



Meade River School Advisory Council

P.O Box 91030, 4001 Kippi Street

Atqasuk, AK 99791

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SAC Meeting

First Tuesday of Every Month

5:00 PM

School Board Mission Statement

Learning in our schools is rooted in the values, history and language of the Iñupiat. Our priority, purpose and responsibility is to partner with families and community to provide high-quality education resulting in students that are...

- Critical and creative thinkers able to adapt in a changing environment and world;
- Active, responsible, contributing members of their communities; and
- Confident, healthy young adults, able to envision, plan and take control of their destiny.

Meade River School Mission Statement

Meade River School challenges learners to become critical and creative thinkers by developing their academic and cultural skills while nurturing their social-emotional wellbeing. We believe this helps our students become respectful, responsible, and cooperative community citizens.

SEAT 1

Rodney Lloyd

President

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EXP - 10/24

SEAT 2

Wanda Kippi

Vice President

EXP - 10/23

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SEAT 3

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Member

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EXP - 10/24(23)

SEAT 4

Jennie Kippi

Secretary

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EXP - 10/23

SEAT 5

Molly Ahkivgak

Member

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EXP-10/24

Good morning to the NSBSD School Board president and members of the board. We come to you this morning from beautiful Atqasuk, Alaska. It is my pleasure to share with you our SAC progress and concerns. I am currently president of our SAC and have proudly served for 12 years, 6 as president. We have a wonderful school and we enjoy sharing our success with you.

Our current enrollment is 85 students from ECE to 12th grade. We have 11 teachers, 5 support staff and 8 M&O staff positions.

We are fortunate to have completed the elections process and the results kept our SAC board stable with the same members. We feel that we are supported through our community with their voting voice. We are looking forward to another successful year helping to guide our school to become a true community school.

Our school year started off with a bang! We were able to help our school set up and facilitate the Classrooms on the Nuna week long school outside on the nuna for the first full week of school, August 21-25. The weather

did not always cooperate, but camp is not always perfect, but true learning did occur and the

camp was full of fun and laughter as both students and adults learned many new things and had many adventures. This year was especially interesting as we had five teachers from a completely different culture join our staff. This cultural activity was a great way to acclimate them to the Inupiat Culture. Our camp was supported by the whole community, the City of Atqasuk, as well as the NSBSD Inupiat Department. It was an unmitigated success.

The Meade River School SAC is proud to be a participant in our Community and School Expectation Agreement. We worked closely with Principal Schaffer and our community to draft our community's expectations for our school. One area we have been concerned with is attendance. The District's goal was 80% and we set the Meade River School Goal at 90%. We are not there yet, but are actively problem solving to reach this goal. Our community has been struck with one flu outbreak after another that has hampered our success. We will continue to strive for 90% attendance at Meade River School. Another area of high concern is our Cell Phone Policy. We decided that K-6 will be a No Phone Zone, and 7-12 has a policy where access is limited. There are designated times and places for cell phone usage but student phone usage is prohibited during instructional periods. We are not yet at 100% compliance but we will get there.

Another project the Meade River School SAC is excited about is our New Playground Project. Steve Cropsey and the NSBSD M&O department, combined with the City of Atqasuk and Native Village of Atqasuk have combined funds to begin construction on a new playground for our community. We are planning construction to begin this summer if we are able to get the materials on the CWAT trail to save on transportation cost. This is a much-needed improvement to our whole community and we are well on our way. This would not have been possible without hard work from Steve Cropsey and Doug Whiteman, and we wish to thank them publicly.

Mr. Cropsey has also been instrumental in helping us to get our artwork planning phase going after a couple of years pause. We are proposing a mural highlighting of our community in our gym as the art project to finish up our remodel artwork phase.

We would like to thank the NSBSD Board for offering Middle School sports this year. Our middle school students are very excited to have the opportunity to participate in team sports this school year. Our students are proud that they may have had a small part in making this possible through their visits with the SAC on several meetings and asking for help last school year. It is exciting to see them discover their voices and to make a difference.

We have had a successful Cross-Country season, both high school and middle school (with other younger runners joining in the daily run).

We are in the middle of our volleyball season with one home game and being able to host the Regional Volleyball Tournament.

Our middle and high school students are eagerly anticipating an exciting basketball season.

We have Lego Robotics program currently running and a High School robotic program to begin after the first of the year. The City of Atkasuk helps to support these and other programs.

Our Little Eagles (K-6) will begin after our High School basketball season ends.

Our Student Activity Director, Unalaq Ahkivgak has done an awesome job for being a first-time director.

We have had several sessions with the NSBSD HR department as we strive to fill all our teaching and aide positions. They have been very helpful and our Principal, Mr. Schaffer has worked hard to fill these positions. We are in the process of filling our final position, and we are thankful.

To help combat bullying in our school, our school Counselor, Patti Lloyd, will be administering our home grown TAVRA program (**T**radition **A**ttitude **V**alues **R**espect **A**nti-bullying) to help students identify and teach strategies to help resolve problems in a positive way. Each student will work towards receiving a TAVRA shirt and wear them proudly on targeted days to show support of our No Bullying Policy at Meade River School.

Lastly, we had a successful Eben Hopson/Inuit Day Celebration. We had a day of education and a Community Pot Luck lunch combined with our middle school and high school drummers hosting an aggi. What a fun day we had.

We are very thankful to our community for the support they give our school. We have had a good showing of community members attending the SAC meetings this year to discuss problems and help to find solutions. I personally feel very fortunate to be a part of this team and the way they work tirelessly to help to make our school the very best it can be.

Thank you for your time and support and we will continue to work to make our school a true community school helping to guide our young students to become leaders and successful community members. Quyanaq from the Proud Meade River School SAC, Go Eagles!

