



**Eben Hopson Middle School  
Highlighted School Report  
April 2025**

**Principal Regina Bellereide  
Assistant Principal Carl White**

**Distinguished Students**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Florence Olemaun**



Florence has been a model 6<sup>th</sup> grade student not only this quarter but for the entire school year. She consistently is first to volunteer in class often going so far as asking to be first in the hallway before even entering the classroom. She is hard working. She asks great questions and stays on task. She gets along with others and always has a smile for everyone. She participates in activities both in and out of class.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kirsten Gomez**



Kirsten is a wonderful student in every aspect of the terminology. She is determined, focused, hard-working, kind, driven, and brilliant. She takes charge of her learning in an inspiring way and helps her classmates whenever she can.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Chase Coll


Throughout his 8<sup>th</sup> Grade year, Chase Coll has distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. He has demonstrated work ethic other students can and have modeled after. Chase has earned straight A's for his 8<sup>th</sup> grade year and has missed very few days of school.



## Distinguished Staff

**Gabrielle Testerman, HMS CTE Teacher**





April 11, 2025

A reflection of my years as a teacher in Utqiagvik, Alaska.

My name is Gabrielle Testerman, for the last 17 years, I have had the privilege of teaching computer technology to middle school students at Eben Hopson Middle School in Utqiagvik, Alaska. As I retire from the North Slope Borough School District, I want to share my profound gratitude and deep respect for this unique place and its people.

The people of the North Slope are a resilient and diverse community with a rich history dating back thousands of years, and a deep connection to their Arctic environment, traditionally relying on it for sustenance and spiritual well-being. While modern life has brought changes, the Inupiat continue to practice their traditional way of life. This has resulted in a complex negotiation between honoring the past and embracing the future.

As a teacher, I've had the privilege of witnessing the deep-rooted cultural practices that define this community. I recently experienced this when I attended the Spring Whaling Service at the Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church where the whaling captains gathered with their families to recognize the importance of faith and community before embarking on the dangerous nature of the whaling season. Here, they paid respect to one another and to those who have gone before them. Their wives and families offered up prayers, worship songs, and gave comfort, reflecting the interconnectedness of this community and the importance of supporting one another, both spiritually and economically. I've gained a deep sense of reverence for the generosity of this people as they make sure that not only their community, but the non-coastal communities have shares in the whale harvest as they get together and engage in trade during celebrations.

As a teacher, I provide learning experiences that align with the district's focus on The Inupiat Learning Framework, the traditional Inupiat ways of raising and educating children, emphasizing respect, community, and connection to the land. In doing so, I have come to love their values in the way they respect the land, its animals, one another, and their spirituality. I've become deeply rooted in this community, making it my home. I worship at the Inupiat Assembly of God church, celebrate at events like Nalukataq and Piuraagiaqta, delve into the history and contributions of figures who championed Inupiat rights and cultural preservation like Senator Eben Hopson Senior and Fannie Akpik, and actively support our local economy and initiatives.

For 17 years, I've been a contributing member of this unique community, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have worked with the North Slope Borough School District. I am especially proud of my involvement in the Mapqutput project, which integrated the Inupiat Learning Framework into school curriculum and the invaluable professional growth I experienced within our evolving Professional Learning Community. These experiences anchored my belief in teacher efficacy, and its power to positively affect the education of our students. The competencies I gained through our Positive Behaviors and Intervention with Supports program is invaluable to me. Mostly, I am privileged to have served the students and families of Utqiagvik.

Thank you to all of you who have enriched this experience with your own contributions. I wish you all the best in the years to come!

Quyanaq,

Gabrielle A. Testerman  
Computer Technology Education Teacher  
Eben Hopson Senior Memorial Middle School

### Medel Natividad, HMS Plant Manager



Medel Natividad, the HMS Plant Manager has spearheaded transformation within the school. Through his leadership, he and his team have cleaned, organized, constructed, reimagined, repurposed, and reinvigorated all areas of the school, and have several more exciting projects planned to rebrand the school into a student centered, Hopson Middle School wolves space, based on feedback from staff and students. When I go to him with ideas, he will smile and say, “I got you, Ma’am,” and he enthusiastically goes to work. HMS is blessed to have him because he genuinely takes pride in his work and brings a collaborative, professional spirit to the building.

### Distinguished Volunteer

#### Gary Britter

Mr. Britter often comes on his lunch hour in between bus routes to help HMS staff monitor students during lunch and recess. The students know and love him which adds a level of familiarity and stability to the lunch and recess routine.

### Enrollment: 200

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 84

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 60

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 56

### Attendance:

Grade	August Attendance	September Attendance	October Attendance	November Attendance	December Attendance	January Attendance	February Attendance	March Attendance	April Attendance	May Attendance
6th	83.86%	80.97%	79.20%	77.91%	72.59%	75.63%	78.55%	73.58%		
7th	72.52%	80.53%	77.84%	73.35%	66.43%	74.62%	71.80%	79.19%		
8th	76.03%	75.43%	74.74%	73.53%	60.30%	73.84%	72.74%	80.47%		
Total	78.04%	79.20%	77.47%	75.24%	67.16%	74.80%	74.84%	77.18%		



## Highlights:

Pulling from Bellereide's Bytes, the Principal's weekly newsletter, here is a snippet of one of HMS's recent accomplishments:

Congratulations to the five students who participated in the state of Alaska Science Olympiad in Anchorage this past Thursday, March 27, 2025, and Friday, March 28, 2025! HMS students represented well in their respective competitions and placed as follows:

FIRST PLACE IN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY--AVERY AINA AND ADELE THOMAS ([Cheering Crowd](#))

SECOND PLACE IN CODEBUSTERS--ALIVIA AINA, ADELE THOMAS AND ELLIS THOMAS ([Cheering Crowd](#))

THIRD PLACE IN TOWER--ALIVIA AINA AND ELLA MONNIN ([Cheering Crowd](#))

Thank you, Mr. Harley Bress and Mrs. Loveli Flores, for coaching these scholars and leading them to victory! ([Cheering Crowd](#))



Mrs. Flores, the mascot, Science Olympiad personnel, Mr. Bress, his dog Perseus, pose with students Ellis Thomas (next to mascot), Ella Monnin, Avery Aina, Adele Thomas and Alivia Aina.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in the annual Sea Ice Learning Experience April 15-16, 2025.



Mr. Geremia, 8<sup>th</sup> grade SPED teacher, Mrs. Ortega, 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teacher, and Mr. Pierce, 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teacher are ready to go!

8<sup>th</sup> graders loading up for a day of learning and fun on the sea ice!



During this learning session, the students measured sea ice.

### Upcoming Events:

This event listing was taken from the most recent Bellereide's Bytes.

#### COMING SOON TO AN HMS NEAR YOU...

- 01 AK STAR ASSESSMENT MAKEUPS**  
Continue April 14-18, 2025
- 02 SEA ICE EXPERIENCE (8TH GRADE)**  
April 15 & 16, 2025
- 03 HMS COMMUNITY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND  
FEEDBACK**  
April 17, 2025 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- 04 SPRING BAND CONCERT**  
April 21, 2025 at BHS at 7:00 p.m.
- 05 5TH GRADE VISITS TO HMS**  
April 24-25, 2025
- 06 8TH GRADE VISITS TO BHS**  
April 24-25, 2025
- 07 8TH GRADE ROSE ORDERS DUE**  
April 30, 2025
- 08 8TH GRADE FUN NIGHT**  
May 2, 2025
- 09 8TH GRADE PROMOTION**  
May 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
- 09 HMS SUMMER SCHOOL**  
May 19, 2025-June 2, 2025



Welcome to Bellereide's Bytes, where Ms. Bellereide keeps you informed!

4-13-25 BELLEREIDE'S BYTES

**HOPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
in the student business

**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



## FROM THE WOLF CAVE...

- **AK STAR make-up assessments are still in progress. Please see the attached assessment information.**
- **Iḷitchiapaktuat!** (Week 31 March 30, 2025–April 5, 2025): Students have been growing their language skills through Ivalu. Our latest top point earning student on the leaderboard is...drum beat please...from the 7th grade I present to you Aaron Ukpik Gogo with 147 points! [Applause Gift](#) HMS continues to choose Wolves of the Week for each grade. I noticed that I did not announce the winners last week. I am sorry.
- The Wolves of the Week for the week of April 7, 2025, **AND** April 14, 2025 are ([Happy Wolf Howl](#)):
  - 6th Grade: Gunner Toovak and Olinipa Vea Mark Fereti and Saria Rivera
  - 7th Grade: Rodney Aveogana and Kaleta Toelau Nikolas Arey and Mary Helen Ahkivgak
  - 8th Grade: Zethiah Fishel and Anna Edwarsen Chase Coll and Fayth Unutoa
- Feel free to stop in and check out HMS's Wolves of the Week bulletin board! Each winner receives LiveSchool points that can be saved and cashed in for prizes.
- Please see the attached letter from the counselor's desk regarding **Bree's Law** and **Erin's Law**. The letter was also sent home with your student(s).
- **Please review the attached Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Pre-acknowledged Absences and the UPDATED Pre-acknowledged Absence Form. HMS honors this procedure. Thank you.**
- **It is time to order roses for EIGHTH GRADE PROMOTION! Please see the attached order form; a form was also sent home with your student(s).**
- Please see the attached flyer with this heading:



2025 Summer Camps at Iḷisaḡvik!

### ATTENDANCE

You may have noticed whales shaded in red on the front doors of HMS with percentages posted. HMS plans to achieve 90%. For Week 34 (March 31–April 4, 2025) we were at 80%. Let us keep climbing, Families!

### FOOD AND NUTRITION

- Breakfast begins each morning at 8:30 a.m.
- Remember HMS's Wolf Dine! We are inviting you to come and eat lunch with your student—free of charge—when it is convenient for you. To keep this fresh in your mind, we will be posting a flyer on our FB page and will also communicate with KBRW. Simply sign in at the front office and let us know you are there to have lunch with your student(s)!
  - o 7th Grade lunch is 11:27 a.m.–11:57 a.m.
  - o 6th Grade lunch is 12:02 p.m.–12:32 p.m.
  - o 8th Grade lunch is 12:27 p.m.– 12:57 p.m.

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## HMS TUTORING AND ACTIVITY SCHEDULES

Grade	Tutor	Hours	M	T	W	T	F	Time	Workday
6	Bress, Harley	1							M, T, R, F: 8:20 a.m.-4:20 p.m. W: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
6	Walrath, Melissa	4						M, T, R, 12:10 p.m.-12:30 p.m. M 4:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	M, T, R, F: 8:20 a.m.-4:20 p.m. W: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
7	Flores, Loveli	4						M, T, 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. R 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	M, T, R, F: 8:20 a.m.-4:20 p.m. W: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
7	Sandoval, Johanna	5						M-F 4:10 p.m.-5:10 p.m.	M, T, R, F: 8:20 a.m.-4:20 p.m. W: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
8	Morris, Daryl							T, R 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	M, T, R, F: 8:20 a.m.-4:20 p.m. W: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
8	Woodward, Kiersten	2						M, R 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	M, T, R, F: 8:20 a.m.-4:20 p.m. W: 8:00 a.m.-4:00

What?	When?	Where?	With Whom?
Evening Rec	Weekly, Monday-Friday (4:30 p.m.-5:50 p.m.)	HMS Gym	Mrs. Diedre Kaleak
HMS Jazz Band	Tuesdays and Thursdays (8:45 a.m.- 9:05 a.m.)	HMS Band Room	Dr. Christian Roseboro
Student Council	Tuesday (4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.)	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science Room	Dr. Kiersten Woodward

JOKE

WHY SHOULDN'T YOU TELL JOKES  
TO A DUCK?

BECAUSE THEY'LL QUACK UP.

PRICE IS RIGHT LOSING HORN

CARTOON LAUGH







## COUNSELOR DUDE'S WEEKLY CONNECTION

from DR. PAUL BRIDGES, HMS COUNSELOR

### Do some exercise

Even moderate exercise releases chemicals in your brain that lift your mood.

It can help you sleep better, have more energy and keep your heart healthy.

Choose an exercise that you enjoy. If it helps, do it with a friend or listen to music. Adults should aim for at least 150 minutes a week.

## FROM THE HEALTH SIDE

from JARED BARRETT, HMS PE TEACHER

### Promoting Lifelong Health: The Long-term Benefits of PE in Schools



## READING INTERVENTIONIST

from KAREN KREJCI, READING INTERVENTIONIST

### Encouragement from the Reading Interventionist!

Do you get your eyes checked on a regular basis? We all need to maintain good eye health, so I want to share this website that tells us what the Best Fruits and Veggies we can eat to aid in good eye health...hopefully you already know it all, but there might be a couple of surprises! If you continue down in the article...you'll see the Worst Foods for our eyes!

<https://www.webmd.com/eye-health/ss/slideshow-eyes-sight-foods>



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE. I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME TODAY AS I KEEP YOU INFORMED AS A PARTNER IN THE EDUCATION OF YOUR STUDENT(S).

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK, MY DEAR AVID READERS!

