

HIGHLIGHTED SCHOOL REPORT

Kali School

Presenter: Principal Cindy Granatir

Words of Wisdom: Perry Pikok, SAC Member

Staff participated in two cultural in-services first semester. 1) The first one included boating, berry picking, and learning on the Nuna from a local whaling captain/wife/family 2) The second included beading and sewing skins, making mittens, and learning various traditional customs from the one and only Susan Hope. Thank you to Ira and Julie Itta, Lola Tukrook, and Susan Hope.

In addition to her work with the staff during in-service, Susan Hope with the help from Point Lay resident Lupita Henry conducted sewing intensives for high school students and introduced younger students to beading techniques for holiday ornaments. There have been numerous requests from community members, students, and staff for Susan Hope to return to Kali School and spend more time sharing her skills, knowledge, expertise, and positivity. Sewing Circles were a huge success, and we hope to continue, as well as build onto these in the future.

Middle school students have started a semester-long course learning and creating traditional Native art with Ilisauri Julie Itta.

75% of the senior class has completed all of their graduation requirements except for one class, and all of the juniors are now on track to graduate on time in May 2026.

In their freshman year, Kyanne Everett and Lovlee Henry qualified and competed in the 1A Cross Country State Meet. While they did not place in the top three this year, we are extremely proud of them and their accomplishments. Both girls are 3-sport athletes, and they contribute greatly to every team they are on. Their work ethic and leadership are evident and will only continue to grow.

In November, Point Lay hosted the 1A Mixed-6 Regionals Volleyball tournament. Thank you to Board Member Frieda Nageak, AD Steve Zanazzo, the IT crew, and KBRW's Bob Thomas for being part of the festivities and making the event more memorable for everyone. I would also like to thank the local community members for providing traditional foods for the teams.

In October, four students were invited to travel to the East Coast to Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, Connecticut for a week-long hands-on science based educational and cultural exchange program. While there, students experienced hands-on science; met with animal trainers; had opportunities to engage in beluga research that happens annually here in Point Lay while exploring and comparing the marine environment in Connecticut; participated in a cultural exchange with students from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, and visited research centers to experience science in action. All of the students said it was an amazing, once in a lifetime opportunity. Special thanks to Lori Ferreira for chaperoning the group all the way across the nation!

Facility Update:

- The school bus is operational and back on the road again after being out of service for nearly 2 ½ months.
- New security cameras have been installed and are AMAZING!
- Vape sensors have been installed and configured, and I am now able to monitor them.

- There was a Declaration of Emergency in December due to a power outage in Point Lay. The school transitioned into an emergency shelter for several hours. Fortunately, the situation was resolved, and power was restored before 9:30 pm that night.
- Staffing continues to be an issue, but everyone is stepping up and doing what they can to make things work as optimally as possible.
- Housing issues continue to be a concern. We will be working with M&O Director Blake Mikesell and Supt. David Vadiveloo to resolve the issues, while being fiscally and environmentally responsible.

Distinguished Students, Staff and Volunteers

I. Special Recognition: students, staff, and volunteers

a. Students--

i. Ann Neakok 5th grade

Ann is well-mannered, and she always strives for success, big or small!

ii. Lelalee Oyagak 5th grade

Lelalee Oyagak shows enthusiasm for all classroom tasks. She consistently guides her team members to achieve their team goals, thus making her a strong leader.

iii. Todd Hank 2nd grade

Todd has always shown a positive attitude towards learning.

iv. Alexandra Tukrook 1st grade

Alexandra is always ready to learn and takes an active part in her learning. She is kind to others and demonstrates what it is to be a Kali Qavvik.

v. Barbara and Elizabeth Frankson 10th grade

Both Barbara and Elizabeth have nearly perfect attendance (96% and 97%, respectively), are kind, and model students.

vi. Ira Sampson 11th grade

Ira has shown tremendous growth and improvement academically, making the honor roll for the first semester. His teachers commended Ira's attendance, active participation in class, motivation to complete assignments in a timely manner, and his willingness to help classmates.

b. 2 staff (1 certified/1classified)

i. Terry Bilbrey—bus driver

Mr. Bilbrey serves many roles at Kali School. He ensures the students safely arrive at school and return home every day, transports nearly EVERY person to and from the airport, often working seven days/week, is acting plant manager when needed, runs the kitchen frequently, completes maintenance duties reliably and consistently, helps in the student store, and has been an integral part of ensuring that the school operates as smoothly as possible for students and staff.

ii. Becky Long—Interventionist, Lead Teacher, Site Tech, Building Test Coordinator

Ms. Becky Long is a long-time teacher for Kali (approximately 17 years). She spends countless hours creating meaningful learning opportunities for students, taking the steps necessary to build appropriate scaffolding for students to be able to understand and master skills/standards, pouring over data to better assist colleagues and students, and ensuring that all the testing here is valid. She is meticulous, thoughtful, insightful, and a respected member of the community.

c. Volunteer(s)

i. Romulo Naingue

Mr. Romulo Naingue volunteers a minimum of four hours every day to help clean the school in the evenings and on the weekends. In addition, he assists with preparations for all the activities from building light displays to helping navigate boating trips. Romulo is always ready to offer a hand; is a positive role model; and demonstrates an incredible work ethic simply from the kindness of his heart. We are truly fortunate and grateful he is part of our school.