



SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 19569, 1010 Sandy Beach Road Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919
(907) 828-8254 Fax: (907) 828-8257 E-mail: sisd@sisd.org

Superintendent's Board Report April 2018

Grants

Nick Higson and Priscilla Goulding are close to securing a \$50,000 grant that would be used for our Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses. This is a competitive grant and, through Nick's exceptional efforts, we have some assurance that we will be awarded this grant.

Hollis School

Lisa Cates and most Hollis School students traveled to Juneau to promote their efforts to discourage the practice of using of roadside chemicals to reduce the costs of keeping back the vegetation that would quickly overtake our roads. It was an exceptional experience for our students and helped them see that they can be change agents. Their visit with members of our state government resulted in a recent visit to the school by our Lieutenant Governor and a retired State Senator. Lisa, Julie and their staff are providing an excellent educational opportunities for our students. I am very proud of all that they accomplish.

Art Displayed at the State Museum in Juneau

Three SISD students, **Addie Gunkel, Sheila Carter and Grace Lacour**, had artwork displayed at the museum. This is a rare accomplishment. Students from schools around the state submitted work and only a few pieces were selected.

Archery

Our SISD archery team dominated the competition in Salt Lake City. The team placed 1st in 3-D shooting and 2nd in the regular target competition. Students are hoping to be able to compete at the World Competition, but have yet to talk me into it. Thanks to all site coaches who work with students daily, helping them keep focused and encouraging them to practice. None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of **John Stevens and James Stevens**.

STEAM Week

Our staff members are working very hard to make STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) week a success for our students this week. In particular, I would like to acknowledge Nick Higson and Alan Schwab for the hard work to organize the events and for their creativity.

Café

We are working on the final stages of the Thorne Bay Café lease agreement with Roxy and Brian Wilson of Coffman Cove. They are committed to continuing to work with our youth. With the state of Alaska school funding, I needed to be certain that the café would not take money from the District's budget. At this time, I could not assure the Board of that the café would break even. We may try it again at some later date.

Budget Discussions

Until the legislature wraps up funding decisions and the Governor signs a budget in June, we cannot know for certain what to expect. Lucienne does her best to anticipate the outcome. Our best estimate today is that the budget is just about balanced if we follow a frugal course. We may have to postpone a number of summer projects that we have already been putting off for years.

Certified Staffing 2018-19

Contracts have been returned for most positions. The only unfilled positions are the Coffman Cove elementary position (we made an offer for that position last week and await acceptance) and the Port Alexander elementary position.

9. B. 2nd Reading FY 2019 Proposed Budget

We can consider this a balanced budget. **I recommend moving this to a 3rd reading** to allow for unexpected issues with Legislative funding. Summer expenditures are expected to have to be reduced to those funded by other sources and those with the greatest risk of health and safety concerns.

9. C. 2nd Travel Expenses

This brings our reimbursement in line with the mid-range with other districts. **I recommend approval.**

9. D. 2nd Reading Discipline

9. E. 2nd Reading Suspension and Expulsion

9. F. 2nd Reading Violent and Aggressive Conduct

I have been travelling for about six weeks. On the whole this is simply bringing our policy into alignment with what AASB would suggest. I would like more time to review. **I recommend moving this to a 3rd reading.**

10. A. 2018 Bruce Hill Scholarship

It is with pleasure that **I recommend awarding the scholarship to this very fine applicant.**

10. B. Inter-agency Agreement

This is a continuation of an agreement regarding early childhood learning. We have been doing it yearly for some time. Janet can speak to if you desire more commentary. **I recommend approval.**

10. C. 1st Reading Absences and Excuses

The intent is to line up policy with what we are expected to record with the State of Alaska. We found that we were counting students absent for some school activities, which was then poorly reflected in State reports. **I recommend moving this to a 2nd reading to allow time for Board review.**

Sincerely,



Lauren Burch
Superintendent