



# November 2017 Outer Site Board Report

## Principal's Report

The holiday season is upon us and each school site has been doing a great job with their Friday activities, Fall festivals, holiday play rehearsals, fundraiser dinners, Veteran's Day programs, food drives, and many other activities. Lead teachers and site staffs organize these activities in addition to the educational day. I am very proud of them for creating and maintaining a bridge between school and community. The newsletters that schools are developing and sending out to all the SISD staff and their communities are informative as well as entertaining. Great job in this area!!!

SISD **Food Service audit** was the end of October. We think the audit went well. One area that we can improve on is our Production Records. Ginger Thomas, food service coordinator, has developed and sent out a prepopulated Production Record that will make the site food service worker's job much more efficient when filling these out.

### Curriculum

The curriculum webpage is fully up to date and staff is being encouraged to use this as a tool not only for instruction but also assessment. We continue to add elective class syllabi to the curriculum webpage. These are in Word format so that teachers can modify them to fit their individual school and student's needs.

### Professional Development

We will be sending two teachers to the annual ASTE conference this year. The travel and lodging are made available through a math/science grant. Cheryl Bobo is managing this grant and has been very good about getting us the information about training opportunities for our staff.

### November 10<sup>th</sup> Teacher Inservice

Our certified staff came together at Thorne Bay School at the Nov 10<sup>th</sup> teacher inservice to train on the Measure of Academic Success (MAPS) testing instrument. Northwest Education Education Agency (NWEA) did a great job facilitating this training with our staff. With this training we now have a better understanding of interpreting and using the MAPS testing data to understand and modify our instruction to meet the individual needs of our students. Alan and I will be checking in with the teachers throughout the school year on how they are using this data to help drive their instruction.

### Dancing With The Spirit

Big thanks to Pricilla Goulding and Lauren Burch for ensuring that all sites could participate in this incredible opportunity. I have heard nothing but positive feedback from the schools, parents, and community members on this experience!

## Whale Pass School

The first few weeks in November marks the end of the first quarter and a flurry of activity. October 23-27 we were privilege to have Jason and Stella from Dancing with the Spirit spend the week at our school teaching music and dance. As a teacher, I was amazed at the growth in playing music in one week. We started out as a cacophonous band of instruments to something close to an orchestra. Ok, a little bit of an exaggeration, but not far off. This week will, by far, be one of the most memorable in our students' school career. Thank you SISD School Board Members, Lauren Burch, and Priscilla Goulding for setting this up for our district. We already have plans to raise money for our half next year.

Four of our middle school students are ending their basketball season with the Naukati team. Kayleena Toman, our Whale Pass coach has done a great job coaching and transporting the kids to the games. This weekend wraps up the season with the Ketchikan Shoot-Out.

On October 31 the entire school took the afternoon to carve pumpkins. We have a tradition in Whale Pass of placing the carved pumpkins on 108 Bridge for Halloween night. It was quite a show that night when they were all lit up. We also met at 4:30 that night with Caleb Toman as our hayride/trick-or-treating driver. We had 23 kids plus parents on the Halloween excursion that night.

The first week in November, our greenhouse and boiler broke ground. We now have a nice pad with cement poured for the boiler room. All the students and staff put their handprints and names in the cement wall to mark this point in our school history.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup> all of our students participated in a walk-a-thon. The students have been collecting pledges for a month now. The walk began at our community library went to the Log Dump and back. The entire walk was ten miles. The majority of our students walked the entire way. We all met at the Log Dump and had a hot dog roast with hot chocolate. Many of our community members joined us for lunch. The total for the pledges was around \$1800.

Currently, we are planning for a holiday program and wrapping up some units before Christmas break.

Christine Cook  
Lead Teacher

## Hyder School



It is hard to believe that the first quarter has come and gone already. The students are excited for the winter. We have already had our first snowfall of the year and it is expected to continue until about April.

Peoples Projects in social studies. The students are excited to do research and create Lap Books!

This quarter is already starting off with a bang. The students presented their timelines from the book *Escape* that they read as a class with Virginia. They are also starting their Indigenous



The middle/high school students are finishing *The Diary of Anne Frank* which they read as a class. They continue to make progress and are learning a lot.

The ASC is having an All You Can Eat Pancake fundraiser next Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. From 10:00-11:30. The students had a great time creating the flyers in their technology class and are looking forward to eating pancakes!

It has been a great first quarter, and we are expecting an even better second quarter.

Chad Dillman  
Lead Teacher

## Port Alexander School

Coming away from the month of October beheld an amazing sight; snow in the mountains! The students are hoping to bust out our sledding tools soon. In sped the month of November with the bright colors of Tye-Dye. The students and staff created tye-dye t-shirts to keep the drab outdoor gray tones from creeping in.



The students are working hard at their Winter Program that will feature some good old classic songs such as “I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas” and “Grandma Got Ran Over by a Reindeer”. They are also working on a short collection of scenes from the Christmas Carol to be presented at our Winter Potluck on December 14th.

Our Mexican Fundraiser night was a big hit with the community. It was great to have the Home Economics students working hard to please their hungry customers. The amount of teamwork and amazing food that they turned out of the kitchen had folks asking about future meals and telling us to up the prices! We’re thinking things went pretty well if the patrons are expecting to pay more. Awesome job to the students of Port Alexander!

Jason and Stella from Dancing with the Spirit have been keeping the creative juices flowing this week by teaching all of us at the school new songs, instrumental experimentation, (a lot of patience) and some awesome new dance moves. Students and staff alike have been jamming and swinging. I think Santa will be seeing a lot of musical instruments on everyone’s wish list this holiday season.

We would like to send a big whoop and holler to our Superintendent Lauren Burch, the SISD School Board members and Lisa Cates for making the Dancing with the Spirit Program a reality for little old us way out here in the sticks. School moral is up and there are students making breakthroughs in creative adventures. We’d also like to thank Priscilla Goulding for working so hard to seek out grants for more instruments and new ideas as we plunge forward through the year. There are many lives being positively altered by what you, and many others, are doing. Thank you! Thank you!

Laura Anania  
Lead Teacher

## **Hollis School**

For updates and ongoing information please feel free to check out our Hollis School Facebook Learning Blog designed to keep our parents and community engaged in our learning. The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1483681851918203/>

The Hollis Crew on the first week of school celebrating their Froggs Toggs Rain Gear:



Thank you: After one month we have so many that we want to celebrate and send out some “thank yous” for some people who came together to help us have the resources we need to teach:

- *THANK YOU* Bud Williard for your continued tireless efforts to ensure we have safe and working water system while also providing proper exterior lighting to promote safety and prevent accidents.
- *THANK YOU Jonathan Fitzpatrick!* It works! Our amazing up cycled wood fired boiler is complete, staff have been trained in its operation and were are so excited that the boiler is able to provide warm, consistent and comfortable heat for our students in our classrooms. We so appreciate your hard work. We cannot wait until the building is complete so we can get our put down roots in our upcycled greenhouse.
- *THANK YOU Public Health Nurse Colleen Watson* for making the time to follow-up on some of our students initial screening results to ensure they have the care they need. The kids always enjoy when you visit. We look forward to the future visits and learning opportunities you have been planning for our kiddos. Thank you for always looking out for them.

*THANK YOU:*

- ✚ Southeast Island School District Board of Education
- ✚ Hollis Community Council,
- ✚ Hollis Volunteer Fire Department & EMS
- ✚ Hollis Public Library!
- ✚ Priscilla Goulding, Lauren Burch, Nick Higson, Sally Burch & John Bruns
- ✚ Alaska Airlines
- ✚ Inter Island Ferry Authority
- ✚ SEARCHPOW Health Network
- ✚ The Rasmuson Foundation through the Alaska Arts in Education  
State of Alaska Title IV Student Support and Academic Achievement grant
- ✚ Craig AC Grocery Store
- ✚ "Dancing with the Spirit" Board & Staff to include Belle Mickelson & our onsite instructors Stella Lyn & Jason Norris...our students and staff... in fact our entire school community, are richer because of your generosity. We are thankful for this rich sustainable program that will be resonating in our halls and our community the rest of the school year and for many, for a lifetime.

### **CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS:**

Our pre-school focus is language and social skills development and with their support, we continue fostering a school wide use of sign language. We continue to build upon success with the Daily Five (5) literacy and math instruction and dedicated Writers' Workshops. We are incorporating Visualizing and Verbalizing and Story Grammar

Marker across curriculum in our 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms to support their writing and reading comprehension skill development and enhancement

**Holiday Dissections:** Our 2017-2018 course of study includes World History social studies, science (life science, magnetism and electricity), literacy studies, art and music. We are completing Holiday Dissections as part of our world history studies. We utilize holidays as part of our studies as they are something that have present day relevance, is familiar, and is often part of our daily lives. A Holiday Dissection examines the holiday's origin, change over time, current practices and how and why those practices came about. The learning targets include: 1) I can make connections to understand how history may unfold and how history is documented. 2) I can unearth "change over time" and explain the impact of that change on history as we know it today. 3) I can explain the relevance of current practices to our history.

Writing our story: We will continue to use primary source documents, fieldwork and information from elders to map our world's true story and they will evaluate the question, "Who determines our history?" In doing so they are starting by exploring their own story and identifying who they are as learners. Our school is in the middle of completing their books about their efforts to prevent the use of [pesticides on the island. For Upper Intermediate, Junior High and High School their next step is to travel to Juneau and give copies of their books to Governor and the members of the Legislature. They also plan to deliver copies to every town and school library in the state.

Social Thinking: We have started a school wide exploration Michelle Garcia Winner's Social Thinking work to help our students understand and master the social communication soft skills that are key in our changing world. They are also learning about expected and unexpected behaviors and their impact. The books are available at Hollis School should anyone wish to view them.

Authentic, Place-based Citizen Science Activities:

- Journey North – our Primary students are taking the lead on the Virtual Butterfly Migrations, Tulip Test Gardens and seasonal wildlife, weather and daylight observations.
- National Weather Service: Our Junior High and High School students helped to launch our assumption of the duties to operate the Hollis Weather Station. Our Intermediate students have been trained and are assuming daily responsibility for this operation.
- Trees: Our Intermediate students will be taking the lead for caring for our seedlings to support this critical research.
- Wolves: This is our second year and our Junior High and High School student are more than prepared to take the lead for this project.

New activities in November:

**Bird Expeditions:** On November 13, 2017 we will be launching a school wide e bird expedition – Primary learning targets address the tools to learn developmentally

appropriate research skills and requirements and nonfiction report writing. We are building upon our work at the 6+ Traits workshop to support their skill development. Our focus will be on quality and reading to learn and writing to learn. The research will result in a poster for Primary students, an Essay for Intermediate and a Paper with citations for Junior High and High School Students. The project will culminate with a sculpture where they will utilize that they learned about adaptations to create their own bird. They will then write another paper explaining their sculpted bird and the purpose of the adaptations selected. After the winter break, they will launch our winter short story focus as they write a story about the bird they created.

*DIVE:* We know that when a wave comes at us, Hawks “go deep” - we dive into the problem. Thus our student aptly named their Directed Learning time “DIVE TIME” – Diverse, Independent, Vital, Exploration Time. This Week we are launching our 2017-2017 Junior High and High School DIVE time – students will begin writing their applications as they reflect upon their goals and narrow their focus. Project proposals will be presented to the DIVE Team who will provide intentional feedback. Proposals are revised until accepted and then the real work begins.

### **TESTING AND GOALS:**

With MAPS and AIMS completed and PEAKS data on hand, Junior High and High school students will be examining their data to help them inform their academic and character goals.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

#### ***Hollis Hoops Project:***

We have almost met project funding goal with ten of our twelve hoops funded. When we reach the required funds (\$600.00) we will launch the project.

As we shared in last month’s report - This is a chance to share in a phenomenal integrated learning experience for everyone at Hollis School while also providing a wonderful addition to the Hollis School Cross-Generational Outdoor Lifelong Fitness and Play Area designed by Hollis students and members of the Hollis Community. Hollis students will design and build a giant State of Alaska backboard with standard and small sized basketball hoops that will be located on the backboard to represent different communities on the map. To make this happen we are selling twelve (12) hoops with nets that we anticipate will represent twelve (12) Alaska communities to include but not limited to: Hollis, Juneau, Fairbanks, Seward, Anchorage. Student planning may change the selected hoop locations but they cannot change the number of hoops. All investors will be recognized with a student created “Map Key”. We already have 3 investors. After the nine remaining and nine remaining slots to fund and then we will launch our project. Guided by learning targets our students will form a team to plan, organize, manage budgets and supplies, design and build the Alaska Hoops Project! They will also provide investor reports. Here is a link to learn more, review learning targets or invest in this project:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HollisSchool/permalink/2034831243469925/#>

***[NOTE: We have contacted all of our donors and they have affirmed their continued support as we strive to complete fundraising. We notified them that the project may now be delayed until spring when both funding and weather will be suitable to support](#)***

[successful project completion.](#)

**Dancing with the Spirit:** We had a great week with Dancing with the Spirit. Everyone challenged themselves to try something new and everyone, bar none, cited the well attended Ho Down as a highlight. We are so appreciative of the support of our community. Reflection is an important part of the Hollis School culture. After thoughtful sharing about their Dancing with the Spirit experience our Hawks used their growth mindset to complete a watercolor reflection of their experience. This was a “quick paint” – one draft, no “re-do’s” – every “mistake was an opportunity to fine its purpose and add to the quality of the work. Every Hawk did a phenomenal job letting go of their desire for perfection and allowing the art to just be. When they shared their work all of them saw how what they had at first seen as devastating mistakes were in the end, lovely additions to their work.

And what did they share about their DWTS experience? Here is what they said about how the instructors, music, dance and support from their community inspired them:

- They were willing to stretch themselves to support us and that feels pretty good.
- I am more willing to try new things. They were willing to be vulnerable in front of others and so I now have the courage to be vulnerable when learning something new.
- There are more people out there than I thought there were that will listen.
- They made me feel that no matter how hard something is, I should give it a try because they were willing to do that for us.

Hollis students were interviewed by KBRD for a recent story about Dancing with the Spirit.

**Chickens:** Sadly we lost a large number of chickens during two mink raids. We trapped the mink and rebuilt the floor and are hopeful we have now sufficiently re-enforced coop to keep them safe. We have some new pullets and more on the way. We hope to soon have our egg production back on track so that we can meet community demand.

**Garden:** After we completed reading the book, “Seedfolk” Sam began working with our students to complete some initial planning for the 2018 garden. He has been using some of the new curriculum to support student learning in the garden. He has spent much of the past few weeks completing our fall harvest while also locating and adding seaweed and cardboard to put the garden to bed for the winter. Thanks to Gale Force Gardens we have over 100 daffodil bulbs and we are working with our students to get them planted to ensure our SS Hollis will be sailing in a sea of yellow in the spring.

**Morning Community:** Morning Community continues to evolve under student leadership. We are proud of their efforts to ensure every child is heard. Their daily reflection is meaningful and their planning allows their work to continue to blossom.

**Respectful Discourse Accountable Talk:** Our students have long worked on using accountable talk strands to improve their writing as well as support their ability to conduct discussions and provide helpful feedback.



This year Hollis Junior High and High School students raised the bar as they have committed to participate in discussion to add to and deepen their and others' learning. They have been perplexed by some of the public discourse by citizens, the media and even our elected leaders that they have been exposed on the media and feel they and their peers can help to change the climate from one of angry tones that build walls to one that strives for a "culture of respectful discourse." They reviewed many strands to support this goal and created a guide that they believe will support them in their efforts to engage in respectful and inclusive discourse. They are so committed to their use that they elected to hang their strands from the ceiling above their conference table so they are always reminded of the importance of their careful use until such time that they can effectively use the strands and meet the learning targets with automaticity **Archery**: Our students have excitedly transitioned to archery with Coach George Vasquez and newly certified Assistant Coach Sam.

**Basketball**: We had three students commuting to Thorne Bay to practice and play on a three school combined Thorne Bay SISD Middle School basketball team. Thank you to our carpooling parent and Coach Gunkel for a great experience. Our younger students are practicing with Coach Sam and are excited for the elementary basketball season to get underway. They also cannot wait for our next indoor soccer season.

#### **CELEBRATES:**

**Basketball**: We want to thank Coach Gunkel for his caring work with the students as they worked hard. We celebrate that they won the 2017 Island Tournament and came in second at the Shoenbar Shootout!

**School Board**: Kimejoe Lambeth has been sworn in as a member of the Southeast Island School District Board of Education. We are proud of her efforts and her commitment to understand each item before she votes so she has arranged to review all documents and have a briefing to ensure she is informed. We are excited about her commitment to work with her colleague, fellow student Board representative Abigail Hills to be a voice and advocates for all district students! Way to go Kimejoe!

**Carrs Safeway Grant**: We are excited to share Hollis received a \$5000.00 Carrs Safeway grant to support the Upper Immediate, Junior High and High School students' work to take their work to prevent the use of pesticides to a new level. Last year they realized sometimes you need to allow others to join in the take ideas to where they can have the most impact and it its with their published books and their anticipated journey to Juneau that they will see their work realized.

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

October 23, 2017: Lisa attended a follow-up training with Ellen to prepare her students for their participation in the 2017 POW Wolf Hair Board Project.

November 3, 2017: Julie co-facilitated with Amy McDonald and Lisa attended with SISD administrator's and teachers an intentional Six Plus Traits of Writing informed writers'

workshop designed to build a culture of writing instruction informed by the 6 Traits that fosters peer support and allows for inter-rater reliability when grading student work.

November 4, 2017: Lisa and all SISD Special Educators participated in a collaborative workshop to improve upon our reports and identify best practices for us to implement.

November 10, 2017: Julie and Lisa joined SISD staff for a comprehensive training on how to best utilize MAPA data to identify strengths and needs and inform instruction.

November 8, 2017 – November 13, 2017: Hollis Student and SISD Student Board of Education Member Kimejoe Lambeth joined SISD Board Members at the 2017 Association of Alaska School Boards conference where she is attending Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) 2017 designed to “bring young people together from across the state to develop and practice their leadership skills, and inspire them to create positive change in their districts and communities.”

Julie Vasquez & Lisa Cates  
Hollis School, Partners in Education

## **Naukati School**

- Fall MAP testing was completed. The students did very well, especially when you look at the subgroups.
- Dancing with the Spirit was awesome. The kids loved it and were successful at their first attempts at playing instruments. We all enjoyed our visit to Coffman. The Coffman and Naukati hoedowns were a big success.
- We completed hearing and vision screening with Stacey Mank. She also updated immunizations and gave a lesson on the importance of hand washing.
- Naukati ASC had a very successful Fall Festival, which benefits the students on down the line. Thanks to all the ASC members and volunteers that made it happen.
- The Ketchikan tournament was awesome. Naukati won their first game.
- The rabbit barn is very close to being finished. We can't wait! We are preparing our rabbit and chicken projects.
- Mrs. Jones has incorporated classcraft and Mrs. Gore has incorporated Whole Brain teaching for positive behavioral support for the students.

Dawn Jones  
Lead Teacher

## Kasaan School

We made it through count and all the students are still here. We are very busy and working hard.

The greenhouse has lettuce, kale, carrots, and tomatoes growing. We have added a few things that seem to help the lettuce grow. We have an air pump that is supplying oxygen to the entire bed, and we have added some wave-makers to help circulate the water and move the nutrients around. The lettuce perked up over night.



Students are making wood furniture in the woodshop. We have been working on Christmas ornaments to sell at the bazaars that are held on the island.



We have harvested the potatoes from the garden. There was a mixed variety of about 50lbs of Yukon Gold, reds, and Haida potatoes.



Shane Scamahorn  
Lead Teacher

## **Howard Valentine School**

In the past month students participated in after-school activities scheduled an average of 3 days a week. I am offering a Crafting Club, Helping Hands Community Service Group and a Newspaper Reporters Club.

The Crafting club made blankets, pillows, ornaments and holiday photo frames to sell at the Holiday Bazaar this past Saturday. 7 students helped out at the craft table during the bazaar, waiting on customers and filling custom orders for ornaments.

The Helping Hands group spent the past month making decorations for the school for Halloween, making and distributing Thank You cards and boxing up free kindling for homes in need.

The Newsletter club is helping write the articles for the school newsletter.

Alyssa Howell and Angela Dunton  
Howard Valentine School