

Site Report – Tanalian – January 2023

To: Superintendent Kasie Luke
and LPSD School Board Members

From: Nate Davis, Principal
(with thanks to Laura Wilder)

Outstanding Activities and Events

New year, new calendar. Lillian Nahdee and Noelle Grossmann help get the school's entry calendar cleaned up and ready for 2023 activities!



January was full of all things basketball! We hosted a large Girls and Boys Tournament Jan 11-14 where Newhalen, Bristol Bay, Nuiqsut, and Nunamiut each brought both of their teams. It was a full house with lots of great games and activities. With so many visiting players (75+) here, plus our PTA fans, we had food serving and eating stations everywhere! The little ones



seemed to enjoy their temporary eating spot.





The Jan 19-21 Girls Home Tournament brought three teams (Togiak, Manokotak, and Bristol Bay) to Port Alsworth. The same weekend our Lynx boys team flew to New Stuyahok for games where our younger players got some court time and contributed points to the scoreboard!



Jan 25-28 our boys and girls all went to Bristol Bay to play ball in the Sockeye Tournament. We were thankful we had five healthy girls to send, and they worked hard for every point! The boys team was missing our two seniors (Daniel Wardell and Sam Fowler who were headed to Canada to represent Team Alaska in the Arctic Winter Games - similar to the Olympics, but just for the Northern Hemisphere). So our young Lynx had to pull together and were able to put up some great shots and build a new level of teamwork. Mr. Hummel got the games playing in the school library so anyone who wanted could cheer them on.



Both Lynx teams returned home Jan 29th from their Bristol Bay Sockeye Tournament to quickly wash and repack for their weeklong basketball road trip Jan 30-Feb 4. They played six games in six days between Anchorage and Tri-Valley.

Student Government purchased Lynx t-shirts and anoraks to sell at the Lynx Lair. Get yours before they sell out and show your Tanalian support!



K-12 students read and studied for hours to prepare for this year's Battle of Books. Here's who Tanalian has representing LPSD at state in February: 3/4th, 5/6th and Jr. High. First graders were also 1st place, but no state for younger grades. Lynx in 2nd place were K and HS.





Personnel

- Mark Gibbs came to do some maintenance work around the school and was such a great help! He got weathered in an extra couple days and just kept checking things off the to-do list. He also pitched in mid-basketball tournament to help keep the school in running order.
- We have a full time tutor at Tanalian this semester: Sasha Alsworth! He's so kind, happy, and works really well with all the students. We are so happy to have him on the team



- Student teacher Sydney Boone, from SUNY Brockport in New York, will be working with teacher Branden Hummel in his biology and math classes for a few weeks.. We are enjoying getting to know her and appreciate how quick she is to smile.

Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress

Teachers continue to teach and assess the standards. Special effort is being given to keep basketball players learning through all their travel. We appreciate all the coordination between teachers, coaches, and players.

Technology Progress

We have the Starlink hardware, but are having difficulty with mounting and activating it.

Facility Update

Mrs. Hummel planted an indoor garden last fall and it has exploded with good things to eat. She even grew chamomile and shared the flowers to make fresh tea with.



LSAC Activity

LSAC continues to meet regularly, hearing reports from teachers and principal and Experiencing Out presentations from students. LSAC also helps fund some student activities and the LJMS.

“We Love our Volunteers” Report

- Volunteer Katherine Martin started Art Mondays again and has been introducing more wonderfully creative ideas to our student body.



- Volunteers Patti Brock, Shadow Brock, Sherri Davis, and many others held down the scorebook and scoreboard for about 30 basketball games in two weekends.
- We give a shout-out to Mark McGee, Nicole Metzgar, Caleb Alsworth, Russel Phelps, and Sasha Alsworth for being willing to officiate those same 30 basketball games.
- Booster Moms and community volunteers served up three yummy dinners during both of our January basketball tournaments, bringing in some serious cash for our booster club account - a HUGE THANK YOU to them for putting meals together and to the community for purchasing!
- Chefs Lisa Rivas and Janine Denny are famous around the region for their amazing food... but they also create an infectious work atmosphere and are helped by amazing volunteers: Sydney Boone, Shadow Brock, Chloe Erickson, Bernadette Clark, Patti Brock, Pam Twitchel, Jen Opland and others. It takes a whole team! And we have a great one!

Professional Development

Some teachers attended the annual great Alaska RTI Conference, either in person or virtually.

Pupil Attendance

Students have been at school regularly, except for basketball travel and a couple out of town family trips.

Student and Staff Safety

In general, Tanalian students and staff are healthy and whole, for which we are grateful. Basketball players have suffered a couple rolled ankles.

Subsistence Calendar

The school year is speeding by and teachers and students are working hard and efficiently as they strive to do a full year's work with twenty fewer days than others in the state. We are headed to early April once again for the statewide assessment, AK STAR.

Other

Thank you to all the School Board members and district office staff who invest in Tanalian School students every day!