Simon Brower Elementary School Student

Simon Brower is very enthusiastic and generous. He is always happy to be in school and he goes out of his way to help his classmates. He always comes to school prepared to learn and he takes his education seriously. Simon turns his work in on time, actively participates in class, and is an active listener.

As Simon's teacher, I have to say that I am very proud of him. Even when he struggles, he picks himself up and looks for ways to solve the problem. Additionally, he uses his problem-solving skills to help his classmates.

Simon is also very kind and empathetic. He is able to see both sides of a story, a skill that is difficult for most adults. He is supportive to his classmates when they are in need. He can sense distress and approaches it calmly. Simon is highly emotionally intelligent. He's very good at reading the emotions of others and can relate to people who are in need of support. Simon is a model citizen. He treats others with respect and gives everyone a chance. He is a wonderful, bright child with so much to offer.

Mya Aishanna

Middle School Student

I am pleased to choose Mya Aishanna as the MS Highlighted student. Mya Aishanna is a bright, resilient young woman, who has impressed me throughout this very challenging school year.

Though COVID 19 has wrecked our attendance, rhythms, routines, and progress in a traditional way, Mya has made the tough choices, displaying her emerging maturity. She has taken initiative in remote learning by accessing the internet and working for longer periods of time than is required for full credit, asking for extra work when she has completed her paper packets, and reaching out to Zoom with her teacher for extra help.

Mya is easy going and gets along well with her peers and teachers. She is always respectful and willing to put forth her best effort in all tasks. I am happy to nominate Mya for this award, and thank you for giving her the opportunity to shine in this way.

Paul Kayotuk High School Student

It is my pleasure to choose Paul Kayotuk as the highlighted high school student for February 2021. Paul has grown from the rambunctious boy that I met 3 years ago to the rambunctious young man we all know and love today.

Paul has steadily become more responsible, helpful and respectful every year. He may not be at the top of the class academically but he is conscientious about keeping his grades up. Even during this year of COVID, Paul consistently turns in work and tries to stay caught up. He is very caring individual who is always looking for ways to help others. He shovels snow and takes trash to the dumpster. He offers to help keep the class clean and organized. Except for his siblings, he gets along well with others. He regularly volunteers to help with setting up and putting away during special events. He likes to work at the student store and will assist with the younger students when needed.

Over all, he a pleasure to know and teach and wonderful part of the Kaveolook student body and the village of Kaktovik.

Sandra Diaz-Cross Teacher

Harold Kaveolook School, with thankfulness and gratitude, honors Mrs. Sandra Diaz-Cross for her dedication and commitment to our school.

Known to us as Ms. Cross, we celebrate her third year with us! She is our wonderful SPED teacher and goes out of her way to meet the needs of her students. She meets with students and their families at the school or at their home, or at her home or via zoom. She makes herself available to her students and families at almost any time of day. She works long hours and does whatever it takes to accommodate and serve her students.

She is a very caring person. Not only does she care about our school, but she cares about the community in which she lives. Ms. Cross is a regular attendee at local gatherings and her dish of Pancit has become a local favorite. She is a very knowledgeable teacher with a background in science. She truly cares about the young and old, which contributes to making our school a better place!

Randy Linderbaum Classified Staff

Harold Kaveolook School is pleased to highlight a long-time member of our staff, Randy Linderbaum. Randy is a team player and works tirelessly to keep our facilities operational and well maintained. Whether its clearing snow, unclogging drains or installing a furnace, he gives 100 percent to keep not only the school building, but all the staff housing working efficiently. By taking such good care of all the facilities, he allows teachers to devote their time and attention to teaching the students.

Not only does Randy keep our classrooms and houses warm and cozy, when we are unable to open the school, he delivers meals to students. He is sometimes a back-up school bus driver. He can be counted on to deliver and pick folks up at the airport. When teachers move into or away from the village, he helps get their belongings to and from. During special events and sports tournaments, he is always available to support the staff and the visitors late into the evening with whatever they need. And he does all this with a smile and a positive disposition.

Randy, we appreciate all you do for the students, staff and friends of Harold Kaveolook School. You are an amazing worker and a true asset to our school community.