

Site Report – Newhalen – January, 2026

To: Superintendent Kasie Luke and LPSD School Board Members	From: Newhalen School
Photos & Description of Activities and Events	
<p>Currently Newhalen is gearing up for the annual carnival. Huge thank you to all the volunteers that help put together this event. It is an uplifting and positive event for our community. Newhalen School had the pleasure to host the 2026 LPSD Basketball Jamboree.</p>	
Personnel Update	
<p>We are currently waiting to see what our teachers decide to do as far as signing their contract or not for next school year. Personnel staffing has been a challenge with a lot of sickness occurring in the village. A lot of substitutes have been utilized. Principal Lester and other staff have filled in many positions. A shoutout to Principal Lester! He is a true Malamute through and through and often doesn't get the credit he deserves. Please read the facebook post from one of our new teachers, Mrs. Becca.</p>	



Rebecca Bastien is with Debbie Stokes Nelson and 32 others.

November 23, 2025 ·

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WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT: CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

It's truly rare to meet someone with the genuine character and deep love for others that Ed Lester shows. Ed Lester is like a brother to the men and a father to the children, offering comfort and support to everyone around. Ladies and young girls find peace and kindness in all that he does. People of all ages and backgrounds can turn to Ed for guidance. As principal of Newhalen School, he moves through the halls with purpose, always carrying a Chromebook and clearly balancing many responsibilities. Ed coaches coed wrestling and coed basketball, oversees sports for twelve remote schools, and manages the food for the cafeteria, which serves over a hundred students, teachers, and elders of the community. When help is needed, Ed Lester is there. Because of a deep love for the village, he is always on call, ready to help anyone at any time. Life in the village isn't simple, but thanks to Ed, it has more meaning and purpose. This dedication comes at a cost, but he never seems to mind. Running the school, planning sports, and traveling with teams is demanding, yet day after day, Ed plows on. No matter how busy, he always finds time to stop and speak to a child, tie a shoe, or even lend a hand in the kitchen. Isn't this what life is all about – helping others? Hats off to Ed Lester! The kindness, dedication, and tireless support he gives to everyone around is a gift that touches countless lives. Thank you, Ed Lester, for the love and care you share so generously to the children and your entire community.

"Leadership has nothing to do with your title. Leadership is your ability to influence those around you." J.P. Dinell



Classroom Highlights



Students in Mrs. B's class enjoyed some snow painting, we used water colors to make some fun pictures while getting to be outside on a warm day!



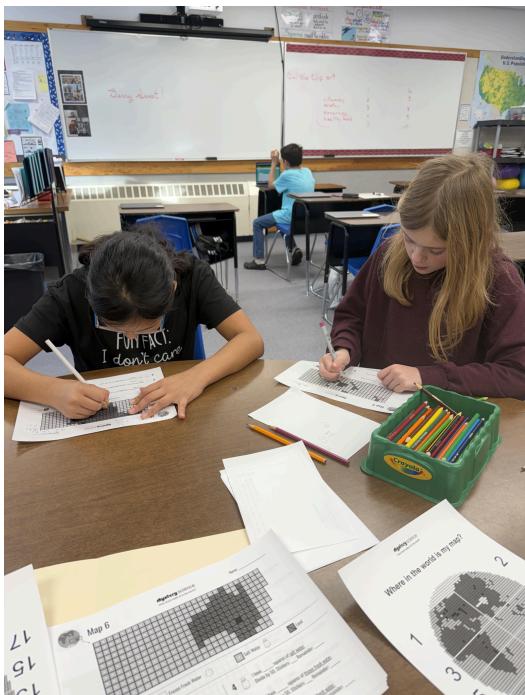
Some Kindergarten and 1st graders enjoying basketball camp put on by Coach Roy and Coach Chris. We appreciate Principal Lester for bringing the basketball camp for all the students even including Newhalen's littlest kids along with ALL the other sites in our district (Even, even including Dillingham and Koliganak)



High school science working hard on an experiment about the respiration rate of peas. They were still collecting data even when the power went out!



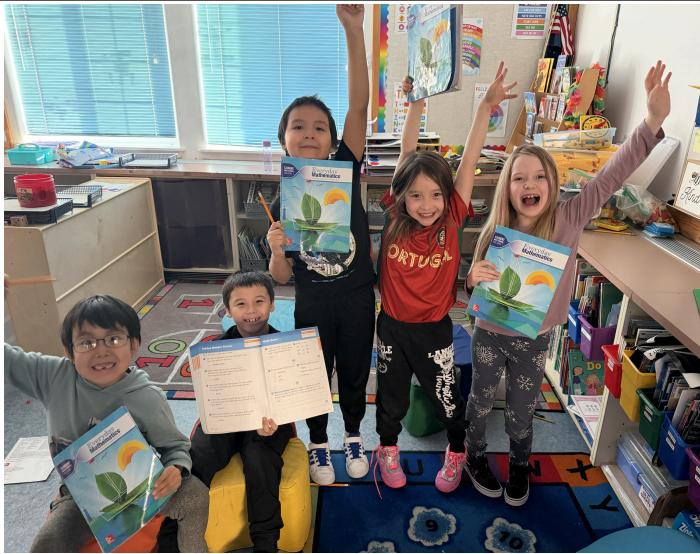
Middle school science collecting data to see how far they could jump on different planets where there are different amounts of gravity.



Level 5 graphing data to find the area of salt-water and fresh water.



Level 5-6 dissecting owl pellets to discover what the owls have eaten.



Second grade celebrating the completion of their first math journal and getting ready to start their second one!!



First/ second grade spending time outside after the harsh temperatures passed.

LSAC Activity

LSAC meet on 1/19. See LSAC Minutes.

Community Engagement

Newhalen has had many volunteers the last few weeks throughout the school.

Chas Anelon is volunteering to work with our Jr High Girls Basketball players

Rot Womack is volunteering to work with our Jr High Boys Basketball players

Ayla Rickteroff is volunteering to work with our Pee-Wee Basketball players

Professional Development

Teachers continue to strive to become exemplary interventionists.

Pupil % Attendance K-12

Enrolled	2025-2026
Preschool	4
K-6	54
Grades 7-8	11
Grades 9-12	26
Grades K-12	91
Grades P-12	95