

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education Members

DATE: August 26, 2025

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Student Services

Perrian Windhausen, Director of Student Services reports on the following:

Data and Assessment:

- Record requests fulfillments including Transcript requests
- PowerSchool Updates including new hires, transfers, resignations . Processing of staffing changes; new hires, transfers, resignations. Each staff account must be updated in PowerSchool and in the NWEA system.
- Secretary/Principal Inservice presentations
- Working with and training secretaries regarding TEAMS, Immunizations, Email, FERPA, records requests, etc.
- Enrolling all new students, PK3, PK4 and Kindergarten-12th grade students into PowerSchool
- Assessment Presentation to all staff during inservice
- Data: Overseeing development of PowerSchool MTSS system

Counselors:

- Classroom Presentations were conducted in all twelve of our individual schools. A total of 1,200 presentations were provided to both elementary and secondary students at each school. Topics for elementary students ranged from: controlling your emotions, becoming a good friend, developing your listening skills, learning to accept “No,” body safety rules, etc. Topics at the secondary level ranged from: bullying, completing job applications, writing resumes, career exploration, applying for FASFA, making good choices, drug/alcohol awareness, applying for scholarships, etc.
- Red Dog Trips – Spring 2025, approximately 44 students from 11 different schools participated in the Job Awareness Training offered at Red Dog Mines.
- Counseling Interns Training – All counseling interns were offered additional training to become a Certified Youth Mental Health Specialist by completing 28 hours of training.
- Schedules for 25-26 School Year – Schedules have been completed for all returning and new staff members as well as all students attending our schools. Scheduling emphasis got 11 and 12th grade students to ensure students can qualify for Alaska Performance Scholarships.
- Assistance to Seniors – During Graduation ceremonies conducted in the Spring of 2025, approximately 120 students graduated from our high schools. Of those 120 graduates 76 (63%) graduated with a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher. Having a grade point average of 2.5 or above is necessary to qualify for the Alaska Performance Scholarship.
- School Climate and Connectedness Surveys

Academic School Year	Family Responses	Students Grades 3-5	Students Grades 6-12	Staff Responses	Total Participants
2023	193	304	380	121	998
2024	280	263	536	162	1,241
2025	204	303	666	178	1,351

Special Education:

- Attended DEED state-wide IEP Embrace training in Fairbanks, July 2025
- Itinerant Sped site assignments
- District sites caseloads assignments posted and training in EMRACE IEP program.
- Completed 504 training
- Inservice training and site visits starting
- Accepted request to terminate contract from Alison Barnet per MOA agreement item #8 "This contract may be terminated by either party with a 30-day written notice".
- Negotiated MOA contract with Physical Therapist Kristen Bacon (action item for approval).

Youth Leaders:

- 2025-26 Youth leader Coordinator: Cheyenne Ticket-Foote
- Fall retreat scheduled for September 11-14th, 2025.
- Donation agreement finalized for next 3 years with Teck.
- Mid-August as teachers and staff return to school, the process has started to hire staff at each site as Youth Leader Advisors.
- Initial planning to attend Elder and Youth Conference and AFN in October

Early Learning and Family (ELF):

We were able to hire an elementary school teacher to offer BabyGym (Playgroup) activities to Kotzebue families. This has been a positive place for parents to meet in a safe and friendly place where children are free to play during the long cold winters. Baby Gym ended in May with the closure of the school. We also offered early intervention collaboration with the City of Kotzebue's Toddler Time. Our staffing at the ELF Offices has been solid and we continue to collaborate with each other regularly on referrals, transitions, evaluations, and home visits. Finally, Tracey traveled to Juneau to advocate for ILP and early childhood needs in Rural Alaska. She also completed village travel.

During the longer days of Spring, ELF offered developmental Child Find Activities. At the Kobuk 440 Musers Banquet we offered screenings and provided the Bouncy House for young children to enjoy. We are grateful to have collaborated with Janelle Coop for Speech Services in the Region.

We had a wonderful dinner sponsored by the Alaska Children's Trust to honor Tracey and Bailey Schaeffer. They were awarded the "Champion for kids" award. Participants included the ELF staff, OCS works, Putyuk Children's Home Staff, Nunakins Staff, and a special visit from Dr. Marah Gotcsik, ANMC Pediatrician. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Early Childhood Care Providers and the collaboration with other advocates.

Twenty-four hours of sunshine offers opportunities for families to ice fish, work on harvested bearded seal, and prepare for the ice to break up. Community members in the NANA Region were busy moving to camp before breakup. We were excited for Nauyaq to graduate from UAF - Chukchi College. Maureen maintains the database and keeps us on task with incoming referrals, evaluations and transitions. She also sent out a summer safety letter and a box of toys/books and completed the Self-Assessment with our staff. The letter included projects to do with children over the long summer days.

Action Items for Approval:

- Memorandum: Counselor MOA-Clay Moose
- Memorandum: Physical Therapist MOA- Kristen Bacon
- Memorandum: School Psych MOA Addendum: Terese Kashi