

JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2021  
SISD SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

PO Box 803  
Craig Alaska 99921  
Telephone: 907-530-7108  
FAX: 907-530-7111

E-mail: [caitlin\\_aspery@sisd.org](mailto:caitlin_aspery@sisd.org)

**Across the district, we have many events and activities occurring in our schools, strengthening our students, and in turn our district. From a teacher's perspective these are opportunities for growth, learning, and may be crucial in the development of a student. To a student, the lens shows a different view, and now, we get to hear it.**

Since our last board meeting in November a lot has happened in the district. Schools were put on code red, winter break happened, a new year kicked off, and now we're all back in school. It's only been two weeks since school has been back on site, but even still, it's been a busy two weeks for everyone.

In Thorne Bay students are getting back into their sports! Basketball practice is back in session, as well as archery practice with 20-25 students attending after school practices. Thorne Bay High School is also very excited that they are now able to use their lockers for school. Hollis School kicked off the 2021 school year with a classroom screening of Disney's Soul followed by group discussion about the film and its meanings. As for the other sites, students reported that not much has occurred, which is fair given we're only two weeks back in physical session.

As usual with our brilliant SISD students though, they see opportunities for improvement so our district can excel. Whale Pass School, as well as the Hollis High School, trek on in the quest for more meat in school lunches. Whale Pass students began advocating specifically for meat egg rolls since the winter of 2019. Since then they have asked every month when I check in with students, and during my visit mentioned their request for more meat meals. When asked why they gave a thoughtful, well constructed response, the ratio of people who consume meat, to the people who don't in SISD. While the vegetarian option is great and progressive, it is not applicable to every person. A majority of our students exert themselves heavily throughout a day, and they find meat based meals best suit their needs. I must say after conversing with them they present a valid point and lunch menus should be further discussed, especially with students themselves. Students have begun to mention that the breakfast and lunch menus aren't as good as they could be and I believe communication with food service and students could allow room for growth and improvement.

A student from Thorne Bay has advocated for better toilet paper. They report the one being used is has a low ply count and isn't great for using. On another note students advocate for the ability to select elective courses they take. This is a fair request. Electives allow students to find themselves and their sparks. One elective can be the difference between a student growing into a career they work solely for money, and a student finding a path that offers them fulfillment in their spirit. A big part of electives that I observe as a student, is that it allows students to pursue self discovery and help them figure out who they want to become.

## January 21st, 2021 Student Representative Board Report

Finally students advocate for more opportunities to see their friends from other schools. Despite the circumstances, the truth is these are all youth, and youth need connections. We need to look for ways for students to continue to form friendships and connections with students from outer sites and look for ways to encourage those connections.

Overall the past school year has been surprising, a lot of twists and turns, and unknowns. With that being said, SISD students have kept going and will continue to keep going. There still many things to come, many challenges and adventures to happen, but rest assured that we all are doing great, and will continue to do so.