# THRIVE/SUCCEED Grant and Counseling

Amy McDonald November 2022

## Counseling

It has been great to see students progressing toward graduation goals. Our scheduling team did a great job of evaluating transcripts and placing students where they need to be. Teachers are working together to meet these needs as well. (**Goal 1**)

I have been really excited to hear discussions between sites to support each other/use each other's strengths to do what is best for our students - both academically and with a wellbeing focus. (Goal 1)

Some small group counseling sessions have proven to be successful as I have worked myself out of a job in a couple situations - that's the best feedback, right? It is fun to support teachers so they can focus on their classrooms. Our students are celebrating their excitement over jumping some hurdles! (Goal 2)

### THRIVE/SELECT/REWARD/SUCCEED/SOAR Grants

**Training in ANC:** This week is our annual fall training in Anchorage. We have two sessions:

<u>Creating Resilient Students: The Power of Webs of Support</u> Wired for Connection

It is exciting to have 9 students and 8 adults from SISD attending these trainings. What a great way for our students to show off what they know and learn more from others they meet. The students will be the experts in the room and will be sharing their knowledge with the adults who are learning in the trainings. These trainings are made possible through funding from the THRIVE and SELECT grants. (Goals 1, 2, and 3)

**Adulting 101:** On November 1 & 2, we hosted our first ever Adulting 101 course on POW. Students and staff from SISD and Hydaburg attended the two day event facilitated by Michelle Phelps and Kaley Hoyle from Tlingit and Haida in Juneau. Below is an agenda for the

event. This opportunity was made possible through funding from the REWARD and THRIVE grants. (**Goal 1**)

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

• 9:00am Scholarship Workshop



- 10:00am Break
- 10:05am Job Interviewing skills
  11:00am Break
- 11:05am Resume development
  12:00pm Lunch
- 12:30pm Time Management
- 1:00 2:00pm Budgeting

#### Wednesday, November 2, 2022

• 9:00am - 12:30pm - Reality Check Event

**Elders & Youth Conference:** We had 12 adults and youth from POW travel to Anchorage for the Alaska Federation of Natives Elders and Youth conference. It was a huge success! Youth were willing and provided opportunity to share their thoughts, opinions and experiences in both formal and informal situations. The adults (mentors) who attended reported that it was one of the best experiences they have had with youth! This opportunity was made possible through funding from the REWARD grant. **(Goal 4)** 

**SOAR Update:** We have been moving right along on getting the new career and technical education grant, SOAR, up and running. We interviewed for a CTE coordinator last week and once that position is hired, we are well on our way to start grant implementation. **(Goal 1 and 4)** 

**SUCCEED Update:** We are currently advertising for a school counselor to fulfill a requirement of the SUCCEED grant. As soon as this position is hired, grant events will commence. We are in full compliance with US DOE requirements. **(Goal 1 and 4)** 

**THRIVE new hire:** I'm excited to report that we have hired a Student Support Specialist to provide services to continue to meet the goals and objectives of the THRIVE grant.

Each site (Lead Teacher) was given the opportunity to hire a paraprofessional and provide extra duty for a certified staff to provide twice a week after school homework and connection events. These events can be set up by the individual school as long as some time is spent on academic support and some is spent on adult/youth connection. (Goal 1 and 4)

**AASB Conference:** Cassandra and Tia Christopherson attended the annual AASB conference last week in Anchorage. Cassandra said it was a WONDERFUL conference and a great learning experience. She also recommended attending if others have the opportunity. Tia was given the opportunity to participate in a student panel to answer questions from school board members across the state. Way to go, Tia!! This opportunity was made available through funding from the THRIVE grant.

## (Goal 1 and 4)

Lois Ballard-Stephenson: As part of our efforts to increase literacy skills, academic achievement and adult/youth connection at SISD, Lois Ballard-Stephenson conducted two great inservice events for SISD classified and certified staff. In addition to inservice days, Lois was able to visit interested schools to work with staff and students to increase the effectiveness of our academic strategies. This opportunity was made possible through funding from the THRIVE grant. (Goal 2)

**Value Up:** Mike Donahue, founder and director of Value Up, will be visiting POW during the week of November 14th. He will be working in Thorne Bay with SISD staff and students on Thursday, November 17. He will also be visiting Craig SD and Klawock SD.

Thursday, November 17 schedule

9:00 - 9:30 am	Kindergarten - 2nd grade
10:00 - 10:45 am	3rd - 5th grade
12:30 - 1:30 pm	6th - 12th grade

Value Up has three main messages:

- Embrace your value
- Make choices that match your value
- Value others

There will be student and staff events during the school day and a parent event in the evening.

This isn't the first time Mike has visited POW. This will be his 3rd visit and we are looking forward to welcoming him again. This opportunity was made possible through funding from the THRIVE grant. (Goals 1 and 2)

## SISD Strategic Plan Goals

**Goal 1:** Prepare Students for Post-Secondary Life

**Goal 2:** Provide Sufficient/Effective Staff Support

**GOAL 3:** Increase Communication District and Community Wide

Goal 4: Increase Visibility to Share Lifestyle and Increase Enrollment