



**Nuiqsut Trapper School
SAC Report
September 2022**

**Principal Lee Karasiewicz
Assistant Principal Thanhtam**

SAC Members:

Nellie Kaigelak, Seat 1 – President Misty Plymale, Seat 4 – Secretary
 Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak, Seat 2 Bernice Kaigelak, Seat 5 – Vice President
 Alberta Ipalook, Seat 3

Enrollment: Total Enrollment: 162 students

Pre-K3/4: 12	Kinder:	1 st Grade: 10	2 nd Grade: 12	3 rd Grade: 13
4 th Grade: 12	5 th Grade: 15	6 th Grade: 13	7 th Grade: 11	8 th Grade: 17
9 th Grade: 14	10 th Grade: 6	11 th Grade: 12	12 th Grade: 5	

Staff:

Teachers: 6	Substitute Full-Time: 4
Counselor: 1	Substitute Part-Time:
Special Education: 1	M&O (Facilities/Custodial/Kitchen): 6
Para Professionals: 0	Visa Teachers: 6 new staff will be in Dec. or Jan. arrival

School Status: School started a week later than originally planned because of three challenges: shortage of staff and the rearrangement of elementary classrooms in the elementary wing, UIC construction.

- Currently, we have 2 full-time elementary teachers and 4 long-term subs. and 2 non-occupied grade level position. The 4 long-term substitute teachers are Kind, 1st, 3rd, 4th.

The 5th grade does not have a sub. The 5th graders are combined with 6th graders.

ECE does not have a full time teacher. We are hoping to have teacher before ECE starts.

After the long-terms sub. leave, we are hoping the visa teachers will come in to fill in the 6 elementary teachers.

High school teachers are also dealing with lack of teachers. Currently, there are three teachers, typically there are 5 teachers. We do not have a science teacher or an Inupiaq teacher. After whaling we should have a high school Inupiaq teacher. At this time, 7th & 8th graders are combined classes, 9th graders is single class, and 10th,11th,12th combined classes. Too many students in the combine classes.

- Rearrangement of elementary classroom levels were arranged with limited support for the ECE 3&4 and kindergarten. Because of rearrangement of the classrooms, the teachers needed to collect all their supplies, teaching materials, and furniture into their new classrooms.

Now, the kindergarten classroom and ECE 3&4 classrooms are closer to the front office with their own supplies, teaching materials, and furnitures beside the back area of the elementary wing.

The new STEM project was originally located in the ECE 3&4 classroom, however, it is now moved to be in the computer classroom on the 9th.

Highlights: All the staff worked diligently to get the school clean and organized for the first day of school. Students came to school happy and excited and most importantly left happy and motivated. After breakfast Rosemary started the morning with a traditional candle lighting ceremony and shared with students and staff words of wisdom. She encouraged all everyone to do their best and respect one another. It was wonderful to hear students talking and laughing but most of all, hearing them enjoying school. We introduce the new support staff and teachers and welcomed back the returning support staff and teachers. Then we encouraged the students to share. They shared their summer vacation and adventures. Their openness made us feel at home with the community.

The first couple of weeks of school were exciting, we had the new Superintendent David Vadivelloo visited us for four days. He joined us with our Open House and shared the district's mission and vision and strongly stated that the Nuiqsut is a beautiful place to be. We had pizza pop, and other goodies during the Open House. The best part of the Open House was that the students introduced their teachers to their parents, family, and community members over the auditorium mic. It was

awesome. Some used their voice with enthusiasm and excitement while others were shy and adorable. The students had a blast and the parents and community loved it.

Concerns: There are three main concerns: shortage of staff, kitchen needs, and bus services.

- After the long-term sub. leave, we are hoping the visa teachers will come and fill in the 6 elementary teachers. These visa teachers are not a guaranteed to come. We are still looking for teachers. The main concern is that there are limited teachers available in the United States especially in Alaska. Most likely, we might have to combine two grade levels with one teacher in elementary.
- Support staff is in a shortage situation too. We do not have any. We are still looking for support staff in the community. Applications are available.
- The kitchen needs new equipment and supplies. Many of the ovens are not working, the dishwasher is broken, limited trays and utensils, and food supplies are not coming in on time.
- There are limited applicants for bus drivers. We are continuing to see community assistance in applying for the bus driver position. We offer training but there are limited applicants.

Strategic Plan Goals:

1.2 Attendance: At first attendance was high, since open season of whaling, students's attendance have been low. After whaling, students' attendance will go back up.

1.4 Inupiaq Language & Culture: Every morning for 30 minutes the elementary students focus on Inupiaq language. In the afternoon for 30 minutes with the Illisaurit teacher Martha, the students practice Inupiaq dancing, Inupiaq language development, Inupiaq values and traditional arts and activities.

1.7 Student Well-Being: Students are receiving morning snacks and afternoon snack every school day. In addition, all the grade levels have PE time for 30 minutes.

2.2 Community in the School: On Thursday, the community had their 50th year anniversary celebration in school with the community and school staff. Good food, good joy, and welcoming conversations about happy memories of being in school and hoping that their children have the same happiness too.

On Friday, all the students attended the carnival in the gym. Students were laughing in the bounce house, eating cotton candy and popcorn, getting their faces painted and taking silly pictures with teachers, families, and friends. We even found space to hit the volleyballs around a bit getting ready for a strong season

2.4 Students and Staff in Community: During the second week we celebrated with the community send off's and prayers for the whaling crews went out. The students walked to the river and watched the whalers prepare for the trip. The students and community had a prayer for safe hunting and blessed the whalers. Afterwards, the students received some candy for the celebration of whaling season.

3.4 Staff Cultural Integration: Every morning for 30 minutes the elementary students focus on Inupiaq language. Teachers are learning the Inupiaq language at the same time as the students. Teachers are included with the students in the afternoon for 30 minutes with the Illisaurit teacher Martha, the students practice Inupiaq dancing, Inupiaq language development, Inupiaq values and traditional arts and activities.

Upcoming Events:

- Cross Country season opens
- New STEM Lab open for elementary students
- End-of-the-Quarter Celebration
- Halloween Celebration
- Volleyball season opens
- Spirit Week