

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

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Another month has flown by as the year picks up speed and many positive things are happening around the district. Our first eWeek is behind us and schools are into the fall routines of sports, and the first quarter of classes is wrapping up.

A search has begun to fill an opening in Ekwok, for a classroom teacher. District Office staff has been helping cover classes until a permanent hire has been made. The team here at District Office has put in many hours doing a thorough search to find a qualified candidate and has interviewed a number of candidates with some recent success. We are hopeful that we will be able to make a long term hire very soon. Hiring for this position is a priority right now, as it directly affects student learning.

We completed the last phase of our annual financial audit the last week of September and initial conversations during the exit interview with our auditors indicate that we are in solid financial shape. These positive results are thanks to hours of hard work by staff over the past year to review our processes and ensure that we are operating using best practice and following accepted accounting guidelines.

This fall, as a team, we have also begun focusing more on both staff and student attendance. We believe that attendance is the foundation of learning both for our students. As a team we are looking carefully at our policies and working to ensure that our students have qualified staff working with them at all times. We are also working to ensure that all staff understand the importance of the role they play in student achievement and as role models. These efforts are beginning to show some positive results.

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Special Education

LeEsia O'Sullivan

The year is progressing along quickly with a lot of activities taking place in the Special Education Department. Teachers around the district are getting into their grooves with regards to ESERs, IEPs, BIPs, FBAs with a lot more being written, implemented, and refined to meet the needs of the students. This ensures that all student will have a successful school year where learning is taking place and individual needs are being met.

LeEsia had an opportunity to attend two events in September. The first event was in Seattle, Washington. She attended the 36th annual Pacific Northwest Institute on Special Education and Law. This conference was very fast paced covering law cases within the 9th sector and how they have affected special education here in Alaska and the other 9th sector states. LeEsia enjoyed meeting other directors, school lawyers and teachers from a variety of states and believes she brought back relevant information to share with the SWRS special education teachers.

LeEsia also attended a Special Education Director/Coordinator in-service in Anchorage. During this meeting, Don Enoch and his team presented materials, updates, and processes that are relevant and new to this year. We were able to access the new Special Education Handbook., discuss compliance issues, and mingle with others within the states. This was very valuable source of professional development for the special education team.

The Special Education department will be going through a special education compliance review. This takes place every four years. This year, a team from the state will be visiting during the week of October 21st. during this review, the team will be going through student files and looking at our processes. They will give direct feedback to ensure that the district is in compliance or has a plan to correct issues that are found. This review will be a learning opportunity for LeEsia, who hopes to gain insight to share with the special education staff. This will help ensure that we have a compliant, well-functioning team. After the review, the special education department will have a professional development session/in-service where all data can be reviewed and actions can take place to support the staff to ensure that all findings are corrected.

In the area of pre-k, schools are moving along and students are learning. Parents, teachers, and administrators are very pleased with the programs and the outcome of the children attending their programs. Big Day for Pre-K is being implemented at all sites, and teachers are enjoying the easy to follow, creative play curriculum. The district is focusing on getting notifications out to all parents regarding children ages 3-5 for enrollment. It is SWRS goal to service all students ages 3-5 years to ensure they are ready for kindergarten.



Yup'ik Studies

Esther Ilutsik, Director of Yup'ik Studies

Yugtun App

We discussed certain expressions that students rarely observe, such as cama-i. The students need to see this being modeled in real life and have them participate in the role. When is the term “Waqaa?” used? Should we bring back the correct term instead of changing it to mean (the English translation) “hello? Just a few things that we are looking at as we develop the guide to assist parents, students, community members and teachers to question as they “revitalize” our Yugtun language.

Committee Members:

Cuunaq - Melody Noden

Nayangcuk - Massa Andrews

Arnaq - Pauline Askoak

Ukayiq - Martha Fox

Angutekayak - Lousie Gloko

Manuquutaq (Manokotak) Site Visit/Observation Session

Quyana for a wonderful visit to Nunaniq school. Everyone is so welcoming and helpful.

Had the privilege of talking with one of Angutekayak's (Louise Gloko's) Yup'ik Only Rule 7th grade class. I being by asking the students, “Why is it important for us to learn the Yup'ik language?” I was impressed with their depth of perception. One of the first responses was, “It is the language of our ancestors.” Yes, in order to understand our history, we have to understand the language of our ancestors. Another response was, “We have to know our Yugtun language to understand who we are.” Yes, that is so much a very important of our culture. And



YOR - Setting the Stage



Yup'ik 101 Grammar



Yugtun Dancing

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another response was, “To know our Yugtun language is to be proud of who we are.” Yes, we need to be proud of who we are. What a great start to a wonderful realization of the importance of our Yup’ik language.

Also visited Tan’iq’s YCC 101 class with two students enrolled. Regardless, they were provided challenging lessons that included oral pronunciation. They both were totally engaged and so proud to be Yup’ik and learning the grammar of the Yugtun language.

Ukayiq (Martha Fox) of Tuyuryaq (Togiak) arrived in time to observe Cuungass’aq’s (Grace Gamechuk’s) Yup’ik Studies classes. It is always a joy to watch Cuungass’aq teach and work with the students. The introductions, as they practiced their Yup’ik names, the songs and dances she incorporated into her lesson, the color games that the students enjoyed so much and the calendar activities. It was a joy to observe the certified teachers being active learners.

Ukayiq left with some great ideas that she will begin to implement in her Yup’ik Studies classes in Togaik. We also talked briefly about the up-coming Yup’ik Studies in-services. And several recommendations were made that will be considered. Quyana.

Alaqlaqiq Site Visit

Cuungaq Melody Noden, Yup’ik Studies instructor received a mini-BBNC grant to bring Alaska Yup’ik Master Artist Alfred “Twilly” Gosuk of Tuyuryaq (Togiak) to teach soap stone carving to the middle and high school students. Twilly was impressed with the diligence and artistic ability of the Alaqlaqiq students. Quyana Alaqlaqiq Students.

Yup’ik Studies Inservice

Professor Arnaq Marie Meade was here to teach two university level classes for our Yup’ik Studies Instructors. YUP F 131- Beginning Yup’ik Grammar II and YUP F 240 –Introduction to Reading and Writing Yup’ik. Most of our participants were here in person with a few calling in using the poly com. Our participants included those from Manuquutaq (Manokotak) – AnguteKayak Louise Glokom Cungass’aq Grace Gamechuk and Tan’iq Larry Bartman;

Those who drove down from Alaqlaqiq (Aleknagik) Nayangcuk Massa Ilutsik Andrews and Cuungaq Melody Noden.

Those from Cetuyaraq (New Stuyahok) Tat’iq Tatianna Andrews, Arnaq Pauline Askoak: From Iquaq (Ekwoq) Arnagauq David Williams; Those from Tuyuryaq (Togiak) were Panci Maurlussagaq Frances Dock, Atik’aq Sam Goosuk, Ukayiq Martha Fox, Itegmialria Herbert Lockuk and Naatuu Bertha Pavian-Locukuk;

Those from Qalirneq (Koliganek) Tumalarlia Elena Johnson, Taluuriq Natalia Ishnook and Cikiar Genevieve Kapatak; And from Ingricuar -Twin Hills Yungsiq Agnes Gamechuk. We also touched on the Yugtun App and how we would integrate them within in classrooms. We also had a time to develop songs, chants and dances that were recorded and put into our lap tops. We look forward to a great year!

Quyana all for taking this time to continue to learn our Yugtun Language and bring ideas that we can use to strengthen our teaching.



Instruction

Audra Finkenbinder, Director of Instruction

Time seems to be flying by at lightening speed - here we are already at the end of the first quarter of the 2019-2020 school year!

The last few weeks have been busy for the curriculum and instruction team with the completion of the first Exploration Week, preparation for the second Exploration Week, and Science tote orders.

The first of four Exploration Weeks was held September 23rd-27th with fun and exciting classes taking place across the district for all grade levels. From constructing berry pickers to subsistence, beginning ukulele, Driver's Ed, and Soapstone carving, teachers and students alike found E-Week enjoyable and inspiring. Some of the feedback provided by teachers includes:

"...the students had a blast."

"It was really great because it is part of the Yup'ik culture and all week the adults in the community were also showing kids tricks and explaining about the stories that go along with the string magic."

"They really liked doing the projects and even gave some input at different times... The students enjoyed presenting their projects to their parents on the last day."

The second Exploration Week is November 4th - 8th. The following are a few of the new classes that will be offered:

- Introduction to Orchestra
- Arts & Crafts: Christmas Decorations DIY
- Culinary Arts: Autumn Cooking/Baking

The first set of elementary science totes being utilized across the district have been focusing on Life Science. With the curriculum team's goal of having the second round of science totes ready and sent to sites around Christmas Break, the elementary teachers have already selected their lessons from the approved list; providing the curriculum team the opportunity to meet the above-mentioned goal. The focus of the second set of totes is Earth and Physical Science.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TEAM



Ryan O'Sullivan
Curriculum Specialist



Randy Finkenbinder
Curriculum Specialist

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Information Systems
Les Parks, Director of Technology



Corey Evans
Technology
Specialist

BAG Grant, E-Rate and CIPA Activities

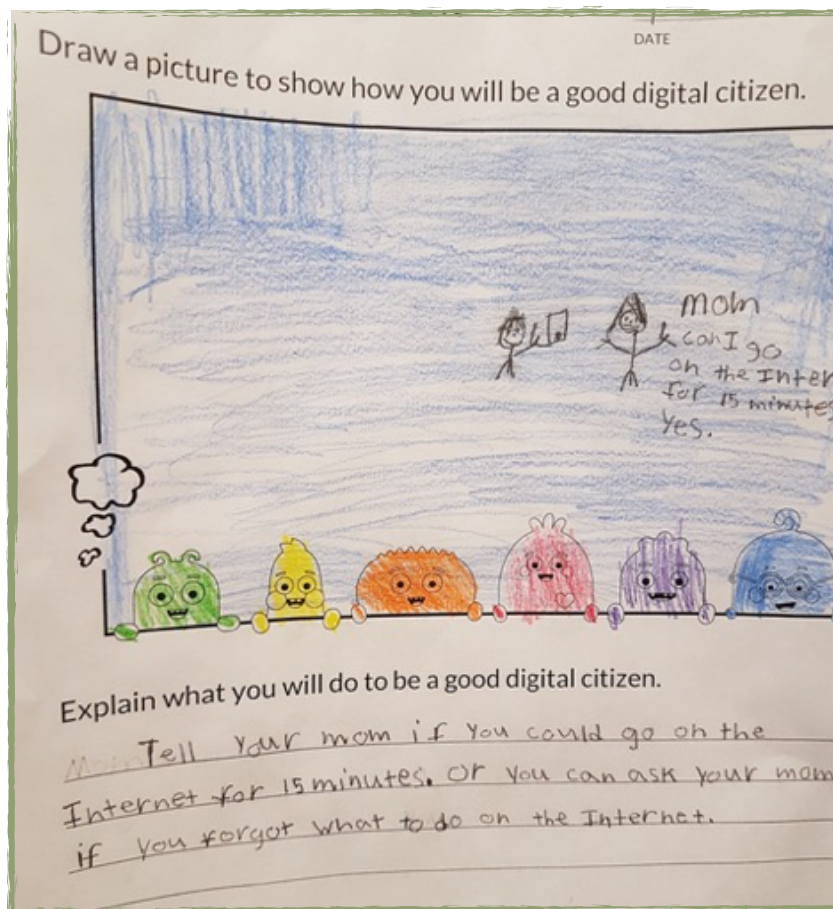
Though we have been awarded BAG Grant funds in the amount of \$161,955 for the 2019-2020 school year, we have yet to receive those funds from the state. I again inquired about the status of those funds and received the following reply from the grant administrator, Janet Madsen: "We had to correct the VCN code. It went out using last year's code but that didn't work this year for some reason. It has all the signatures and is waiting for the finance person initial and enter and it will be available for you. I apologize for the error."

As I noted during the last board meeting, we did receive an audit of the entire E-Rate Funding Year 2018 (our 2018-2019 school/fiscal year). I have submitted a full response to the initial documents request. Next Monday, 10/14/2019, will begin a series of bi-weekly conference calls projected to run until late March when the audit is expected to be finished.

CIPA Lessons for the first quarter have been planned at all sites and delivered and documented at most. Here is a sample from a 2nd grade lesson sent in by Koliganek.

Additional Activities

Corey has been reconditioning and recommissioning iPads to run the Yugtun app and distributing them to users, including board members, CSC members, and Yupik teaching staff. He has also assisted the BBRCTE program with loaner iPads used during the last E-Week both here and over at BBBSD.





State & Federal Programs

Jon Clouse, Director of State & Federal Programs

Fall Count Period (OASIS)

The fall count period began on September 30th and runs through October 25th. School secretaries, principals, and Special Education staff have been assisting by checking the accuracy of student data. The Fall OASIS report must be submitted to the state by November 8th. 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.

Career & Technical Education: SWRS Courses and BBRCTE

BBRCTE session I came to a successful close in September. Please see the BBRCTE session I newsletter. Session II occurs the first weeks of November. On the Naknek/King Salmon side Introduction to Graphic Design and Marketing, Welding, and Carpentry will be offered. Dillingham side will be offering Introduction to Health Careers, and Emergency Trauma Technician. The ETT course is gearing students up who are interested in getting EMS I certified this coming spring.

Assessments

Applications have been approved by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) to re-enroll SWRSD sites 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.

The Alaska Developmental Profiles for Kindergarten students were completed district-wide before the EED deadline of November 1st. The purpose of the Alaska Developmental Profile is to identify, record

STATE & FEDERAL PROGRAMS TEAM



Steve Ito
District Lead
Counselor & Test
Coordinator



Kyle Schneider
Student Support
Specialist



Dianna Schollmeier
Title Services
Specialist

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and summarize the skills and behaviors students demonstrate at the beginning of their kindergarten year, based on teacher observations. Kindergarten teachers districtwide did an outstanding job getting this task done in a timely manner.

Impact Aid

The Impact Aid count day is October 25th this year. The following week, secretaries will begin confirming data about where students live and the adults they live with. Once students' information is confirmed, the data will be compiled and sent to village entities, BBNA, and the state tax assessor who certify that the information that will be sent to the U.S. Department of Education is correct.

Title IA

A parent and Tribal Council survey was sent out in an effort to increase communication and consultation when developing, implementing, and evaluation district programs. Southwest Region School District realizes the importance that parents and Tribal organizations play in the education of our children. The survey will provide critical information in regards to the overall operation of district programs. Tribal representatives will also be invited to attend a public meeting at their respective schools to review educational programs and provide input regarding those programs. In addition, information regarding the equal participation in educational programs and extra-curricular activities of Alaska Native/American Indian students when compared to other students will be presented.

Title IA is involved with pre-K programs in the district through the support of the ECE Specialist and other personnel involved in the development and implementation of pre-K programs. This is an exciting opportunity to partner with other organizations and district departments to support an identified need throughout our communities. Title IA is also supporting Children's Fair in our schools.

Below is information about the approved plan for the state to address the ESSA requirements for Title funding.

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 third 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. New designations should be out soon based on the 2019 PEAKS assessment results.

Educator Quality – school districts will still track and report the number of teachers that are inexperience, out-of-field, and ineffective. The plan has a definition for each of these terms.

Title IC– Migrant Education

Recruiters have been working hard to contact every family in every community. A trip to New Stuyahok occurred in September to support Makayla's recruiting efforts. In one day, 36% of New Stuyahok families came to the school to be interviewed. It is family support like this that will allow Makayla to reach out to the rest of the community over to complete all fall recruiting efforts for New Stuyahok. A migrant recruiting trip is planned to Togiak this October, to hold family migrant interviews during parent teacher conferences. Currently Togiak has about 40% of family interviews completed, and hopes to come close to completing all interviews with this upcoming trip. All other communities are mostly 80% complete with recruiting efforts.

Migrant Services for August and September include:

- Active recruiting efforts are underway so that we can start focusing on services to students.
- A fall book series has occurred at all sites. Migrant students were able to choose a book series that interested them from a selection of popular series based on Dillingham Library suggestions and New York Times reviews. The goal was to get books in students' hands at the very beginning of the year to encourage a love for reading.

As of October 7th, 130 students have been approved by the state as eligible for the Migrant Education Program (last year 128 students had been approved by this point). Another 51 students have been submitted to EED for approval. There are another 48 students whose paperwork is awaiting signature by their parent/guardian prior to being submitted to EED for approval. This number does not include potential migrant students whose paperwork is in progress. The deadline for having students approved as eligible for funding under the Migrant Education program is November 15th.

Letters will be mailed to the parents of all students who have been approved by the Dept. of Education and Early Development as eligible for Migrant Education the week of October 21st.

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Aleknagik School

Miranda Bacha, Principal/Teacher

Aleknagik School is excited to have the first graduating senior class in 33 years! Students are busy using AKCIS to take interest surveys and researching possible colleges, apprenticeship programs, technical programs, military opportunities, and potential jobs. Go Class of 2020!

The first quarter is coming to an end and we are getting ready for Parent/Teacher Conferences this month. Six Aleknagik students were accepted into the BBRCTE program for the first e-week and took welding, behavioral health, and coding and app development. Several students have expressed interest in applying for the second e-week BBRCTE courses as well. Students report they really enjoyed getting to preview different classes that they would otherwise not be able to take.



During the first e-week, Twilly Gosuk came to Aleknagik and taught students how to do soapstone carving. Students were quite proud of their creations. Other middle school/high school courses included cooking, yearbook, and Spanish. Elementary students had fun building with Legos and learning about stop motion animation. Students are also excited about the possibility of taking an e-week class where they can continue to improve their music skills in guitar and piano in November. Other classes scheduled for the next e-week include building model boats, building maintenance, cooking and several students will be taking a class in gaspeq making with Melody Noden.

New Opportunities

Students are excited to take Computer Science Principles this year. They have been learning about sending binary messages, bytes, file sizes, text compression, and conducting research. In the next unit, students will have the opportunity to practice programming using simple commands, creating algorithms, using functions, and using loops.

Most of the high school students are taking the finance course approved for piloting this year and students have been learning about gross pay, net pay, balancing checkbooks, and investing in the stock market. Students also entered the Stock Market Game to compete with other high school teams in Alaska. The contest runs from September until December 15th and introduces participants to the fundamentals of investing. Several teachers and parents also showed interest in learning more about investing in the stock market and have joined the contest as well. Students are enjoying the friendly competition with staff and parents.



Clarks Point School

Aaron Anderson, Principal/Teacher

The month of September has raced by here in Clark's Point. The leaves changed and the student are falling into the routine of working on learning. Initial MAPS testing went was a success and valuable data has been gathered. We had the first E-Week on bread making and it was a resounding success!

To surprise the students, we had a loaf of bread baking in the kitchen in a bread machine on the first day. When the students went to eat lunch, several blurt out "What is that yummy smell?" Excitedly we announced that the theme of the E-week was bread making! The students were so excited to have multiple chances to learn about, and participate "hands-on" in making their own bread! We were able to show how modern factories make bread and how the most important ingredient is yeast. Each succeeding day, we had prepared a sample or dough for the students to make a sample to take home at the end of the lessons. At the end of each afternoon, the students were so excited to eat a sample of bread and take home their own creations! The orange rolls on Friday were a resounding success! As part of the work each day, students assembled their own favorite bread recipes in a packet, to take home to bake more bread in the future!

Physical Education has taken on a new turn this month when the preschool shared their parachute with the whole school. The kid's laughter and excitement was nonstop while learning to follow instructions, work together, and take turns. One student excitedly blurt out, "Let's play with the parachute every day!"

During September, as part of working on good sportsmanship in Physical Education, the students were taught how to act appropriately no matter the score or how the game was going. We modeled how to clap for a really good play by the opposing team, and how to cheer for a team mate that is struggling to learn how to play the game. During this time, several older students were witnessed going out of their way to coach younger players during several exciting relay races and close kickball games!

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William 'Sonny' Nelson School

Roxanne Menguin, Principal/Teacher

On September 16-18, we had a visit from the state coach, Evelyn Wilburn. While Evelyn was here, we talked about how the students were doing and went over the MAP scores from the Fall testing. We worked with the students on what they can work on, such as testing strategies, to improve their scores during the Winter testing. After we gave the students a goal range, they were to pick a goal to set for themselves on the Winter testing. The students were quite positive with their goals.

On Sunday, September 22nd, our fundraising had begun. A cake walk was done to start our fundraising for our basketball season traveling as well as building our student account. It was a pretty good turn out and the kids loved being there, especially when they won a cake.

E-week was during the week of September 23-27. For our E-weeks we did tie dying. The students made three different projects of tie dye; a towel (for practice), a pillowcase and a t-shirt. Friday, Sept. 27th, we invited parents to come in for a presentation of what the kids did. The students used presentation boards to present their work. They showcased their projects to their parents and explained the process of tie dying.

We are planning for our Fall Halloween carnival; buying the decorations and putting together the games. The students are excited and can't wait to have fun.

I would like to mention Alice Karasti for her 20 years in Ekwok and the district. I would also like to mention about David William, former student from the district and Ekwok's Yupik teacher, is working on his teaching degree for Elementary Education. He was also a district student council president while he was in high school in the district. He plans on staying in the district as a teacher.

As the 1st quarter comes to an end our attendance rate is at 92% and the students are working hard and making progress.





Koliganek School

Deb Forkner, Principal

The year continues to move along at a very smooth, swift pace. I'm proud to report that 99% of our students have over 95% attendance.

Staff and students are looking forward to the November Exploration week. The Middle and High School students will choose from the following classes: bread baking, Lego Stop Action movie making, pine wood derby cars, furniture making and violin. Elementary students will spend time making pine wood derby cars and robots. We will host a pine wood derby and battle bots on Friday of E-week.

As the first fourth of the school year comes to an end we look forward to Parent/Teacher Conferences, a Halloween carnival and home volleyball and wrestling meets.

Our Middle School sports teams have been working hard to raise funds in order to travel this year. They've done a Dena'Ina ticket raffle, sold Husky swag, wrote letters asking for donations, hosted movie nights and picked 10 pounds of cranberries that they are selling raffle tickets for.

Congratulations to our September Student of the Month winners: Chase McDowell, Torrence Andrew, Whitney Andrew, Kristin Tunguing and Michael Wyagon.

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



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‘Chief’ Ivan Blunka School **Robin Jones, Principal**

The school year is flying by at Chief Ivan Blunka School, and we can’t believe it is October, already!

We continue to celebrate the Yup’ik Value of the Month program and the students, staff, and community readily exemplify the value for October, which is: “Be helpful to one another.” This also compliments our school vision of #ItTakesAVillage, and it is so rewarding to see everyone demonstrate these incredible values!

Exploration Week was a huge success in September, and we are already planning and looking forward to the November session! We were so excited that our very own Travis Neketa was elected district student council president. In addition to giving fantastic board reports, he will also be joining the district student council to attend the Alaska Association of School Board’s Youth Leadership Institute in November. We are thrilled to see him thrive in this role throughout the year!

In our Professional Learning Communities, we have dedicated time to expressing gratitude as we recognize it builds relational trust and boosts staff morale. Every member of our team has also designed a professional growth and development plan complete with a relationship building goal, an academic goal, and a personal goal. With accountability partners, our team will take time to reflect on our individual and collective progress toward accomplishing these goals. We are happy to provide our team with this intentional time to collaborate and grow together as educators in our continued effort to provide students with every possible opportunity!

We were so very proud to have three student athletes represent Chief Ivan Blunka School and Southwest Region School District when they competed at the state cross-country championships. Both our high school and middle school volleyball and wrestling teams just began their seasons and are looking very strong. We are also excited to announce that with the help of essential volunteers we will be offering pee wee volleyball and wrestling opportunities for students in pre-K through 4th grade this fall. The New Stuyahok Fabricators (NSF) have been active and recently utilized their amazing skills to customize t-shirts at the regional cross-country running championships on our home tundra. We have a jam packed student activities schedule this year, and we look forward to all of the opportunities we have to be proud of our school and students!



Chief Ivan Blunka School Students of the Month

Elementary:

Hayden Smith – 1st Grade

Middle School:

Alyssa Walcott – 8th Grade

High School:

Gusty Blunka, Jr. – 10th Grade

Employee of the Month

Leah Sizemore & Donald Apokedak



Togiak School

Michael Lee, Principal



It is hard to believe that an entire quarter has already passed, but here we are about to have parent teacher conferences already. Exploration Week One has been completed and it gave some unique opportunities for our students. The elementary studied ocean animals and incorporated the e-week into their science and social studies lessons. In our middle school / high school we had cake decorating, subsistence hunting trips, local plants and berry picking, Lego robotics and computer coding, music video creation, fabrication lab, introduction to Spanish language, landscape painting, and hunter education. It was such a busy week, but the students had a great time. We ended the e-week with a community presentation on what the students accomplished and had several hundred community members attend. We also had 3 students complete the BBRCTE classes in Dillingham. One completed the behavioral health first aide and two completed the auto mechanic boot camp course.

Sports season is in full swing. We finished up a successful cross country season and now have started volleyball and wrestling. We hosted our first home event by hosting Koliganek and Dillingham middle school volleyball in Togiak. It was a great weekend and we wanted to thank all of the volunteers that made it successful. We look forward to the upcoming events and want to encourage our student athletes to always do their best in the classroom and on the court.

We have expanded our afterschool activities through the use of our school improvement 1003a grant. Students are currently working on keyboarding / guitar lesson, fabrication lab, e-sports / Lego robotics, art club, weight lifting, and academic tutoring. Our goal is to have something for every student that wants to stay afterschool. Studies have shown that extending the school day, despite what activity is done, will increase overall long term success of the students. This has been an excellent opportunity for staff to build quality relationships with the students. Attendance is also an area that we are working to improve. Our goal for the year is to exceed 85.5% for student and staff attendance. Currently both the student and staff are at 86%. Everyone keep up the good work.

Our band is hard at work and preparing for their first concert that is scheduled for October 16 at 5pm. The concert is being conducted in conjunction with our parent teacher conferences. It is exciting to see the band taking shape again. Margie and Aaron have also been working with the band to include Native Dance in our band program and concert.

We are continuing our Iditaroad Challenge and the students' paw prints have passed Check Point Alpha. We selected 5 winners from the first 270+ passed AR test. Currently we have over 1.7 million words that have been read. They are enjoying the competition so much that I even saw students reading their AR book at the volleyball games over the weekend.

Togiak School would like to thank the School Board for their continued support and encourage board members to visit the school if you are ever in Togiak. Thank you.



Twin Hills School

Naomi Winters, Principal/Teacher

Twin Hills had a great eWeek session. Our middle and high school students learned to make international dishes in a cooking class in the morning, and learned about journalism and wrote articles in the afternoon. Elementary students had fun exploring chemical reactions through cooking experiments.

We were unexpectedly able to host the first ever cross country meet right here in Twin Hills this month! Our whole team was eligible and earned the privilege of hosting. We had teams from Dillingham, Manokotak, New Stuyahok, Koliganek, and Togiak visit and run our course. The rain even stayed away for most of the day! We were also represented by two high school runners at the regional cross country meet in New Stuyahok this year.

Twin Hills is happy to Coop with Togiak this year for middle school girls volleyball. We are sending two girls over so they can participate and play on a the Togiak team. They just participated in their first tournament and had a great time.

The September Wolves of the Month were Leon Page for Elementary and Howdy Tommy for Secondary. They both are showing our pack expectations consistently and are working hard every day.

