

*Port Alexander Eagles
February 2019*

Port Alexander School Happenings: Focusing on creating and maintaining a culture of continual improvement PA recently remodeled our 6-12 facility with all new drafting desks for students and high-quality office chairs for every student. The students raised \$1800 and the Community matched their \$\$ to buy these high-powered learning stations.

Geography is one of many disciplines we enjoy in PA. In a hard-fought battle that came down to the final question, 6th grader Savannah (pictured) won the Geography Bee and then took an online test to see if she will qualify to attend the National Competition in Washington D.C.

We added extra fun to our geography study by researching U.S. cities with professional baseball teams. Each student presented a report on the city they researched and then wrote a business letter to each MLB Team asking them to help us decorate our US map. We are still getting S.W.A.G. in from all over the country the students loved this project. They are all looking forward to the Geography competition to be held at the district during STEAM week.



K-5: Our elementary classroom is having a lot of fun and learned new techniques with math and science experiments using our candy and baking class.

They are enjoying the reading space provided by fund raisers. This has also lent itself to discovering our world (geography bonus) with pretend road and plane trips since one classroom has a US map and the other a world map.

Students are engaged all day long in learning new vocabulary, specialized reading platforms, spelling and phonemic awareness, all computations of mathematics, and studies of ecosystems. We look forward to a successful, engaging rest of the year with studies of aerospace, careers and colonial times in North America.





Southeast Island School District

Whale Pass School

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February 2019 Board Report

Whale Pass School

Submitted by: Christine Cook

We continue to have a lot of snow and cold weather in Whale Pass this February. The first of the month found most of the town with frozen water including the school for a few days. We made the best of it by having the older boys carry water from the creek for flushing and washing dishes. Gave them a taste of the good old days and we were all grateful when Ron and Forrest got the water running again.

The Middle School students have been busy in Mr. Cook's class while studying Greek History and getting ready for the state archery competition. They have been practicing nearly every day perfecting their shots. Nathaniel Cook even visited one day to give a few pointers. The students have traveled to Naukati and to Coffman Cove to compete against other students for practice. We are hoping to have a few students to send to Nationals this year.

A few of our middle school and high school students attended a Youth welding class on Saturday, February 9. They were able to create some amazing projects on the plasma cutter. Sarah Vasser and myself will be taking a few of these same students to the POW ACES training in March.

In Ms. Cook's class, we are finishing up our study of rocks and minerals by making a film using the green screen. We are working through the kinks and hope to have a final product soon. In social studies, we are studying states and writing biographies of famous Afro-Americans for Black History month. In math and language arts, we continue through the curriculum with added mini lessons for taking the end of grade tests.

This week we are celebrating Valentine's Day on Thursday, February 14 by exchanging valentines. The students decided they wanted a Spirit Week on this week also. Here is how the week was planned.

Monday-crazy hair/pajama day

Tuesday-favorite book character or movie character day

Wednesday-camo day

Thursday-Valentine colors day

As March blows in, we are getting ready for planting starts in our greenhouse. Thanks to Jonathan Fitzpatrick we received some extra grow lights from Coffman Cove. Our chickens are doing well and laying about fourteen various colored eggs a day. We are all looking forward to warmer weather.

February Board Report for Naukati Bay School

Our Middle School Wildcat Wrestlers are on their way to Ketchikan. They have been working hard and proving their efforts by winning matches during the tournament in Craig. Way to go! We wish them luck.

The Archers are also competing in state this weekend at the Thorne Bay gym. They have been focused in finding their aiming spots and taking practices pretty serious. Shoot straight Archers!

Our second installment of MAPS testing is over. We have two students being tested next week for NAEP scores and PEAKS Statewide testing coming up in April. It is a heavy load but all of the students are going the extra mile in their studies by reflecting on weak spots and asking for an update in their skill set. Everyone is looking forward to STEAM Week for a break from testing and heavy studies.

The Naukati School is waiting for the monies from a small grant from the Alaska Retired Teachers Association for some hand tools. We are hoping to get our hands into planting some starter plants and using the tools to possibly make some flower boxes.

We are looking forward to a little more daylight and wish everyone a super end to February!

Naukati School Staff

Barry Craig Stewart Kasaan School Board Report February 2019

Wow, the excitement never seems to cease in Kasaan. The boiler building fire is in the process of being cleaned up. We would like to thank Branzon, Mike, Alex, and the other maintenance crew for their help in cleaning the building. They have done a tremendous job. The fire marshals have been down and investigated the fire and the insurance company will be down this week. We hope to be back in the school on Monday.

AP&T and GCI moved the internet server to the library in Kasaan. This was a great help for the students to continue working on classes. They did this at no cost to the school or district, and big shout out of thanks to them.

The City of Kasaan has also been a great help in provide the city building for use to hold class and prepare and serve lunch.

With this setback the school has continued to function, and the students have a good attitude and are facing the challenges with dignity and respect.

HOLLIS SCHOOL
JANUARY 10, 2019
SISD BOARD REPORT

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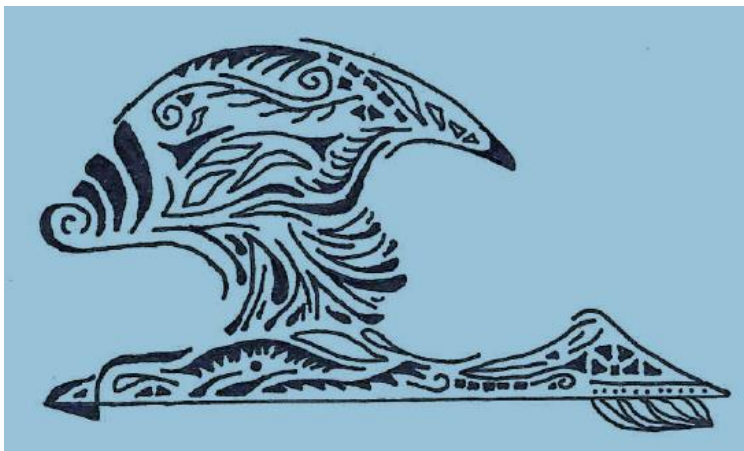
We want to express our gratitude to everyone who supported our students and their learning opportunities documented in this report, as it was the work of many who make each and every one of our students' learning experiences possible.

New Hollis School Logo:

We have long hoped for a Hawk design that came from our school community rather than free clip art. After a student run contest and student artist feedback the school has a new Hawk that challenges our assumptions about what a school mascot logo might appear while supporting our work or looking at the work from different perspectives. We are excited to present our 2019 Hollis Hawk created by Hollis Student Lyric Davenport-Adkison. Watch for it on our website, stationary and school swag!

Current Academic Explorations:

Primary students continue to work on their exploration of community and quality of life. They will soon begin their pamphlet and film to celebrate their learning and share with our Community Council.



Intermediate and Middle Schools have launched two major collaborative learning projects: the Alaska Hoops Project and their New School Planning project. We are excited to see where both of these explorations take their and our learning.

High School is exploring Civics and Alaska as they read "Land Gone Lonesome". Their next book by the same author, "Firecracker Boys" will hone in on citizens and government and

the impact of their actions on the future. We are excited to hear their thinking and explore their final projects to

Hollis Public Library:

Hollis librarian Sandy Curtis has continued her weekly meetings with our high school students to share the oral story telling information she learned during a recent librarian conference. These past two weeks Hollis High School students have made their first short story presentation at the library. These filmed presentations allow our students to observe themselves and reflect upon their story and oral presentation strengths and identify gaps where they can improve. Students shared feedback with each other and our story telling will utilize that feedback and their film reflection to hone their stories which they hope to present at our soon to be scheduled community harvest celebration meal.

Battle of the Books:

Our Hawks had a great time at our annual SISD Battle of the Books Competition and we want to celebrate all of the district winners. It is a great experience.

Chicken Coop:

Our "varmint proof" chicken coop is close to completion. We are awaiting a door delivery and the final shingles to create a new and safe home for when our new chickens are ready to move in. We are so excited and appreciative for all of the district's support of this project, so chickens can once again be an important part of our Hollis School community.

Youth Group:

Active in the POW Health Network's youth group. In January our youth group had a chance to attend a day of welding supported by anchors and taught by Earl Jeffrey's. Everyone bar none loved the opportunity. We so appreciate all of the service and learning opportunities this program provides for our students.

On Sunday February 24, 2019 Hollis High School students will be launching a monthly community game night with a dinner. Their goals to provide another opportunity for people to gather and connect while sharing healthy past times as they know the importance of healthy connections for a healthy life as this is something tangible they can do in our community to combat Alaska's youth suicide trends. WE hope to see our community attend and enjoy themselves.

Archery:

The first phase of our 2018-2019 Archery Season will draw to a close on Saturday February 16, 2018 when our team heads to Thorne Bay for the 2019 State Archery Tournament. Our students are excited about the competition as well as the opportunity to connect with friends and anchors from across the district. Thank you to Coach George Vasquez and Assistant Coach Sam Schlobnohm and Bus Driver Tammy for making this possible.

Staff and Visitors:

Superintendent candidate Sherry Becker:

On January 28, 2019 our students enjoyed touring and interviewing Superintendent candidate Sherry Becker. Our favorite student question: "Do you know how to change people's hearts to

make them bigger?" After the student lead tour and student interview – the students met and created a summary of their impressions in a Celebrates, Wonders and Concerns document that they send to the SISD Board of Education for their consideration.

OT Resident Megan McMaster:

We are excited to share that Hollis School is fortunate to have Megan McMaster, another Indiana Wesleyan University School of Health Science Occupational Therapy Program student on site for to complete her PHD residency.

Here is the personal bio she sent for us:

I'm Megan McMaster. I'm working towards my doctorate in occupational therapy at Indiana Wesleyan University. I will be working on my final residency project at Hollis Schools. My residency project is working on improving student's handwriting and typing skills through addressing the underlying skills such as fine motor strength and coordination, visual motor skills, and sensory integration. I enjoy activities such as hiking, kayaking, reading, and cooking.

Megan has already completed four weeks of her eight-week residency. She has spent that time observing and making connections with the kids while also learning how to operate all of the systems in her tiny camper home. A lifelong and engaging learner and active community member she attended the POW Opioid Task Force peer counseling Community Café as well as joins our high school students' Sunday afternoon Collective Story Telling and steps up to support student involvement in a plethora of other activities. She is supporting and engaging in every aspect of Hollis School to the benefit of all of our staff and students.

Although her focus is fine motor and handwriting Megan is also well versed in self-awareness, self-regulation and social understanding as well as sensory integration to include interception (the eighth sensory system).

Since her arrival Megan has quickly become a Hawk as she is connecting and engaging with and supporting all of our students through there school day! Megan will be vising some of our other district school to coach and share ideas.

In anticipation of her February 15, 2019 PHD Residency Mid-Term review with her advisor our student community utilized our feedback norms that it is specific, helpful and kind when they met on February 14, 2018 to document their Celebrates, Wonders and Ideas to send to her advisor to inform her Mid-Term Evaluation and support her growth as an OT. Their feedback is always so much more in-depth than anything we could have done on our own.

Celebrates:

Student Transportation:

We have been down a bus driver and we cannot than all who have come together to support our efforts to provide safe and seamless student transportation in his absence. Thank you, Principal Nick, for opening doo for access and providing your own vehicle. Thank you, Branson, Alex and Shane, for all you have done to shuttle vehicles and repair vehicles to keep us in operation. And thank you to our Hollis Crew who is stepping up for support unexpected transportation needs as they arise.

School Norms and Culture:

We utilize mediation and a Restorative Justice Model to support upholding our student created norms and our students' social emotional development. Today we had an issue arise that turned into an opportunity to learn what our students know and thing about our culture and norms. Here are some of the things they shared that gave us a great "check-in":

- Our culture is that we are kind. You have to be kind to graduate from Hollis School. (And know how to take acre of and put away your tools.)
- Our norms are that we show respect. *What does respect look like?*
 - No touching people without their permission.
 - Don't do anything without that person's permission.
 - Don't say mean things.
- Our norms are that we are kind. *What does kind look like?*
 - Smiling, shaking hands,
 - laughing with and not at somebody.
 - have a positive attitude.
 - Don't be rude or mean:
 - Don't put your hands on other people.
 - Don't talk to someone in a way they don't like.
- People are kind. *What does kind look like?*
- Respect other people. *What does respect look like?*
 - Respect other beliefs; make it ok to ask for what they need.
 - No put downs.

We had an afternoon community meeting and celebrated this check in, looked at some data, made some adjustments to support those who may be struggling as they learn to do what is expected and support others and themselves. We are pretty proud of our kiddos and their growth.

Off Line Coding:

We had an amazing February 7, 2019 afternoon of Unplugged Coding with Ellen Hannen. Our students from all grade levels were engaging in critical thinking and small group work activities utilizing only pencil, paper and paper cups. It was amazing. Julie and I both know that when Ellen asks if she can work with our students our answer is always "OF COURSE!" That is why we think we are one of the few schools with a wolf skull we saved from a wolf dissection for our science island and a six-foot-deep pit ready and waiting for a bear to compost!

Classroom Learning Events:

This week we dissected (also known as deconstructed) another holiday and now we have learned that there is another term for what we are doing - holiday deconstruction! From what we can tell Valentine's Day has gone from a pagan festival to a tale of the rise and fall of the roman empire to a time of taxation and civil strife to beheadings to religions seeking power in the middle ages to poets writing of spring bird singing to attract each other to the beginning of the industrial age and the mass production of the valentines card which has led one of the

most commercialized holidays where Americans spend an average of \$161.96 per person for a total \$20.7 billion per year.

So, our goal for this Valentine week was to connect with what we learned from our holiday dissection in a manner that reflects our goal of supporting and respecting each other and our permaculture values.

High School considered what happened over the course of the evolution of Valentines' Day and reflects upon those events while considering current events. During this reflection they reviewed several different quotes from over the past century regarding the idea that "we must always look forward, but we have to understand our history in order to not repeat the mistakes of the past... (there are) too many instances where people continue to pursue wrong courses of action because they do not take the time to think critically about what has happened in the past. (Dallon Christensen). Their critical thinking and supported conclusions were documented in a "Quick Read, Think & Write to explain "*What is Right & Who is Right & Why? What supports your Thinking?*"

Pre-K and Primary learned about related careers and processes and how mail works in other settings - "Did you know Mailmen have mailbags?"

Elementary through middle school students participated in some creative hands on innovation to support our school wide efforts to help them address the compelling predictions we hear about what the world will expect from them when they graduate. One inspiration came in part from Yuval Noak Harari, "The art of reinvention will be the most critical skill of this century." We had a tower of found objects to serve as a mailbox. Everyone was given one via a drawing. They could not complain about what received and they had to spend 5 silent minutes looking about the object and the displayed random resources to imagine the possibilities while they were also reminded that we don't always get what we want but we do find that sometimes we get what we need. A quiet version of a popular song supported this reflection. After their reflection and planning we have never seen a more motivated and engaged group - each conveyed what they needed form adults and proceeded to make some of the most creative and innovative mail boxes we have ever seen - they initiated problem solving sessions with peers to determine how to best assemble, balance or support structures while others utilized pulleys, hinges, and other simple machines to support mail delivery.

All engaged in some creative find motor and handwriting and writing efforts to create environmentally and up-cycled Valentines that allows took as back to a simpler time when people made their own cards and wrote meaningful messages of appreciation for each other - like Phlight Club attendees do. The resulting cards and thoughtful messages are treasured by everyone in our school community.

Training:

Hollis School is excited that we have eleven (11) people (7 staff and 4 students) scheduled to attend the March 7 & 8 Prince of Wales Resiliency Summit. We have been long anticipating this opportunity and we are excited to attend.

Hyder School
February 2019
Virginia Pulley, Lead Teacher

Hyder School has been having fun doing Valentine's related experiments and art projects. We are also getting ready for a Valentine's Banquet fundraiser on Saturday, February 12, 2019 to help raise money for our trip to STEAM week. We have already begun working on our pinewood derby cars for STEAM week and everyone is getting anxious for the exciting event!

Our high school battle of the books team has been poring over the books and practicing questions in preparation for the state battle next week.

We held our National Geographic bee and the top winners were: Josie Pulley (1st place), Aryanna Pulley (2nd place), and Jesse Woodward-Craft (3rd place).