

LSAC Minutes
Tanalian School
Tuesday, March 1, 2022

1. Call to Order by Heidi at 7:04 pm
2. Roll Call: Elisha Wegner, Heidi Wilder, Eric Davidson, Leo Fowler, Kacy Lou Leyba, Nate Davis, Darcy Lorentzen, Sarah Wardell, Brandey Voran, Carlton Voran [by Zoom Patti Brock, Branden Hummell, Matthew Grossmann, Grace Kenna]
3. Student Presentations: Teagann Smith - Experiencing Out (summer job and volunteer hours)
4. Approval of minutes: Motion made by Eric Davidson. Seconded by Darcy Lorentzen. Motion passed.
5. Communications:
 - a. Principal's Report: Statewide testing (formerly PEAKS now AK Star) will be the second week of April. This will be similar to MAPs testing, as this is also from NWEA. '22-'23 AK Star will replace the 3rd benchmark in our current MAP testing cycle. AK Star science testing is for 5th, 8th, and 10th grades; AK Star ELA and math testing will be 3rd through 9th grade. Girls basketball is currently in the gym practicing and has made it through the whole season except for the week of Covid! We're hoping for a home game and that perhaps Dillingham will come to Port Alsworth this Thursday for games at 6:30 pm and Friday at 10 am. Child Find is also coming next week for hearing, vision, height, and weight testing. All students can be screened this year with parent permission since Covid interfered with the travel for this over the last two school years. School photos will be taken tomorrow with Jessyka Nahdee. There will be a retake option for students who have to miss school. Parent access to PowerSchool has been recirculated and the "how to" guides seem to be updated. Kacy Lou will check since in November they weren't updated. Schoology will be used alongside PowerSchool but is more for lesson planning, etc. Access to standards will continue to show up in PowerSchool.
 - i. Question from Carlton Voran: Is there a direct link between Schoology and PowerSchool, or do teachers have to go into both individually?
 1. Discussion: Branden Hummel response: It seems like Classlink will combine them. Carlton: Does it work better than it used to with internet speeds? Branden: He's found a few bugs that he's reported back already. Maybe the tech team has already ironed those out. Classlink seems to work smoothly.
 - b. Teacher's Report:

Coming events: Basketball regionals are next week. Boys will play at Bristol Bay, and girls will travel to Manokotak. State will be the following week. SNAP Meet for 7th - 12th graders April 11-15 in Newhalen. (Speeches, prom, science fair, NYO, etc.) We are looking for teachers to chaperone; Nate will be the admin in charge for basketball regionals and leaves Wednesday, then will fly to Anchorage Monday - Tuesday the following week for Region I meetings before State. Graduation is set for April 24th at 3 pm for both kindergarten and seniors.

- i. Brandey Voran: It's March and it suddenly feels like the end of the year. We're really just trying to finish covering standards. Elementary has been doing bird calendars and poems, and art with Miss Katherine on Fridays has been a bonus creative outlet. Sasha Alsworth (student teacher) has started taking over all the elementary subjects Brandey has been teaching and has been stepping in like a professional. The kids respond well to him and love having him there. High school math is planning a Pi Day Lynx Chat activity for March 14th school-wide. MAP testing is occurring this week and we are continuing to encourage students as they push hard each day.
 - ii. Sarah Wardell: State Special Education Conference was really good a few weeks ago. She learned a lot and is implementing a lot. She is working a lot individually with students and getting to spend a lot of time in classrooms. Teachers Aides and Sarah are working hard to keep everyone on track with goals and objectives, and everyday school work.
 - iii. Patti Brock: K through 2nd grade students are all working hard and getting ready to finish the year strong. We just celebrated our 100th day of school; all the kids dressed up as hundred year olds and had a ton of fun doing special math activities. This week is Dr. Suess week so kids are dressing up for reading time, etc.
 - iv. Brandon Hummel: It's crazy to think that it's March, but final projects are underway in Chemistry. Science Fair projects are underway in all classes. Ending the year strong and we will finish in time for a solid review for testing in April.
 - v. Matthew Grossmann: The kids are still working! Basketball has been a good motivator for the 8th graders.
 - c. Correspondence: None.
 - d. Maintenance Report: Shane's not here currently, but all is going well.
 - e. Technology: The copier finally got fixed and it's still working!
 - f. Student Government Report: Students talked about nominations today for next year's officers and voting will take place next week. The old officers will stay and new officers will shadow the old for the next several weeks. The Student Government is planning a movie night for 3/25: Nachos and Nacho Libre (with Root Beer Floats).
 - g. Financial Reports:
 - i. LSAC: \$2406.05
 - 1. Pizza fundraiser profit: \$545
 - ii. Booster Club: \$8796.00 (travel will reduce this soon)
 - h. Public Comments: None.
- 6: Old Business
 - a. National School Board Association (NSBA) letter
 - a. Leo suggested that perhaps LSAC write its own letter to the LPSD school board asking questions about where they stand on different topics frequently addressed by NSBA.
 - i. Potential questions to ask from LSAC discussion: How much association is there between Alaska and the NSBA? Are we

paying dues? Our immediate research seems to show that Alaska is not a part of the NSBA but maybe the Alaska School Board Association is? Do we want to recommend pulling out of that? At a minimum we should voice our concerns with the organization. Heidi will write up a short sample letter and send it to LSAC for input.

b. Covid response

a. Things seem to be calming down and loosening up in general. ASAA spring sports tournaments will not have testing to go to State after a statewide superintendent survey. Nate needs to check on masking requirements. We're still Covid testing (if kids are out of their 90 day post-Covid window) to satisfy other schools in the region's Covid protocols as we play them for sports.

i. Carlon Voran question: Has there been any movement toward the removal of remote-learning options for 22-23?

ii. Elisha Wegner follow up question: Is it worth it to move towards a "If you're sick, stay home." policy change since we only have one LSAC meeting left this school year.

iii. **Leo Fowler would like to make a motion to retire the Port Alsworth Site Specific Smart Start Plan (Tanalian School Entry / Return Guidelines) documents and instead keep kids healthy by asking parents/ staff to keep kids/ staff home if they are sick, effective March 7th, 2022. Elisha seconded. Heidi asked for any additional discussion, of which there was none. Motion unanimously approved.**

7. New Business:

a. TOPS

i. Tanalian Outstanding Performance Scholarship: Sarah Wardell gave an update:

1. Students can receive TOPS for as many years as they were enrolled at Tanalian for high school. The typical award is \$1,000 per year, per student. This scholarship can be applied to trade schools, religious studies programs, or universities. TOPS needs new committee members since it is just Sarah Wardell and Andrea McGee now. This can be teachers, parents, or community members, but this is not parent-exclusive.

a. Question from Leo: How many kids are receiving TOPS currently? Sarah response: Maybe 6 or 7? TOPS requires proof of GPA and enrollment for renewal after the initial application process and award.

b. Question from Nate: How are the funds doing? Sarah: Currently \$2,000 in account. IRS and 501c3 status is in the process. Sarah is working through that and will know more soon.

b. Discussion of the 2022-2023 calendar. Teacher request for no school on 12/21 for travel accommodations. General LSAC consensus: Teachers are the ones who are

most restricted, so we want to lean toward doing what works best for teachers and administration.

- i. Question from Brandey Voran: Do we need to make a decision at a specific time? Response from Nate: By the end of March.
 - ii. Carlon Voran proposed moving 1/5 and 1/6 flex vacation days to 2/16 and 12/21 to extend breaks.
 - iii. Main option after much discussion: Leave as is, with Patti getting the preference. Nate will talk to Patti Brock and we will table this? Eric motions to approve as we see.
8. Next meeting is set for Tuesday, April 5th at 7 pm.
 9. Adjournment: 8:40 pm