

HOLLIS SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 16, 2024
SISD BOARD REPORT

2024-2025 Target Word:

Foundation

A formidable foundation must exist to enable our Hawks to soar as self-directed, lifelong learners. Our depth and breadth of powerful learning experiences, as guided by shared vision, professional standards, Anchors, and connection create our intentionally flexible, dynamic, and resilient Foundation. A Foundation that values our past while incorporating the unexpected, and innovative opportunities for growth and improvement all the while celebrating a school culture informed by new ideas, questions, mistakes, multiple perspectives, ideals, and connections with each other, our Anchors, our community, and all whom have come before us.



2024-2025 Opening Day Flag Ceremony at our Hollis School sign crafted with logs donated by Hollis's Island Custom Lumber (Jay Balcom) carved by Wrangell Artist Denny Leak which incorporate our salvaged sailboat.mast pole.

Gratitude: *Doyackshin, Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa, Muchas gracias, Salamat po, Thank you,
Thank you from all of our Hollis School student community –
Tsimshian, Tlingit, Haida, Spanish, Tagalog English*

Thank you Scott Randall and Steve Castor and an amazing list of community volunteers and SISD staff for finding and, in one case literally building, the path we needed to move the school from a recovering construction site to an inviting and intentional multimodal, multi-age, learning community informed by permaculture and best 21st Century Teaching practices.

Thank you Mariia for supporting our staff and students. We celebrate the amazing menus and resources you provide and thankful for your willingness to get us thru staff transitions to teach us required processes all the while supporting the entire school district. The kids love their meals.

Thank you Terri Kohn helping us to access vehicles to support student transportation when the bus is not an option. bus is not an option. We appreciate you.

Southeast Island School District Vision, Mission, and Goals

Vision: Students are equipped to achieve their dreams and aspirations.

Mission: Set a foundation by cultivating experiences for students to develop goals and thrive in an ever-changing world.

Focus Areas: We are relying upon the focus areas to drive our school planning:

We believe...

- in a unique and powerful educational experience.
- students will be provided a challenging education unique to their individual needs.
- students are valued and honored.
- ongoing relevant staff development is vital.
- in mutual respect.
- early childhood education is essential to later success of students.
- in establishing relationships with communities and other resources to provide for whole family wellness.
- in building resiliency.
- students will be provided a safe learning environment.
- in mutual accountability and communication among students, staff, parents, and community leads to students' success.

GOAL: PREPARE STUDENTS TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES AND BE SUCCESSFUL.



***MK-SHOP** - *The Mallot-Kookish Community SHOP (Students Helping Others Prosper) is launching new learning:

- We are moving forward with bringing together innovators to hammer out the farmwork for our envisioned Incubator for all SISD students to access intensive leaning opportunities in our SHOP.
- Students are exploring welding with a virtual Miller Welding tool
- We have Z space computers in place and this week our students will be exploring everything from the inside of an engine to the depth of space as spare of their DIVE projects.



The Core Focus for our student's 2024-2025 learning includes:

- My World, My Community and Live Science: Primary
- US Regions, Landforms, and Earth Science
- US History, American Literature and Earth Science: High School



We began the year building the bird houses we had removed from the garden so we could not loose a general of birds during construction. We had a neighborhood ornithologist Stee McCurdy come in and give us to feed back. He taught us quite a bit about the birds that will use them and how we can improve them when we complete our next build.

GOAL: SUPPORT STAFF RETENTION AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH.



We are fully staffed with an amazing crew collaborative colleague:

- Co-Lead Pre-K thru 12th Teachers Julie Vasquez & Lisa Cates
- Special Educator April Hoy
- Paraprofessional and Coach Amanda Baker
- Paraprofessional and Custodian Allison Hoy
- Cook Penny Clemments




From Brightways to Online Classes all of our staff have participated in some marvelous opportunities for professional growth. Each month we plan to take a moment celebrating the dedication to professional growth of our staff. This month we introduce: Amanda Baker: "Programs that I'm participating in right now are professional development with Brightways along with

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the SSSF Scholastic National Shooting program, and local our EMS. I am currently enrolled with UAS and am taking classes towards my Bachelors Degree in Special Education. The classes I'm taking this year are Oceanography, Alaska Native Studies, and Elementary Mathematics for Teachers.

 **Housing to allow us to recruit and retain staff:**

- Thank you to Astrid Cook for her work on a grant for Hollis staff housing.
- We appreciate the permission to flesh out a proposal to turn the vacated duplex into housing for specialists, interns, AmeriCorps Volunteers, etc. by creating a CTE project to make it happen.

GOAL: CELEBRATE AND ENCOURAGE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS AND INVOLVEMENT.

 **CELEBRATE:** High School Senior Chloe Vasquez who due to her prodigious level of independence and drive is now enrolled in and attending **dual credit courses** at Prince William Sound College in Valdez.

 **Community Involvement:**

- *Hollis Community Council:* Teachers attend monthly to sharing and promote involvement.
- *Math Garden:* Thank you Deena Taylor for bringing ins landscape specialists to support our planning and guiding our decisions as we create the planned outdoor math garden that will have edible and medicinal plants.
- *Greenhouse:* Thank you community volunteers Dave Martin and Bonnie Castor for your efforts to not only bring our greenhouse back from an imploded construction site back to a thriving garden full of great food and learning opportunities but also
- **MK-SHOP:* Thank you community volunteers Oscar Adkison, Dave Martin, Steven Castor, Bonnie Castor for the work building our wood storage, opening up more space to allow students to work. * Hollis MK Community SHOP (Students Helping Others Prosper)
- *We are creating a second-tier volunteer for those who will not be long term or alone with students.* We have a signup list for “one and done” projects that will bring people into the school or at least allow them to be meaningfully connected.
- *Breakfast Conversations:* we are inviting community members to join us for breakfast and the following Morning Community as they share interesting topics that engage students.

 **Parent Engagement:**

- *Signup.com:* We continue to use Signup.Com to frontload Parent Teacher conference scheduling.
- *“Tuesday Teacher Time”* meetings continue for parents to schedule quick check-in
- *Our ASC* continues to cover one meal per month for a child’s important adults share a meal with them school
- *Folders:* We have waterproof zippered folders for parents to access school documents.

Ongoing:

 **School of Service:**

Hollis staff and students launched some ongoing service projects and others are in the planning phase. We are reviewing all of these to prioritize what should continue and what could be handed off to others. :

- Launched:

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- Updating our Gratitude bag trash pickup on Hollis Chilkat Road (we were appointed to the task by the Hollis Community Council – we are exploring getting a sign similar to those on the “Adopt a Highway” program. We are now collaborating with Craig & Klawock clean-up programs.
- Launched but in need of prioritization and further revision:
 - Hollis Resource Cooperative - Connecting People (Building Upon This with the CARES Funding project.
 - Hollis Community food pantry
 - Tiny Little library (needs repair) and we want to add a Tiny Little Pantry and we are planning a shared community refrigerator.
 - We are reaching out to the “Hollis Garden Club with hopes of revving this group to support our students learning while also sharing our rebuilt greenhouse and the soon to return raised beds, be hive, orchard, and berry patches.
- Planning:
 - Senior Service Days: designated times to support elders – chepping wood, hauling packages.
 - Community bus stops
 - Upgrading the “Alaska Kids Don’t Float “life jacket shed.
- 🎯 Citizen Science: Launched citizen science projects include:
 - ½ Mile Creek stream health monitoring and education. .
 - reporting to the US Weather Service. (this has been put on hold until the weather station is replaced).
 - documenting observations on Journey North.
 - participating in the annual virtual Monarch Butterfly migration.
 - planting a new Tulip Test Garden.
 - caring for Yellow-cedar stecklings and recording our data.

⇒ FUTURE PLANNING:



We are working to bring:

- 🎯 Dancing with the Spirit back to our school.
- 🎯 outer sites to Hollis for a Build Bikes Day in our SHOP.
- 🎯 an artist to work with our students so they can draw their own Formline Hawk to replace the one in the gym.