

April 2020
Barry C. Stewart Kasaan
Board Report

The students and staff are all doing well in Kasaan. Everyone seems to be health and abiding with the social distancing and isolation. As with other places this isolation and social distancing is becoming trying for the students.

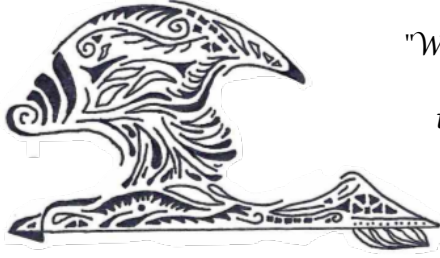
We have been able to transition to the home school model fairly easily. We had a few adjustments, but things seem to be going smoothly at this time. All of the students are participating with the assignments and working with their parents/guardians to continue to make academic gains.

Jessica and Nicole West have provided a tremendous amount of help with the implementation of the home school model. They are in contact daily with students and checking on progress and needs of the families.

At this time, we are delivering food to the children of Kasaan on a weekly basis. This seems to be working well for our community. We appreciate the help that Jonathon Bates has provided us with the food services and helping us maintain the supplies we need. We were able to acquire a supply of fresh fruits and vegetables to include in the lunches.

OVK has provided the students and community members with a great outdoor scavenger hunt. This was challenging and time consuming. The participants had to document their finds with photographs of wildlife, plants, and other objects in the area.

APRIL 15, 2020
SISD BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT



HOLLIS SCHOOL

*"Where education meets the whole student
and challenges us all
to look beyond what we can only see."*

PO Box 803
Craig Alaska 99921
Telephone: 907-530-7108
FAX: 907-530-7111

E-mail: jvasquez@sisd.org
lcates@sisd.org

The Hollis School vision is to foster curious, self directed, innovative and reflective life-long learners, community leaders and change agents.

Hollis School teachers, parents and students collaborate to foster an inclusive learning community where mastery learning is supported by inquiry, place-based, individualized, child-centered instruction.

Integrated content delivery is guided by standard based learning targets, with a core value of quality informed by reflection and revision and student driven essential questions.



An old favorite drawn by one of our students!
(2014-2015)

Southeast Island School District Vision, Mission, and Goals

Vision: Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations.

Mission: Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals and adapt to an ever-changing world.

Goals:**► Prepare students for post-secondary life**

- ⊙ To support their growing Executive Functioning skills we created a “Hollis School Not At School” Tool Box and organized all materials by topic to set our students up to take charge of their learning and practice their organization skills. We also included all of their typically school supplies to include their art supplies, books, folders. To help them normalize their learning during this time.
- ⊙ Along with caring for their social emotional health another focus for our students’ “Spring 2020 Hollis School Not At School” are the soft skills that employers and colleges share are important for students to have to include planning and organizing, goal setting and follow-through, and personnel attitude. The format we provided for our students’ first home assignment was to:
 1. Create a daily schedule to support their learning.
 2. Identify the norms they want to expect of themselves during this time. Just like we have at school – it is good to create and write down the traits, values and behaviors that we wish to aspire to as we live our lives.
 3. Set measurable, simple, and achievable goals for this time while learning at home.
- ⊙ This week we are creating bins with a plethora of USDA, Fish and Game and other local publications for each of our students. They will be responsible for taking care of these materials so that they will be able to use them when we return to school in the fall.

We are also making a naturalist bin for each family with goggles, sketchpads, nets, sample containers, slides, etc

Along with the reference boxes we are making with USDA materials and our naturalist bins, our students have homemade nature journals that we printed on waterproof paper for them to record their observations. We have also sent the art supplies and ipads for photography to capture their investigations.

Our goal is to get them out of the house and into the natural world surrounding their Hollis homes. They live in the best classroom possible so we want them to make the most of this time in the manner that works best for them and their families. With this student driven, place based learning explorations hoping to cultivate –

- The cook who will safely and properly harvest and preserve natural foods,
- The forester who wants to care for the trees,
- The wildlife biologist who wants to know more about wildlife,
- The botanist who wants to study flowers,
- The fisheries biologist who cares about the health of our streams, macro-invertebrates, and salmon,
- The hydrologist who wants to support stream health,
- The archeologist and historian who want to draw their own conclusions about our history.
- The geologist who can explain how we began & the story the rocks we stand on can tell us.
- The poet, artist, writer who is inspired by nature,

We are excited to see what careers interests unfold with what we hope will be authentic learning at a time when learning is hard.

► Provide sufficient/effective staff support

- ☉ Lisa and Julie are working on the following Hollis projects:
 - New School planning and collaboration
 - Documenting our updated emergency response plan as drafted by our students
 - Writing collaborative grants for:
 - continued tree research.
 - a Community Hollis Library Art Galley
 - Learning and mastering new programs such as NEWSOLA.
 - Cataloging all of our books.
 - Completing the “Rainforest at Risk” publication and change agent project.
 - Revamping and updating our Hollis School Daily Five Program
 - Updating and catching up our long over due updates on our Facebook learning blog.
- ☉ We are incredibly appreciative of the weekly book study created and being led by Amy McDonald, Laura Anania, and Abby Twyman on Brain Development, Impacts of Trauma, and Self Care, to name a few – the timing and the focus could not be better. The connection has already had a positive impact on our staff. We also appreciate Abby and Laura sharing the great online special education and trauma-informed education training they have created for our paraprofessional staff. We have some turnover and this will decreasing the adverse impact of the transition.
- ☉ We have appreciated the collaboration with Branzon on the build plan for the new school. We realized we have each have been given different instructions over time and we were working parallel to each other and now we are able to collaborate and work together.
- ☉ Jonathon continues to provide great support of our food program to allow us to continue to share solid school breakfast & lunches for all Hollis community members ages 0 through 18 who sign up for the food program. Parents have expressed abundant appreciation for this program.

► **Improve communication district and community wide**

- ☉ The following communication tools are in place to connect parents and students and the school:
 - Facebook: We have established that all of our parents utilize Facebook as their primary communication tool.
 - We are also using Facebook to post updates.
 - We have a Schoolwide Messenger group to notify parents (and students) of all new information.
 - We have individual Messenger groups for staff and individual parent communication about more personal issues.
 - Surveys: We have sent surveys to determine needs and guide our work.
 - Contact Information: Parents have all staff home and school contact information and are encouraged to use the means that works best for them to contact the school and staff whenever they need.
 - Student Engagement:
 - Julie is meeting with students via Zoom at least twice per week.
 - Lisa is engaging in socially distanced visits all students homes at least once per week to deliver food and updated assignments as well as discuss challenges and answer questions.
 - Julie is conducting posted by-weekly office hours.
 - Lisa has started a weekly Zoom with high school

- We are setting up weekly Read Naturally work with students but the weather has precluded its successful implementation – we are looking for an easy pop-up cover.
- We have tried to set up an online Community meeting but stable internet access is a challenge for many – we will attempt it next week.
- We are starting a weekly Zoom art and reading time with our Pre-K and K students as we have heard they are needing this connection.

🎯 Hollis staff attended the zoomed Community Council meeting to update how we are doing “Hollis School Not At School” as well as participate in discussions on community response to this current challenge.

🎯 We heard that people were getting overwhelmed with the incredible number of homeschool, digital and other resources for families to access. Thus we created a “2020 Hollis School Not At School” supplemental resource list for our students and parents to not only access but also contribute to and provide feedback for other families.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10-CqJLnY94oSdM8lQGNEg7b3kZjJNOvMQ397t_c96As/edit?usp=sharing

▶ **Increase visibility to share lifestyle and increase enrollment**

🎯 We have received good feedback from our students Covid 19 posters displayed around the community.

🎯 Our Tuesday morning pre-K and K reading program at the Hollis Library continue as we record our librarian speaking with and reading to our students and this is added to our Hollis School YouTube Channel and posted on our Facebook Page.

🎯 Our school community’s Caring for the Carers Gratitude Crew created a survey to identify elders and others in need during this Pandemic as well as recruit volunteers and resources. We have started a food, toiletry and OTC medication. We hope that it will soon be no longer necessary but we envision continuing it in different manner after this all passes. Students are making cards, letters and posters for us to forward to elders and others who are alone and in need of encouragement.