

Site Report – Tanalian School - March/April 2024

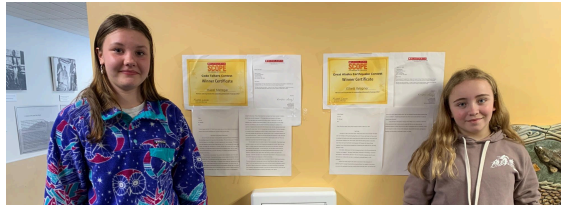
To: Superintendent Kasie Luke
and LPSD School Board Members

From: Nate Davis, Principal

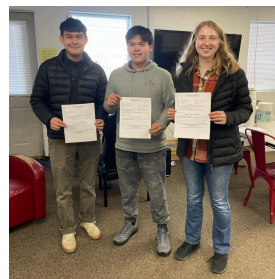
Outstanding Activities and Events

With basketball over for the year, students turned their focus to finishing up their classes, CTE, and the upcoming SNAP meet in April. March Inservice and Spring Break were nice little breaks for getting out and enjoying the increased daylight!

Mr. Metzgar's class has produced two award-winning essays this year: Hazel and Eliett both received certificates from SCOPE Magazine for their outstanding writing. Eliett reported on the Good Friday Earthquake of 1964. Hazel wrote about the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II. Both were praised by the judges for their "use of text evidence."



Five of our HS students went to CTE for a variety of learning: Welding, Construction, Fisheries, Aviation, and Drones. They all passed their courses! Thank you to BBRCTE for providing awesome training and camaraderie opportunities for our students.



A SouthCentral Dental team came for their bi-annual trip. So thankful to have them come to PTA!

Student Government hosted a Movie Night in March - they raised over \$400 to go towards the workout space they would like to create. They also held elections for next year's student government offices. Officials for 2024-25 will be the same as this year: Pres - Teagann Smith, VP - Rachel Opland, Secretary - Jordan Alsworth, Treasurer's - Mikiah Lorentzen and Hazel Metzgar.

The PreK students have made so much progress this year! And are having fun learning!



Mr. Grossmann's students made a Rube Goldberg device (A complex machine that does a simple task, aka a chain reaction machine) and shared it with the school.



Teacher Brandey Voran and her 3rd-5th grade class held their annual Pi Day. People voted with their dollars (Fundraiser for the Stu Gov weight room) for which staff member would win a Pie In The Face. There were a couple Pi Day related activities: Who could correctly recite the most numbers in pi, and building teams to measure circles to estimate Pi through calculation.



Then the winner was announced... PE Teacher Riley Morigeau! Afterwards everyone got a slice of a pie donated by other staff and students.



All of a sudden, surprise... we discovered Brandey Voran's jar of money got a donation, so she also got pied!



Brandey also had her class color and hide paper Easter eggs around the school for students and staff to find, and then they gave out prizes!



Mr. Matthew Grossmann has a group of students taking a drumming lessons as they study sound waves in science and prepare for the Talent Show at SNAP. Many items can be instruments!



The HS science class took a field trip to the Tanalian Electric Power Plant.



The April 9-12 school wide testing week went well. Plus, we had one student take the SAT. Sixteen of our nineteen 8-12th graders are headed to SNAP in Newhalen April 15-19. They've prepared speeches, science fair projects, practiced their NYO skills, and are ready to see their friends for a few days.

Seniors last day was April 5. Graduation is scheduled for April 21 at 3pm. We have three Seniors - Chandler, Brielle, and Corbyn. And three Kindergarteners - Mosney, Leah, and Elsy. PreK's last day will be April 26. And the last day of school for the rest of the students is May 2. Teachers' last day is May 3.



Personnel

Student teacher Emily Pugliese returned to Pennsylvania mid-March. End of year staff evaluations are complete. We are working with Bill to be available to host a student teacher next fall, if needed.

Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress

Teachers and students really begin to feel the crunch of the shortened school year at the end of March and early April. So much to do and so little time. Standards to finish, End Levels to review for, End Levels to take (hours each), End Levels to grade, sometimes End Levels to retake and to regrade, grades to enter, graduations to plan... oh, and lose most of an instructional week for testing, and a whole week for SNAP, ... Go, go, go. Yeehaw! Riding the wave.

Technology Progress

We had a nice visit from Schyler and he recalibrated our Internet connectivity systems and was able to increase both speed and bandwidth. Almost all technology systems are up and running almost all the time- a BIG thanks to helpdesk! Statewide testing went off almost entirely without any technology hitches.

Facility Update

A new smoke/carbon monoxide alarm was installed in the student teacher housing.

LSAC Activity

At the March LSAC meeting the 2024-25 school calendar was approved by LSAC and then sent to the LPSD Board. At the April 3 meeting, the teachers and LSAC discussed new policies to govern the use of cell phones and other electronic devices in school. LSAC will meet for their last meeting on May 1. The new Student Rep for LSAC, by recent SG Constitutional Amendment, will be the Vice President of Student Government each year. VP Rachel was present at LSAC and it was great to have her student perspective on LSAC topics.

Volunteer Report

It's a great time of year to be grateful to our extra people!

Music: Patty Alsworth is finishing up this year's Music Mondays with the students and prepping some special music for graduation. We so much appreciate the time she spends with our students to develop their gifts in vocal music. THANK YOU!

Substitutes: Our subs jump in for all of our positions with compassion and competence, helping school to run smoothly and to care for children. THANK YOU!

Booster Club (and all those related to sponsoring student activities): From booster meal sales to Banners for Kids to scorekeepers, cooks, office, game officials and rivals, custodians, and the all around encouraging community- THANK YOU!

Unsung heroes: For any we forgot to list today- know that we remembered you yesterday and will be so grateful for you tomorrow- you are all the wind beneath our wings and you make us better. THANK YOU!

Professional Development

With the LPSD partnership with the University of Alaska system for our teachers to earn their Master's degree in rural education, Mr. Grossmann was able to attend his cohort gathering in Anchorage for a long weekend.

Pupil Attendance

We have had good student attendance, except for family travel and occasional illnesses that have gone through the village this winter.

Student and Staff Safety

Students and families have been good about students staying out of school when sick, until the 24 hour mark on symptoms has passed or after being cleared by the clinic.

Subsistence Calendar

See Standards Based System comments above.

Other

Between the melted snow, arrival of mud, and the blooms in our library window, March showed several signs of spring! Then on Easter morning it hilariously snowed 12" and then hit below zero later that week! April 9 was another blizzard with a few inches of snow as winter hangs on. In between snowstorms, it's 25-40 degrees as spring tries to edge her way past winter.

