

SHINING STARS, WINTER 2021

NAME	LOCATION	REASON	NOMINATOR, POSITION
Megan Maloney & James Williams	PVL	From the moment I arrived in Perryville, Meg and James have made me feel at home here. From helping me get settled to preparing dinner my first night, they were eager to help. They have also been incredibly supportive in teaching me about the village and school and have had patience as I've worked to learn everything. I'm incredibly grateful for their hospitality and look forward to working with them this year!	Taryn Williams, Teacher
Megan Maloney, James Williams, & Taryn Williams	PVL	Thank you for being helpful and allowing me to pull students from class to work with them. I can see lots of great teaching going on at Perryville School. I also set lots of really engaging projects and student making progress. Thank you for meeting the needs of all students and making sure each student is learning and growing.	Matthew Stark, SPED Teacher
Jim Dube	ANC	Mr. Dube, thank you for rearranging and being flexible in order to meet on Zoom for all our 1st semester IEP meetings. Your willingness to make the time work for all members of the IEP team has been very helpful. Thank you, for being a productive member of the IEP team and making sure students needs are being met.	Matthew Stark, SPED Teacher
Stephanie Canning	BAY	By all accounts, Chignik Bay was going to be closed this year due to low enrollment. Stephanie never gave up hope that the school would reopen and kept her residence in the Bay through August. At the last minute the school was able to reopen, but without a second teacher. Stephanie stepped up and took on the duties of head teacher and cross country coach while also trying to get her classroom ready for the first day (much of the school was boxed up because we were closing). Oh, and did I mention she's also taking graduate classes? Not only was Stephanie the only teacher for the first several weeks of school, but on several days she was the only adult in the building because some of our positions were unfilled and other people were in quarantine. Despite the many challenges of running the school by herself Stephanie never once complained about the workload. Chignik Bay is very fortunate to have Stephanie at the school.	Jim Dube, Principal
Krista Hobson	KHK	Krista is an angel and has been crushing her first year teaching Pre-School in Kokhanok. We are so lucky to have her here. Her calm, patient demeanor has been received well by her students. She is providing a very safe, engaging space for all of her little learners. Go Krista!!	Dana Wolff, Teacher
Jen Starr	ANC	Jen works for Span Alaska Sales and they are our vendor for food service. Jen is brand new to this position and she is our main contact when ordering food. She has been very helpful and easy to work with. There has been a food shortage all over and we are having a lot of issues getting the food we request from Span AK. When I reach out to Jen and let her know about items we are in need of she makes phone calls and orders from other stores like AC for a couple of the south schools and has them get items out on the carrier for the school in need. She's done this on a few occasions now, even when she was off the job because she was getting married in a couple days she still took the time to get done what we needed. She is definitely a great asset and I'm glad she is someone we can count on.	Tammi Peterson, Purchasing/Food Service
Kasie Luke	KS	Kasie is one of the biggest proponents of our district and the way we do things! Her vision of uniting the district under the banner of being 'better together' is so refreshing, and you can tell through her words and actions actions that she truly believes it is possible. Thank you, Kasie, for leading with such grace and initiative! We appreciate all you do!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Austin McCourt	KHK	Austin! Thank you so much for all the carpooling you did during inservice! We appreciate your willingness to go with the flow and give rides to folks who needed them. We also appreciate your input on the Assessment Committee--your ideas were insightful and direct. Thank you!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director

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Jordan Davis	KHK	Jordan was pivotal in getting folks to Alyeska during inservice and we so appreciate her willingness to jump in and offer rides to folks who needed them! We also appreciate your insight and valued feedback during the Assessment Committee meetings. You always add so much to the conversation and we so appreciate you. Thank you, Jordan, for all you do for the district!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Matthew Stark	LAK	Matthew, as always, was willing to provide a truly informative session on our new program, Schoology. Thank you, Matthew, for being willing yet again to dive in and give folks training on our new programs! We appreciate all you do for the district!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Nicole Metzgar	PTA	When I was unexpectedly unable to join our folks in person at Alyeska, Nicole took on the task of being the sole Curriculum Director on site. And she absolutely rocked it! Nicole, thank you for being the person in charge, the one to answer questions, the one to direct travelers, the ONE. I so appreciate your unending enthusiasm for this position and for being my counterpart. I am so happy to be doing this job with you! THANK YOU!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Cassie Broschious	NON	Cassie has tirelessly worked on learning all of the programs and systems she needs for her position as Registrar and she has done so with verve and vigor! Her willingness to tackle new challenges and provide the best work she knows how is refreshing and appreciated. Thank you, Cassie, for all you do for the district! We appreciate you!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Laura Hylton	PAL	Laura was instrumental in helping the Curriculum Team set up the health screening for inservice. Thank you, Laura, for advocating for staff health and wellness! We appreciate all you do!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Jeff Hagen	NON	Jeff led the CPI training at inservice with great success considering all of the internet snafus that took place. Thank you for leading the session and rolling with the technological woes as they occurred!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Branden Hummel	PTA	Branden is the lead on the Science Committee and took it upon himself to contact publishers and set up zoom sessions and order samples for the committee members to peruse during their meetings last week. Thank you for taking the initiative and providing your team with solid resources to choose from! Your leadership is invaluable and we appreciate all you do!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Tim Welch	Idaho	Tim traveled from Idaho to be a part of our inservice at Alyeska--and not only did he travel there, but he also provided a great presentation on Social Emotional Learning for our staff. Tim, thank you for always being willing to help staff with their own mental and emotional health so that they can provide for our students. We appreciate you and are so happy to have you back with us this year!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Stephen Fink	NEW	Stephen provided a great session on Social Emotional Learning along with Tim Welch during our November Inservice. Thank you, Stephen, for jumping in and helping teachers learn how to best serve their students while keeping their mental and emotional health in mind. We appreciate you!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Patty McCasland	NEW	Patty, as a second year teacher, has taken on so many leadership roles within our district already--she is a dynamite member of the Assessment Committee, is piloting a curriculum that fits well with Level 12 MA standards, is leading Newhalen Student Government and inspiring students within that, contributes great ideas to district collaboration sessions and moves conversations in positive directions when speaking about curriculum and students. Patty, we are so grateful to have you and thank you for your many contributions to LPSD!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Jodi Doster	Naknek	Jodi stepped forward as the Curriculum lead for BBBSD this year and it was so nice to have her to bounce ideas off of, to help plan out inservice, and to have her on site at Alyeska to provide leadership and direction. Thank you, Jodi, for being willing to step into that role and help us grow the relationship between our two districts! We appreciate you!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director

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Theresa Wilson	KS	Theresa is our travel guru and I can't stress enough how amazing she is when it comes to scheduling our folks for travel during inservices. There were a number of changes made to our travel schedule, many last minute, and she altered travel with no complaint. THANK YOU, Theresa! You have no idea how much we appreciate you and all you do!	Kate Cornell, Curriculum Co-Director
Dana Wolff	KHK	Dana presented a session at Inservice that allowed K-3 teachers to collaborate about writing portfolios. When the unexpected arose, she was flexible and made a quick decisions to come up with an alternative plan that worked well. Her positive and upbeat personality and perspective encourages others and is a joy to be around.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Lesa Meath	Fairbanks	Lesa Meath choose to participate in our LPSD inservice. She is a part of the State Mentor Program and wanted to learn more about our school district in order to better help the teachers she is mentoring. The mentees also had a lot of fun exploring the STEM wiggle robot wiggle activity she showed them how to build and incorporate into their classrooms. Thank you Lesa for joining into our inservice and for being a presence of positivity and support.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Taryn Williams	PVL	Taryn advocated for the importance of hands on learning during collaboration sessions taking place with LPSD educators at Alyeska Inservice. Her deliberate intention to encourage and suggest ways to include hands on learning into instruction and lessons was greatly appreciated.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Bill Cornell	NEW	Bill Cornell was a huge help during Alyeska Inservice. He volunteered wherever needed to help support and make things happen. He also continues to lead and contribute to discussions with thoughtful questions that help people see things in new ways. Teachers appreciated the fun and interactive session he presented about the Danielson Framework during Alyeska Inservice. Thank you Bill for your consistent commitment and leadership with LPSD.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Schyler Rippie	PAL	Schyler was the MVP of Alyeska Inservice. Having him in person at Inservice to trouble shoot and problem solve LPSD's first ever hybrid event saved the inservice. There were multiple training sessions that would not have been able to happen if it were not for his ability to trouble shoot and implement fixes. Thank you Schyler for your help. It was great working with you in Alyeska.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Bill Harris	IGI	At inservice, we had several collaborating sessions for teachers to share ideas and perspectives. Bill Harris graciously contributing his wealth of knowledge and expertise to make our collaborative session more meaningful and authentic. He is honest, kind, thoughtful, wise, and has away of sharing ideas and perspectives that invites others in and encourages healthy conversation and collaboration.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Marli Nikolaus	Distance Education	At inservice, we had several collaborative sessions where teachers came together to offer insight to encourage and help one another. These collaborative sessions are taken to a meaningful and deeper level whenever Marli Nikolaus is present. Her desire to learn and grow is contagious. She is always reading and studying and sharing what she is learning and implementing. Her ideas are based off of research and data which keep collaboration sessions healthy and inspiring.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
James Williams	PVL	James Williams, without hesitation, jumped in to help with the Alyeska inservice by organizing our fun run this year. His attention to detail, clarity of directions, and follow through was carefully and conscientiously planned out and executed. The time and energy he put into making the fun run happen was very much appreciated and noticed. The fun run was one of the highlights of the inservice, and it would not have happened without James' help and creativity.	Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Co-Director
Theresa Wilson	KS	She is a miracle worker with all of the travel coordination	Zach Stenson, BBRCTE Director