Kokhanok Site Report - September, 2024

Outstanding Activities and Events

For 60% of our certified staff being new to our school, community, district, and standards-based system, we have had a very smooth start to the school year. Not only have our teachers been spending many nights and weekends at the school planning and preparing instructional materials, but our veteran classified staff has had exceptional attendance in September which helps EVERYTHING run smoothly. We are trying to foster a team-work and community-oriented atmosphere/spirit up at the school, and so far the buy-in is there.

A couple of cultural, place-based, and/or community-building educational highlights so far have been:

- 1) A berry picking lesson/curriculum completed by our elementary students which culminated in days of agutaq and student-driven posters explaining the process
- 2) A grass harvesting, braiding/drying/curing, and eventually basket or dance-fan making project led by community member Marlene Nielsen.
- 3) Secondary students will be participating in Native Language courses 2-4 days a week from 2:45-3:30
- 4) Secondary students have had 2 guest speakers discussing post-secondary career opportunities
- 5) A community member donated 2 moose quarters to our school lunch program (see pics from this amazing activity below). The community and students really showed up and were able to process and freeze over 100 pounds of meat for our school lunch program!
- 6) We held a "Back-to-School" community event on Friday, September 20th in the school gymnasium. We played games, met the new staff, and ate dinner as a community; 53 people attended.

Personnel

K-1: Krista Hobson (Alum!, 2nd year in this position)

2-4: Marina McGourty (3rd year in this position, 2nd year as head-teacher, cross-country coach)
Secondary (6-12) Math & Science: Connor Romer (Alum!, first year teacher, Tech liaison, school pilot;-)
Secondary (6-12) ELA & Social Studies: Kim Phillips (14th year as a teacher, 1st year in Kokhanok, student-government advisor)

Special Education: Kimberly Goode (20+ years in education, 2nd year in Alaska, 1st year in Kokhanok, BBRCTE liaison)

SPED Paraprofessionals: Agnes Mike, Moses Mike (P.E. too), Ona Wassillie, Seth Breazeale

Preschool teacher: Amanda Norbert

Secretary: Irene Wilson Cook: Peducia Andrew Custodian: Leonard Cobb Maintenance: Johnny Mike Nightgym Aide: Megan Klopp

Elder Lunch Delivery (starting October 2nd): Megan Klopp

Substitutes: Jolene Jackinsky, Laura Andrew, Nancy Wassillie, Tyrone Madrid, Ocky Mike

Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress

Having only completed 16 days of school thus far, students are just settling into their current levels, while teachers are working on building rapport and lessons to support their movement through the standards. MAPS Testing and Amplify benchmark assessments were completed the 2nd and 3rd weeks of school and this week was our first full week of interventions.

Technology Insights

All technology (student & staff devices, internet, etc.) started the year out in working order. A big thank you to our district tech team (Sam Rigby, Schyler Rippie, and Nate McArthur) for helping support our new students and staff as they navigate our district's numerous online platforms/tools.

Facility Update

The facility (school, library/shop, housing units, generator/shed, and grounds) were all given some TLC this past summer and are in good operational order; a huge shoutout to our summer maintenance and cleaning crew! Even our school truck driver's side door closes now:-)

Two projects that we're hoping to wrap up this fall are completing the sailboat that students have been working on building with instructor/community member Rob Hill and finishing the install of our new PA system mounted in the gym.

LSAC Activity

Our first LSAC meeting of the year took place on Tuesday, September 24th at 4:00pm in Ms. Phillips' classroom. One of our goals for this year is to increase community attendance (hence community voice!) at our meetings, and we set the bar high by having 19 people in attendance. We will be having an LSAC election on Tuesday, November 5th for our 2 vacant seats.

Our monthly meetings are scheduled for 4:00pm on: 9/24, 10/23, 11/7, and 12/5

Volunteer Report

Jolene Jackinsky - kitchen and food service program

Marlene Nielsen - cultural activities

Jeff Venes - commercial pilot guest speaker

Kristina Andrew - local educational and labor opportunities guest speaker

Professional Development

Every Monday in September is a professional development day for staff (and no school for students). You can access our PD schedule for those days at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F1mt7aFVYuSKEpLE1pczE49y6vc14iuukS58g3UHPH8/edit

We also focused on classified staff development on those Mondays as well; everything from SafeSchools training, to the components of special education and IEPs, to basic expectations/responsibilities of the job.

The district will also hold an early literacy PD session for elementary reading teachers every Wednesday from 2:30-4:00pm. This is supported by the Alaska Reads Act of which we'll all need to be certified in before 2025.

Pupil % Attendance K-12

We currently have 35 students (K-12) and 5 preschoolers enrolled in Kokhanok School.

Other









