

May 2017 Outer Site Board Reports

Year in Review

The 2016-17 school year is coming to a close at a frantic pace. So much has been going on for the past 6 weeks as is per usual in April – May each year. Our teaching staff is top notch and takes advantage of all the incredible learning opportunities that can be had with the good weather. As you can see from their site reports they are getting their students out in the communities as well as across the island and even off the island with field trips to Sitka and Ketchikan.

I have been very impressed with the dedication that our students have shown to their studies and civic responsibilities in and out of school. Many of our students are ETT and CPR certified and serve as first responders thanks to going through our annual ETT course. Also many of our students are Hunter Safety Certified thanks to John Stevens being willing to go to our sites and train our staff and students.

We have had many volunteers work with our students over this past year and without them, we would have average schools at best. The expertise and life they breathe into our schools is phenomenal. A couple of examples of this are the playwright and artists that we have had work in our schools both on Fridays as well as during the school week.

Our district office staff, maintenance workers, food service, custodians, bus drivers, and vehicle repair personnel deserve a huge thanks as they are the fuel that keeps the “machine” going. Without them, it would be like traveling upstream without a paddle. You folks do not get enough outward recognition, but please know that you are appreciated.

Our admin team, led by Superintendent Burch, understands that we are a fluid and ever changing entity and have needs beyond our beginning of the year budget and work hard to get to “yes” when it comes to what is “good for kids”.

Our first year of the new State testing took place in April and we look forward to getting our results back in August. We will be doing a data analysis on the results to look at what our district needs are as well as what each individual student needs.

One of the areas that I would like to work on next year is a common language that we cultivate in our schools and classrooms that fosters self-respect and respecting others. About 6 years ago we entered into a district wide initiative with the “Choose Respect” theme and I believe that we saw a noticeable difference in how our students interacted with each other. I will be looking at this again this summer to jumpstart this initiative once again.

I look forward to us finishing this year strong and instilling a sense of pride in our students so that when they go out into their communities and beyond, they talk well of their teachers and schools and look forward to coming back for another exciting and meaningful year ☺

Nick Higson
Principal

Hyder School

It is hard to believe the end of the school year is literally right around the corner. What an amazing year we have had. The students have created some amazing displays and worked extremely hard on their research projects. As the year comes to a close, the students continue to work hard.

All of the students are working diligently to complete their research for the community awareness fair we are hosting this weekend. The students chose and have researched ways to help improve our community. Students have looked into creating recycling programs, how to reuse materials instead of taking it to the dump, and even how to prevent/clean oil spills.

Our community awareness fair will be held at the Hyder School on Saturday May 27th from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. The students will also be doing a bake sale to raise funds to add to our school playground. The students will come in on Friday May 26th to bake the goods for the bake sale for our Friday activity. Virginia and I will assist the students in the baking, but they will be the primary bakers.

It goes without saying that the students are excited for summer, but they are equally sad that school will be ending.

We also want to thank the School Board again for bringing us into Thorne Bay for STEM. The students had an amazing time and all of them are already talking about STEM next year! Also, thank you for all of the support from the board and also our district office staff and administrators!!!

Have a wonderful summer.

Best,
Chad Dillman

Port Alexander School

We would like to give a HOOT-N-HOLLER out to the SISD National Archery Team. We had one of our very own, Star Anania, join the Nationals Team after she shot a 280 that took the Number 1 Girls slot in the state. Way to go!

The National Archery trip sounds like a great time that meant business in competition but was sprinkled with fun. Thank you Mr. John Stevens and Mr. James Stevens for putting together another great year of archery experiences for the students. Awesome Job SISD Archery Team of 2017!

The year is coming to a close and yet it is one of the busiest times of the school year. This month Port Alexander School started with the annual showcase of art at the Mother's Day Art Show. The students worked hard all year, learning and creating many differing styles of art.

The students showcased watercolor, sculpture, woodworking, oil pastels, drawing, poems and story writing. My favorite was the replication of Van Gogh's "Starry Night". The Arts Council pulls out all of the stops to make this event possible. They supplied great appetizers and the event brought in the community of art connoisseurs. It was an amazing Mother's Day!



Our next big event was Star Ananias's Graduation. The weather decided to turn up into a blowing, rainy mess and District Administration and Star's dear friend Kimonoed were unable to attend. There was a large part of the graduation missing but it seemed like everyone in the community contributed to eating their share of the food and having a great time. Although Star is now a high school graduate, she will be staying in PA next year and taking online classes through her program at UAA. She will also continue to be our

Food Service Worker. We are so very proud of all her accomplishments.
Congratulations STAR!

The next school year is already looking like a great year. We have a new teacher coming in with a large skill set and new friends to meet. We are excited to hit the ground running. We wish everyone a refreshing summer and best start to the new school year.

Your Partners in Education- Laura Anania and Shanna Smith

Kasaan School

Has anyone else noticed how fast time is moving now days. We have had a great month in Kasaan. Our students are terrific people to be around and it is exciting to see them grow.

We had five students participate at the NASP. Two of the students shot their personal bests at the event, and the really enjoyed the experience of traveling to Kentucky. The students have been able to use some of the skills that they develop in archery to help them with their schoolwork and focus better.

The other students were able to take a field trip to Ketchikan and visit the Ketchikan fire department, police station, and Vigor. The trip was very successful and the students learned a lot about different careers that are available around the area.

We received 42 eggs from Coffman Cove that we had placed in an incubator. About 35 of them have hatched. The students have been working on a chicken coop that is placed behind the boiler. OVK has help with the materials through a grant that they have received.

In addition we have been constructing an awning off or the boiler to store wood and help keep it dry.

We are also planning a field trip by boat to Old Kasaan. Fred Olsen will be going with us to help us understand the history of the site.

Shane Scamahorn, Lead Teacher

Naukati School

This is a very busy time of the year not only in Naukati but I am sure around the whole district. With the end of the school year approaching as well as my time working for the district I would like to send out a very special thank you to all of the staff and the families that have supported me through out my 3 years here.

We have been able to do the following things:

Field trips:

- Visit to El. Cap Caves
- Visit to Calder mines
- Visit to Ron Places Farm and to Craig to get Pizza
- Visit Coffman cove school to work with the resident playwright

Sports

- 2 students to archery nationals
- 10 kids in swim lessons
- all of the eligible kids participated in soccer
- we will host a color war competition on the second to last day of school with prizes
- we have 7 kids walking in the Island wide marathon

Gardening

- clean out our school grounds including goat pen, chicken pen and playground
- prepare garden beds for seeds with the help of Cari Jones a community member
- clean out the greenhouse to prepare for the fish and plants

Extra Activities

- we have one student graduating from Kindergarten
- we hosted a north end science fair with Whale Pass
- we hosted the second annual NYO games with over 90 people in attendance
- we participated in the talent show as a school and worked out with Richard Simmons
- we completed 3 class wide books and sent them to student treasures to be published
- we will host a end of the year community BBQ

Jessica Goldman
Lead Teacher

Whale Pass School

The month of May has been a flurry of activity at Whale Pass School. We had another STREAM day with Cheryl Feck on May 8th to follow up our study on the Harris River in April with Hollis School. Cheryl helped us scout out two places to conduct our own study for next school year. She also went over the data with the middle schools and introduced the study to the elementary student.

On May 17th, Stacey Mink visited the school for current immunizations and taught a unit on food preparation and nutrition. We planted our potato beds that day and worked in the garden. This year we have strawberries planted (donated by our custodian, Connie Plante) in one bed and a variety of vegetables in the other raised bed. We also cleaned out the chicken coop that day to add to our potato beds.

I would like to congratulate some students who have passed the Alaska Hunter's Ed. Course and will be attending the field day in Naukati on May 26. These students are Jeremy Vasquez, Logan Cooke, Jack Alford, and Buddy Wakefield. These students have worked very hard to complete a course that is really geared towards adults. Over the last five years our school has helped 12 students complete this course.

We have several field trips and activities planned for the remainder of the year listed below.

Monday, May 22—Naukati Science Fair

Tuesday, May 23---El Cap Cave Tour

Wednesday, May 24---Calder Mine Tour

Thursday, May 25---Kasaan Totem Park

Friday, May 26—Swim Lessons—Craig

Friday, May 26---Hunter's Ed Field Day--Naukati

Tuesday, May 30---ASC Dinner and Meeting (French Poetry Café)—Preparation and set up all day

Wednesday, May 31---Clean Up Day and Afternoon Movie

Thursday, June 1--- Memorial Beach End of Year Picnic

We are busy planning for the end of the year. Plans are in the making for classes for next year and additional students hopefully arriving this summer. We are ending the year with 15 students and count looks like possibly 19 for next year.

Hollis School

CELEBRATE THE GRADUATION OF THE HOLLIS SCHOOL CLASS OF 2017



In the words of one primary student, Clayton Alexander Music's graduation was "epic"! Many thanks must go our community and all the anchors who have been there for and cared for and provided a web for Clayton and those who showed up to celebrate his success! As Clayton shared in his closing remarks - "I want to thank everyone who helped me. In addition I



sincerely thank all who have taught me and mentored me, who have cared for me and been there for me. I am fortunate to have so many wonderful anchors in my web. I promise you I will go on to be a good anchor for others. Thank you”

We take a moment to celebrate our Hollis students who “stepped out there” to make the day a success for Clayton. They demonstrated kindness and perseverance as they worked hard to prepare a wonderful setting to celebrate Clayton. They demonstrated courage and joy as they performed “The Hollis Song” with their new instrumental skills. They also demonstrated gratitude for the gifts another brings to us as they wrote thoughtful cards to place in the special hand-embroidered up-cycled gratitude bag they made to celebrate Clayton as he goes on. Way to go Hawks and way to go Clayton, we wish you well.



THANK YOU:

This past month has been amazing and it will not stop until the very last day of the year. All of our wonderful learning opportunities would not be possible without the many whom we wish to thank. These are amazing people who came together to help us have the resources and opportunities to support dynamic, lifelong learning:

- *Thank you to **The Hollis Public Library** for generously allowing us to use your space for our 2017 Commencement Exercises. Thank you **Martha Wood** for going the extra mile and making sure we had a fantastic cake to top off our celebration. Thank you **Hollis students** for planning and setting up and facilitating a wonderful graduation celebration for our Hollis graduate and his family, anchors and loved ones.*





Thank you everyone who provided support and resources for a memorable celebration.

- *Thank you **Hollis Community residents Ron and Sandy Curtis, Bob and Margaret Andrews, Cathy Starkweather, Tammy Watkins, Travis Watkins, Tom Gregg, Colleen Watson, Sandra Nessett, and Steve Gass and Principal Nick Higson*** for spending your Saturday building our long awaited outdoor classroom. Thanks to you Hollis School's web became stronger as these anchors came together and built community as they built a PHenominal classroom to support our students' learning.
- *Thank you **Hollis Community Council, Hollis Volunteer Fire Department, Sally Burch, Stella Lyn & Jason Norris, Steve Castor and John Bruns*** for the use of the fire hall and for bringing covered dishes and your help setting up and cleaning up for our first "Hollis Hoedown"! Your patience, humor, kindness, and love of music are contagious and you will always be a part of our school community. Students are starting to select favorite instruments to pursue while others want to continue trying all of them. This morning began with a reflection on our music exploration. The feedback was unanimously positive and there is no doubt these instruments, music, dancing, and jamming is now woven into the fabric of our school's culture. We appreciate your support fostering and celebrating our students' learning and your sharing the joy of developing community while sharing song and dance.
- *Thank you to the **Howard Valentine Coffman Cove School students and staff*** for providing beautiful flowers for our students to give to family as gives as well as sell to support our Hollis School agriculture program. *Thank you to the **Hollis Community Garden Club*** for supporting the sale of Hollis School hanging pots and flower bowls.
- *Thank you to the **Southeast Island School District and James and John Stevens and the many chaperones*** who gave time and talent to support our Hollis Alaska State Champion archers on their unforgettable journey to the nationals.
- Thank you to our **Coach Sam, Bus Drive Mark and SISD Athletic Director Shane Scamahorn and Assistant AD Christy Plate** and all others who had a hand in making our indoor soccer program possible. It was fun to play on mixed teams with kids from across the island. It allowed all to learn something new, have fun and make new friends and connections across the island

CELEBRATES!:

- **Hollis students are recognized for their outdoor play and activities.** Hollis School has been recognized for tying for first place as having the highest percent participation in the Spring 2017 Healthy Futures Challenge for a Tier 4 Alaskan School. And, we are pleased to report we have another season of 100% qualified student involvement in the State of Alaska's Healthy Futures Get Outside campaign. The students enjoy tracking their data and watch for the packages. And most important - they love to play outside!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday May 23, 2017 3:35 PM: Indian Ed Meeting

Hollis will Host and Indian Ed meeting with Priscilla over VTC for our students and parents.

Thursday May 25, 2017: Celebration of Learning

Students will share their "My One Big Thing" and some song and art at this annual event.

May 27, 2017: "WolverHawks" POW Marathon Relay

Our annual collaboration with Thorne Bay students will ensure that once again kids from across the island will strike up friendships and develop a love of healthy lifetime sports as they hit the pavement and have a wonderfully celebratory day competing in the annual marathon.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS:

Though we have six (6) days left – the learning continues - Primary students began their, "This is My Community" expedition that they will complete in the fall. They are bringing our 2016-2017 Journey North citizen science work to a close. The Intermediate "Westward Ho!" Expedition has been incredibly exciting and their desire to keep working on their journals is evidence of their connection to the content. The Junior High and High School "Revolution, My Perspective" is complete and their Info-graphics are available to providing learning opportunities for everyone. They are finishing "New Found Land" their character studies as they read about Lewis and Clark. They continue work on their book, "Rainforest at Risk" and are beginning their essay to address the question, "Who determines our history?"

"Student Led Projects":

DIVE: Our Student Directed Learning aptly named it DIVE TIME – Diverse, Independent, Vital, Exploration Time: DIVE continues to be an exciting and rewarding experience and allows community members to volunteer as mentors to support their learning.



We will continue with this effort next year.

Hawk Seniors SOAR! We had one senior complete his senior project, part of an important passage for graduation. Clayton Music identified his project goal shared his learning reflection at his graduation. The resulting project, Prince of Wales Island's first "Tiny Little Library" was unveiled as his senior legacy gift to the school at his graduation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

May 5, 2017 - Discrimination Training –

All Hollis Staff attended and completed this training over VTC at the school.

Ongoing ETT: Four Hollis Staff (Tammy, Kyler, Sam and Lisa) continue working on the ETT course with the Hollis Volunteer Fire Department.

May 29 - June 3, 2017 PEAKS Standard Setting:

Julie and Lisa have been selected to participate in the May 29 - June 3, 2017 Alaska Department of Education and Early Development PEAKS Standard Setting to participate in activities to recommend the achievement level descriptors and cut scores for the new PEAKS assessments.

June 5-9, 2017 STEM & Careers Camp for Teachers:

Lisa has applied to attend this camp funded by the Southeast Alaska STEM & Careers Grant. This will be her fourth camp experience and all have proven valuable in planning future instruction, accessing resources, and identifying subject matter experts to engage with students in her classroom.

June 12 - June 13, 2017 - Resilient Educators: Growing Your Best Self:

Lisa has applied to attend this seminar to nurture skills to see beneath the surface and move to the core of what students need to thrive, while helping raise professional satisfaction for teachers and other school staff.