



# SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 19569, 1010 Sandy Beach Road, Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919  
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## February 23, 2022, Board Report Sherry Becker, Superintendent

**Vision:** Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations.

**Mission:** Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals  
and thrive in an ever-changing world.

### Southeast Island School District (SISD) Honors Board of Education School Board Members

Adapted from the Alaska Association of School Boards

School board members are people who have an extraordinary dedication to our public schools. It's time we said thank you for their untiring efforts.

Too often we forget about the sacrifices board members routinely make. Too often we forget about the important role board members play in ensuring local control over our public schools, control in the hands of people we know . . . people who are our neighbors. Too often we forget in the tradition of a representative democracy, board members are our connection to influencing how public schools are governed. Too often we are quick to criticize board members without really knowing all the details that went into any given decision. Too often the efforts of board members go unrecognized and unrewarded.

We can begin to correct these oversights throughout February, designated by the Association of Alaska School Boards Board of Directors as School Board Recognition Month. This is a time to show our appreciation and begin to better understand how school board members work together to provide leadership for our schools.

The school board works closely with parents, education professionals and community members to create the education vision we want for students. It then formulates goals, defines results, and sets the course for an adequate and equitable education program for all students. The school board is accountable to the public. It is responsible for assuring the public the money allocated to public schools has a good return on investment, overseeing regular assessment of the district's students, staff, and programs. The school board is also a strong advocate for public schools, responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public, and vice-versa.

In February, join with others from throughout our district and state to salute the men and women who provide grassroots governance of public schools. Make a special effort to tell each school board member that his or her hard work has been noticed and is very much appreciated.

### Thank you to the Southeast Island School District Board Members:

Shannon Silverthorn, Board President, [ssilverthorn@sisd.org](mailto:ssilverthorn@sisd.org)

Sandy Curtis, Board Clerk, [scurtis@sisd.org](mailto:scurtis@sisd.org)

Rebecca Saffold, Board Member, [rsaffold@sisd.org](mailto:rsaffold@sisd.org)

Tia Nardini, Board Member, [tnardini@sisd.org](mailto:tnardini@sisd.org)

Molly Kimzey, Board Member, [mkimzey@sisd.org](mailto:mkimzey@sisd.org)

## Southeast Island School District Board of Education Exemplary Stakeholder Award Campaign

### Recognition Ceremony - end of the year

- Advisory School Council Members
- Longevity Awards
- Certified and Classified Members of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Exemplary Stakeholder Youth Award
- Exemplary Stakeholder Award Adult



### Report Card to the Public – posted to the website

**American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Mitigation and Prevention Plan** – changes were recently discussed with medical advisory team and admin. We have also received free PPE supplies and materials from DHSS as well as numerous COVID-19 Testing kits that will be used on a voluntary basis for staff and per parent permission for students – as required by parent.

**Legislation** – There are many education-related bills that we should all be aware of. A 51-page document has been sent out to School Board members with more details; however, the top bills that we are currently watching include:

**HB 272** is a bill increasing the base student allocation to \$6,153 in FY22 and \$6,208 in FY23.

**HB 273** is a bill increasing the base student allocation by a percentage tied to the inflation indicated by the Consumer Price Index in urban Alaska.

**SB 111 & HB 164** The Alaska Reads Act, has multiple provisions for supporting early reading interventions. It adds support for head start programs and early education programs (ages 3-5, pre-K). It requires the school to provide culturally responsive early reading intervention services (K-3) for students who are identified as struggling readers, information about the program(s), and to measure how teachers and parents-as-teachers support these programs. It also establishes a virtual education consortium.

**Coffman Cove Greenhouse** – Our new Agriculture and Greenhouse Program Coordinator, Amanda Kieley, will begin working full time on February 28, 2022. (Job Description attached)

### **Schools Awarded Grants:**

The following schools received a 10,000 Alaska Microgrant for Food Security. These grants cover funds for both staff salaries and funds for supplies and materials. It will be the Agriculture and Greenhouse Program Coordinator's job to ensure that the goals of these grants are met.

Thorne Bay School - Barry C. Stewart  
Kasaan School - Hollis School -  
Howard Valentine Coffman Cove School



**Thank you to Priscilla Goulding for her support in writing these grants!**

**Enrichment Coordinator** – Kayley Moen has been hired as the new SISD Enrichment and Activities Coordinator (job description attached). She has been very busy scheduling a few exciting electives for our students (Introduction to Drone Piloting and Kayak Repair/Kayak Fishing); Kayley has also planned a fun swim and pizza party for students district-wide and is in the process of registering teams of SISD students for the POW Island Marathon!

**New Staff Assignments for FY23**

Deidre Jenson – Thorne Bay School Principal/Student Services Director (Testing, Special Education)

Sonya Cook – Thorne Bay Middle School/High School Teacher

Cassandra Christopherson – AK-TRAILS Correspondence/Homeschool Program Coordinator

**New-to-District Staff for FY23**

Shaine Nixon – Area Principal/District Activities Director

Christi Nixon – Coffman Cove Multi-Grade Teacher