

Date: April 10, 2025
To: LPSD School Board
From: LPSD Student Services Team
Regarding: March Student Services Report

ACT & ACT WorkKeys

This week, Newhalen juniors and seniors were able to take the ACT and ACT Workkeys. The ACT WorkKeys is a job skills assessment designed to measure students' foundational and soft skills that are important for success in the workplace. This includes things such as applied mathematics, reading for information, locating information, as well as essential employability skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem solving. By completing the ACT WorkKeys, students have a chance to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate that comes in four levels: Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze. These certifications can be used to demonstrate to employers that students possess qualities needed to succeed in a variety of jobs and industries. Earning a National Career Readiness Certificate can strengthen a student's resume, open up opportunities for jobs and advancement opportunities, and help students identify areas for growth. At Newhalen, 4 students took the ACT and 7 students took the ACT WorkKeys. During SNAP Meet, we will be offering the ACT and ACT WorkKeys to visiting juniors and seniors. We are thrilled to be able to offer both assessments for students this year!

Opioid Planning Meeting

Patty and Pagan were able to attend an Opioid Strategic Planning Meeting in Dillingham this month. They were able to be a part of the conversation with other entities and leaders in our region about how to combat the opioid epidemic in our region. The main goals of the group were to focus on education and prevention, short term intervention, and long term recovery that is rooted in culture and community. They both look forward to the work that is to come to help achieve the goals set by the group while in Dillingham. On a similar note, Ed Lester helped coordinate a guest speaker, Sandy Snodgrass to attend SNAP Meet this year. Sandy lost her son to an opioid overdose and now speaks publicly about her loss to help educate individuals about the risk and impacts of opioid use. Through early education, we hope to increase awareness and implement harm reduction strategies to help students learn how to make healthy choices as they navigate adolescents and beyond.

BBRCTE Intensive Weeks 3 & 4

BBRCTE Intensive Weeks 3 & 4 were a blast! Kacy Lou was able to join the Anchorage BBRCTE Team and help support students throughout the week as well as cook meals. We are grateful for her willingness to always lend a helping hand and her immense patience when cooking with limited cooking supplies 😊. In total, we hosted 31 students from LPSD across our four sites: Anchorage, Palmer Naknek, and Dillingham. We are already looking forward to hearing about what great opportunities are available for our students for next year!

Congratulations

Elisabeth Ludwig gave birth to her beautiful daughter, Alice, on April 5th at 9:40pm. We are so excited for the Ludwig family and we know big sister Tilly is beaming with excitement and joy. Elisabeth will be on maternity leave until the remainder of the school year and Kacy Lou and Patty have taken over her caseload while she is on leave.

VOA Behavioral Health Partnership

Our LPSD Student Services team is working on setting up a crisis response partnership with VOA Behavioral Health. We will begin working on referring out students to VOA's outpatient telehealth for additional behavioral support. We are also looking at creating an ongoing partnership with VOA Behavioral Health's School Based Clinician Program if funding can be secured.

National Honor Society

Congratulations to Kaleah Anelon, Ty Kosbruk, and Mikia Lorentzen for their selection into National Honor Society this school year! They will formally be inducted into NHS the Thursday of SNAP Meet at 7:00pm. Our guest speaker this year is Yvette Evanoff-Vincent!

SNAP Meet

We are looking forward to another incredible year of SNAP Meet activities! Kacy Lou has worked tirelessly to organize the Postsecondary Fair which will include guests such as the US Air Force, University of Alaska campuses, Tanalian Leadership Center, Renewable Energy Alaska Project, BBNA, Southcentral Foundation, and many more. We are also looking forward to hosting Public Health Nurse, Kumi Rattenbury, to teach about healthy relationships!

“Talking Points” for Workshop Participants

- ❖ The opioid crisis continues to be an urgent, critical issue for the Bristol Bay region.
- ❖ This year a regional coalition is taking action to reinvigorate an action plan with renewed commitments and solutions.
- ❖ Efforts are focused in 3 areas: Education & Prevention, SUD Intervention & Treatment, Long-Term Recovery
- ❖ *Community-based and culturally-centered solutions* are at the heart of the work to come. This will be accomplished by a commitment to the inclusion of diverse perspectives & seeking community evaluation and feedback throughout all stages of plan development & implementation.
- ❖ An updated plan is in development, and you will be receiving communication on these efforts consistently.
- ❖ We have hope.
- ❖ If you want to help or want more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to UTBB or other planning committee members.