

## Site Report – Tanalian School @ Port Alsworth – March 9, 2020

To: Superintendent Ty Mase,  
LPSD School Board Members, and PTA LSAC

From: Nate Davis, Principal  
Tanalian School

### Outstanding Activities and Events

1. Alaska STATE Battle of the Books: The Tanalian Lynx, out of about 30 State Finalist Teams, finished:
  - \*Word Warriors (4<sup>th</sup> graders: Landon Fowler, Hazel Metzgar, and Malachi Grossmann) coached by Brandey Voran finished 10<sup>th</sup>,
  - \*5/6<sup>th</sup> graders (Mikiah Lorentzen, Jordan Alsworth, and Tyler Smith) coached by Cameron Metzgar finished 13<sup>th</sup>, and
  - \*7/8<sup>th</sup> graders (Teagann Smith, Silas Smith, and Samuel Fowler) coached by Cameron Metzgar finished 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. Tanalian Basketball finished a great season and head off to Regionals this week with both Women's and Men's teams in the hunt for the #2 Seed, though it has been a season of injuries. We enjoyed hosting the boys teams in the North/South tournament where the South region won the tournament and the Lynx pulled off a 1<sup>st</sup> place win, though needing two tiebreakers to beat our tough Newhalen friends.
3. We are one week into our First Annual IditaMath Race at Tanalian. Eight different mushing teams do extra math challenges each night as they fight for the lead in the race to Nome. Currently, Mrs. Fowler's pre-school team is tied with Mrs. Voran's elementary team, with Mrs. Brock's primary team only 8 miles behind as the leaders work their way through the Cripple and Ruby checkpoints. The senior and senior team is right up there with them. Stay tuned for the exciting finish!



4. Senior Nicole Smith organized youth basketball as community service this year. She recruited players and coaches, made schedules, marketed practice times, and led the entire program for February. Then, leading up to our home games, the girls' basketball team, led by Coach Hummel, ran a BB Boot Camp and then coached and reffed youth basketball to the delight of the home crowd.



### Personnel

1. We are excited that all of our teachers intend to return next year! The hard work of the teachers and staff has built a strong system for success at Tanalian... and keeping all on board for each additional year really helps build momentum.
2. We have leads on a student-teacher and a tutor who may want to give Tanalian/LPSD a try starting next fall.

### Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress

1. Our math teachers have been meeting in committee for several weeks and have designed and are coordinating open-ended collaborative math events each Friday at the end of the day, with the goal to improve the math problem-solving culture at PTA to improve math achievement. Kudos to Branden Hummel, Matthew Grossmann, and Brandey Voran.



2.

### Technology Progress

1. PTA is in good shape with Technology. We had a few glitches in the last go-around with MAPS, but Moon and Sam and their teams prevailed in the end. THANK YOU!

### Facility Update

1. PTA is requesting snow guards on the last section of our roof to prohibit tons of snow periodically sliding off the roof, endangering students, community members, and vehicles which might be underneath. We take precautions, but it cannot be monitored 24/7. The rest of the school roof has already had snow-guards installed post-construction. Below, it shows where the snow level was before Shane in Maintenance spent a few hours with shovels and heavy equipment to clear the

egress windows. THANK YOU, SHANE and TIM for having a plan for snow-guard installation in the coming weeks.



### **LSAC Activity**

1. Last week, LSAC approved the Tanalian 20-21 School Calendar. They have also budgeted \$200 for math incentives this year, spurring on our academics. To be better hosts, they have also budgeted several hundred dollars to make guest school/mascot banners for schools who often compete at Tanalian (especially our district and region). They have partnered with Student Government to do the legwork and design and LSAC will then pay for the banners to be made.

### **Volunteer Report**

1. Nicole Metzgar for officiating eight(8) varsity basketball games in the last two weeks and taking the lead in bettering our volunteer officials crew.
2. Jordan Weber and Mark McGee for officiating many basketball games
3. Patti Brock, Sherri Davis, Brett Zimmerman, Wyatt Duerksen, Julian Rice, Mark McGee, and Caleb Alsworth for volunteering to do the scorebook and scoreboard.
4. Lelya Alsworth for heading up all the volunteers to create a tasty hospitality room for coaches.
5. Seventh grader Teagann Smith for taking the lead on LiveStreaming all the games. She found volunteers, made schedules, created instructions, posted updates, and ran the camera!

### **Professional Development**

1. We continue with Math professional development, just completed our CPI Training, and are working through our PEAKS training.

### **Pupil Attendance**

1. In general, PTA has good attendance, but a few students habitually miss many days due to family vacations, family businesses, subsistence, or medical appointments in ANC. Most of these annual absences have not restricted those student's achievements.

### **Student and Staff Safety**

1. With the darkness and cold, we have targeted messages toward vehicle, ATV, lake ice, darkness, and cold weather safety and we continue our monthly fire drills.

### **Subsistence Calendar**

1. Continuing: The only concerns we hear voiced consistently are the speedy pace through curriculum during the school months and the lack of learning during the extended summer months. We really appreciate Ty's Summer Bridge program, are excited about the new STEM opportunities, and will assist with any other LPSD support to enhance summer learning.

### **Other**