

November 2019 Board Report **Assistant Principal/Coordinator**

“Teaching For Excellence” Workshop

The Craig City School District invited me to attend the “Teaching For Excellence” workshop which they hosted in Craig on October 31st and November 1st. This workshop was facilitated by Spence Rogers, founder of the PEAK Learning System (“Performance Excellence for All Kids”). He modeled 47 tools and strategies to engage and motivate students in a dignified, low conflict, emotionally safe environment. One of these strategies was “Deflected Questions” wherein a teacher asks, “What are some questions that a person might have?” which is a lower risk engagement than, “Does anyone have any questions?” Another strategy was constant and repeated summarizing, including keeping a class log, “To share with visitors what we have been doing in class,” but really to give students an opportunity to reflect on their learning each day. I will be sharing some of these strategies during site visits and during an upcoming inservice to provide sufficient/effective staff support.

Port Alexander Visit

November 5th-8th I was in Port Alexander to perform staff evaluations of the two teachers there. Over the course of three days I observed elementary lessons in math, language arts, and social studies; and secondary lessons in science (flight and motion), language arts (verbal reports with visual presentations on 18th Century naval power), and construction (preparation to build a shed). Many community members volunteer at the Port Alexander School throughout the day to help with math at the elementary and secondary level as well as reading at the elementary level. I met with many community members in Port Alexander to improve communication district and community wide.

POW VocTec Board

I attended the POW VocTec center board meeting in Klawock on October 24th as the SISD representative. Items discussed were finding new funding sources for the center, including expanding the courses currently offered, approval of a third-party operations contract, and attracting organizations to hold meetings at the center.

Site Reports

Naukati

The Naukati Halloween Carnival was a blast! Many other students and families showed up from out of town. We thank you all for coming to support Naukati School. We had a cakewalk, many other carnival games, a spooky escape room, great concessions with gourmet caramel apples and dogs. Thank you again to all helped and played.



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Our Veterans Dinner went well. The students served up a great many dishes of ham, potatoes, corn, and coleslaw. Dinner guests participated in singing our National Anthem and played a “military grade” Kahoot Game. It seemed to be a lot of fun as laughs were heard around the gymnasium. A large THANK YOU goes out to all of the Veterans who served to protect our freedom in this country as well as many others. We honor your strength and valor. Thank you.



Middle School Basketball is coming to an end shortly. The Middle School Basketball players have one final game against Craig and a tournament scheduled for the weekend of November 15. Good Luck Wildcat Ballers!

We have a fair amount of students signing up to work through the personal perseverance that Archery provides. We will be again setting up some friendly competitions with

Whale Pass and Coffman Cove schools for everyone to get in some fun practices. Students are looking forward to start the season.

The holiday season is upon us with Thanksgiving coming in a few days and Christmas soon to follow. The students are gearing up for their Christmas Program.

Naukati Bay School wishes everyone an amazing Thanksgiving. We are also thankful to all of our Naukati Supporters: parents, staff, students, the SISD School Board, and our administration. THANK YOU. - Laura Anania

Port Alexander

Port Alexander ranked # 10 of 209 K-12 Alaska schools under Alaska's accountability system for 2018-19. Congrats to Whale Pass who came in 11th overall!

PA has an Alaskan Scholar!

Senior Joseph VonDoloski was awarded the UA Scholar designation. We are anticipating that he will also receive the distinguished Alaska Performance Scholarship at year's end. He will graduate with 48 college credits and plans to realize his dreams and aspirations by attending the University of Alaska-Anchorage having been accepted into their school of engineering. Great job Joseph!

PA scores top PEAKS scores in SISD District! Fostering student skills to achieve a goal we had set as a school to improve our performance on the annual statewide assessment. A few highlights:

- All 8th grade students who took the Science PEAKS scored in the Advanced category (Remember Rocket Scientists)
- English Language Arts: 2 Advanced , 6 Proficient
- Mathematics : 1 Advanced 7 Proficient

OVERALL Top School Index Value in SISD!

Kindergarten through 6th grade:

Mrs. Trischman better be ready many minutes before school even starts. We've got many students eager and excited to come to school everyday! They can't wait to show me how many minutes they read that evening, and they can't wait to show me that all their homework is done! Our determination alone will help each and everyone of us to be successful in life.

We just finished one of our many writing projects using the writing process. Tall Tales are fun because it helps students learn that adding exaggeration and sensory detail makes writing fun and exciting! We've got many creative minds here in Port Alexander! We have created tall tales on the following: How Space Was Made, The Lonely Ladybug, How Mountains Were Made, The Fox, The Rainbow, and The Boy Girl and Book. This project was a challenge because it was a first big writing project, but they pushed through it with their heads up, made amazing stories, and made amazing art projects to go with it. Leading up to Halloween, the 5th to 12th graders learned about some Alaskan Native Folklore stories. That turned into making some extremely detailed posters, and of course, expressing the story through writing from the student perspective. FIRST LEGO Robotics students are becoming masters at the block

programming for their EV3 robots! We have a virtual competition in early December! Here they will play the robot game with their programmed robots, and present a project. We've spent the first couple of months becoming masters at the brick programming for the robot game, and now we will be working on the project part. For the project, students came together to brainstorm what issues the world faces today, and decided their theme is pollution. They identified the problem, and now we will spend the next few weeks researching, and designing a solution to the problem in hopes to help create a stronger, more sustainable future. Go robotics students! Port Alexander students have already walked into 2nd quarter with their heads up high to fulfill their goals! Good job students, parents, and community members! - Joe Vondolski

Howard Valentine

Prepare students for post secondary life

- Our students continue to explore and learn skills that will benefit them in post secondary life.

Provide sufficient/effective staff support

- For the first time this school year, we are fully staffed. We would like to welcome Kate Holtman (food service), and Anggi Wakefield (para) to our staff!

Improve communication district and community wide

- We recently finished our parent-teacher conferences. We had a good turnout and successful meetings.

Increase visibility to share lifestyle and increase enrollment

- This past weekend students from the Howard Valentine School traveled to the Naukati School for a community Volleyball night.
- The Howard Valentine School also hosted the annual Holiday Bazaar put on by the Arts and Seafood Festival Committee.
- On Friday, November 15th, the Howard Valentine School will host a Medicaid Open Enrollment event in conjunction with Whale Tail Pharmacy.

-Chad Dillman

Hyder

Winter has arrived in Hyder. We had our first snow on Veterans Day. The elementary class took part in the dual Remembrance/Veterans Day community celebration in Stewart, BC. Hyder students placed memorial wreaths on behalf of the young people of Hyder and Hilma Korpela read the Roll of Honor.

Indoor gardening is off to a great start with our AeroGarden full of basil and students have just planted their own individual mini-greenhouses at their first attempt at growing micro-greens. Elementary students have also been making muffins for the breakfast program. This month's muffins are pumpkin we cooked after carving pumpkins on Halloween.

High school students continue their study of photography that includes catching Hyder wildlife on trail cameras. To date they have captured bears, otters, beavers and multiple bird species. They've also been getting afield and engaging in wildlife photography using telephoto lenses and Canon 5D Mark IV cameras, where they've taken some fantastic images of grizzly bears, black bears, bald eagles, river otters and more. Please check the Hyder School Facebook page where these images are shared.

Hyder students and staff are keeping a tally of books they've read in and out of school, the tally so far is 63. Each book read is recorded on a paper fish that is posted to the walls inside the school. We hope to reach around the entire school by the end of May.

Our October potluck was a great success with nearly 50 in attendance. The November potluck is scheduled for Thursday, November 21. There will be displays of student upcycled art work as well as a photo presentation from the HS photography class.

- Tiffany Haugen

Whale Pass



Southeast Island School District Vision, Mission, and Goals

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

Mission: Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals and adapt to an ever-changing world.

Goals:

► Prepare students for post-secondary life

- Our high school Marine Biology class went to the Sitka Whale Fest with Mrs. Brown on October 31 – November 3.
- Alayna just returned from Anchorage from a Phlight Club Activity on November 8-11
- We have had a couple of students interested in going to a Civil War Camp in Gettysburg this summer. We are currently working on the scholarship applications.

► Provide sufficient/effective staff support

- Thanks to Branzon for helping deliver our food and other materials from the DO
- We recently lost two paraprofessionals and have hired two new replacements. Tamara Weaver will be our PreK/K para and Caren Cooke will be working with Mr. Cook's class in the afternoons. We are currently working on getting them ready for the para test.

► Improve communication district and community wide

- Our Facebook page and web page on the sisd site is up and running. Visit us there for all the latest school news.
<https://www.facebook.com/WhalePassSchool/>
- Our next ASC dinner and meeting will be Tuesday, November 19 at 5pm. We will be having our annual Chili Cook-off.
- We are currently working on our Christmas Program. We will be performing the "Christmas Carol." The time and place will be announced soon.

► Increase visibility to share lifestyle and increase enrollment

- Our gun calendar has been ordered and we will soon be selling them. We plan to have these ready to sell at our November ASC dinner.
- Our current enrollment is 16 students PreK-10th grades. We have 4 High school students, 4 Middle school students and 8 elementary.
- Mr. Cook has been teaching a unit on Sitka Black Tail Deer to his middle school students. The students have built their own deer calls and practice using them to call deer.
- Mr. Cook's middle school science class recently visited the hatchery and was able to help tag fish.

- Christine Cook