



SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**THORNE BAY SCHOOL**

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Principal's Report  
August 30th, 2023

### Goals

1. Provide a safe, positive learning environment and help prepare students for adult life.
2. Create a team of teachers and staff who feel empowered to reach their full potential as educators and employees.
3. Engage students' sense of wonder and personal opportunity through enrichment programs, field trips, and travel.
4. Earn a reputation for TBS as a first choice for student learning where parents' Hopes & Dreams are deeply considered.

### Engagement

1. **Meet & Greet:** Our Meet & Greet will take place on the week of September 11th, with a date and time to be determined. We are awaiting the arrival of Ms. Merkley before hosting the event.
2. **Face to Face & On the Phone:** Since my arrival I've been reaching out to parents and they have been reaching out to me. My role so far is to listen and brainstorm ideas about their hopes and dreams for the school.
3. **Community:** I am pleased to arrive in Thorne Bay and begin working with a wonderful, positive team. I have been fortunate to have met many wonderful people in the community at the Derby kickoff fundraiser as well as in the usual places – in the store, at the post office, and on the docks. Thorne Bay is truly a beautiful place to live.
4. **Communication:** I plan on updating the website and using texts, emails, and Facebook to keep parents and the community informed and engaged. The website is especially important for new hire recruitment purposes.

### Concerns

1. **Electives:** We have many elective course descriptions which need to be approved.
2. **Graduation Requirements:**
  - a. Students are required to complete 24 credits to graduate. The state requirement is 21 and the national average is 22.
  - b. This will help ensure students remain in school until June of their Senior year and also provide flexibility in special circumstances. Students are always encouraged to achieve as many credits as possible, including dual credits through the University of Alaska.

### **3. Recruitment and Retention**

#### **Upcoming Planning**

1. Short Term:
  - a. Implement AK READS curriculum. Our plan has been submitted to the state.
  - b. Seek grant funding for literacy material and online platforms via CLSD
2. Long Term:
  - a. Align curriculum across the district.
  - b. Support Rod and Astrid for any assistance required to secure grant funding.

#### **Achievements & Celebrations**

1. Successful recruitment for three positions.
  - a. English/SS teacher
  - b. Preschool Para-Teacher
  - c. Preschool Para
2. Excellent In-Service!
3. Kudos to my team at TBS. We are fortunate to have a very positive, active, engaged team.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Freeman, Principal  
Thorne Bay School