

Site Report – Tanalian School – August-September 2026

To: Superintendent Kasie Luke
and LPSD School Board Members

From: Matthew Grossmann, Head Teacher

Photos & Description of Activities and Events

We got to host the New Teacher and Student Teacher Inservice here in Port Alsworth. New teachers stayed in Tanalian School teacher housing and the student teachers stayed in Tanalian Bible Camp cabins, where Tanalian School Aide Darcy Lorentzen cooked their meals. All 25 of them had the opportunity to fly in a bush plane, climb Tanalian Mountain, and get in some four-wheeler training before heading off to their villages.



First day of Pre-K went great! There are 9 students, which is almost double what we had for most of last year.



And here's the whole K-12 Tanalian student body and staff on the first day.



On Sept 3 we did a 2026 Mix-Six Volleyball State Championship banner reveal party & community VB games!



Student Gov kicked off the school year with Spirit Week: Pj's, Dress like a Teacher, Vacation, and Lynx colors.



Personnel Update



Nate Davis - Principal of Tanalian and LVHS, and HR Director for LPSD

Worked at Tanalian since: 2013

Summer highlight: Family Camp: All my grandchildren and children visiting Sherri and I at Port Alsworth.

Goal for this school year: To support all LPSD staff.



Matthew Grossmann - Head Teacher, HS Science/Social Studies, 6-8th Science, 8-9 Math, 6-9th PEP

Worked at LPSD since: 2006

Summer highlight: Watching Tanalian senior Erik McGee play volleyball on a team that represented AK in a big volleyball tournament in Chicago.

Goal for this school year: Figure out the hydroponics system and provide some fresh veggies/greens for the lunch program.



Sasha Alsworth - First year teacher! 6-12th ELA/Math, 3-5th Writing/Technology

Worked at Tanalian since: Aug 2026

Summer highlight: Hiking with my kids.

Goal for this school year: In my first year of teaching, chase progress more than

Classroom Highlights

Mr. Grossmann has split his Jr. High students into small groups and challenged each team to build a boat out of cardboard and a limited list of a supplies. When the boats are complete they will be tested for floatation and durability in a race at the lake!



Students grew so much over the summer and seem very happy to all be back together again!



LSAC Activity

First meeting is scheduled for Wed, Oct 7 at 6:30pm.

Community Engagement

Sept 8 - Volleyball Championship banner unveiling, plus community volleyball games. The Lynx Lair was open as well for drinks and treats!

Professional Development

Teachers are being trained on the new Reading curriculum, testing platforms, TC+, and learning and connecting with LPSD staff during our beginning of the year inservice days.

Pupil % Attendance K-12

92.61% attendance rate for Tanalian: 9/1-9/17

Student and Staff Safety

Students encountered wasp/bees on the playground, and one was stung. We tried to find the nest, but did not have any success.

Other

Moose season is here, and they are practically hopping into people's freezers! What a blessing!

