

## Tanalian School Site Report, January 2021

**To: Superintendent Ty Mase  
and LPSD School Board Members**

**From: Nate Davis, Principal**

### **Outstanding Activities and Events**

- We are very grateful for in-person schooling! Teachers and students all doing well. Green since the beginning, except for a few days of Yellow and Red in early November.
- We are very grateful for Lynx basketball season. Practices started in January and we had our first games, playing against Newhalen, on February 6. A huge thanks to Newhalen for the home/away, and to all the officials and cleaners on both ends who were testing, social distancing, and wearing masks.
- Families were very grateful to be able to watch their children/siblings play live...all others were able to enjoy the livestreaming.
- Battle of the Books! Congratulations to the Tanalian Lynx students, parents, and coaches (and thanks to all our competitors!) for winning districts at all grade levels and sending Team 3/4, Team 5/6, Team 7/8, and Team High School to the 2021 State Battle of the Books Championships.



### **Personnel**

- Teachers and staff are doing well.
- Tanalian is happy to host student-teacher, Rachel Speranza, who jumped right and made herself a part of the education team, hosted by ELA teachers, Cam and Nicole Metzgar.
- Tanalian is happy to host UAS K-8 practicum student, Michael Dickerson, who is also a great musician and is giving above and beyond, by giving personal music lessons to students after hours, as well as preparing and delivering music and art in education professional development to teachers.
- Tanalian is happy to host Tutor Kacy Lou Leyba, who is doing a great job with a full schedule of students. Kacy lived at PTA for a couple years a few years back, but is an experienced teacher and principal who is adding much to our school.

### **Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress**

- All students continue to progress, thanks to in-person learning, hybrid learning when necessary, and the great support from teachers and parents.

- Senior Kaiden Fowler finished all of his standards and graduate in December. Kaiden is already working construction in Anchorage. He plans to begin Bible school in April overseas and then return to Alaska for IT training in Seward at AVTEC.
- Senior Julian Rice finished all of his standards in January and was selected for the 3-month CTE marine program in Valdez. He plans to return to Port Alsworth to graduate with his classmates.

### **Technology Progress**

- Students were thrilled to receive their brand new laptops. A HUGE thanks to the LPSD Tech team for all the behind the scenes set-up and then getting them out the door and into student hands!

### **Facility Update**

- COVID adjustments: desks spaced out as far as possible, equilateral triangle seating at lunch, limited to 3 people per table, extra tables and chairs set up at lunch, 20 additional cleaning and disinfecting hours per week employed, spray bottles and wipes in every classroom, disinfectant gel available in several locations, almost all recesses outside with reduced numbers of students, smaller cohorts.

### **LSAC Activity**

- Tanalian LSAC continues to have regular meetings January 12 and February 9 with standard agenda items, but an emphasis on COVID-19 precautions. LSAC sent letters to the school board and Covid council 1) to request that parents/guardians always be allowed to attend school functions and 2) to request that Tanalian be allowed to return to its Site Specific Smart Start Plan when we are in the Green.
- Tanalian LSAC also recently held their annual Super Bowl Pizza Fundraiser for the Linda Johnson Memorial Scholarship.

### **Volunteer Report**

- Volunteers are not currently invited to school due to COVID.
- Kudos to Jen Opland, our PE Aide, who often spends time straightening and organizing the library between classes.
- Thanks to Mark McGee, Jordan Weber, Nicole Metzgar, Rachel Speranza, Patti Brock, Bret Zimmerman, Laura Wilder, and Shane Mullins for all their selfless help to host our first Covid basketball games.

### **Professional Development**

- Noon-start Mondays continue to provide several strains of professional development as well as some extra time for teachers to plan, assess, and record. Tanalian will follow the district in moving to Late-Start Mondays (10am) February 8<sup>th</sup> until further notice.
- Michael Dickerson (UAS Practicum student) offers bi-weekly professional development for teachers, as we explore how to use music and art to help teachers teach and students learn across the curriculum.

### **Pupil Attendance**

- Attendance has been relatively good, but has fallen off with the mask mandate and out-of-village travel. Two to three students do not come to school when masks are required. Three to five students leave early in the afternoon whenever masks are mandated. One or two students get migraines or other illness and leave early when masks are mandated.

### **Student and Staff Safety**

- This year has been all about COVID-19 precautions. We have been Green except for a few days last fall in the Yellow and Red.

- We started morning exercises in January. Each morning at 8:15, we start music in the gym. At 8:25, we watch a cross-over brain video and follow the exercises, followed by speedy announcements, a word of the week, the Pledge, and then off to class at 8:31... all with social distancing. These have helped with morning energy and the good feelings of camaraderie and school spirit.



- Wash your hands, keep your distance, cover your cough, no symptoms in school- and Keep Living!

### **Subsistence Calendar**

- PTA teachers continue to deliver instruction whether in Green, Yellow, Red, or Subsistence!

**Other** The Davis's had a wonderful family time at Christmas!

