

# April 2017 Outer Site Board Reports

## Curriculum

### **Social Studies Curriculum Committee**

They will be finalizing their work by mid May and we should have some samples to look at at the Fall inservice for the middle school and upper elementary grade levels.

### **Math Curriculum Committee**

They have finished their meetings and the sample curricular materials have arrived for our teachers to review for our math programs. We hope to have some consensus on these new resources by the end of this month as teachers will have a chance to meet up over STEM Days this week.

### **STEM Days**

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics or STEM is the focus of our STEM days gathering of students and teachers on April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> at the Thorne Bay School. We are very excited to have this opportunity for our district students participate and/or compete in events such as Pinewood Derby Races, Science Challenges, Technology Challenges, Spelling Bee, and a Talent Show.

### **Native Youth Olympics**

April 25<sup>th</sup> is the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Native Youth Olympics at the Naukati School. Students from around the district will gather to compete in various physically challenging events.

### **SISD Prom**

April 28<sup>th</sup> is the date that was chosen for this year's prom event. It will take place at Thorne Bay School this year. A dinner will be served at the actual prom instead of a separate event.

### **Battle of the Books Pizza and Pool Party**

SISD had 76 students participate in this year's annual Battle of the Books. This event fosters a love of reading as well as developing good reading habits and skills. The BOB Pizza and Pool party is scheduled to occur on April 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:30am at the pool and then at 12:30pm at Pappas Pizza ☺

### **STEM week is this week.**

All SISD staff is involved with the implementation of this celebration of learning event. Kids are very excited to be able to participate especially Hyder and Port Alexander schools. These schools traditionally are not able to participate in many district activities due to the great expense of transportation. This year they are here in Thorne Bay and ready to participate!

### **Professional Development**

Janet Stout, Alan Schwab and myself will be looking at putting together a comprehensive professional development plan for next year. We will be administering a survey to the teaching staff on what they feel is important to them for professional development.

Isaac Martin and Priscilla Goulding connected with an actual playwright, Zack Desmond, who works with the Island Institute out of Sitka. With the help of a grant they were able to bring him down to our school district for almost three weeks to work with our students and staff at each school on writing and theatrics. He has been warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated. We are looking at bringing him back in the Fall to work with the teachers for a day or two at our Fall inservice.

### **Phlight Club @ Howard Valentine School**

We just completed Phlight Club in Coffman Cove at the Howard Valentine School this past weekend. We had almost 70 students and 18 adult attend this event. Kids attended from all our school sites as well as Hydaburg and Klawock School Districts. Lisa Cates and Kerri Carl led the activities for the first day and a half then Amy McDonald joined in and shared in the fun. These three ladies did a terrific job ensuring that every student and adult got the most out of living in phull color!!!

Nick Higson  
District Principal

### **Hyder School**

I cannot believe it is time for Phlight Club and STEM already. I am pleased to report that our PEAKS testing went smoothly. Since our last board meeting, the students of Hyder have been extremely busy getting ready for STEM. They have worked hard getting their pinewood derby cars ready for action! They have also been training for the Native Youth Olympics and are excited to have fun and make new friends.

We would like to express our thanks to Nick Higson, who spent a week with us. He came out and with the aid of the students, repaired and improved our playground. He also made the trip from Hyder to Thorne Bay a great experience for the students.

We are excited to be here on Prince of Whales Island. We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the board for and the district for putting these events together and giving us the opportunity to come here and participate in Phlight Club and STEM.

We would also like to send a huge thank you to Shane Scamahorn and Mike Congdon and the entire students and staff at Kasaan. They welcomed us to their school and

after lunch, Harley lead us on a guided tour of the Long House and Totem Poles. Harley and Eric also lead our class in a carving lesson! It was an amazing experience that the students will never forget. Again, thank you to our new friends at Kasaan!



We are looking forward to the rest of our field trip and look forward to working with and making many new friends with the students in our district.

Best,  
Chad Dillman

## Port Alexander School

Spring has sprung in Port Alexander. The early morning rays of the sun have been helping buds grow along the boardwalks that will soon provide salmonberry snacks. The hummingbirds have told us of their impatience for sugar water.

Our students have had a great time wrapping up their book making. Our theme was in the likeness of Laura Numeroff's books, some titled *If You Give a Moose a Muffin* or *If You Give a Pig a Party*. The students have chosen some interesting titles like *If You Give a Mink a Motorcycle*, *If You Give a Mouse a Mango*, *If You Give a Snake a Sausage*, and *If You Give a Dolphin a Daisy*. The students have had a fun time writing and illustrating their own books.

The first Friday of the month was spent out of doors clearing out our bus stop of the tin, garbage and aluminum cans that have accumulated over the last few months. We need to dump these cans into large Heli bags, drag them down to the front dock and watch them be loaded onto our mail boat to be literally "shipped" into Sitka for recycling. We do not see any funds for



this process but are thankful for a clean building and dedicated community members to come join in the work. Thank you to the Port Alexander Community for your help.

Last week, the older students were able to take an hour out of their day to go make blown glass beads with our very own school board member Molly. The students had a blast and created amazing looking beads. This next week while the older students are away at POW, the younger students will get their opportunity. I cannot wait to see what they turn out.



Last weekend, the community came out to watch as the children of PA, ages 2-17, hunted around for eggs in the woods. A few squirrels looked as though they may have made off with some tasty treats but the children ended up having enough candy and other prizes to not feel too robbed by the town's furry chatterboxes.

The weather has played nicely with us so the students have been dismantling the old garden to have it rebuilt in another location closer to the school. They will be starting seeds this coming week to fill that garden as well as starting some flowers for a few summer folks. We hope our green thumbs will lend itself to a garden of goodness.

We are looking forward to our adventures on POW and in Ketchikan. Look for our May report that will tell you of all of our great experiences.

Your Partners in Education- Laura Anania and Shanna Smith

## **Kasaan School**

This has been a very busy month in Kasaan. The students are excited for the upcoming STEM Days.

We have been hustling to prepare the pinewood derby cars. The students have been able to take advantage of many of the tools that the Perkins Grant has purchased for us.

Students and Staff have been preparing an area to build a cover to store firewood under and keep out of the rain. We are now waiting on supplies to be delivered to complete the construction.

Under the supervision of Nick the students setup our new playground equipment that we received from Hydaburg. The children have been happy to play on it and have a change from the older equipment.

Colter brought out a large group of people to the greenhouse, and they seemed impressed at how it was doing. Since then CBS News in Anchorage called and would like to come and do a story about it.

We hosted the writing workshop gentleman (Zach) for a couple of days. The students really enjoyed working with him and learned a bunch of information.

We are also working on the potato garden.

Shane Scamahorn, Lead Teacher

## **Naukati School**

In the month of April we were able to do the following things:

- Go to Coffman Cove for 2 days for a play write program
- Send 4 students and one chaperone to Phlight Club
- Host a elementary basketball tournament
- Compete in Caine's Arcade a project where students make arcade games out of cardboard
- Host the second annual Native Youth Olympics for the district
- Partner with the other north end of the island schools to host a science fair on May 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Sign up 10 runners for the island wide marathon
- Complete state testing

## Whale Pass School

March ended in Whale Pass with our ASC dinner and meeting on March 28th. We had our chainsaw drawing and Richard Wright of Coffman Cove was the winner. Our Chinese dinner was a great success earning around \$200 dollars towards sending JD Alford to Nationals this year.

The first week in April, our school took the new PEAK test. After a few technical difficulties we finished all the testing. At the end of the day on April 6<sup>th</sup>, the Middle School Science class traveled to Hollis for a STREAM team workshop with Cheryl Fecko, art with Madeline V., and a sleep-over. Lisa Cates and I have been planning this get together for three years.

On April 13<sup>th</sup> we had an Easter Egg Hunt for all grades PreK-7<sup>th</sup> grade. The older students were in charge of hiding the eggs and helping the younger ones during the hunt. We had a blast and took many pictures for our upcoming yearbook. On April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, our 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders traveled to Coffman Cove for a Writing Workshop with Zack Desmond. The students were excited to learn new approaches to writing and improv. Zack was a wonderful instructor and we hope to have future communication with him in writing.

As we headed toward the middle of the month, the Middle School students 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, traveled to Coffman Cove again for Phlight Club. Kayleena Toman was kind enough to chaperone them this year. I've heard many interesting stories about the three days from the students and they are looking forward to going again next year.

The last week in April is our marathon week of activities. On Monday, we will be traveling to Harris River to continue our STREAM Team study with Cheryl Fecko and additional US Forest Service Staff. We will be studying with a hydrologist, a fish biologist, and others from the US Forest Service.

On Tuesday, we are scheduled to travel to Naukati for the NYO games. Our students have been practicing the games during PE for the entire month. On Wednesday and Thursday, we will travel to Thorne Bay for the STEM days. And last but not least for Saturday, April 29 we will finish up the month with the BOB pizza and pool party.

April has been an activity packed month and May looks like it will be too. As we end the year we are already planning a trip to the Calder Mine, Memorial Beach and another STREAM team day with Cheryl Fecko.

## Hollis School

The Hollis Crew with the Whale Pass Students and our STREAM Team April 24, 2017:

### THANK YOU:

This past month has been amazing and it will not stop until the very last day of the year. All of our wonderful learning opportunities would not be possible without the many whom we wish to thank. These are amazing people who came together to



help us have the resources and opportunities to support dynamic, lifelong learning:

- *Thank you to **James Stevens** for a generous donation of over 500 board feet of wood that you milled yourself to ensure we have the resources we need to build our outdoor class, outdoor weight room and the benches for proper seating in our cafeteria. Thank you **Nick Higson** for delivering the wood to Hollis. Thank you both – your time and generosity will not only build walls and benches, it is building a learning community informed by principles of permaculture and your gifts will be paid forward exponentially.*
- *Thank you **Cheryl Fecko and Madelaine Vogelai** for supporting Whale Pass School and Hollis School students' and teachers' successful exploration and integration of art and science. Thank you to Cheryl Fecko and Alaska STREAM team for helping us to understand and make connections, for teaching us about watersheds and how they impact us and we impact them. Twenty-three*

canvases, twenty-three students of all ages, all life long learners. Some talented painters, some taking big risks holding a paint brush for the first time and all found a way to create their vision of a Prince of Wales stream with the “Big 3” macro-invertebrates we are learning to identify and document as a mean of monitoring the health of our streams. Thank you [Madelaine](#) for diving in with and leading us on this memorable science and art integration.



Thank you **Nick Higson** for joining us and providing chaperone support!



- Thank you to the **Hollis Volunteer Fire Department Chief and Medical Instructor Bill Sharpes** for spending March 28, 29 and 30, 2017 at Hollis School. Your phenomenal patience and flexibility took the Hollis School and Hollis Volunteer Fire Department relationship to an entire new level as you conducted a three

day pre-ETT, First Aid and CPR for our Junior High and High School students, a one afternoon pre-first aide course for primary students and a two afternoon First-Aide class for Intermediate students. Thank you for your commitment to training our future first responders and empowering our students to know want to do in an emergency.

- Thank you **Nick Cates** for spending your spring break at Hollis School and helping all of us dust off our ukulele and recorders and play some beautiful music!
- Thank you **Mr. Jim McFarland** for sending all of your extra mop and broom handles to Hollis School to enable us to teach





children how to make their own up-cycled rocker boards at the 2017 the Prince of Wales Wellness Coalition Wellness Fair Booth. Thanks to your generosity a lot of kids will have a fun activity for indoors and out that will support balance and core development.

- *Thank you **Colleen Watson and Thorne Bay Principal Alan Schwab and Thorne Bay Problem Solver Extraordinaire Christine Plate*** all who had a hand in an unexpected treat Hollis students. Hollis students and families spent the afternoon of Friday April 7, 2017 setting up for the Wellness Fair. Colleen had promised the students some pizza when their work was done but after a long day of STREAM Team work, gardening and Health Fair set up, all decided to go home and rest. Not one to not keep her promise –Colleen saw that the Thorne Bay Girls Basketball team was selling homemade pizzas from the Thorne Bay café as a fundraiser. Colleen contacted Christine Plate who said they would deliver. The pizzas were freshly made at the Cafe on Thursday April 12 and on the morning of Friday April 13, 2015, Thorne Bay Principal Alan Schwab delivered them to the school on his way to the ferry. Before we knew it they were in the oven and ready to serve to our students for our FUNday Friday! To make sure the spirit of Colleen’s promise was kept we even provided home delivery to all who volunteered the week prior but were unable to be at school when we baked them! Thank you to all who has a hand in making such a treat possible.
- *Thank you to the **Prince Wales Health Network*** for your unending support to include allowing us to host the booth at the 2017 Wellness Fair, supporting the ongoing activities to ensure successful completion of our playground grant. Thank you also for your generous donation of dirt and much needed hand garden tools and *thank you **Principal Nick Higson*** for growing this idea and then making it happen from delivering the supplies to getting in there with the kids to ready the garden beds all after spending the night on the classroom floor. *Thank you **Gretchen Klein*** for showing up when the work was hard and helping until the last week was pulled!
- *Thank you **Bud Willard*** for your quick response and hard work to help us when the back building classrooms furnace went out. We appreciate your taking the steps to fix it. Thank you also for keeping your eye out for resources and discarded building materials to support our projects!
- *Thank you **Jessica Goldman and Naukati*** for arranging a district wide Native Youth Olympic event. Our Hawks have had a blast learning about these events and giving them a try. We are all looking forward to our Tuesday April 25, 2017 games and have no doubt it will be wonderful.

- *Thank you* to the **Alaska Arts Council** for the grant funding two days of writing with Zach Desmond from The Island Institute's Story Lab program. Thank you **Isaac Martin** and **Priscilla Goulding** for making this happen.
- *Thank you* SISD Athletic Director Shane Scamahorn and Assistant Athletic Director **Christine Plate** for some great athletic opportunities for our elementary students they really enjoyed the basketball and are now simply ecstatic about the indoor soccer. Thank you for your creative thinking and for making this work!
- *Thank you* to the **Howard Valentine Coffman Cove School students, community and staff** for being such incredible hosts during the Spring 2017 Phlight Club. Your attention to detail, kindness and generosity made for a wonderful stay and a powerful event. Thank you

### CELEBRATES!:

#### ➤ **Taking Phlight:**

Phlight Club April 5, 2017 - Two fantastic SISD young leaders were celebrated in a recent Brightways Learning article. Phlight Club is a great opportunity for POW adults and youth alike to discover within themselves and each other opportunities to strengthen webs and figuratively and literally reach new heights as well as connect and make a difference in other's lives. Thank you Hollis School's **Kimejoe** and Naukati School's **Eugene** for your great contributions, your leadership your kindness, your courage and your willingness to reach out to others. Click on this link to read the Brightways article: <http://eepurl.com/cJU4az>

#### ➤ **Two Hollis Hawks Art celebrated on the Prince of Wales Health Network "Local Food Calendar"!**

All of our Hawks some wonderfully creative art work to document outdoor and local food subsistence activities. Congratulations to Isaac and Kimejoe as their work was selected for inclusion on the calendar. They will each receive a \$50.00 award! You can pick up your copy at the Hollis School.

#### ➤ **Hollis State Archery Champs Will Compete at Nationals!:**

Our Hawks trained hard and we are proud two of our five (5) from Southeast Island School District – and two from Hollis! Way to go **Ben** and **Isaac**. Well deserved. We are proud of all of our Hawks hard work and thank you coach **Kyler Looper** and our leaders **James and John Stevens** for their tireless efforts to bring this program to our students.



➤ **Hollis students are recognized for their outdoor play and activities.**

We are so proud and happy as three of our Hollis students are recognized for their outdoor play and activities. They inspire us all. Thank you to the Prince Wales Health Network and the Alaska [www.PlayEveryDay.gov](http://www.PlayEveryDay.gov) for your support of our students and all Prince of Wales children and families.

➤ ***Welcome to one James "Jimmie" Brown and sixteen new chicks, two goose eggs and two turkey eggs.:***

Our community is growing. We received a call from Jan at the post office – our box addressed to the school was chirping and we soon had sixteen baby chicks settled in our classroom. Along with their arrival we now have two goose eggs and two turkey eggs in our incubator! And most exciting, we have our first goat. He thinks he belongs to Sam and Kyler and he loves to love so he fits right in! Welcome to our new goat Jimmie

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Monday May 8, 2017: National Archery Competition**

Five (5) Southeast Island School District students and six (6) total from Prince of Wales will head out on an exciting adventure as they represent all of us at the 2017 NASP® National Tournaments in Louisville KY.

**Saturday May 13, 2017: 10:00 AM All Hands on Deck for a Hollis Classroom Raising!**

*Come one, come all to Hollis School at 10:00 AM on Saturday May 13, 2017. Bring your hammers, paintbrushes and whatever else you may think you will need and be prepared to have a bit of fun at our 2nd annual spring build, fix-up and cleanup! After the work is done we can sit back and enjoy a potluck! Please plan on joining us*

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with new friends and old working at the Hollis School.

### **May 18, 2017 at 1:30 PM: Graduation**

Please join us for our ceremony and garden party as we celebrate Clayton Music's graduation on Thursday May 18, 2017 at 1:30 PM.

### **May 25, 2017: Annual Celebration of Learning!**

Join us for good food, song and celebration we bring another year of learning to a close. Lunch at Noon followed by our 1:00 PM program. We will also have tours and time to share our learning.

### **May 27, 2017: "WolverHawks" POW Marathon Relay**

Our annual collaboration with Thorne Bay students will ensure that once again kids from across the island will strike up friendships and develop a love of healthy lifetime sports as they hit the pavement and have a wonderfully celebratory day competing in the annual marathon.

### **CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS:**

We continue to explore life science and learn about US history. Primary students have begun their, "This is My Community" expedition and the Intermediates continue their "Westward Ho!" Expedition. Both continue their macro Invertebrate investigations. Junior High and High School are completing their Revolution research hand will soon explore the work that led to our constitution. The continue



working on character studies as they read "New Found Land" about Lewis and Clark. Their culminating essay, informed by all of their notes will address the question, "Who determines our history?"

### ***"Student Led Projects":***

**DIVE: Our Student Directed Learning aptly named it DIVE TIME – Diverse, Independent, Vital, Exploration Time:** DIVE has been an exciting and rewarding experience. An early formative assessment required students to create stop-motion videos. Most are complete and on our school's You-Tube Channel. We will use these videos to inspire community members to volunteer as mentors to support their learning.

**Hawk Seniors SOAR!:** We have one senior completing his senior project, part of an important passage for graduation. He has identified his project goal and is continuing his work. We will keep you posted on his progress.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

**“2017 Wellness Fair”** As part of our commitment to serving our community our Hawks volunteered to help set up and clean up at the 2017 Wellness Fair. We also had a blast and there were smiles all around as we met so many children and families from around the island while sharing our up-cycled fun. From hopscotch to balance boards to our teeter-totters, it was fun to work and learn and laugh together. Thank you to the POW Health Network and the many volunteers who helped to make this event possible.

**“Zach Desmond from The Island Institute's Story Lab Program”** Improv, nature walks, listening to each other, and before you knew it, our students are play writes, actors and writers. What a phenomenal two days with Zach Desmond from The Island Institute's Story Lab program. Zach is patient and creative and a kind and thoughtful listener who ensures all students can access and find success in his content delivery. We are so very fortunate that our students, and teachers, had two full days to work with, be inspired by and learn from and with Zach. Zach was here with us thanks to a grant from the Alaska Arts Council.

**Spring 2017 Phlight Club!** Eight (8) Hollis students and three chaperones – Lisa, Kyler and Sam enjoyed three great days connecting, reflecting and growing. Our post-Phlight Club reflection over burgers and shakes at the Dockside confirmed it was another success. We are so pleased that Phlight Club is a part of our school district's program. We have planned to have our whole school “Take Phlight” when we begin the 2017-2018 school year.

**“STEM Prep – Pinewood Derby!”** We have been giving all of our hand-tools and safety equipment a workout as all of our students have had a hand in creating their own very personal cars. This process is exciting as they learn tool care and safety and also pride in planning and completing their own car. Of course – many predict theirs will be the one to cross the finish line first. We will just have to see.

***STREAM TEAM!*** - Cheryl Fecko has made several visits and engages in much correspondence with Lisa and Christine who, thanks to their Southeast Alaska STEM & Careers Grant camp attendance made possible by Cheryl Bobo and Ellen Hannen have been collaborating for years to make this STREAM Team launch possible. After pre-planning both schools met up with Cheryl in Hollis on April 6, 2017 for beach walks and direct instruction about macro-invertebrates and our watersheds, our streams, our fish, our water, our health. Cheryl Fecko and Alaska STREAM team for helped our students to understand and make these connections. She taught the students about watersheds and how they impact us and we impact them. Cheryl, much like we have learned in our Lewis and Clark studies, encouraged all to use the critical eye of a scientist and an explorer and an artist to examine and document the health of our streams as we identify and document the density and variety of macro-invertebrates in our local streams. After Cheryl's presentation we painted our

learning with Madeleine Voegeli. On April 24, 2017 Whale Pass and Hollis reunited to being the work in their field. What a marvelous experience with scientists from the Forest Service and Fish and Game who created four stations to allow deeper learning before we begin our own stream monitoring and data collection with our project partner citizen scientists from Whale Pass. We will continue our work with Cheryl and Whale Pass as we engage in deeper studies over the course of the 2017-2018 school year.

***"FUNday Fridays"***: This month our FUNday Fridays have been filled with basketball, soccer and woodworking. Thank you to the Southeast Island School District Board for always funding this great opportunity for our student community.

**Visitors:** Arranged by Prince of Wales Health Network Director Gretchen Klein, Hollis Teachers hosted a visit with Sheila Kleinschmidt, VP First Bank and retired pharmacist Bill Altland during their tour to review Prince of Wales Health Network projects and activities.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Ongoing ETT:** Four Hollis Staff (Tammy, Kyler, Sam and Lisa) continue working on the ETT course with the Hollis Volunteer Fire Department.

### **May 29 - June 3, 2017 PEAKS Standard Setting:**

Julie and Lisa have been selected to participate in the May 29 - June 3, 2017 Alaska Department of Education and Early Development PEAKS Standard Setting to participate in activities to recommend the achievement level descriptors and cut scores for the new PEAKS assessments.

### **June 5-9, 2017 STEM & Careers Camp for Teachers:**

Lisa has applied to attend this camp funded by the Southeast Alaska STEM & Careers Grant. This will be her fourth camp experience and all have proven valuable in planning future instruction, accessing resources, and identifying subject matter experts to engage with students in her classroom.

### **June 12 - June 13, 2017 - Resilient Educators: Growing Your Best Self:**

Lisa has applied to attend this seminar to nurture skills to see beneath the surface and move to the core of what students need to thrive, while helping raise professional satisfaction for teachers and other school staff.