

Jyllina Kaleak - 5th Grade

I would like to nominate Jyllina Kaleak as the Exceptional Elementary Student of the Year. Jyllina is the perfect candidate for this honor because of her exceptional maturity, both in her behavior and in her academics. Jyllina embodies a positive attitude and positive behavior everyday. She is always on time, prepared, and attentive. She's a problem-solver and works well with others. She's careful and thoughtful in her interactions and brings a mature perspective to any situation.

Jyllina is also academically advanced. Not only in her inquisitive nature, but also in her thoroughness and organization. She grasps new concepts quickly, but when she doesn't, she displays grit, sticking with concepts until she grasps them. Her patience towards herself and others creates a productive learning environment. Students look to Jyllina as a leader and role model, and I am proud to nominate her for this award.

Mamie Okomailak – 6th Grade

It is with great honor that the middle and high school teachers of Harold Kaveolook School wish to name sixth-grader Mamie Okomailak as the 2021-22 HKS Middle School Distinguished Student. Mamie is a world-class helper. She is like the entire school's little mama. She lovingly watches over all of her younger siblings and cousins, always making sure that their needs are met with love and patience. She is the first to rush towards a crying child or help get someone's boots and coat on at the end of the day. She does not do this out of obligation, but true joy and love. To her classmates, Mamie is the first one to step up to help find an answer or get a classroom material. She helps carry other's computers or notebooks if their hands are full. She rushes forward to open doors. She makes drawings to cheer their day. These traits are such wonderful gifts. Things like love, patience, and kindness cannot be taught and Mamie is a well of each.

Mamie is also an amazing student. Each day that Mamie enters the school building, she is ready to learn. Mamie works consistently to grasp new concepts and once she has them, she is excited and willing to share them with her peers. She is also a very organized individual, which is unique in a student as young as her. She always tucks her papers and books carefully into her backpack after each class. She does this like she acquires true joy from it. Her pencils are always stored in her zipper pouch, her computer is always plugged in, and her books are always placed back on the shelf with care and expectation. When her classmates lose things or don't have a pencil, she is the first to offer hers.

Mamie is a very special young lady. She makes Harold Kaveolook School a better place every day. She is a true blessing!

Janette Killbear – 9th Grade

It is with great honor that the middle and high school teachers of Harold Kaveolook School wish to name ninth-grader Janette Killbear as the 2021-22 HKS High School Distinguished Student. One of the most admirable qualities about Janette is her perseverance. Whether in the classroom or in extra-curricular activities, Janette never gives up. She pushes through the obstacles that are placed in her path until she is able to find a solution. Her perseverance coupled with her unique problem-solving skills help her achieve the goals that she has set for herself.

Janette distinguishes herself by participating. Whether it is sports or academics, Janette joins everything. She loves to participate and be part of a team. Janette runs cross country; plays volleyball, basketball, and NYO; is on the Battle of the Books team; and is an active member of

Girl Scout Troop #318. To each activity, she brings energy, kindness, patience, and helpfulness. She also brings a wonderful sense of humor. Her sing-song laugh is contagious and infectious. However, she is not afraid to call others out when they step out of line. She reminds them what it is to be respectful of others. She models respectfulness for others and nudges them back on track. In this way, Janette is a wonderful young leader. She is a quiet leader but she is awfully mighty!

Highlighted Classified Staff Member for Harold Kaveolook School

Randy Linderbaum has been with the school district for 11 years. Randy works in the maintenance department and is always willing to do what ever needs to be done to keep the school safe and operational. This past fall Randy responded to afterhours fire alarms in the building as well addressing after hour issues with students on school grounds. Randy helps out in the kitchen when we are short staffed as well as removing snow and hauling freight on the weekends. He helps in keeping teacher housing up and running. These are just a few of the things Randy does as well as many others. Randy is the kind of employee that any school wants working for them, but we are glad that we have him all to ourselves. Thanks, Randy, for all you do for HKS.

Highlighted Certified Staff Member for Harold Kaveolook School

Annie Combest-Friedman has been selected as the highlighted staff member for Harold Kaveolook School. Annie has done a tremendous job as our Early Childhood Education teacher. Annie works two shifts thru ought the day, she works with our 4-year old's in the morning and 3-year old's in the afternoon. Annie's students are thriving under her direction and her students are showing signs of significant growth. Annie has also taken on the shared responsibilities of our site technology leader and she is also coaching our middle school robotics team. We are so happy that Annie has landed in Kaktovik.