

Site Report – Nondalton–January, 2026

To: Superintendent Kasie Luke
and LPSD School Board Members

From: Tracey Thomas,
Head Teacher, K-3, Special Ed. Teacher

Photos and Descriptions of Events



Photos & Description of Activities and Events:

We celebrated the beginning of a New Year (Year of the Horse), Author of the Month Eve Bunting, and MLK Jr Day, Mr Oba's Class made motivational posters to get through the end of the year and is continuing a new Gratitude Tree (cherry blossom themed). Always grateful to catch the Aurora.

Personnel Update

No personnel updates - all staff in place

Harleigh Livingston, an elementary/special education major from Kutztown, PA arrived January 10th as well as Marco Pettinaro, from Rochester, NY who is employed as a tutor. Harleigh will be with us through March and Marco until April. We look forward to having them as part of the team. Their introduction letters are attached. Crystal Trefon has joined staff assisting on site for language classes that started January 20th on Tuesdays and Thursdays, other local elders are attending as well.

Classroom Highlights

k-2 - Battle of the Books. We have a team! They will be battling February 5th at 9 AM. Go Warriors! Our Author of the Month was "Eve Bunting". February Author of the Month will be Mo Willems, he has a great series of books. Middle school are making relief maps.

LSAC Activity

LSAC meeting was Thursday, January 22 at 5PM. Next meeting will be Thursday, February 19th, 2026.

Community Engagement

It was a rough December, we had many losses within the community. The New Year challenged us with sub zero temperatures, freezing pipes and fuel. A big thank you to Carl in maintenance for keeping the heat on. The community had a potluck and fireworks to celebrate the Russian New Year, an evening with a bonfire as well. It was well attended and spectacular. Gifts were handed out to everyone. A big thank you to the tribe for making all staff feel so welcome in the community. Another field trip is being planned for the Tribal Library and Student Government is planning an Indian Taco Sale. Elders are attending our newly started Language Classes. It is so nice for them to join us. We received clothing donations from family and community in the Lower 48 and are planning to start a "Nondalton Exchange" where community members can come in and select clothing and/or household needs or drop things off as well. This is a new project we would like to see grow and eventually move from an unused classroom to somewhere in the community! We already have volunteers to help organize and make it happen. Community basketball scrimmage planned, Saturday Feb. 7th, student store will be open. Second field trip to Tribal Library planned Monday Feb. 16.

Professional Development

Paras attended training, PLC was attended by staff, Cook training took place. Tracey and Colter will be presenting at ASSEC the first week of February "Mixtapes to Mastery: Round Knowledge vs. Square Knowledge in Rural Alaska". Maintenance training completed by staff.

Pupil % Attendance K-12 - 80% January

16 students to date (2 pre-schoolers) 18 total

Student and Staff Safety

Monthly Fire Drill: January 13, 2026 at 1:35pm 1.08 seconds It was super cold that day

Other -

Basketball players travelled to Newhalen, January 21, Shanise Joseph and Keisha Harried. Students are participating in the Bird Calendar and Subsistence Art contest

Hello!

My name is Miss Harleigh and I have the privilege of being the student teacher for your wonderful students until March 20th. I love to read, do musical theater, sing, color, math, and Disney! My favorite food is pizza and I have a huge sweet tooth!

This is my first time in Alaska and it is definitely the coldest place I have ever been! My first impressions of the district is that they are one big family and the staff is so helpful and willing to tell us all about the culture of the community. The kids are so sweet and I love getting to interact with them! I also love seeing how connected the community is and all the events that happen.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. To do this, please stop by our room or email me at hlivingston@lpsd.com with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Miss Harleigh



Dear Families of Nondalton,

My name is Marco Pettinaro, and I'm excited to introduce myself as the tutor from January through April 10th. I'm from New York State and currently completing my job embedded teacher prep program at Suny Brockport. I'm looking forward to learning from this experience while also supporting your children's growth and success.

As part of my program requirements, I'll be videotaping a few tutoring sessions I teach late into my time here. These recordings are used strictly for my coursework and professional development. The SIBME platform provides a secure space for teacher candidates to upload videos. The video is uploaded into a private workspace and shared with my supervisor in a huddle. There is no identifying information about the school or students included with the video.

Thank you for welcoming me into your awesome community. I'm thrilled to have the chance to work with your children and get to know them as learners and individuals. I'll be working closely with Ms. Thomas and all other members of Nondalton School staff to provide support. Besides my trips to Italy to visit family, I can't say I'm a traveler. I learned the hard way that a minute outside without gloves here is not the same as a minute outside without gloves back home. If you ever see me outside with a camera, I'm recording all the beautiful sights and potentially trying to recreate them later with pencil and paper.

Thank you,

Marco Pettinaro

