

MARCH 31, 2020  
SISD SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

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**Across the district, we have many events and activities occurring in our schools, strengthening our students, and in turn our district. From a teacher's perspective these are opportunities for growth, learning, and may be crucial in the development of a student. To a student, the lens shows a different view, and now, we get to hear it.**

It's no secret that this past month has been an unexpected, surprising, and new experience for our district. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has unfortunately resulted in our schools being closed until May 1st. However, prior to mid March, the month was filled with plenty of positive, educational, and beneficial experiences that filled the spirits of students and teachers alike.

Over at Thorne Bay, students got to celebrate basketball season and their high school teams with a homecoming dance! In addition to the dance, the high school basketball team hosted a Valentine's Day Dinner. With the help from the culinary class, and other 7-12 grade students, the dinner turned out to be a huge hit with great community attendance. If that wasn't enough, to top off the positive events the basketball team has had, the boy's team took home the gold and won at Regionals in Ketchikan! Our Wolverines have earned their spot at the State Tournament, and though it is postponed, it is safe to say that when the tournament does arrive, our boys will do amazing. Now, we haven't forgotten our girl's team either, who has worked hard throughout the season, and though the Kake girl's team will be representing at State's, we are no less proud of our girls who have given their all this season. In Port Alexander, students got to participate in an airplane simulator! It was said to be a lot of fun. On March 3rd through the 7th, Kasaan and Hollis students went to Ketchikan. While they were there, students got to go to experience the behind the scenes of Ketchikan Airport, go to the Vigor shipyard, see the 39 steps play, witness the win of the boy's basketball team at Regionals, and much more! The experience was positive and educational for all the students, each coming away with their own special memories of the trip.

This past month has been filled with surprises and a few setbacks, which has made a lot of hopes for the rest of the year no longer possible. However, our students still have been developing great ideas for our district that may not be possible today but perhaps in the future. In the past two months, many students have been very vocal on the subject of lunch meals. Specifically wanting more meat, I quote "MEAT EGG ROLLS." Students have made it very clear that they would like to see more meat in their meals. So, I would like to propose that

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towards the closing of the school year, we make a survey for students to fill out that can support planning the lunch menu for the coming school year. Students would also like to see more connecting amongst students and school. Suggesting ideas like more intramural sports, more assemblies, more events that bring together our schools under one roof, Finally, a suggestion from our students is opening a school-run second hand shop. By opening a second hand shop we can boost our ability to fundraise for our district and schools, all while students can be involved even through their elective classes. The woodworking class can construct bookshelves to hold donated books, and repair/restore furniture donated to the shop. The Sewing class can mend donated clothing, and turn fabric from clothes that cannot be mended into other products that can be sold in the shop. If decided, high school students may work at the shop, which is beneficial as well, as doing so would teach students how a working environment functions, all while boosting positive relationships in their community and teaching social skills that are important in life after they leave school.

This past month has been difficult for everyone in one way or another, however as a district, considering we've never been in this position before, we've all done well. Giving our best efforts to make the most of this time, and keep our students and schools safe, all while still working to provide the same quality education provided within our school campuses. I think we all should give ourselves some credit, a little pat on the back if you wish, we're making the most of an uncertain time and are coming together even though we're apart. Before I close this report, I should like to thank our staff and teachers who have worked so hard this past month despite everything, and thank all of the students who have been responding to my form, making this report more valuable than it would be if I was reporting from only my point of view. Thank you. Also, thank you to Savannah Cornett Markey who gave me a needed laugh, when she shared that her moment of celebration for this past month was getting good grades.