

# REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kay Andrews, President  
 Marie Paul, Vice-President  
 Leroy Fox, Secretary/Treasurer  
 Wassillie Wonhola, Member  
 Wally Gust, Member  
 Helen Gregorio Member  
 Ferdinand Sharp, Member



*spring assessments are over and thoughts turn toward graduations...*

## SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

### Jack Foster, Superintendent



*Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.*

*'Positive images of the future are a powerful and magnetic force... They draw us on and energize us, give us courage and will to take on important initiatives. Negative images of the future also have a magnetism. They pull the spirit downward in the path of despair.'*

## SENATE BILL 84

It is likely that the first session of the 27th Legislature will extend beyond the 90-day session deadline of midnight tonight, April 17. Given the many divergent views, hopefully the legislature will use any extra days granted to calmly and thoughtfully complete their work.



## SWRS GRADUATIONS

SITE	DATE	TIME
New Stuyahok	May 6 <sup>th</sup>	2:00PM
Manokotak	May 6 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 PM
Ekwok	May 9 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 PM
Aleknagik	May 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM
Twin Hills	May 10 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 AM
Togiak	May 10 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 PM
Clarks Point	May 11 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 AM
Koliganek	May 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:00PM

## RECRUITING

We have fall positions filled throughout the district.



# CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

**David Piazza, Director of Instructional Programs**

## Legislative Session

Following last month's Legislative Fly-In, the district has continued to monitor the legislature's progress for funding the educational programs in schools. Jon Clouse and David Piazza had the opportunity to attend one of the hearings on SB 84 held at the Legislative Information Office in Dillingham. Following the committee meeting, the Senate approved a one-year \$110 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA) and included a 1 percent addition to the foundation formula for high school vocational education classes. While the increase in vocational education funding was kept in the bill, the House removed the BSA increase. The bill has been forwarded to the Governor.

## Recruiting

A considerable amount of time has been spent this past month recruiting staff for next year. This includes posting job announcements, interviewing applicants, calling potential candidate references, offering contracts, and providing welcome information to new employees. In order to provide a smooth transition for new staff, the office has been fielding and responding to numerous questions from the new staff members. While many of the questions may be answered by reviewing information posted on the District's web site, the personal touch and direct communication helps to build relationships well before the staff arrive in the Fall.



The District was able to utilize the Alaska Teacher Placement (ATP) online AppliTrack system to locate and recruit most of the new hire candidates this year. Interviews were conducted by phone and Skype video conference sessions.

The District also attended the Minneapolis Alaska Teacher Job Fair on Sunday, April 10th, and the Minnesota Statewide job fair held at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Monday, April 11th. A Language Arts teacher was hired for Manokotak and a Mathematics teacher was hired for Koliganek while in Minneapolis. During the following Alaska Job Fair in Anchorage, the District was able to fill its final open position by hiring an Alaska experienced Principal for Manokotak.



### **Counseling/State-wide Assessments (Steve Ito)**

The Standards Based Assessments (SBA) and High School Graduation Qualifying Exam (HSGQE) were completed district wide for grades 3-10 within the allowable EED April testing window. The SBA and HSGQE are proficiency based criterion referenced tests developed specifically for Alaska. The purpose of the assessment is to provide information about what students know and are able to do in reading, writing, and mathematics. The test includes multiple choice and constructed response items. Testing is used to determine site and district wide Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) when used in conjunction with site participation and performance data.

Results for the Terra Nova II, an EED mandated normative referenced test for grades 5 and 7, were distributed to site administrators in April for re-distribution to parents.

Idea Proficiency Testing (IPT) concluded within the allowable EED testing window for all sites, answer documents have been shipped for scoring.



### **Media Center (Shannon Clouse)**

#### **School Libraries Collection Development**

With the help of a Collection Development Specialist from Follett TitleWave, survey results from teachers and students in our schools, and emails from teachers I was able to form 8 book lists that match the needs and wants of our individual schools. This process consumed all of my time for about one month! \$30,000 in purchase orders have been submitted and collections are currently being developed. Libraries should be receiving their new books that are "shelf-ready" (meaning they are marked with spine labels, and barcodes) in a few weeks.

#### **Library Enhancement & Automation Project (LEAP) ILC Grant**

Steve Noonkesser helped me write an Alaska Interlibrary Cooperative Grant to automate our small school libraries and Koliganek School. This will allow our small schools to have access to their library catalog through Alexandria- they will be able to search for books easily and efficiently. Currently all of their catalogs are out of date, this project will make them current and finally accessible. The total project budget is \$58,300. This was a time intensive project, but it will be well worth the effort if we are awarded money to fund this project.

#### **Best Beginnings/ Imagination Library**

We still have seventeen children enrolled in the Koliganek Imagination Library, and have graduated (meaning they have turned 5) five children already. Margie Nelson, our enrollment coordinator, has asked the Koliganek Village Corporation to fund the Koliganek Imagination Library. The cost to run the program is \$28 per child per year with a total of \$476 if the enrollment stays at seventeen children.

#### **Reading Is Fundamental (RIF)**

All sites have placed orders for new books for their students. We are getting our orders in and I am receiving and shipping them out to the individual schools. Our goal for the 2011 RIF contract year is to have one distribution this spring and two in the fall.



# FEDERAL & STATE PROGRAMS

**Jon Clouse, Federal/State Programs Director**

## **STEPP No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**

The district/school improvement process created by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (AK STEPP) has had some significant impacts about how the leadership team approaches the improvement planning. The process has generated quality discussions, increased the use of student data in those discussions, and has involved a number of stakeholders in the process. By conducting regular meetings focusing on the district improvement plan, the team is constantly monitoring the plan to meet the identified needs of the students. The district leadership team has also established a systematic method to monitor and assist school improvement teams with their school improvement and Title I school-wide plans.

## **Alaska Native Education Grant**

The ANE grant application for a Yupik Language and Cultural Studies program was submitted on March 31st. The ANE grant was written to provide the resources necessary to develop a K-12 comprehensive curriculum for a Yupik Language and Cultural Studies program, provide relevant and high-quality professional development for program instructors/paraprofessionals, and expand the new teacher orientation program to a mentorship style program. The ANE grant application is designed to cover a three-year period with an emphasis in the development of the Yupik language area during the first year. The second and third years would be focused on curriculum development for the seven other outcomes determined by the current Yupik Studies curriculum committee. The application process was a collaborative effort between a number of staff members, the Yupik studies curriculum committee, and community organizations.

## **Carl Perkins IV No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**

The Carl Perkins IV grant is designed to supplement career and technical education (CTE) programs already provided by districts. For our district, Carl Perkins funding is being utilized for a much needed review of the industrial arts program. The industrial arts curriculum committee has outlined a scope and sequence for the program and finishing the curriculum for each course. The next major steps include the review of curriculum resources necessary to deliver the content of the curriculum, the creation of a pacing guide for each course, and development of a professional development plan.





# EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

**Steve Noonkesser, Technology Coordinator**

## District Technology Plan

The District Tech Plan was submitted and has been approved by the state for the next three years. This allows us to apply for eRate funding and other grant opportunities, in addition to providing a road-map for technology integration into instruction in our schools. The plan was reviewed by a broad-based group of teachers, students and parents across the district.

## Curriculum

The Language Arts and Math curriculum committees have finished their initial work and have prepared a presentation of the draft curriculum for approval at this meeting. Members of the committee will present core objectives, GLE linking and other curriculum documents in addition to material chosen to accomplish the goals with our students.

## Planning

The technology department is making preparations for the end of the storage and inventory of equipment as well as advanced planning for next years technology needs.

## Aide Laptops

As previously planned, new laptops have been purchased for instructional aides. This was possible due to savings achieved during the initial refresh of equipment this past fall. The new laptops are on order and should be received before year's end. We plan to collect current aide laptops and deploy the new ones at the fall inservice with data transferred to the new equipment. With this deployment nearly all staff and students should be using new equipment next year.



## Computer Aided Instruction Specialist (Corey Evans)

Corey has spent the past few weeks preparing for our upcoming old equipment disposal sale and the Spring AIMS benchmark testing window which is April 25th through April 29th.



## Technology Specialist (Les Parks)

This month we have received a first response to FY12 eRate PIA review. The PIA is Program Integrity Assurance review which ensures that we are spending our eRate funds according to the guidelines. We have also received certification from the state of our 2012-2014 tech plan that was submitted earlier this month.



## Business Office

**Lee Ann Andrew, Director of Administrative Services**

---

We just finished the preliminary audit and were told the documentation was among the most organized they have seen. We had no issues with check documentation and program compliance. Altman, Roger, Co. will be back on August 29 to perform the final audit. They will be prepared to do a board presentation toward the end of October but would need to know the date so they can mark it on their calendars.

The bids for transportation services are due April 22. We sent the bid packages out to five transportation vendors and advertised in the local paper. Our current providers have been the only one that have indicated a desire to submit a bid.

The business office has been working with the sites to insure that all necessary reports and documentation are ready for year end check out. Fixed asset inventories, classified staffing for FY12, year end purchases and receiving, FY12 housing assignments, assuring student travel TR's have been turned in to be paid and assuring sites have reviewed and commented on FY12 budget are what has been requested thus far. Petty cash and student check books will be requested next. We will also be depositing the final checks from gaming fund raising before year end.



## Facilities & Maintenance

**Rick Dallmann, Director of Maintenance**

### District – Wide

Fire Marshall report has been submitted to the State Fire Marshall Office for each site with Correction Verification results ( see report for details )

The Department of Education & Early Development Facilities Division has completed their Re – Certification Inspection of our overall Maintenance Program through out the District.

We are Compliant in all Five areas of Preventive Maintenance and Facility Management and are now Certified for 5 years. This keeps us eligible for Grant Funding through the States Capitol Improvement Program.

Although we are compliant in all areas there is room for Improvement, most notably in our Custodial Program.

I will be working with site Administrators and Site Custodial personnel to identify areas where we can improve our program. We will utilize Unisource personnel (Unisource is our Vendor for custodial products and cleaning equipment ) to provide on site training and proper use of cleaning products we are also looking at replacing some of the chemicals we use with Greener products that will accomplish the same task.

### Training

Hazwoper training was completed this month for several Maintenance staff:

Roger Jackson – DLG – 8 Hour Refresher  
 Monty Murphy – DLG – 8 Hour Refresher  
 Jason Munster - DLG – 40 Hour Hazwoper  
 Rick Dallmann - DLG – 8 Hour Refresher  
 McCully Petla - KNW – 40 Hour Hazwoper  
 Peter Yukaluk - KNW – 40 Hour Hazwoper  
 John Parker - TOG – 40 Hour Hazwoper

### WKK:

Two new Boilers and burners have been ordered and are scheduled to be installed this summer before school starts

### CLP:

A new replacement Generator was found in Anchorage for a very good price and will be showing up on the first barge. The old generator has been removed and the installation of the new generator will be scheduled when it arrives.

### KMO:

The back up Generator Module at the old school site has been disconnected and prepared to be moved. We plan to move the Module this summer by Barge to Aleknagik to provide Emergency back up power to the school. There is currently no back up power source



# Clarks Point School

**Doug Bushey, Principal**

---

## **School Improvement**

All the students participated in the SBA assessments along with having a pancake breakfast each morning cooked by Mr. Bushey. All the students will be participating in the Aimsweb benchmarking prior to the end of the school year. Mrs. Bushey has prepared summer reading packets for all the K-3 graders. All the students and staff are looking forward to the summer break.

## **Visitors and Community Activities**

The BBNHC Dental Team visited the students and community members by setting up shop at the health clinic. All the students were excited to visit the dentist in one fashion or another. The Bristol Bay Region Vision Project hosted a community meeting at the school. For Easter weekend Saturday, Mr. Bushey cooked pancakes and oatmeal for all the community followed by an Easter Egg Hunt prepared by the students and Mrs. Bushey.

## **Student Activities**

A majority of the students participated in an school/community ice fishing day. Many students and parents attended along with community members. The school would like to thank BBEDC for the grant funds that purchased ice fishing tents and an ice auger. Thanks BBEDC. The students have hosted two game nights and a cake/money walk to earn money for their student activity fund.

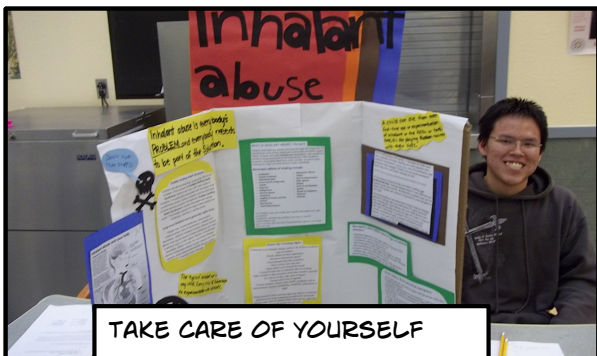
Student graduation will take place on May 11th, 2011 at 11:00 AM. Students graduating this year will be Kindergartner's Andrew Golia, and Ciciyak Clark along with one 8th grader Alyssa Bushey. We would like to thank the SWRSD School Board, Superintendent Jack Foster, all district staff personnel, and parents for helping to have a wonderful school year. We will leave the light on for the next Principal and Teacher as long as the generator is running.



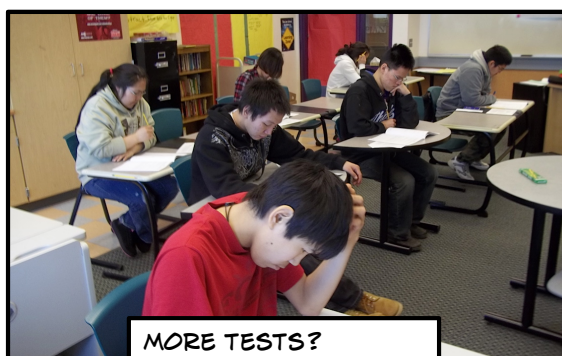


# Manokotak 'Nunaniq' School

Herman Gerving, Principal



TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF



MORE TESTS?



ANYONE FOR A BOOK!



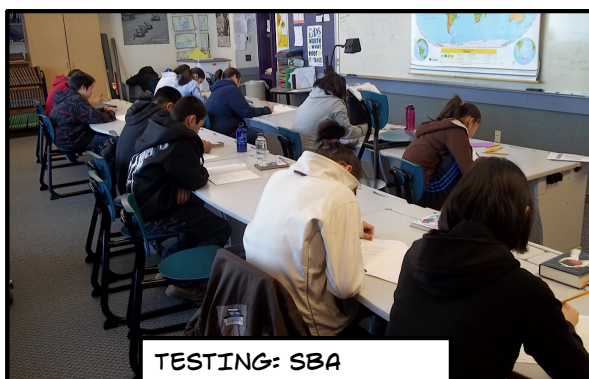
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



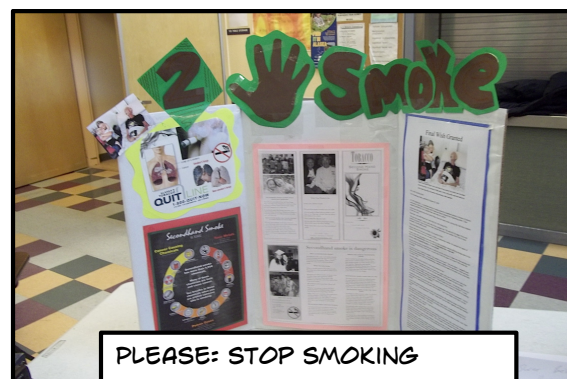
CELEBRATION T-SHIRTS



STUDENT OF THE MONTH



TESTING: SBA



PLEASE: STOP SMOKING



# **‘Chief’ Ivan Blunka School**

**Bob Thompson, Principal**

April is testing month. The Standards Based Assessments and the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam were given during the first two weeks of April. Students at Chief Ivan Blunka School worked all day for three days straight and put in a great effort on the tests. We had excellent attendance and support from the community on testing days as well.

Chief Ivan Blunka School is working hard to make AYP. Regular monitoring of students has shown much improvement over the last year. Students and staff have worked to make this happen. The SBAs are one test. We hope the progress we have made will be demonstrated in the test results. Regardless, we can be assured that our students and school are on the right track.

## **NYO**

We held our first NYO meet in the new school on April 8th and 9th. Athletes from Dillingham, Koliganek, Newhalen, and New Stuyahok competed in a variety of events from the Indian Stick Pull to the Seal Hop to the One Foot High Kick. The competition was friendly but intense. Athletes tried three times to do their best in each event. As the third time approached the crowd would get into it with slow clapping, energizing the competitors. It was great fun. Thank you to our coach, Rachel Panamarioff, and all the coaches and athletes that made this event such a success.

## **Leadership Conference**

Student council members from district schools visited Chief Ivan Blunka School in March for a Leadership Conference. The theme was healthy living for the 2-day event. School leaders worked on resolutions for healthy living and opposing the Pebble Mine.

## **Culture Days**

Culture Days were held the week following testing. Students were offered a variety of cultural activities over three days with community members and elders offering much of the instruction. Net mending, carving, mask making, NYO, and skin sewing were just a few of the activities. In addition, workers from the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage came to New Stuyahok to help with Culture Days. Two ladies came out to make traditional grass fans with our students. Another group came out to make traditional drums. It was great to have these added activities for our students.

## **Family Night**

A Science Family Night is planned the first week of May. Activities will center around the concept of balance. Students will perform a variety of activities and take home books related to the subject. This is the third and final Family Night of the year. The activities have been well attended and will most likely continue next year although the funding from QS2 has run out.

## **Graduation**

Graduation is scheduled for fourteen high school graduates this year on May 6th at 5:00 p.m. The ceremony will be the culmination of years of hard work and a week's worth of fun activities. Afterwards there will be a dance and other activities for the graduating seniors. Good luck to the Class of 2011!







## Twin Hills School

**Esther Ilutsik, Principal/Teacher**

### **Uqiquq (Traditional Yup'ik Throw Party) – April 8, 2011**

Twin Hills School celebrated the conclusion of the SBA testing by honoring our young hunters and huntress with a party and potluck lunch. The gym was packed and filled with excitement and anticipation as this was a historical moment. Never had the school sponsored such an event,

The young hunters and huntress sat proudly around the seal skin on the gym floor as their fellow students blessed them with the tarvarnaram-ken (traditional Yup'ik purification) song and dance. The parents and community members beamed with pride and admiration of the students. Just prior to this blessing the hunters and huntress had shared a story of their hunt and why they felt it was important to have this skill. All of

them spoke of the importance of being able to provide for their families and communities and most importantly the value of sharing the catch. The hunters and huntress that were honored were Chelsey Abraham, 8th grade student, Nick Sharp, 8th grade student, Trevor Pleasant, 6th grade student, Curtis Pleasant, 4th grade student and Carlton Small, 4th grade student. Congratulations!



The parents of the hunters and huntress and the Twin Hills teaching staff all had brought bags of "stuff" to throw and each took a turn "throwing" out to the audience to catch all the delightful little gifts that were thrown. Everyone got a little something and everyone left with lots of laughs and good, fun memories. Quyana to our hunters and huntress for embracing both worlds!

### **CSC Re-elects Incumbent**

Congratulations to Jessica Mark for being re-elected to her seat on the CSC board. Chairperson William Ilutsik swears in Jessica Mark as she takes the oath of office. We thank the CSC board members for their commitment to the school and all the time that they volunteer. Quyana!

The 8th graders had an opportunity to be actively engaged and brought back with them experiences and stories that they shared with fellow students, the village council and the CSC.

We have an active CSC committee who met a monthly basis to ensure that the school is addressing the needs of the students. Our members are William Ilutsik, Chairperson, Julius Henry, Vice-Chairperson and Jessica Mark, Board Member. We appreciate their hard work and commitment to the well-being of our students. Quyanacakneq!