



SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 19569, 1010 Sandy Beach Road, Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919
(907) 828-8254 Fax: (907) 828-8257 E-mail: sisd@sisd.org

Board Report April 14, 2021 Sherry Becker, Superintendent

Vision: Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations.

Mission: Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals and adapt to an ever-changing world.

Awards & Recognition: (to be announced during School Board Meeting)

**Student Awards/Recognition - Classified Employee of the Month
Certified Employee of the Month - Parent/Volunteer Appreciation**

First Graduate for the 2020 - 2021 School Year - Ronnie Olynyk - Attended Hyder School and enrolled in AK-TRAILS Correspondence School to get diploma. Congratulations Ronnie!

Legislation

Up to date legislation will be provided during the School Board meeting.

SISD Smart Start Plan Revisions:

The SISD District Staff Team made some modifications to the Smart Start Plan that was Board approved in October 2020. These changes are based on requests from school staff and parents. These changes are also an attempt to be more in line with current recommendations from the CDC, DHSS, and DEED. Finally, these changes are an attempt to make our plan be more in line with the Craig and Klawock City School District Smart Start plans.

Coffman Cove Greenhouse:

Sadly, we were recently informed by the Coffman Cove AmeriCorps worker Amy Erling, that she has to resign due to accepting employment elsewhere. She will be missed! Thank you for everything you have done for SISD Amy!

Within days of hearing this news, we were contacted by a couple who were very interested in learning more about the Coffman Cove greenhouse and the SISD aquaponics systems. This couple recently moved to Ketchikan and they have offered their full-time volunteer support for the Coffman Cove greenhouse in exchange for housing in Coffman Cove. We provide this

for all SISD AmeriCorps workers. Loni and Peter Nguyen are now living in one of our vacant teacher housing units and Peter has applied to be an AmeriCorps worker. He is a retired IT Analyst, and his wife is a biologist and the Outcomes Coordinator with the Biological Sciences Department for Mt. San Antonio College in California. She is working with her college to bring 12 college student volunteers to POW to learn more about the aquaponics systems and volunteer for a 3-week term this coming summer. We are excited about the possibilities this brings to the district.

Other exciting news regarding our Agriculture program: Priscilla Goulding has volunteered to be the aquaponics volunteer organizer for the district. She will be developing a schedule for coverage at the Thorne Bay program and will also outline roles and responsibilities for all volunteers. Step-by-step directions on what each volunteer will be responsible for will be included so that if/when we lose a volunteer, someone can step into the role to ensure that the program does not collapse. Priscilla will outline goals for the coming school year and provide a list of materials/supplies/maintenance that may be needed. She has also offered to assist us in grant writing to continue to seek funding for the program.

Port Alexander Magnet School 2021-22 (planning progress)

Report from the Magnet School Coordinator - Julia Trischman

AK-TRAILS Correspondence/Homeschool:

Currently, there are 7 students enrolled in the AK-TRAILS Correspondence/Homeschool program. Heather Mendonsa was hired as the AK-TRAILS Correspondence School Coordinator for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. She will be working with a team of SISD staff to develop a strategic plan for our Correspondence/Homeschool Program. The team will be focusing on policy, procedures, curriculum and an advertisement campaign. More information on the team's progress will be announced as it becomes available.

The team and district administration recommend a change in AK-TRAILS student graduation credit requirements to 21. This is the minimum graduation requirements for the state of Alaska and is in line with what other statewide correspondence/homeschool programs require.

Summer 2021:

District staff met recently and discussed a variety of activities that we are planning to offer for our students this coming summer. Some of these ideas include:

- Week-long ceramics class
- 2-3 day Kayaking trip along Sarkar Lakes canoe route
- Hollis Summer Camp - plans are currently in progress and may include swimming lessons, ceramics, bicycling, gardening, carving, kayaking, robotics, community service projects, technology projects, etc.
- Basic Rifle/Shotgun Shooting & Safety course - with John Stevens
- Aquatic Insects - with Cheryl Fecko
- Drone Piloting Courses for staff and students

- Mixed in with some of this fun - academics for students who may be struggling and/or credit recovery, etc.
- Some schools will be providing a summer food services program. Our Food Services Director is currently working on the applications for this.
- And more!!!

Planning for 2021-22 School Year:

- 2021-22 School Year Calendars:
All Advisory School Councils will be voting on a calendar for the coming school year. Two options have been provided. These options were developed with the assistance and input of many staff and parents. SISD School Board will have a recommendation for approval at the May 2021 School Board meeting.
- Fall Inservice 2021-22 plans are in progress
- Student schedules are in the process of being developed now
- Student Activities - a survey will be going out soon to all students and parents to determine areas of interests for 2021-22 student activities
- Student Electives - we are excited to announce that we will be offering scuba and welding workshops as electives for students this coming school year. SISD will be working with Earl Jeffries to teach these courses.
- Instructional Technology:
Instructure/Canvas Learner Management System - Free online education platform provided to AK school districts by the AK Department of Education.

From Instructure Website:

With its easy-to-use LMS and integrations for all your favorite K-12 apps, the Canvas platform helps you create a custom K-12 online learning environment. Provide equitable access and instructional continuity. For every student. Everywhere. Every day. Canvas is the robust digital foundation for all aspects of learning.

Digital tools that play nicely with others. Rubrics. Modules. Calendars. Schedules. Quizzes. Syllabi. Analytics. SpeedGrader (cue applause and wild cheering). Canvas is outfitted with smart, intuitive features that will help take learning to the next level. And then there's the integrations! The Canvas API links right up with all your favorite apps and tools: G Suite, Microsoft Teams, Adobe, and hundreds more, in one centralized learning hub.

Learning is on the move. Canvas LMS has top-rated mobile apps for teachers, students, and parents to keep everyone informed and connected, on the go, on any device. Teachers can engage with students whenever and wherever through an app that boasts best-in-class data security. (It also comes with SpeedGrader, which can cut grading time by 50%.)

Talking in class is encouraged. Teachers can communicate with individual students, groups, the entire class, or even parents through messaging, audio notes, video, and more. And students can collaborate among themselves via chat group, video, and other messaging tools.

Staff Openings for 2021-22 (to date):

All Certified Teacher/Administrator Contracts have been issued. To date, the following positions are available and are being advertised for the 2021-22 school year:

- Barry C. Stewart Kasaan School: Multi-Grade Elementary General Education/Special Education Teacher - Contract Offered - pending paperwork by candidate
- Whale Pass School: Multi-Grade/Special Education/Lead Teacher
- Thorne Bay School: Secondary ELA/Social Studies Teacher - Contract Offered - pending paperwork by candidate
- Thorne Bay School: Food Services/Cook 2021-22
- Thorne Bay: Summer Food Services Cook