

April 2016 Board Report

Curriculum:

We will be looking to add the letter grade “D” to the high school transcripts as of FY17. We had a consensus on this change. We will have something to the board to review at the May meeting. The teaching staff met and discussed this at the April 8th teacher inservice. We also discussed the elementary grading system. We did not have a consensus on making a change from “O”, “P”, “N”, “D” to “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “and F”.

Professional Development:

Our teachers that attended the ASTE conference this past February presented at the April 8th teacher inservice at Howard Valentine School. The presentation were very informative and were chocked full of things that teachers could take back to their classrooms to use with their students.

Colter Barnes took the teachers on a tour of the new greenhouse along with the orchard and chickens. The greenhouse looks phenomenal. The possibilities are endless with this resource.

STEM week is this week. All SISD staff is involved with the implementation of this celebration of learning event. Kids are very excited to be able to participate especially Hyder and Port Alexander schools. These schools traditionally are not able to participate in many district activities due to the great expense of transportation. This year they are here in Thorne Bay and ready to participate!

Janet Stout, Colter, Alan and myself will be looking at putting together a comprehensive professional development plan for next year. We will be administering a survey to the teaching staff on what they feel is important to them for professional development.

Nick Higson
District Principal

Port Protection School

With only five weeks left, we are very busy at Port Protection School. It is hard to believe that the year is almost over.

Our elementary students continue to raise the number of IXL activities mastered this year in both math and language arts. They have a class average of nearly four mastered activities a day per student. They have also been very busy during art class. This class is the same hour as the high school video class, so our elementary students have been helping create Play-Dough figures for the stop motion projects. In social studies, we recently finished our unit on Lewis and Clark. It was very interesting. Did you know that Lewis committed suicide just four short years after they completed the journey? We are now learning about exploding bunkers during the war of 1812.

Our high school students have been finding some very interesting articles to report on for their current events class. As mentioned in the previous paragraph, some of our high school students are making some very cool stop motion videos. Another student is writing, filming, and producing his own video. We have about three students very involved in that project. In British Literature, students have selected an author and are creating individual projects that highlight the author they have selected. One of our student has brought the world of Harry Potter to our school and is transforming our elementary class in to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Our high school graduation is the twentieth of May. We are expecting a very large crowd. We have four graduates this year; unfortunately, there is a chance that two of them may not be able to attend. We are keeping our fingers crossed. We welcome all who wish to attend.

Jeff Theurer
Lead Teacher

Hyder School

I cannot believe how quickly this school year has passed by. With only about 6 weeks left, I expect it will be gone in a flash. This last month has been very exciting for the school and the students.

Back in February, Sheri Dillman contacted Scholastic and was able to set up a Book Fair to be hosted here at the Hyder School this month. Scholastic sent about 2,000 pounds of books that came in on three mail planes! It has been running for the last two weeks and the turn out has been incredible. Our students, members of the community, and members of our neighboring community Stewart, BC have come in and enjoyed the book fair and the buy one-get one free sale we were able have.

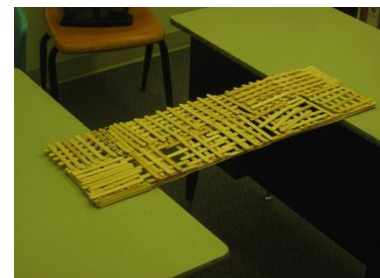
In conjunction with the book fair, we have challenged our students to “Climb the Reading Mountain!” A challenge that we set up to have our elementary students read 500 books by the end of the school year. All of the students have taken to the challenge and are well on their way to reaching our goal!

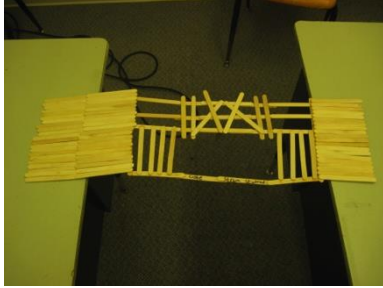
Our students have also been hard at work for STEM Week. The bridge building, bottle rockets, and science fair events have been especially popular. Each of our elementary students has been working diligently on their bridges, rockets, and science experiments. They are applying the knowledge they have learned this year into building some remarkable structures and conducting some cool experiments. They are excited to be coming out to Thorne Bay for STEM Week and are looking forward to making new friends and enjoying the activities.

Our middle and high school students are currently at the Naukati School enjoying Phlight Club. They have been looking forward to Phlight Club for months and were excited to be going. They have also been very helpful with helping the younger students with their STEM Week projects. I expect that all of the students will come away with memories that will last a lifetime.

I have included some pictures of the Book Fair, reading challenge, and STEM Week projects.

Respectfully,
Chad Dillman





Port Alexander School

The students are working hard at finishing up their current lessons to get packed up to go STEM Week. The students are pretty excited to be leaving their island for a few days and come to explore POW. We want to thank the PA ASC, PA community, and the school board for making this happen. Without the budget for travel, our PA Eagles would not be able to “soar” over to all of the fun and excitement awaiting them next week.

Keeping STEM Week in mind, our students have finished their bridges! They had a great time working together on this project and look forward to what STEM ideas we will provide next year.



The City of Port Alexander is preparing for their annual Art Show in May. We had a glass art activity last week where students could bring in their beach glass ideas and build art using paint or a hot glue gun. There were many amazing projects being created.

To celebrate *Earth Day*, we will be doing another Port Alexander Clean-up this coming Friday. We have a large turnout from the community for this service-learning project.

We want to thank everyone in advance for putting on, what we are positive, will be a fantastic Phlight Club and STEM Week. Please use us wherever we can be handy!

Hollis School

For updates and ongoing information please feel free to check out our Hollis School Facebook Page. It is a tool for us to provide school information to our target audience – our parents and community.

The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1483681851918203/>



THANK YOU: As we continue our year we want to send out some thank you for some people who came together to help us have the resources we need to teach:

- *Thank you Kyler Luper, for spending your Sunday afternoon handing our 32 painted wooden salmon to complete our outdoor art installation, “The Hollis Salmon Run” on the exterior of the school*
- *Thank you James and John Stevens, Lauren Burch, Nick Higsen, Ginger Thomas, Matt Wolff, The US Coast Guard, The Alaska State Troopers, the Hollis Fire Department, and many, many more for supporting facilitating and participating in a wonderful 1st Annual Hydaburg and Southeast Island School Districts Archery Celebration.*

CELEBRATES: As we continue our year we want to share some “celebrates!”:

Celebrate! Our very own McKenna was awarded 1st Place in the 2016 POW Earth Day Celebration Art Contest.

ACTIVITIES:

March & April, 2016 – Our garden is on its way – All of our students are getting their hands dirty as seeds are planed and the beds are getting ready for our gardens 2nd year producing vegetables for our school.

March 20, 2016 – Our Salmon Run is installed – Our Salmon run was installed on the first day of spring. They say it takes a village and it sure did for our Hollis Salmon Run. Today Kyler spent his Sunday afternoon and working with some of our students to install the salmon run on the front of Hollis School. Thank you Kyler for a long's day's hard work - it looks wonderful! Thank you to Chloe for documenting the event over the course of the day, and thank you again to Bob Andrews and Roger Cates for cutting out well over 70 wooden salmon during the 2015-16 school year. You both did such a nice job helping our Hollis students with their intensive salmon studies, which served as their lens to study Alaska history

March 24, 2016 – SESA Visits Hollis– We welcomed Shannon from Alaska's Special Education Service Agency (SESA) to participate in fine motor activities. We are fortunate to have Shannon to provide insight, guidance and mentorship. She was patient and dove in to enjoy the hard work of fine motor skill development. SESA staff provide wonderful support of our students, staff and parents.

March 31, 2016 – 1st Annual Hydaburg and Southeast Island School Districts Archery Celebration – We think the population of Hollis doubled when close 150 students and adults from these two districts gathered at Hollis School for the first Annual Archery Celebration. Informed by the PHlight Club inspiration for us to seek efforts for our youth to build webs with other adults and seek every opportunity to connect with a child. The event included the US Coast Guard, the Hollis Fire Department and the Alaska Troopers. We also had archery, art, music and, some pretty good burgers! Our students did a wonderful job helping with the preparations and cooking some of the side dishes.

April, 2016 – Bridges Take Flight – We have studied bridges, we tested planes, built marshmallow building and paper bridges, we have reflected on bridges, we have planned our bridges and now, with much work behind us, we began building our popsicle stick bridges. This activity had allowed us to make some great connections to our history studies. We must share – the paper bridge building was really neat. It has been a fun month as we engage in activities for the upcoming 2016 STEM week.

April 4, 2016 – Our SLP Helped to introduce the Story Grammar Marker – Our Speech and Language Pathologist Claire visited and as our recently ordered Story Grammar Marker kit had just arrived, she provided an introduction to all of

our students so that we can use it in a meaningful way. Thanks to Claire and this wonderful learning opportunity we have the shared vocabulary to begin. We are pretty excited as it will help our Hawks become even stronger storytellers and writers.

April 21, 2016 – Prince of Wales Island Earth Day Celebration –Our Hawks wanted to return to share their progress of their investigation, research and ongoing work to prevent the use of any pesticides anytime and anywhere in Alaska without required prior public input. They also hoped to inform and energize others to help them with their work to ensure legislation to require public input is passed. In addition to sharing their information and collecting public input on the issue, our students also integrated upcycled art projects from origami to watercolor posters to engage the Earth Day attendees. Our booth was soon decorated with some amazing art in support of the environment. They also collected more survey data - They have also initiated a new survey about pesticide use in Alaska to garner more information about how the public feels about this issue. The survey can be accessed at this link:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Alaska_Pesticide_Survey

April 21, 22, 23, 2016– PHlight Club – Our upper Middle and High School Hawks attended our sixth straight PHlight Club. We had a busy three days and we returned on Saturday tired and richer for the experience.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

April 8, 2016 - Julie and Lisa traveled to Coffman Cove School for a great day of professional development. It was wonderful to tour the gardens, chicken and duck coops and greenhouse.