THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jensen Drive
King Salmon, AK 99613
907-313-3841

1617 S Industrial Way #1
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-7090

Date: November 17, 2026
To: LPSD School Board
From: Kacy Lou Humphreys
Regarding: November Student Services Report

Hello from the Regional Volleyball Tournament in Port Alsworth! It has been such a joy to be here with Patty and so many of our student athletes from across the district! We just finished day one of the Mixed-Three / Mixed-Six tournament and were already able to have eight students complete the WorkKeys test today! We are looking forward to spending the next two days cheering on our students, working with individuals on spring advanced coursework registration, BBRCTE applications, Alaska Performance Scholarship notifications, and of course, Sources of Strength! November is Gratitude Month in LPSD Sources of Strength. To celebrate, our team put together this video from the Perryville jamboree last month celebrating what students in our district are grateful for. In addition to hosting students from across the district, it has been our pleasure to host the Anchorage Daily News this week in Port Alsworth, as they are here preparing an article on the pioneering work LPSD is doing with Sources of Strength in conjunction with our GCI Suicide Prevention Grant. We are eager to share that article with you once it is published.

Throughout October we championed PSAT testing for sophomores and juniors, BBRCTE Intensives and post-secondary prep work, on-going one-on-one and small group student meetings, district-wide elementary and junior high SEL each week on Zoom, our weekly Secondary Student Spotlight, and the completion of the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire as a universal mental health screener at both the elementary (teacher observation/ response) and secondary (student response) levels. It has been great to watch our program grow our reach, but also the depth through which we are able to serve our students over the last several years.

We have also been championing staff wellness with our teaching and admin teams over the last month through both serious and silly components (like the staff spirit week featured below). Prior to Fall Inservice, we put forth a "Vote for the G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time) LPSD Trusted Adult" Sources of Strength campaign to secondary students across the district. It was amazing to see students identify trusted adults in their life, but one trusted adult stood out after receiving 38 nominations: We were honored to name Mrs. Marli Nikolaus as the 2026 GOAT Trusted Adult. Inservice was also an excellent time for our team to connect with staff to have organic conversations about how we can better serve individual students and sites. Elisabeth was able to co-lead a professional development session on Trauma-Informed Schools alongside Bristol Bay School District's Social Worker, providing staff with tangible ways to support students' social emotional growth in the classroom.

Our team has also been putting together a monthly newsletter to "All Staff" to provide teachers and support staff with ideas on how to integrate Sources of Strength "coded" social emotional growth

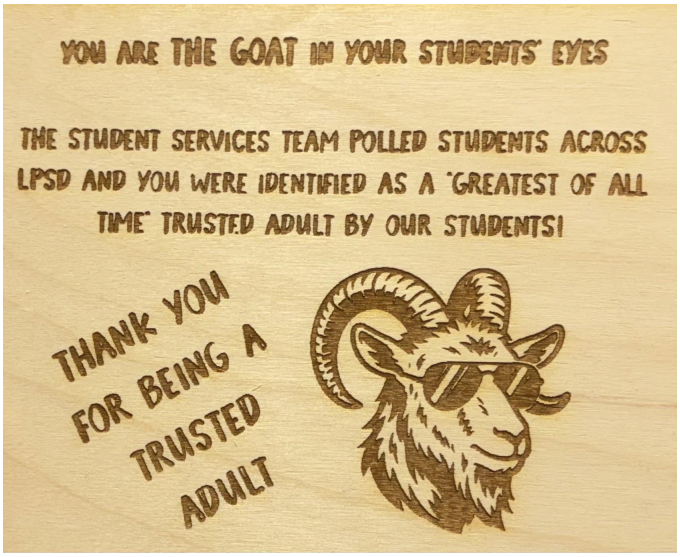
into our classrooms. I will attach the November newsletter below in case it didn't make it to your inboxes.

I (Kacy Lou) have been working closely with the LPSD business department this month to pursue potential avenues of funding to keep our program humming along, seeing as our current Mental Health Consortium Grant in collaboration with Dillingham City School District will sunset next December (2027) and it does not seem to be a grant that will reopen for applications this grant cycle. We would appreciate it if you too were able to keep an eye out for possible funding sources so we can continue to provide our students with the support they deserve. Thank you for all that you do to ensure our students have access to quality education and caring adults. It is our honor to do the work that we do.

For the kids, always–
Kacy Lou Humphreys, Elisabeth Ludwig, & Patty McCasland

Vote for the GOAT LPSD Trusted Adult 2026 Winner, Mrs. Marli Nikolaus





LPSD staff across the district had a blast during "Undercover Staff Spirit Week" – a spirit week just for staff that kept us giggling and kept our students wondering what on earth we were up to…



“Anything But A Cup Day”



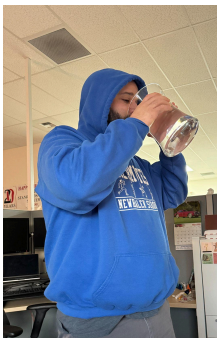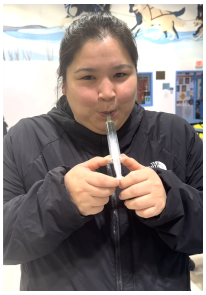
















“Dress Like Your Students Day”





November Sources of Strength Staff Email

Kacy Lou Humphreys <kacylouleyba@lpsd.com>

November is Generosity & Gratitude Month! 🤍

9 messages

Kacy Lou Leyba <kacylouleyba@lpsd.com> Fri, Nov 6, 2026 at 11:40 AM
To: All Staff <staff@lpsd.com>

Happy November, LPSD!

I invite you to take a moment to watch the video below and celebrate gratitude with our secondary students! Who are you thankful for? **Bonus points if you take a moment to write them a note and say so!**

LPSD Sources Thankfulness Oct 2026.mov

November is Generosity and Gratitude Month in Sources of Strength. It is our hope that you will help us facilitate gratitude campaigns at your schools this month. We have included a few activities below to facilitate the creation of public displays of gratitude, as well as opportunities to weave personal gratitude reflection into your classrooms. You can also encourage students to think of ways to be generous to their peers, families, and community members. (Many of these hit standards too!)

K-12

- ThankfulnessJournal2024 to print.pdf
- Thankful Tree Craft.pdf
- Thank you Postcard
- Gratitude Weekly Log
- Gratitude Month Journal

K-5

- Filled with Gratitude
- Grateful Writing
- Gratitude Scavenger Hunt
- IMAGINE IF worksheets for Gratitude
- SKETCH IT worksheets for Gratitude
- Thankful Turkey

6-12

- Unplugged-Gratitude-High-School-Activity-Booklet.pdf
- Week Long Gratitude Journal.pdf
- Art Activity

Staff

- Staff Gratitude Workbook.pdf
- Nominate a co-worker or community member for a Shining Star Award within LPSD

Lastly, if you are looking for a way to be generous toward a secondary student today, I encourage you to nominate a student ages 12-19 for the Spirit of Youth Awards. They have 8 categories, including: Role Model, Innovator, Phoenix, Life Saver, Humanitarian, Discovery, Dreamer, and Visionary. So many of our students fit into these categories and a simple 3 minute nomination can help them receive a scholarship or bolster their resume.

As always, please feel free to reach out to our team at StudentServices@lpsd.com if you have any questions or concerns. We are grateful to have the opportunity to serve you and your students!
--
Quyana! Chin'an! Gracias!