Hunter Information and Training Program, especially during Exploration Weeks. It will also give the district a pool of experts to consult and take leadership on firearms safety training throughout the year across all grade levels.

Academic Vocabulary

- Southwest Region schools continues to promote academic vocabulary district wide. All 6-12 students have a vocabulary.com account that access through PowerSchool and Clever. Each month, the top ten middle school/high school students across the district are honored for the number of words they have mastered. Students are encouraged to use the program at their leisure to increase their tier two and three vocabulary skills. First, second, and third place finishers receive a dollar value prize that each site will transfer to either student store credit or gas credit.
- September results for most words mastered across the district grades 6-12:
 - 1st: Alfredo Jimenez (KMO) 43 Words Mastered (\$15 credit)
 - 2nd: Jerahmy Peterson (TOG) 41 Words Mastered (\$10 credit)
 - 3rd: Kalena Sutton (TOG) 32 Words Mastered (\$5 credit)
 - 4th: Ezra Andrews (TOG) 27 Words Mastered
 - 5th: Luther Andrews (TOG) 26 Words Mastered
 - 6th: Kaitlyn Pauk (TOG) 24 Words Mastered
 - 7th: Maya Geltzer (TOG) 18 Words Mastered
 - 8th: Koby Pauk (TOG) 12 Words Mastered
 - 9th: Simeon Bartman (TOG) 10 Words Mastered
 - 10th: Jessie Jones (TOG) 9 Words Mastered
- Elementary students are also encouraged to build their academic vocabulary through Vocabulary Spelling City. Vocabulary Spelling City allows teachers to build word lists and spelling work and assign it out to students to work on via games and activities on student iPads.

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Mathematics Instruction

- Students mastering their math facts is another focus for SWRS. We currently have 122 students that have used reflex math for 10 or more days this year, and of those students, they had beginning of the year fluency of 54% and current fluency of 65%. SWRS has set goals to have all students fluent in addition and subtraction facts by 2nd grade; multiplication and division facts 0 – 10 by third grade; and multiplication and division facts 0 – 12 by fourth grade.

10 or more days' usage	Number of Students	Starting Fluency	Current Fluency
Overall Fluency <i>(K – 8 students: all assignments)</i>	122 of 277	54%	65%
Grade 2 Goal: <i>addition & subtraction facts</i>	30 of 60	38%	53%
Grade 3 Goal: <i>multiplication and division facts 0 – 10</i>	9 of 49	20%	46%
Grade 4 Goal: <i>multiplication and division facts 0 – 12</i>	29 of 48	49%	63%

- This past summer, a committee of elementary math teachers worked together to be trained in the Math Daily Review and Mental Math instructional practices. The MDR committee was formed to provide instructional support to all math teachers in the MDR and mental math practices. In addition, there was district wide training at the beginning of the year inservice and instructional support will be provided at a district level throughout the year. The vision and goals of Math Daily Review and Mental math are as follows:
- Vision:** Building number sense and computational skills in our students to increase student achievement in Algebra.
- Goal:** Our goal through the implementation of a Math Daily Review including daily mental math practice is to increase a student's RIT points by 1 to 1.5 grade level points in a school year.
- Upcoming Professional Development:** Koliganek has PD scheduled October 16th. New Stuyahok has PD scheduled December 4th. District-wide PD is scheduled for November 20th.

Technology Team Notes

Corey and Les have made three site visits recently. The first visit was travel to Clarks Point with two GCI technicians to assist in getting the internet turned on for the Clarks Point school currently being held in the Clarks Village Council community building. The second visit was also to Clarks Point, during this visit Corey issued iPads as well as staff laptops and set-up a printer while Les continued work on the network. During their most recent site visit, to Aleknagik, Les and Corey deployed new printers to the school as well as wiring a network port to the new high school addition.

Corey's current projects include supporting the new printer deployments as well as continuing to iron out the glitches out of the new Apple School Manager integration with our JSS server to help us add some

new features to the districts iPad deployment. Les continues work on deployment projects for printers and continued network upgrades and support.

The technology team has been busy engaged in many other activities including:

eRate / School BAG Funding Year 2017

- eRate / School BAG Funding Year 2016
 - Category 1 - Filed Forms 472 for Telephone Services in the amount of \$14,210.30
 - Payments approved by USAC; direct deposit to SWRS pending
- eRate / School BAG Funding Year 2017 ->
 - Category 1 - Status of application remains "In Review"...

Clarks Point network engineering, installation, and configuration

- Set up temporary wired and wireless LAN in new building that cannot be inhabited until such time as a permanent temporary building is finalized, then will have to coordinate with GCI and NushTel to move connections. Meantime, wireless access is possible (but not ideal) in current location.
- Set up student Deployment server, including Munki Managed Software Center services

Alaska PEAKS

- Set up Alaska PEAKS Testing Site Manager (TSM) server for CLP and verified functionality with INSIGHT testing client
- Updated Alaska PEAKS Testing Site Managers for all sites
- Requested to pilot Central Office (new TSM & INSIGHT testing client management tool) with EED (so far, no response from EED)

New Classroom Printers

- CLP configured, shipped, and installed
- KMO configured, shipped, and installed
- TOG configured, shipment pending
- KEK configured, shipment pending
- TWA configured, shipment pending
- WKK configured, shipment pending

New Site Workgroup Printers

- KMO configured, shipment pending
- TOG configured, shipment pending

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State & Federal Programs

Jon Clouse, Director

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA a.k.a. Title grants)

After working with a number of various stakeholders and committee work, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) has submitted its state plan to the U.S. Department of Education for how it intends to implement the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan address four main components including:

- Standards and Assessments
- Accountability
- District and School Support
- Educator Quality

Standards and Assessments – there were no changes to the standards so the 2012 version of the standards remain. The assessment implemented to determine student progress towards meeting the standards is called PEAKS. Last year was the first administration of the PEAKS assessment which is given to students third through ninth grade. The science assessment is administered to students in grades 4, 8, and 10.

Accountability - the accountability system as three main components including long-term goals, the new accountability indicators, and annual meaningful differentiation of schools (an index score from zero to 100 based on the indicators).

District and School Support – Schools needing extra support will be identified as either Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools. Designations are based on the performance in the accountability indicators, graduation rate, and subgroup performance.

Educator Quality – while “Highly Qualified” no longer exists, school districts will still track and report the number of teachers that are inexperienced, out-of-field, and ineffective. The plan has a definition for each of these terms. The executive summary of the ESSA plan is included in the board packet.

Title I-C – Migrant Education

The migrant recruiting process continues! The recruiters are the critical piece to ensuring that we identify as many eligible students as possible. Recruiting has been completed for Koliganek, and Manokotak. We are making a number of follow-up calls to Togiak and Twin Hills because families are still planning on catching red fish. We are also following up with families in Aleknagik. The recruiting process is taking a little longer than normal because we don’t have the number of recruiters that we did last year.

Career & Technical Education – Bristol Bay Regional CTE program (BBRCTE)

- The first session of the BBRCTE program was completed in September. Thirty-three students from around the region participated in four different course offerings including Introduction to Fisheries, Computer Coding, Introduction to Aviation Careers, and Introduction to Healthcare Careers. SWRSD had students from five of our schools apply for various sessions. The second session of the BBRCTE program will occur during week of November 6 through 10. There will be sessions in Heavy Equipment Operator, Home Energy Basics, Introduction to Nautical Skills, Emergency Trauma Technician, and Medical Terminology. The applications have been sent out and students will have been selected by the time of the October School Board Meeting.



Student Information & Support Specialist: Kyle Schneider

Fall OASIS Report

The fall count period began on October 2nd and runs through October 27th. Kyle has been working this month to check the accuracy of student data and to update the Fall OASIS report that must be submitted to the state by November 10th. This report will contain data about every student enrolled in the district. The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development then uses the enrollment data contained in the report to determine funding levels.

Migrant Recruiting

As of October 9th, 137 students have been approved by the state as eligible for the Migrant Education program. We have submitted paperwork to the state for 38 more students. These numbers do not include potential migrant students who recruiters have yet to contact or students whose paperwork is in progress. At this point last year, we had 190 students approved and 18 students whose paperwork had been submitted but not yet approved. Recruiting has been slowed this year by the loss of one village-based recruiter and two district office based at-large recruiters. The deadline for having students approved as eligible for funding under the Migrant Education program is November 15th.

In past years, letters were sent to parents to notify them of their child's eligibility and the services offered under the program as soon as they were approved. The increased workload on district office staff due to the loss of recruiters means those letters won't go out until all students have been recruited.

Impact Aid

The Impact Aid count day is October 27th this year. The following week, Kyle will send out information to secretaries so that they can confirm students' information. Once students' information is confirmed, the district can compile it and begin the work to get our submission certified as correct by village entities, BBNA, and the state tax assessor.

The increased timeline for completing Migrant Education recruiting and parent notification will likely cause delays in completing the Impact Aid data collection and certification process.

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Counseling & Assessment Specialist: Steve Ito

Applications have been approved by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) to re-enroll SWRSD sites with the addition of Clarks Point, to the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS). The Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) is an annually updated, comprehensive career and educational research and exploration system for teens and adults. AKCIS is a dynamic web-based program that can easily navigate between occupational information, the related

programs of study, with the schools and programs nationwide that offer the training.

Completed administration training in the World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Protocol for limited English proficient students. The World-class Instructional Design and Assessment materials assesses student abilities in all four language domains (Listening, Speaking, Writing, and Reading), and evaluates Social and Instructional English as well as academic language corresponding to the subject areas of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The assessment tool for the WIDA training is the ACCESS 2.0 for ELLs, which is given annually to limited English proficient students during a testing window from February 1 through March 31.





Yup'ik Studies

Esther Ilutsik, Director

Cetuyaraq

September 12, 2017 went to Cetuyaraq to visit the Chief Ivan Blunka School and worked with Tat'iq, Anguk'aq and Arnayagaq. It was so exciting and encouraging to watch the positive engagement of the students . . . lots of pride in their names and reflected in their self-portraits. The teachers were excited for the students as they begin to develop their dioramas for their Yup'ik Only Rule class. I so look forward to reports as we begin to implement YOR year 2. And Arnayagaq students were so engaged in identifying berries that they have picked in Yup'ik. Quyanara for working so hard and enjoying the work that all you do.

Iquaq

On September 18, 2017 went to Iquaq to visit with Arnangauq who is the Yup'ik Studies Instructor at the William "Sonny" Nelson School. Arnangauq has a self contained Yup'ik Studies classroom where he also teaches Reading Mastery and Math. Arnangauq will be pursuing a teaching degree and that takes a lot of his time outside his school duties. This is so encouraging and we are pleased for his choice in this career. He is a natural in the classroom. Quyanara Arnangauq.

Qalirneq

Made a day trip to Qalirneq September 19, 2017 to visit with Cikiar, Pi'pic and Darlene and her mentee Anne. It happened to be during e-week where the older children were engaged in a international cooking activity with Anne and Darlene. Cikiar was holding her regular Yup'ik sessions with the Kindergarten and 1st grade. Later in the afternoon three classes from the elementary level went on a berry picking expedition. It was so rewarding to watch the children so engaged in picking berries. They went to the end of the road and picked cranberries. Quyanara for a great visit.

Manuquutaq

Traveled out to Manuquutaq on the 25th of September. Walked into Angutekayak's class where the students were engaged in, "Introduction to Yup'iaq" lesson. They were on task and even were getting assistance from their elder mentors. The instructor posed questions to the students and when the students didn't respond she would ask an elder. You would think that the elders were not paying attention to the lesson as they were busy with their sewing crafts but were on task. I then went to observe Tan'iq's YCC 201 class, Yup'ik Orthography where the students introduced themselves to me in Yup'ik. Then he and the students demonstrated the "KAHOOTS" using words from their book, "A Practical Grammar of the Central Alaska Yup'ik Eskimo Language". The students were totally engaged and enjoyed the "tech" immediate responses of their choices of interpretation. Had arrived a little bit late too to observe Cungass'aq but was able to catch up on her. My observations ended with the Yup'ik Only Rule class where the students were working in groups with their picture flashcards.

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Saguyak

Traveled out to Saguyak and worked with Yunguaq. We were able to put together a curriculum that he could use as he begins his exciting duty as Yup'ik Studies Instructional Aide. He will begin with self-portraits with their Yup'ik names (some he may have to do a little research) and begin the exercises of practicing Yup'ik names, introduce counting & colors with calendar activities. He is also supplementing the lesson by reading *The Storyknife*. Many of those stories were written by people from Clark's Point. Had a few minutes to go over the exercise, "Kituusit?" with the students and even introduced them to, "kuukissaaq" and received one when pronounced correctly. Qu yana for a pleasant visit.



September 29–30, 2017 Alaska Cross Content Conference – Fairbanks

Arnayagaq of Cetuyaraq and Naatuu of Tuyuryaq and Esther attended the 2017 Alaska Cross Content Conference in Fairbanks, Alaska September 29-30, 2017. The conference was a joint effort of four associations representing Alaska educators with the Alaska Foreign Language Association, Alaska Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Alaska Science Teacher Association, and Alaska Literacy Association. See handout for conference details.

October 4–7, 2017 48th Annual NIEA 2017 (National Indian Education Association Conference – Orlando, Florida

Esther attended the NIEA conference was filled with many interesting sessions that continue to guide and strengthen our Yup'ik Studies Program. See handout for conference details.





Special Education

Sherry Becker, Director

Special Education Director Travel

The special education director travelled to New Stuyahok, Koliganek, and Ekwok on September 18 – 21st. The purpose of these site visits includes completion of the kindergarten hearing/vision screenings, student observations and teacher training. It was an outstanding trip and my first site visit during Exploration Week. Students were learning a lot of interesting things this week! The special education director visited Clarks Point on Sept. 27th for the purpose of provided their special education paraprofessional with training and to deliver supplies necessary for student to work toward IEP goals. Finally, the special education director visited the school in Manokotak on Oct. 3 – 5th. The director spent a lot of time in the classrooms throughout the school supporting both students and staff during this visit. A couple of things stood out during this site visit that were very impressive: first, all students and staff were actively engaged in the learning process and secondly things seemed to flow so smoothly – especially the reading mastery groups. Nice job Manokotak staff!

School Psychologist

Our school psychologist travels included Aleknagik, Manokotak, Koliganek, New Stuyahok and Clarks Point. The purpose of these school visits included formal and informal observations, cognitive and academic evaluations, classroom behavioral support, and gifted/talented evaluations. These visits also provided the school psychologist with an opportunity to provide social/emotional/behavioral training for individual teachers/staff.

SERRC Itinerant staff

The itinerant physical therapist, Tarah Sweeney, made her first visit to our schools for the year. Tarah works with students in New Stuyahok, Ekwok, Manokotak, and Togiak. We are pleased to welcome Tarah back again to SWRS this year. Barbara McNinch is our new itinerant occupational therapist. She has lived in Alaska for over 20 years but this was her first visit to our region. Barbara worked with staff and students in Manokotak, Twin Hills, and Togiak. She will be visiting villages upriver later this month. Our new itinerant speech/language pathologist, Naomi Boswell is also new this school year and she will be working with students and staff in Koliganek, New Stuyahok, and Ekwok. Naomi's first visit to schools will be later this month.

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Professional Development

The special education teachers participated in a two-hour afterschool inservice via polycom on September 14th. The title of this inservice was Trauma Informed Practices in Schools. We discussed topics such as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), prevalence nation-wide and the results of more recent Alaska specific studies, how a child's ACE score and trauma impacts their educational experience, brain research related to trauma, resilience, strategies to create a trauma-sensitive school, executive functioning skills, and finally staff self-care to decrease the impact of potential vicarious trauma.

The special education teachers spent Saturday, September 30th in Dillingham learning from their peers. Ben Griese presented on Assistive Technology, Nicole Wagner presented her experience with a social/emotional curriculum called the Zones of Regulation, and Amy Arnold shared with us her experience in working with students that struggle with executive functioning skills. This was a day full of learning, including opportunities for hands-on practice. Thank you to our amazing presenters for this valuable information!





Facilities & Maintenance

Rick Dallmann, Director

ALEKNAGIK

- New score board installed
- Volley Ball equipment installed
- Water system upgrades

CLARKS POINT

- As of this writing still waiting for Fire Marshal to approve our request to use the entire council building for classroom space.
- Should hear from Fire Marshal by Oct.20 will provide update at meeting
- Teacher housing is completed.
- Start process to open old school building, letter of intent to transfer school building back to SWRSD has been received from City of Clarks Point.
- Letter of commitment received from Clarks Point Village Council to budget \$200,000 towards reopening of the old school

EKWOK

- Old bulk fuel tank farm decommissioned
- Roof repairs have been completed so far no new leaking.
- Fuel has not been delivered yet, Vitus is planning trips up river

MANOKOTAK

- Fuel delivery completed
- Custodial equipment inventory

KOLIGANEK

- Fuel and new truck have not been delivered yet, Vitus is planning to come up
- Materials for Teacher housing Arctic entries has been ordered waiting for delivery

TOGIAK

- New flatbed truck delivered
- Teacher housing new floors installed
- Teacher housing work orders
- Custodial equipment inventory

TWIN HILLS

- Fuel delivery completed

NEW STUYAHOK

- All alarm systems inspected, kitchen hood certified
- On site custodial training
- Windows for entrance have been ordered and installation scheduled
- Fuel and new truck have not been delivered yet, Vitus is planning to come up

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Aleknagik School

Audra Finkenbinder, Principal/Teacher

Time seems to just be flying by at Aleknagik North Shore School - here we are already at the end of the first quarter of the 2017-2018 school year with Parent/Teacher Conferences planned for October 26th – 27th.

Within the last few weeks, we have had Student Council elections, completed the first of four Exploration Weeks, volleyball tournaments have begun, quarterly CIPA Training has been completed and students are currently completing the AIMSweb fluency checks for the first quarter.

Student Council

The Student Council for the 2017-2018 school year consists of:

- President-Travis Bavilla
- Vice President-Memphis Gosuk
- Secretary-Tasha Gilila
- Treasurer- Steven Tugatuk
- Representative-Austin Finkenbinder

Volleyball

Volleyball practice began on October 6th and this year we are fielding a high school team. Aleknagik hosted a 6-team tournament on October 6th -7th with New Stuyahok, Manokotak, Togiak, Dillingham JV, Bristol Bay, and the Lakers. All teams competed well and had a good time. We are excited about the potential of the high school team and are looking forward to a great season!



CIPA

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act and Southwest Region School's Acceptable Use Policy, all students have received instruction in Basic Internet Safety and will continue to receive training on a quarterly basis throughout the school year.

AIMSWEB

Students are currently completing the as the AIMSweb fluency assessment. Teachers will use the data collected from this assessment to adjust instruction to better meet student needs.

Reflex Math

Students continue to utilize Reflex Math, an online fluency program. Aleknagik School is proud to announce that numerous children in grades K-2 have reached 100% fluency in addition and subtraction and are currently gaining skills in multiplication and division!

Students of the Month

K-5: Kaya Strub -- 6-12: Glenn Andrews
Congratulations! Keep up the good work!



Clarks Point School
Shannon Harvilla, Principal

Clarks Point School currently has enrolled 14 student's K to 10th. The students are working on collaborating between age groups and assisting others in attaining educational gains this year. The students of Clarks Point have completed MAP testing and are working on their Exact Path in order to catch up from the previous years of no school in the community. School is still being held with the support of Clarks Point Village Council, who is still happily sharing their conference room to accommodate our students.



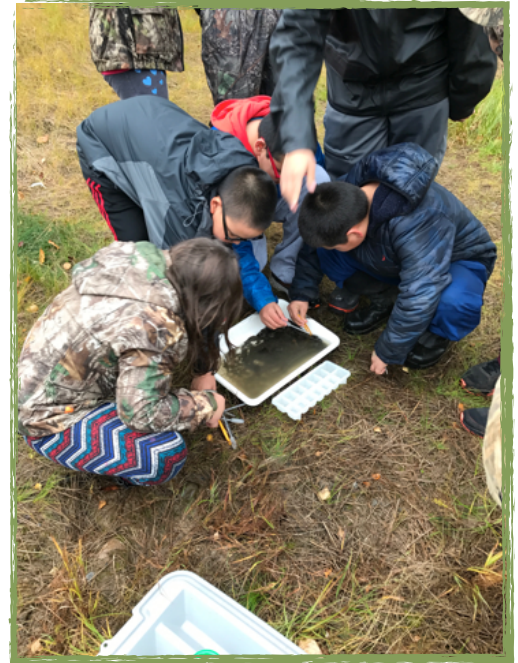
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William 'Sonny' Nelson School

Amy Arnold, Principal/Teacher

The month of September has been a busy one here in Ekwok! We participated in E week doing Community Service. We formed a Committee to plan the events and trips to ensure that the community was involved in the process. During the week, we learned about the history of our community and how service to others kept the people alive and well. We learned about other types of communities and how they serve each other. One field trip took us out to the old landfill, where the EPA shared the history of the old landfill and the importance of keeping our environment clean and sustainable. We tied these issues in with the Yup'ik values related to respecting our land and resources. We baked cupcakes, picked berries, wove baskets, and delivered these gifts to the elders' homes. It was a very inclusive, heart-warming time for staff and students. We had one final field trip planned down to the original Ekwok Lodge, but weather did not permit travel. We will try to implement this field trip in the spring. It involved learning the history of the settlement, subsistence topics, and cleaning up the area.



We elected candidates for Student Council. Students developed platforms based on ideas for change and school improvement. They wrote speeches, which were videotaped. We then put the videos into iMovie and had mini-lessons on the development of an iMovie. Students were actively engaged in the process of learning the roles and responsibilities of each office, as well as how others conduct their candidacy to gain votes. A strong discussion about ethics was held as well, as a result of a teachable moment. Of the entire week's learning, the student engagement in this particular discussion was the highlight.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game came out to present to the students. The classroom discussion addressed their current project of measuring the water in the 5 rivers and creeks in Bristol Bay to which they are assigned. Klutuk Creek is one of the five that they are studying. The life cycles of the five types of salmon were discussed, as well as the water cycle. We then took students out to Klutuk Creek where the Fish and Game biologists set minnow traps and gathered macro invertebrates for students to identify. The students were highly engaged in the process, and the debrief demonstrated great retention of knowledge by the students.



Koliganek School

Deb Forkner, Principal

Koliganek School STEPP needs assessment has been completed and the school wide goals for this year are:

- By the end of the 2017-18 school year, 80% of all students will meet their expected growth rate on the MAP reading assessment.
- By the end of the 2017-18 school year, 80% of all students will meet their expected growth rate on the MAP math assessment.
- By the end of the 2017-18 school year chronic absenteeism for 6th-12th graders will decrease by 5%.

School strengths are that Koliganek School has a very positive school climate. There are very few discipline referrals, students generally get along well with each other and staff members. There is a strong consistent core of classified staff.

Staff and students are looking forward to the November Exploration week. The Middle and High School students will learn to make holiday foods and how to do wood burning to make signs. Elementary students will make dance fans, drums and learn a Yupik dance, learn to play recorders and make fur mittens. We are hopeful that more High School students will return to Naknek for courses as well.

Koliganek CSC, community members and students met with two artists, Apayo Moore and Alieen Walsh, to discuss and plan art work for the new school. Both artist will be submitting drawing and creating pieces.

As the first fourth of the school year comes to an end we look forward to Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 26 and 27. Students are working hard and we are exciting to share their accomplishments with parents.

“Pride in Our Past, Purpose in Our Future” continues to be the focus at Koliganek School



REPORT TO THE SOUTHWEST REGION SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION



Manokotak 'Nunaniq' School

Lewis Beaver, Principal

Academics:

Our current enrollment is at 73 students for K-6th and 51 students for 7-12th, with a total of 124 students. We did have a positive start. Students and staff are getting settled in and are beginning to wrap up the first quarter of instruction. The after-school tutoring is currently set for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:40-4:30 p.m. The first e-week was busy and productive.

Attendance:

The current schoolwide attendance rate is at 93.12%.

Activities:

We recently hosted a Middle School Volleyball meet. The games were attended by Koliganek, New Stuyahok, Dillingham, and our site. All participants represented their communities very well. Our junior and senior classes are in the process of getting ready to attend the AFN Elders and Youth Convention. In addition, they are planning to visit several educational campuses in the Southcentral Alaskan region.





‘Chief’ Ivan Blunka School

Robin Jones, Principal

Everything is continuing to go well at Chief Ivan Blunka School! Our students, staff, and community have really taken ownership of the Yup'ik Value of the Month program, which for October is: "Be helpful to one another." It is so great to see everyone demonstrate these incredible values and to be appropriately recognized for doing so.

Exploration Week was a huge success in September, and we are already planning and looking forward to the November session. We will be offering the following secondary courses in November: Subsistence Meat Processing, International Cuisine, Wilderness Survival, Pioneering II, Wood Burning, Lure Making Business, American Sign Language, Ulu Making I & II, Intermediate Quilt Making, Advanced Qaspeq Making, and Academic Improvements. We are also hoping that several students get accepted into the BBRCTE sessions. In the elementary we will be offering: Yup'ik Dance, Bot Battles, Rube Goldberg Machines, Coding for Kids, Engineering, Wilderness Exploration, and the Art of Making Fry Bread. The students and staff are very excited about these highly engaging course offerings!

In our Professional Learning Communities, we will begin to develop professional growth and development plans with all of our staff. The certified staff will use iObservation and the Marzano teaching framework to develop their plan while the classified staff will use a tool that has been aligned with the components of their evaluation. Both sets of plans will allow staff members to choose target elements, use a scale to define a starting point and ending point, design goals and action steps, and reflect on their progress throughout the year. Our hope is that this process will help all of our staff be goal-oriented and grow as educators in our continued effort to provide students with every opportunity and the best possible education!

We were so very proud to have four student athletes qualify for and compete at the state cross-country championships. Both our high school and middle school teams have already come home as tournament champions from competitions in Togiak, Manokotak, and Aleknagik. We have also had a great turnout at practice for our wrestling program. The New Stuyahok Fabricators (NSF) have been active and recently donated customized t-shirts to the Wonhola family in loving memory of Coach Gloria Wonhola. We look forward to all of the opportunities we have to be proud of our kiddos throughout the year!



Elementary

Toby Wonhola – 4th Grade

Middle School

Craig Wonhola – 8th Grade

High School

Tyler Andrew – 12th Grade

Employees of the Month

Alexandra Gumlickpuk
& Daniel Brune



REPORT TO THE SOUTHWEST REGION SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION



Togiak School
Michael Lee, Principal

We now have middle school and high school volleyball and wrestling practice started. It has been a great start to this year and we can already see the differences that CHAMPS has made in the atmosphere of the building. The structures that have been put in place have been successful at decreasing problems in common areas. Arrival in the morning is a very happy time with all of the staff welcoming the students. Lunch is quiet as K-5 classes compete with each other over who can best follow our cafeteria CHAMPS expectations. Dismissal is now extremely smooth with the students assigned specific jobs each day. School transportation on the bus has also improved with additional structures and CHAMPS expectations for bus behavior. All of the staff's hard work is paying off with positive benefits. We look forward to continued improvement with the climate and morale of the building as we work on additional implementation of Safe and Civil Schools CHAMPS.



We completed our first e-week and it was a huge success. We had three students pass the written exam to get a rural Alaska Drivers License. We had several students that were able to convert an old green house into a meat processing shed and drying rack. There was also robotics, cooking, computer coding, origami, and beading. All grades kindergarten through 12th participated in e-week. We had a community presentation on Friday and each class presented their work. Afterward, parents were able to go around the commons and view examples of the students' work. The exploration week classes have allowed the students the opportunity to explore content that they would not normally not be able to experience. We have only heard



positive comments from parents and students about the e-week experiences.

We hosted our first sporting event with middle school volleyball. We had Koliganek, New Stuyahok, and Manokotak in Togiak. It was a successful event with all teams playing well. The primary reason for sports is to help ensure that the players maintain their grades and build school spirit. It was a pleasure to have the visiting teams in Togiak and we look forward to our next event. The community enjoyed being able to see the teams play at home.

We have several opportunities to help students to be successful in school and many positive rewards for those that are striving for success. We have after school tutoring 3 days a week. We also have our wrestling team conducting tutoring to improve their grades twice a week as part of practice. We have the gym open 5 nights a week with attendance and behavior requirements to attend. We have attendance incentive nights each Friday that require perfect attendance for the week with less than 3 tardies and no office referrals. Some teachers are hosting behavior reward parties for their class after school once the class earns enough DoJo points. We have our weekly husky buck winners that are selected for following our CHAMPS expectations. We also recognize students of the month and employee of the month. Our Students of the Month for September were Nevada Kamkahpak (K-2) , Trinity Kvamme (3-5), Alyssa Coopchiak (6-8), and Maya Geltzer (9-12). Our employee of the month for September was Abby Active. Our employee attendance incentive winner was Ina Togiak. She did not miss any days in September and her name was selected for the prize.

It has been a great year so far and we keep working on ways to make it even better. I would like to thank the School Board for their continued support in Togiak School as we continue to strive for Togiak to be the best that it can be.





Twin Hills School

Nate Preston, Principal/Teacher

Twin Hills School currently has 25 students. We are completing the arrangements for our middle school student' trip to the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Conference. Our students are looking forward to traveling to Fairbanks, where the AFN Conference will be held this year. We are also preparing for Parent-Teacher conferences, Halloween, E-week, and Thanksgiving.

September's E-week was a success and the students enjoyed doing all the outdoor activities. We are in the process of setting up for E-week in November. The middle school is cooking various international recipes before Thanksgiving. The High school, in the meantime will be doing stone carving and wood burning. Everyone else is looking forward to making Thanksgiving and Christmas ornaments and decorations.

The school year is progressing nicely. Our current enrollment is 25 students and the High School Program is working well. We have started the after school program. We are having movie nights every Friday after school; rewards are based on attendance and behavior. We are having great success on Reflex Math and grades 3 -8 are enjoying Exact Path. We have over 30,000 facts solved in Reflex Math this year and many students have completed multiple sections on the Exact Path. One student already has 8 trophies on Exact Path.