



HOLLIS SCHOOL
MARCH 18, 2025
SISD BOARD REPORT

2024-2025 Target Word:

Foundation

A formidable foundation must exist to enable our Hawks to soar as self-directed, lifelong learners. Our depth and breadth of powerful learning experiences, as guided by shared vision, professional standards, Anchors, and connection create our intentionally flexible, dynamic, and resilient Foundation. A Foundation that values our past while incorporating the unexpected, and innovative opportunities for growth and improvement all the while celebrating a school culture informed by new ideas, questions, mistakes, multiple perspectives, ideals, and connections with each other, our Anchors, our community, and all whom have come before us.

Gratitude: *Doyackshin, Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa, Muchas gracias, Salamat po, Thank you,
Thank you from all of our Hollis School student community –
Tsimshian, Tlingit, Haida, Spanish, Tagalog English*

- ☞ Gratitude for former paraprofessional Allyson Hoy who is volunteering two afternoons a week to support our students continues progress developing their music skills and playing the guitars & ukes they explored during Dancing with the Spirit's recent visit.
- ☞ Gratitude to our Hollis Branch of the POW Foodbank volunteers: Tom, Steve, Ginni, Colleen, Dave, Steve, & Oscar that have made our students' service project possible.
- ☞ Gratitude to Hollis artist and community member Donna Halvorson for leading our Hollis School Public Art project to coordinate the framing and installation of our art while also photographing and cataloging each piece to document the artist, their biography, their artist statement, and other important to provide an art enrichment experience for all.



- ☞ Gratitude to the Organized Village of Kasaan for an amazing week of Culture Camps. As our students noted in their reflections:
 - "it was an experience of a lifetime".
 - "It was magical when I made a friend."
 - "It was the best two days of my life. Mainly because of all of the other people there; including the adults."
 - "Thank you for teaching me...I like that your mentored me. Thank you for telling the stories."
 - "Thank you for including me and my school. I had a good time talking, learning, and making new connections."
 - "I absolutely loved the food the cooks made for us... The cooks did an amazing job."Everyone bar none had a marvelous experience, and all hope we are invited back for more stories, music and stand, art and food and cultural connection. We know it is a big undertaking so perhaps we can be of help somehow. Thank you is not enough.

Southeast Island School District Vision, Mission, and Goals

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

Mission: Set a foundation by cultivating experiences for students to develop goals and thrive in an ever-changing world.

Focus Areas: We are relying upon the SISD focus areas to drive our school planning:

We believe...

- in a unique and powerful educational experience.
 - students will be provided a challenging education unique to their individual needs.
 - students are valued and honored.
 - ongoing relevant staff development is vital.
- in mutual respect.
 - early childhood education is essential to later success of students.
 - in establishing relationships with communities and other resources to provide for whole family wellness.
 - in building resiliency.
- students will be provided a safe learning environment.
 - in mutual accountability and communication among students, staff, parents, and community leads to students' success

GOAL: PREPARE STUDENTS TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES AND BE SUCCESSFUL



***MK-SHOP – our incubator** - *The Mallot-Kookish Community SHOP (Students Helping Others Prosper) is launching new learning:

- Bicycles are getting assembled and as sunshine and rainless days appear you will find our students riding their bicycles all over our campus. What a joy it is to watch.



Guided by Inquiry and Mastery Learning for our student's 2024-2025 Integrated Learning Core Focus includes:

- **My World, My Community and Life Science:**
This month primary students have been exploring line and other important elements of art. This week they are completing 3 line landscapes developed by a woman who was told she was too clumsy to be an artist. They have been collaborating with the Middle school students to support their explorations.
- **US Regions, Landforms, and Earth Science:**
Middle School students are narrowing down their project ideas to assemble cultural, geographical, geological and historical threads to "Weave Our Nation's Story".

We continue to encourage everyone to please complete the survey and send it on as the more responses, the richer the data. As this unfolds, we hope we will be able to utilize use some of the results to support next year's Alaska's studies.

Please complete and share our survey at this link: <https://forms.gle/jaqtKEQWdYmrVcs6>

- **US History, American Literature and Earth Science: High School:**
Before diving into 1984 they are spending additional time reviewing key moments in history that may have influenced/informed the novel. This last month they have studied the founding documents that helped shape American history and the country's government. They have been exploring the rise of American industrialization, which shifted population demographics. Questions focus on major events involved in industrialization, some of the conflicts and social changes involved with labor disputes, and changes during the Progressive Era.

**DIVE & Learning Beyond the Classroom**

- **March brought us marvelous days at the Kasaan Culture Camp, Spread the Word to End the Word Day, America Reads Day and Pie for Pi Day!** We celebrated, we heard stories, we read, we did some math, we learned new ways to better understand others and we made some amazing connections.
- **DIVE:** Our high school students' have been adding work in the bike shop this past few weeks to provide bikes for our younger students and that has been a gift for all.
- **Welding:** We have three students participating in a four month one credit welding class at the Vo Tech center in Klawock.
- **Learning Beyond the Island:** We have students heading all over the place – next week CJ will be in Washington and Idaho exploring colleges and universities and later in April three more will head to points north to explore Alaska's post-secondary opportunities. As the end of the month we will have a team going to Juneau for a weeklong. Another student will be taking the class to repair heaters.

GOAL: SUPPORT STAFF RETENTION AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH.

Collaboration with peers – we were excited to join all for the March ASC training for all staff and Board members. Hearing others challenges and ideas gave us a renewed



April Hoy had a great experience the week before break at an i-cad and construction training in Juneau.

Key events and growth opportunities on site:**February 25, 2025: SISDFY25 ESEA Monitoring**

Hollis School had a successful Virtual Site Visit with Department of Education Monitoring Staff



March 25, 2025: Hollis Staff hosted Alaska Department of Education Staff for a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) site visit.

<https://education.alaska.gov/swpbs> It was a very positive day with good feedback and lots to reflect upon. It is great anytime we have a

GOAL: CELEBRATE AND ENCOURAGE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS AND INVOLVEMENT.

- *Here is a link to our School Calendar:*

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_DAIAPWit3LYYH9JNrUdZozIF5Mr58jG/view?usp=sharing

**CELEBRATE:**

- We are happy for this opportunity to welcome and introduce our newest employee – chef extraordinaire and substitute custodian Tom Harden!
Thomas Harden, a 64-year-old resident of Hollis, Alaska, has lived in the state since 2006. Born and raised on a cattle ranch in Paso Robles, California, Thomas has had a diverse career as a farmer, rancher, hunting guide, machinist, merchant mariner, and civilian employee of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers. An avid hunter and outdoorsman, he now enjoys amateur radio and holds an Amateur Extra license. Cooking is also one of his hobbies, and he has experience as a

camp cook, BBQ caterer, and cook on the Alaska Marine Highway vessels.

- Two high school students, Senior Chloe Vasquez and Sophomore CJ Vasquez traveled with Craig and Klawock high schools, their respective basketball teams to conclude positive and exciting basketball seasons at the regional tournaments.



Community Involvement:

- *4th Health Clinic:* Our ¼ clinic will be on Tuesday May 6th. Although the a focus will include bike helmets and safety we will also hold a vision and hearing screening in conjunction with a pre-K Kinder open house for fall 2025 enrollment.
- *Finders Keeper Glass Buoy's:* Our school has been excited to be invited to be a part of this collaborative effort made possible by the Prince of Wales Health Network, painting glass buoy's to be hidden on our island.
- *Hollis Community Council:* Teachers attend monthly to sharing and promote involvement and the meeting is held in the Hollis Library located in the Hollis School Building.
- *Hollis School Engagement Board:* We have initiated a Hollis School board for community members to learn of current and future plans as well as provide input and volunteer for “one and done” as well as long term projects and/or ongoing projects.
- *Monthly Music Jam:* In February 2025 we hosted our first solo music jam for community member. The next one will be at 5:30 PM on Friday March 28, 2025.
- *Hollis Branch of the Monthly POW Food Bank:* Our Middle School students' service project is to assist with setting up and distributing the monthly food bank allotments for community member access. Our school houses the programs and we have recruited volunteers to collaborate with our school to both connect and ensure the program is sustainable.
- *The Hollis VFD & EMS Fundraiser:* Hollis School is sponsoring the return of the Hollis VFD Chili & Cornbread Contest & Feed. Our students will help with set up and be creating the awards to include the coveted Golden Ladle for the best darned chili on the island.



Parent Engagement:

- *Signup.com:* we use this online signup tool to schedule conferences and parent meetings.
 - *Parents, Teacher, Student Lead Conferences:* Mid year conferences were scheduled for 2.19 & 20/2025, parents used the signup tool to schedule them, and we had a 91 % turnout.
 - *Parents are welcome at the school and can arrange quick after school conversations as well as schedule meetings anytime as needed.* To support those who prefer more formality we have also set aside times every Tuesday for parents to schedule a time to meet with teachers and discuss anything.
 - *Parent Updates:* We send “Sunday night Snippets: as a heads for upcoming events.
- *Parent Meals:* Our ASC will fund up to one breakfast or lunch per month for parents/grandparents/important adults to join their student for a meal at school.
- *Talking Points:* We have extended the transition from our Facebook Messenger Parent Communication Group to “Talking Points” to support those parents who as finding it to be more challenging. We remain hopeful this will improve parent communication while removing it from relying upon personal social media pages.

⇒ FUTURE PLANNING is now “Plate to Plaque”

Our new approach to make things happen – to increase productivity, bring ideas to life, and get new school systems in place: Plate to Plaque.

All teachers and schools have long lists and plates are too full. Juggling too many things at once leads to overload, mistakes, and tunnel vision.

Pending Items:

Instead of having all of the “to do” list items on our plate at once – we now have pending items on a nonprioritized alphabetized list for ease of reference until they are moved to the plate. This list is dynamic and as we work with it we may find it best to sort it into specific categories for ease of management.

The Plate:

As pending items percolate, items moved to the Plate get full attention until completion. Time and reprints got into getting these items completed so we can keep making progress towards completing new initiatives.

The Plaque:

As items on the plate are completed, and done well, the completed item is placed on a figurative plaque celebrating the small successes that were oft overlooked as the plate spilled over.

Once a completed item is moved to the Plaque – the team reviews the list, considers current needs, identifies new priorities and places a new item on the plate.

NOTE: Needs drive the process. If an item remains on the plate too long, it may return to the pending list so more actionable items can move forward.

PENDING:

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| 🎯 After school program | 🎯 Citizen science – bats | 🎯 Greenhouse revitalize & launch |
| 🎯 ASC Bank Transfer | 🎯 Citizen science – bee hive | 🎯 Gym bouldering wall |
| 🎯 ASC Reestablish Community Involvement | 🎯 Community Music | 🎯 Gym stage |
| 🎯 Berry patch – w/Hollis Berries | 🎯 Community read nights | 🎯 Hollis Community Museum – inventory and curate |
| 🎯 Bike shop – bike part inventory | 🎯 Compost set up | 🎯 Jobs – description updates |
| 🎯 Bike shop tools inventory | 🎯 Course development Sewing | 🎯 Kitchen inventory, photo |
| 🎯 Bike shop program | 🎯 Course development: Cooking | 🎯 Monty’s Orchard |
| 🎯 BUS Plan for Transition Support | 🎯 Course development: Work study with Hollis based employers | 🎯 Natural History Museum - inventory and curate |
| 🎯 Ceramic shop – test kilns | 🎯 Emergency plan document & checklists | 🎯 Open Gym |
| 🎯 Ceramic program | 🎯 Eyrie – Hollis School Business | 🎯 Outdoor circuit install |
| 🎯 Chicken coop & run | | 🎯 Outdoor kitchen |























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|  Parking lot log bench boundary |  Printing – shirts & mugs |  Smokehouse rebuild |
|  Permanent trash storage |  Raised beds garden |  Summer camp |
|  Place based playground - https://www.budgetdumpster.com/blog/kid-friendly-backyard-play-area |  Re-Establish AmeriCorps |  Water catchment and distribution for garden & greenhouse |
|  Playground – kitchen, fish clean station, & counter, repair plane |  Re-Establish Interns and resident |  Weather station install and set up |
|  Playground – parkour course |  Safety equipment install |  Website update |
|  Playground – swing set |  Service: life jackets |  Wind turbine and power system set up |
|  Portfolios – revitalization |  Service – Transportation Road coverage. |  Wood shop tool inventory |
| |  Service & science – ½ Mile Creek | |

PLATE: February & March:

Items in Progress:

- Emergency Plan Packets
- Gym equipment install & training videos
- Music Instrument Install
- Open Gym
- School Use Protocols within SISD Policy - commons, gym, incubator, kitchen, library, maker space, outdoor kitchen, etc
- School wide maintenance review plan update
- Volunteer Recruitment

Volunteer Led:

- Donna Halvorson: Hollis School Art Inventory, Curation, & Provenance Document; framing & install

PLAQUE 2024-2025:

Community & Music in the School Day
 Monthly Community Music Nights
 Custodial Plan and Checklist
 MK SHOP Phase I