

## **Administrator Report**

### ***Superintendent Office - Pauline Harvey***

All of our sites have begun on the high risk level of red after the winter break, except for the exception of Pt. Hope, who hasn't had any cases for six weeks, and most of their staff remained on site over the break. This means that the students are being served via packets or distance learning mode. After the two-week transitory period, beginning the 19th, most of the village sites will return to the medium risk level of yellow, which means they will return back to the AA/BB schedule of scheduling families/students. We do have a site or two that have recently had cases that may go beyond the 19th on red.

We will begin Administrator Negotiations this month with NSBEAA. We will organize our team shortly but will include the director of HR, the CFO, the interim Assistant Superintendent and myself.

We are looking to renew our Kiita Lease with the NSB and city. We have been making efforts to meet with the NSB Mayor, but due to the election and the transitory period, we have been unable to glean that time. We hope to have an opportunity soon to work on MOAs with assistance with M&O, as well as other items.

The Student Board Representative Chloe Yu has respectfully resigned from her position.

We have begun our fiscal year 2022 budget development meetings with CFO Limani and our respective principals, directors and SAC committees. Mr. Limani will be presenting a template and a Powerpoint to use as his starting points for these meetings. We expect to glean input and representation from staff and community on the upcoming budget for 2022.

At this time Qargi Academy is under the helm of Liz Noble, who will be the interim principal, until the APC board in collaboration with the Superintendent, selects a new principal. We look forward to continuing to serve our students who are enrolled in the school, with Edmentum staff and the QA staff. Naomi Digitaki will also give Liz a hand if needed.

Mr. Roseberry is placed on administrative leave, and the superintendent will have the assistance of Dr. Jones during this time.

Our Barrow Schools are gleaning ideas for outside activities that would be beneficial for our students. If the SAC committee members or community members have any great ideas for outdoor activities, please contact the principals of the schools, who are eagerly waiting to hear from you.

Our principals have submitted lists of supplies that they are short on for a grant that the Arctic Education Foundation with Patuk Glen has requested. We look forward to receiving some additional funding for cleaning supplies, paper, and the like.

I meet monthly with Ilisagvik College leaders and they have expressed an interest in having a joint meeting with our board and their board on possibly March 16th, 2021. They serve our dual credit needs as well as staff and adult learning needs.

I am working closely with HR to put into place an interim M&O Director to attend to needs in that department, as well as a person to give me a hand with some of the load that the Assistant Superintendent had.

### ***COVID-19 Update - Lisa Peterson***

The week leading up to winter break, the week of December 14, due to suspected cases or confirmed cases in communities, all but 2 NSBSD schools were on High/Red COVID 19 Safety

Risk Status. Nunamiut School in Anaktuvuk Pass and Tikigaq School in Point Hope were the only 2 schools that were maintaining their Medium/Yellow Risk Status. Because of anticipated COVID 19 case concerns over winter break travel season, currently, all NSBSD schools are on High/Red COVID 19 Safety Risk Status and all schools are instructing by way of distance delivery. On Tuesday, January 6, 2021, a “Hunker Down Order” was instituted in the Village of Atqasuk, home of Meade River School, and on January 8, due to a report of 20 active cases, a “Hunker Down Order” for the Village of Wainwright, home of Ałak School. There has not been any notifications of continued Hunker Down Orders or of new orders in other NSBSD villages. However, on December 29, 2020, the Hunker Down Order in Utqiagvik was once again extended until 11:59 pm January 14, 2021-tonight. All NSBSD schools are expected to revert back to their COVID 19 Response Teams’ designated safety risk status on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Some NSBSD village schools may open their doors to students and to their families on Medium/Yellow Safety Risk Status or even on Low/Green Safety Risk Status, and some may have to remain on High/Red COVID 19 Safety Risk Status; with the fluidity of the pandemic, it is hard to predict, but we remain hopeful.

In order to publicize the January 19 schools’ opening dates, various methods of communications are being instituted. Families that may not have access to the Internet are not getting the much-needed communications about COVID 19 updates and schools’ status that are routinely posted on the district website or school websites, and not only are important district notifications available on the district website and individual school websites, information is customarily posted on the district Facebook page and individual schools’ Facebook pages. However, through research, it has been found that some parents/guardians do not have Facebook accounts or they are not active on Facebook enough to get important updates and information. Alternative methods of communications to NSBSD families are being explored- including paper notifications with school work packets or meal delivery, posting flyers/posters in area businesses and direct personal emails and/or robocalls. Please, note, it is important that families have up to date contact information in the NSBSD systems, so they can be contacted.

While, according to the daily ASNA COVID 19 Cases updates, the case counts in the North Slope Borough seem to be waning. However, this may be purporting a false sense of security. According to a source from ASNA, on average, approximately 200 people are being tested a day. Considering the relatively full flights arriving in Barrow daily, 200 people testing a day is a rather disappointingly low number, and that seems to be the case all over the state-disproportionate testing numbers. The ASNA source states, “The North Slope Borough 7-day positivity rate, which indicates the number of tests which are positive have dropped from the mid-teens to about 7% for the [the first week of the New Year]; however, 5% is considered the threshold”. The ASNA representative states that there are, in fact, “widespread community transmission occurring”. According to a recent study by the Journal of the American Medical Association experts, 59% of all COVID 19 cases are spread by asymptomatic persons. These statistics add to the uncertainty regarding schools’ opening plans. It is the district’s intent to keep all stakeholders informed about schools’ operations during this time.

The vaccine does offer some form of relief. As it stands now, vaccines are available to be distributed at Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital. Currently, elders are the only ones being offered the vaccine, and they are encouraged to call the hospital to set up appointments. The number is 907-852-9156. According to the NSBSD’s employee demographics, all the district’s staff are included in ALL TIERS of Phase 1b. Phase 1b and its Tier Levels are as follows:

- **Phase 1b, Tier 2:** PreK–12 educators and school staff, childcare workers and support staff, including Indigenous language and culture educators who are aged 50 years and older are classified as frontline essential workers.

- **Phase 1b, Tier 3:** PreK–12 educators and school staff, childcare workers and support staff, including Indigenous language and culture educators aged 16–50 years with two or more high-risk health conditions whose work-related duties must be performed on-site and involve being in close proximity (<6 feet) to the public or to coworkers.
- **Phase 1b, Tier 4:** PreK–12 educators and school staff, childcare workers and support staff, including Indigenous language and culture educators aged 16–50 years not covered in Tier 1–3 whose work-related duties must be performed on-site and involve being in close proximity (<6 feet) to the public or to coworkers.

It should be noted that vaccination timelines, for those other than elders, are as fluid as the pandemic has been, and vaccines may not be distributed for those encompassed in Phase 1b until later in this month to, possibly, late-February, and this could very well have an impact on school openings. The COVID 19 vaccines that are available may stir up some anxiety for all of us, and gaining more knowledge about the COVID 19 vaccines is of vital importance. Posted on the NSBSD website and posted on the District’s Facebook is a link to the Immunization Action Coalition. By accessing the website at <https://www.immunize.org/covid-19/>, answers to key questions one might have concerning the vaccine, itself, will be found.

NSBSD has entered the second half of the school year, and regardless of when our educators are vaccinated, it is important to point out that rigorous instruction is still taking place. The dedicated NSBSD educators are committed to their students, and they are desperately welcoming feedback concerning how to best serve the students in their care. In these uncertain times, in order to best serve NSBSD students, a partnership between parents/guardians and educators is critical. All NSBSD educators are available to address questions, concerns, and feedback.

### ***Curriculum & Instruction - Liz Noble***

As we approach the Holiday Season Ann and Katie are busy loading the Kaktovik’s library shelves with books. Thank you to Ann Washburn, Katie Strand, and Erin Hollingsworth for your dedication and hard work as you continue to support Harold Kaveolook students through the holidays.

All sites schedules are up and loaded for staff and student access.

January 18th is our 3rd District In-Service. Through our collaboration with ASDN we are able to provide Literacy experts Lexie and Shelby for this In-Service. Their focus will be Literacy across content areas and methodology. Lexie and Shelby will also provide follow up training during the last Wednesday of each month, January through April. Assessment Specialist will also cover the state required training for PEAKS and the Technology Specialist will facilitate the Digital Citizenship training.

We continue to attend meetings in support of the Alaska Native Education Program (ANEP) grant and provide data and updates for reporting purposes.

The Arts Sub-Committee continues to meet and will report on their research and recommendations to the Curriculum Committee in January and to the School Board in February.

The C&I Team have prepared all Replacement Order forms to be disseminated in January. This time frame allows us the opportunity to gather orders, request quotes, and submit orders to the school board for approval in March. The intent is to have replacement materials in the hands of teachers before they leave for the Summer for proper storage and placement.

### ***Student Services - Lori Roth***

The Student Services office is working to complete a contract with our new special education database. Edmentum has provided additional credits reducing the fee through June 30. We look

forward to working with Edmentum in partnership with Northwest Arctic School District and Petersburg City School District.

On-going special education support has been provided to Qargi Academy. We are excited to meet Reine Loeb, Qargi virtual SPED teacher. Reine has been provided access to our on-line special education database and will receive training in GoalView by one of NSBSD's compliance specialists. We look forward to working with Reine and thank Deana and Lindsey for all their hard work and support to our Qargi students for the first semester.

Crisis Prevention Intervention training (CPI) was scheduled and completed on January 4 for all AIN Qargi staff. This training is required via HB 44 and provides strategies for de-escalating student behavior.

***State & Federal Grants---Lori Roth***

Migrant Education Grant: Recruiting ended December 4, 2020. NSBSD has re-certified or newly certified 64 student applications. The current budget provides funds for active Migrant Ed Recruiter for their on-going support to students and their families during the application process.

Substance Abuse & Misuse Grant: Approved: Cathy Williams, Tikigaq School Counselor, applied for and received the 7,000.00 grant. Budget submitted and approved. Application sent to building staff.

School Improvement Grants: The following School Improvement Applications have been approved: Meade River School, Kiita Learning Community, Nuiqsut Trapper School, Barrow High School, Alak School, and Tikigaq School. Nunamiut will be revised based on feedback re-submitted for approval.

Indian Education Grant: Students have been identified through the FY21 Enrollment Packet and entered into PowerSchool. Student Services will contact North Slope Borough to have student's verified. EASIE Application Part 1 is due the end of January for FY22.

Suicide Grant: Funde Second Step district-wide on-line social emotional program. The on-line program is available to all counselors on-site or remotely.

Trauma Informed (Title IV): Training will be scheduled and provided in to on-site counselors Skillstreaming. Skillstreaming is a program that supports students in recognizing and describing their emotional needs.

ANEP Grant: 60 staff will be attending the RtI virtual conference with funds from the Alaska Staff Development Network partnership.

***Inupiaq Education - Ronald Brower Sr.***

We participated with C&I and Student Services on the upcoming Sisamat budget review and report.

Working with HR, provided the Asst. Dir. of HR at NW Arctic Borough School District Mr. Kowalski, a combined NSBSD/IC dual credit course in partnership with ILisagvik College, to use as a template for a PD courses that provide Inupiaq language teachers and para-pros to advance in the NWABSD career ladder.

Provided translations of word lists to Point Lay, Hopson Middle School, and phrases to Barrow High School and Elementary Inupiaq reading books to Ipalook Elementary School.

Exchanged communications with Indigenous Language Institute on the feasibility of indigenous language training workshops for Inupiaq language teachers and Para-pros.

Upon invitation of Mr. Kirk Miller, discussions on the Kaktovik Numerals are on-going with Dr. MacLean, Mr. Clark Bartley, Numerals developer and Mr. Silvia the Unicode Script Ad Hoc group (SAH), which evaluates and advises on proposals before they're passed on to the Unicode Technical Committee (UTC) for approval. The inclusion of the Kaktovik Numerals in the International Unicode would prove useful in promoting classroom math applications for the North Slope Borough School District and other regions, allowing for computer access.

Internet issues prevented partnership meetings with Alaska Humanities Forum and zoom Inupiaq Language for Speaking III class. However, we were successfully able to complete the course. Students young and old commented they learned a lot in taking this course.

IED Coordinator provided a short Christmas story that was aired twice over KBRW.

Coordinator maintain weekly communications with Alak School Principal and shared local histories on Inuit and Qwitchin relations past and present.

### ***Human Resources - Naomi Digitaki***

Open enrollment and updates to benefits

Tenured teachers and administrators rehire list for BOE approval

BHS/HMS were available for overnight stays for transiting village staff

Hiring activities and personnel to start in February

Jill Crooks - new M&O Coordinator/Liz Noble - interim Qargi Academy principal

Housing assignments transiting back to M&O

Working with PHNs to organize vaccinations for employees

Concerns/complaints in various stages of resolution

### ***Business Office - Fadil Limani***

The Business Office has been extremely busy over the last month working in a variety of things and is pleased to provide the following:

- The monthly financial report was completed and sent to the North Slope Borough on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 for the month ending November 30, 2020.
- We have completed the FY20 Audit and we are pleased to provide the Audit results and go over the Audit Report. I wanted to express my sincere appreciation to Dan Rozema, Nikki San Augustin, Grace Acuna, and Don Dunbar for their assistance with this year's Audit. I also wanted to thank KPMG for being extremely flexible with our Audit timeline and being able to allocate timing and staffing resources in order to meet our Audit deadline.
  - We have submitted our completed FY20 Annual Audited Financial Report to the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development upon issuance of the Audit Report. In addition, considering the District is a component unit of the Borough, we have also supplied a copy of the Audit report to the North Slope Borough.
  - We will be working with our Auditors in the submission of the Data Collection Form regarding the Federal Single Audit with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse.
- We have begun working on the FY2022 Impact Aid Application to be submitted at the end of January 2021.

- Working on completing the YE Pupil Transportation reporting to Department of Education and Early Development
- We have begun the development of our FY22 Budget.
  - In the month of December, we met with two of the SAC's for the Nunamiut School and the Trapper School to go over the FY21 Budget and discuss the FY22 Budget Development process. We have scheduled the rest of the SAC meeting during the month of January to go over their site budgets for the current year and the expectations for FY22.
  - We have built a budget template including a powerpoint presentation to be utilized by all school sites and departments to ensure consistency in the presentation of the information during the budget hearings to the administration, finance committee and ultimately the School Board.
- Listened to the Governor's Budget Briefing for the FY22 Budget on December 12
  - Follow up session with the OMB Director going over the Governor's proposed budget.
- Legislative Finance Committee on January 8, 2021 providing a preliminary overview of the Governor's FY22 Budget.
- Working with the Student Athletics Directors and site principals regarding the Student Activities funding provided by the NSB. Considering the pandemic, each school has identified alternative programs within the villages to keep the kids engaged including the youth. We are in the process of finalizing our listings from all of the sites and will be able to place the order for supplies and equipment surrounding village student activities.
- Working with Arctic Slope Community Foundation on a mini-grant to provide funding for supplies for all of the schools during the pandemic. We have received the needs assessment from each school and have provided our listing to ASCF for consideration.
- We are continuing to work with HR to get the Grants Administrator position filled. We have had little to no interest in the position and will extend our recruitment efforts. In addition, over the next few weeks, we will work with HR in assembling a hiring committee in regards to filling the Comptroller position.
- Day to day operations of the Business office and continue providing support to all the other Departments within the District.
- Working on the FY21 Grants and entering the Budgets into Tyler, specifically the reminder of the School Improvement Grants.
  - Working in providing a response to the Desk Audit in regards to the ANEP Grant with ASNA. This is year 3 of the Grant. The Grant has substantial resources rolled over from year 1 and 2 and we will be meeting with ASNA and ASDN to ensure we are aligned on the goals and objectives of the grant for year 3.
- Weekly Staff Meetings with the Business Office Staff

### ***Information Technology - Everett Haimes***

The IT team recently completed installation of a new server, router, and firewall in Kaktovik and the remaining firewalls are configured and ready for deployment. We are presently building new traffic shaping policies for all sites, and are working with GCI to design a new SD-WAN configuration to better utilize our bandwidth.

Negotiations are presently underway with the North Slope Borough to procure NSB Internet addresses for District use across the Slope. This will provide native routing and virtually eliminate the need for VPN connectivity for remote access to public resources.

Our talks with ASTAC and GCI regarding local routing have been very positive and we anticipate beginning to enable local routes for Utqiagvik and Kaktovik within a few weeks, with the following considerations:

Local access by customers in satellite-fed villages will be facilitated by ASTAC and will come at no additional cost to the District or ASTAC customers.

Local access in Utqiagvik by GCI customers can be facilitated with a GCI Local POP plan costing the District an estimated \$6500/yr, which we plan to activate shortly.

Finally, local access by ASTAC customers in fiber-fed villages including Utqiagvik is more of a challenge. ASTAC's fiber accounting system doesn't support whitelisting IP addresses making it impossible to un-meter connections to the District, but there is still a possibility ASTAC can upgrade their system to provide that functionality. It may come at a large expense and/or take an indeterminate amount of time to achieve but after expressing the dire need to provide our students with fair and equitable access to District resources, they are rushing to determine the feasibility of the project.

### ***Maintenance & Operations - Corey Cahoon***

Wainwright - we have had some frozen pipes and a plumber was sent to assess and repair.

Point Hope- 5 Plex needs a new boiler installed. There is a boiler onsite and Tikigaq Corporation (through Ryan Rex) has offered to install it for us as we currently do not have an itinerant plumber. Thankful for the help that Tikigaq Corporation has extended to assist with repairs in all the villages. Details and agreements will need BOE approval.

Point Lay - teachers quarters are without heat and water and 2 teachers have been living at the school since early December.

Kaktovik - One of our mechanics will be travelling this weekend to fix the school bus

Nui - heating and plumbing problems continue to persist.

Food Service: We are currently working on a plan in Utqiagvik to deliver lunch and breakfast in a more efficient manner.