

Tech Department

Airica Tripple

The technology Department has been gearing (in the background--- the magic behind the curtain :0) for state testing coming up in the spring. We have begun meetings/ preparations on our servers for State Testing.

We are working with teachers to encourage proper use of computers / internet access during instructional time.

Food Service

Amanda Blankenship

We have just completed our Onsite Audit for the Food Service Program. Two auditors were in Thorne Bay one day and Hollis another day this week. They observed our program and dug deep into our documentation. They were fabulous to work with and taught me a lot about the program. We do have a few findings and I have already begun fixing them now that I know the right way to do some of the things. The final report will be ready for us in a month or so. We also had a few surprise visits from the Food safety inspectors.... Two sites had issues that need to be corrected asap related to the equipment in the kitchen and another issue is that I need more training as the Coordinator which I am now enrolled in a class that will cover what is required. We also have 4 new cooks in our kitchen across SISD and are working out the kinks with a new Freight person. There have been many changes this year in the program with staff and I am grateful to report that the dust is settling and we have some really great staff.

Curriculum

Charles Becker

The district recently purchased the “Connecting Math Concepts” program for Naukati using funds from the Naukati School Improvement Grant. It is a traditional pencil and paper program that is evidence-based and comes highly recommended for “filling gaps” in student performance. It requires little formal training or preparation for an instructor to use it effectively due to its scripted, direct-instruction format. Part of the reason for this purchase was that the district did not currently have a program that fills this need.

THRIVE Grant, Testing, and Counseling

Amy McDonald

Counseling

Lots of great times out at sites in the last few weeks! Sometimes it is hard for me to get out to sites much, and I am so happy it is working out that I have the option more this year.

So many great things happening at our schools. Teachers are connecting with youth, youth are taking ownership in their school, it is exciting!

Testing

SISD has completed the **Alaska Developmental Profile**. This is a state requirement for all students in Kindergarten and first time to the state 1st graders. It is a profile, not an assessment, that identifies developmental progress of students.

THRIVE Grant

On November 9th and 10th the THRIVE grant offered a training in Anchorage. There were two 2-day sessions for this professional development training: **Creating Resilient Youth: The Power of Webs of Support and Preparing for Lift-Off: Applying Trauma-Informed Practices to Launch Student Success**. SISD had 3 adults and 2 students represent us. The trainings were amazing!

We are close to having a **PHlight Camp** opportunity for elementary students. This is exciting as we know that it is best to start teaching about Webs of Support early!

On November 15, we had a **Veteran PHlight Club** event for youth on POW who have attended 3 or more PHlight Club events. We dove deeper in learning about Anchors and who can be an Anchor and processed through the accepted social norms at PHlight Clubs on POW. It was so wonderful to get input from youth on ways to amplify positive social norms! I was very impressed that they were not worried at all about disagreeing (respectfully, of course) with suggestions from adults. They really do know what they need!



Veteran PHlight Club Event



Thorne Bay School Board Report

The time is moving by fast and much is going on at Thorne Bay School. Our Middle School Basketball Team will complete their season in Klawock this weekend at the Island tournament on Friday and Saturday. The High School Volleyball team has a big week in hosting regionals on 11/22 and 11/23, the student body officers planned and carried out a pep assembly for the MS basketball teams and volleyball team and will help them get ready for the region tournament by having a “spirit week” with “crazy Hair day”, “Pajama Day” and “Super Hero” day and school colors day on Thursday. Good luck to all the teams and thanks to their coaches and players for their hard work and dedication throughout the season.

We had a wonderful Veterans Day celebration with several of the Veterans from around Thorne Bay area. We honored them at our Monday morning Community meeting and we were able to hear from each of them and which branch of the military they served and some advice for each of the students. At the end they were able to shake each of their hands and we sent them home with some Large Thank you notes signed by all the students. It was a great opportunity to see who all the Veterans were from our area.

Ms. Brown is allowing the Sea Alaska and Forest Service personnel to come into her MS. science class to give the students a broad range of information, they will be sharing with many of the students from the school about emergency preparedness and how we can be better prepared for wild fires and other emergencies that can affect our area.

I want to thank each of the teachers and staff for all the hard work and dedication they are putting in on behalf of the students at our school. It never ceases to amaze me to see how much is getting done in each of the classrooms.