

## Site Report – Kokhanok – November, December, and January

**To: Superintendent Ty Mase  
and LPSD School Board Members**

**From: Jordan Davis, Head Teacher, Kokhanok**

### **Outstanding Activities and Events**

11/6-11/25 - Kokhanok goes into the red for the first time

11/30-12/4 - Kokhanok is in yellow

1/12-1/15 - Kokhanok is in the green after coming back from break

1/18-1/22 - Kokhanok is in the red for the second time

1/25-1/29 - Kokhanok is back in green

We've had our share of challenges here in Kokhanok with the start of the semester, but we have persevered, and come out stronger and better each time! Thank you to the District COVID team, Kokhanok's local COVID team, Kokhanok Village Council and everyone who has helped see us through every closure and reentry. It's really something to be this supported by so many people!

We didn't forget to have a little bit of fun before the holiday break. The last three days of school in December we held Green and Red day, Fancy Day, and Pajama Day! Check out our Facebook page for some stellar singing and fine fiddle playing that took place instead of our normal holiday gathering at the school.

The recent Virtual Jamboree was a huge success, allowing students to be able to interact with other students throughout the District. Thank you to all of the sites who participated, and Mrs. Cornell for organizing the event.

### **Personnel**

Due to medical trips and resulting quarantines, our maintenance personnel has been absent quite a bit this year. We are so lucky to have a great staff that steps in whenever there is a need. However, this can cause burnout quickly and a sub maintenance and bus driver became a necessity. We are so happy that Nicholas Chocknok, AKA Gust, has stepped up and become part of the Kokhanok School family! He is a former LPSD student, marine, a parent, and diesel plant operator. Gust has jumped in and is willing to take on any task!

### **Standards Based System**

As always, we are working hard throughout our standards. Our elementary students in Levels 1-5 have finished all Social Studies standards for their levels and are now moving forward with Science. It's always a joy to hear the oohs, ahhs, and giggles coming from the younger students participating in some super science fun!

One of the greatest challenges we've faced are our school closures. Students have stated that they find it harder to find the motivation to work from home and that school work is easier to accomplish at school. This does halt our standards progress a little, but in its own way, students are taught some important Employability lessons on time management, internal motivation, SMART Goal planning, among others.

We have two students taking advantage of BBRCTE opportunities. One student is participating in the Business program, and another student is participating in the Driver's License Prep and Aviation programs.

## **Curriculum Progress and Professional Development**

We are very excited over our new math curriculum. While a few of the online classes have dived right into the new curriculum, our elementary students will be starting next year with fresh new books and curriculum. The professional development sessions were a great asset in learning all the components of the curriculum. We think the district made the right choice!

The library upgrade has been a thrilling experience. Jordan Davis met with Megan Maloney to discuss library upgrades ideas. She also met with Kristin Hathorn and our Follett Book rep Julie Komorous to discuss book selection ideas and themes. Julie is wonderful to work with, and really listened to our wants and needs. The resulting book list had Jordan tap dancing in the gym!

## **Technology Progress**

All students and staff have been upgraded to the new computers the district has purchased. We LOVE the new computers and a huge thanks goes out to our tech team for making the process smooth and efficient! The computer cases were well worth the purchase as well, considering our shutdowns, and our students had a reliable travel case to keep their new computers safe while traveling between school and home.

There have been a few issues with the home internet through GCI. An antenna was accidentally reset, while another family didn't receive an antenna at all, but did receive a bill. We have sorted through these issues, and the WYNTK sheets that Rick and Laura have put together have been a huge help. Thank you, Rick and Laura!

Knocking on wood, but Kokhanok's internet has become stable and fast since working through a few issues. While we were shut down in November, our internet went out for two weeks. DRS came in the days before Thanksgiving to do some work, which seemed to fix our internet for a while. However, when teachers came back from break, we had working internet at the school for our inservice days, when the internet shutdown again. The issue was still ongoing for the first day back with students. However, between Jon Ludwig's and Jordan Davis's multiple phone calls, turning items off and on, plugging into different ethernet ports, and button pushing, the internet was back up and running with Jon's suggestion of turning off the cache system. Thank you so very much for your patience and guidance, Jon!

One piece we would like to put on the radar is extending the internet into the library for the upgrade. One of our visions for the new library is to be able to hold class and research while in the library setting. It will also be

beneficial for setting up the library, making sure we can scan in all books, and keep an up-to-date record on all of our books. Thank you to Jon Ludwig for finding a possible solution.

## **Facility Update**

Thank you again to our maintenance team for the purchase of new vehicles! It makes going on freight runs that much more exciting, considering the heated seats and steering wheel make these frigid winter days feel like a tropical paradise!

We are in need a few items as we get closer to the end of the year:

1. The duplex apartment next to Jordan and Jesse still needs repairs from the skid-steer accident last winter, especially since this is the only available unit and we will have an onsite principal next year!
2. There are a few vents of some kind that have been bent on the roof due to heavy snowfall.
3. The pipes in the library/woodshop are still needing to be replaced/repaired. This should be a front burner issue, considering our library upgrade this summer.
4. We have a new scoreboard that needs to be installed.

Thank you to Mr. McDermitt and the maintenance team for always hearing our concerns, and finding solutions to immediate priorities even during this challenging year.

## **LSAC Activity**

The LSAC was able to meet in December, after deciding not to meet in November due to our closure. New LSAC members were sworn in, and current members are:

Janessa Woods- President

Marlene Nielson- Vice President

Marisa Hobson- Secretary

Brittany Rush- Member

Seat D- Open due to a resignation related to family needs...An appointee will be named at our February meeting

Alternate- Open- Beth Hill had to resign upon taking the Oath of Office with the LPSD School Board...Congratulations to Beth!

## **Volunteer Report**

Amanda Norbert is our new Resilient Alaska Youth AmeriCorps member serving in Kokhanok. Since her hire at the village council in December, Amanda has provided activity kits to students. From making your own clay model of COVID-19, to beading, to dream catcher making, these activity kits have been fun and challenging!

Amanda is also planning on a virtual lesson on Gratitude. Amanda has also given students applications to participate in Alaska's 4-H club! Thank you for all of your efforts, Amanda!

### **Trips Planned**

We will be working with our LSAC and community for future basketball trips around the lake region. We will follow all guidelines and mandates from our community as well as communities we may visit during the sports season.

### **Pupil Attendance**

Update on numbers:

September Numbers	October Numbers	January Numbers
K-5: 25	K-5: 23	K-5: 21
6-8: 10	6-8: 9	6-8: 7
9-12: 6	9-12: 7	9-12: 5
Preschool: 8	Preschool: 6	Preschool: 4
Total: 49	Total: 45	Total: 37

As you can see, our numbers have gone down since the beginning of the year, which is due to students moving elsewhere in the district, though a few have moved outside of our district. We're always sad to see students leave, but know that we're ready to jump at the chance to have them back in our classrooms again.

### **Student and Staff Safety**

Nearly every single staff member has received their Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine! Thank you so much to SouthCentral Foundation, Kokhanok Village Clinic, and the Kokhanok Village Council for organizing and providing the opportunity to take the first steps, not just to get back to normal, but to blaze the trail to a better future!

We are still hyper vigilant to disinfect between classes, wash hands often, keep our masks on, socially distance when at all possible, and follow school guidelines and mandates.

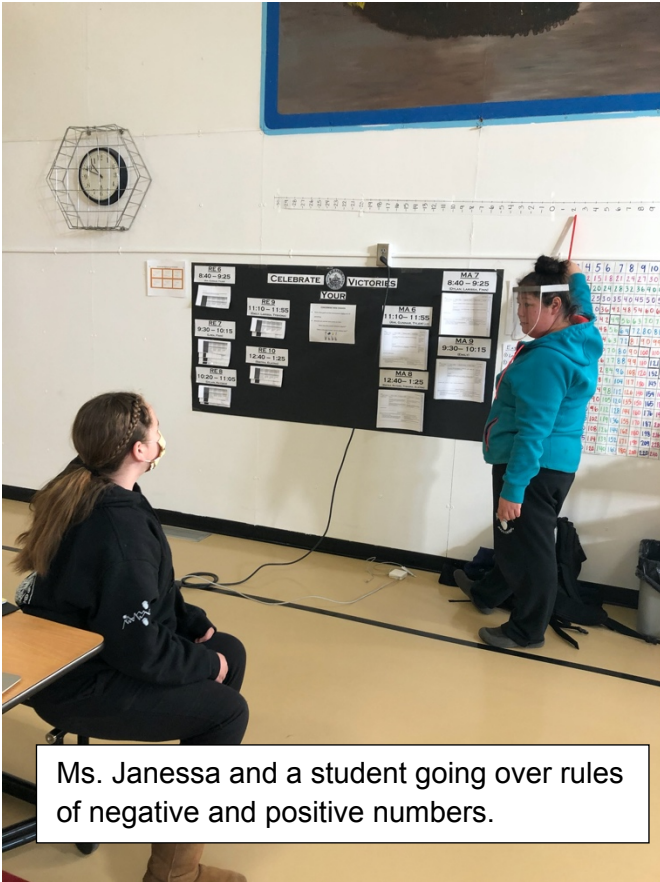
### **Subsistence Calendar**

School shutdowns are the kryptonite to our subsistence calendar. However, we value the push for excellence and the challenge to continue progress, even in the hardest of times. We will be working with our LSAC during our March meeting to approve next year's subsistence calendar.

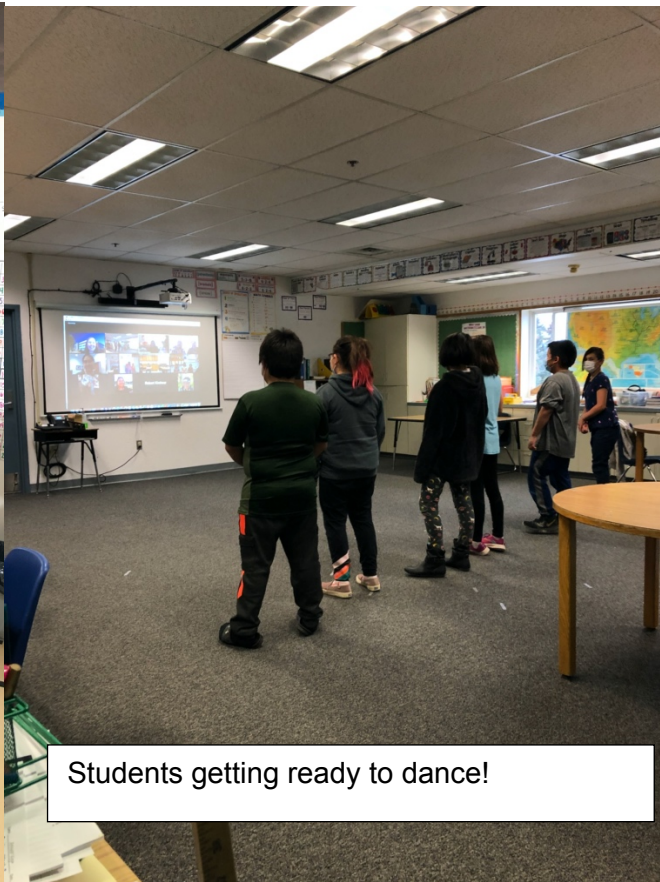
## **Other**

HAPPY NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION MONTH TO OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL BOARD!!! The work you do is unparalleled and it truly shows with the thought and intention you all put into every decision. You work well together to make some of the hardest decisions, but always with our students, paraprofessionals, teachers, communities, administrators, and region in mind. To our seasoned, veteran board members, thank you for wisdom and guidance. To our newest board members, thank you for stepping into such a new and challenging position! LPSD is better because of you!

**Scroll down for photos!**



Ms. Janessa and a student going over rules of negative and positive numbers.



Students getting ready to dance!



Students listening to Nick Hansen the Eskimo Ninja Warrior!

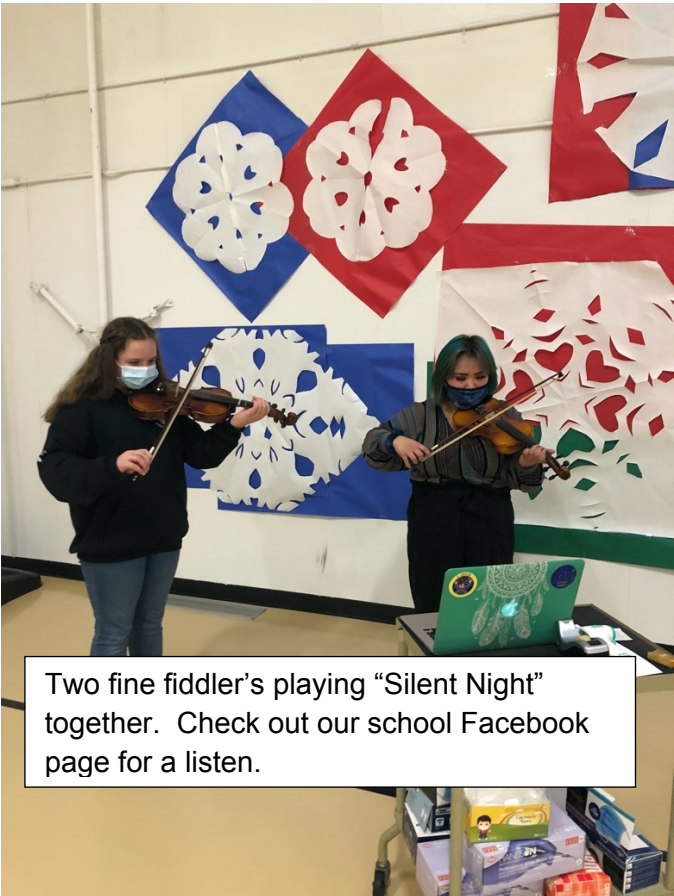




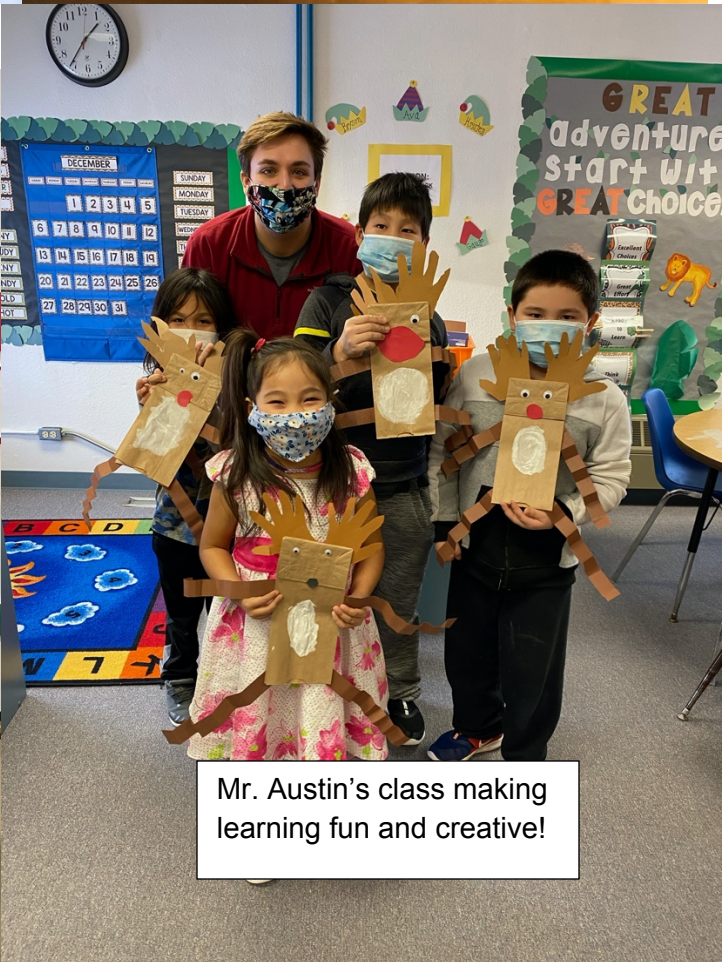
School Board member Harry making sure Kokhanok school is in top shape! Thanks for always being willing to pitch in a helping hand!



We made maple seeds after reading about pollination which helped us with our science standards on adaptations!



Two fine fiddler's playing "Silent Night" together. Check out our school Facebook page for a listen.



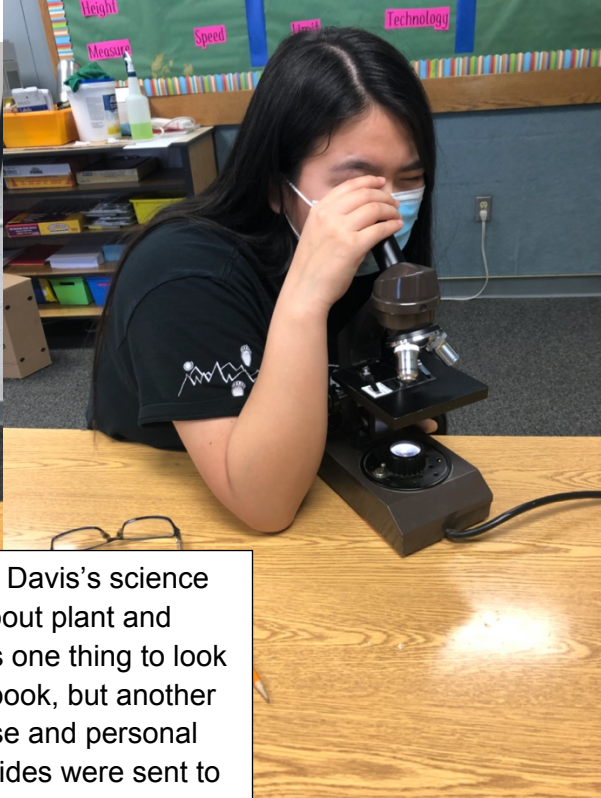
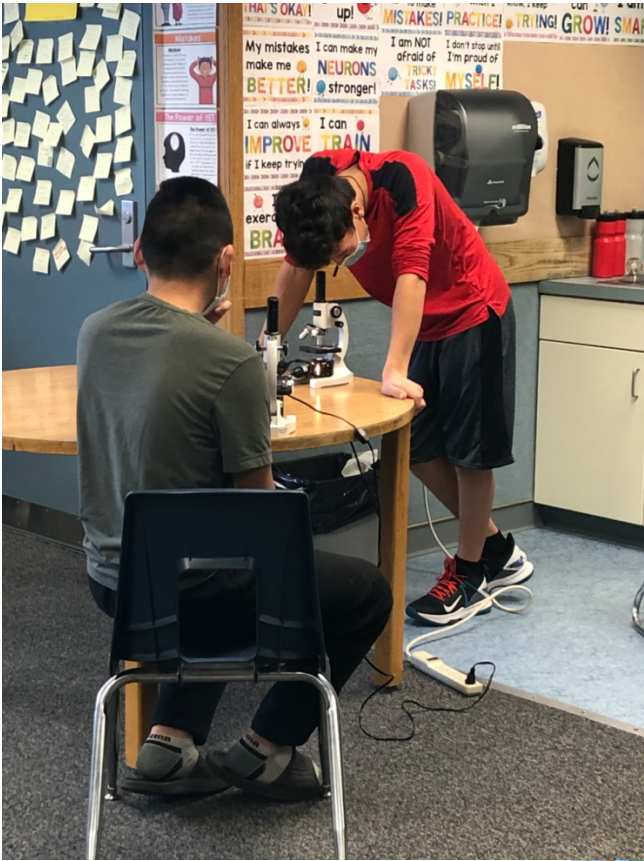
Mr. Austin's class making learning fun and creative!





**Happy Holidays from  
Kokhanok School to you!**





In January, Mrs. Davis's science class learned about plant and animal cells. It's one thing to look at pictures in a book, but another to get an up close and personal look at them! Slides were sent to us, on loan from UPMC Altoona (PA), to take a closer look at body cells such as: an umbilical cord, fallopian tubes, small intestines, and tonsils. Science is so cool!

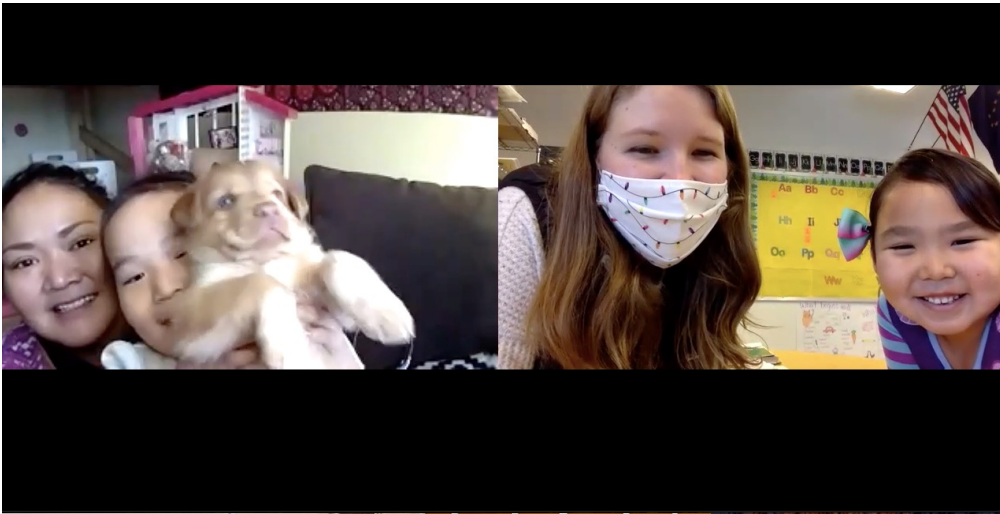


Mr. Austin and Ms. Dana's class learning symmetry and patterns. We made our own designs and patterns while also learning shape names!

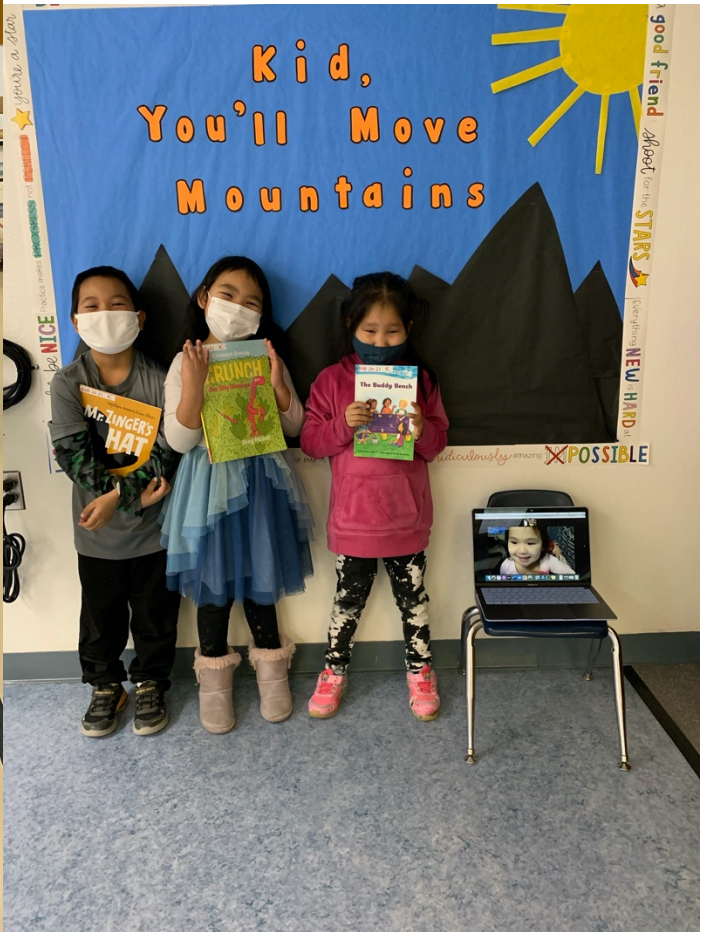


Mr. Jenks was able to Zoom in with some kiddos during our first shutdown in November. What a great social experience! Thanks, Mr. Jenks!





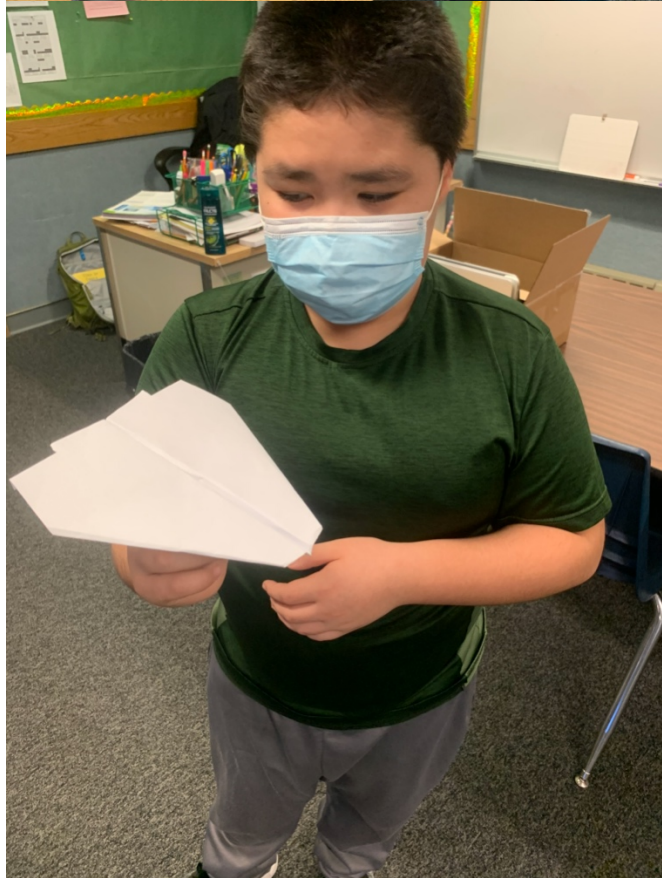
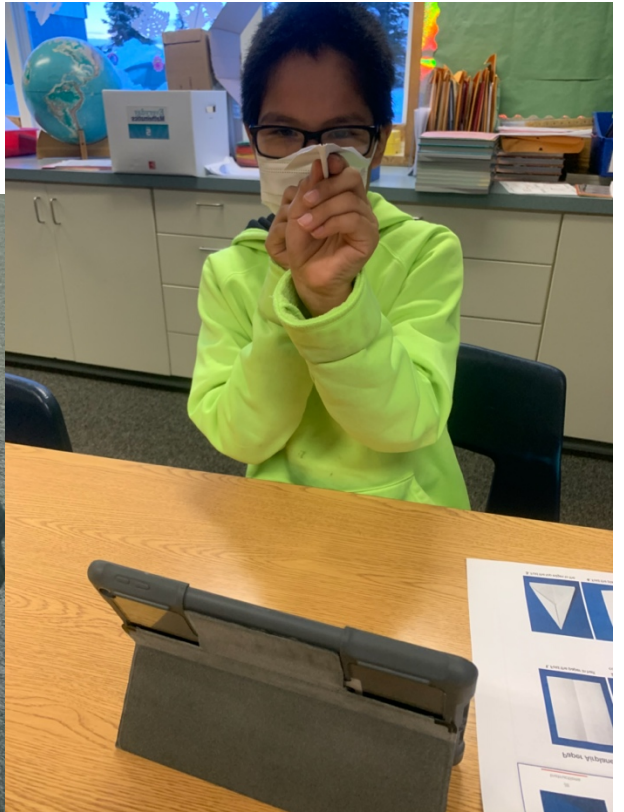
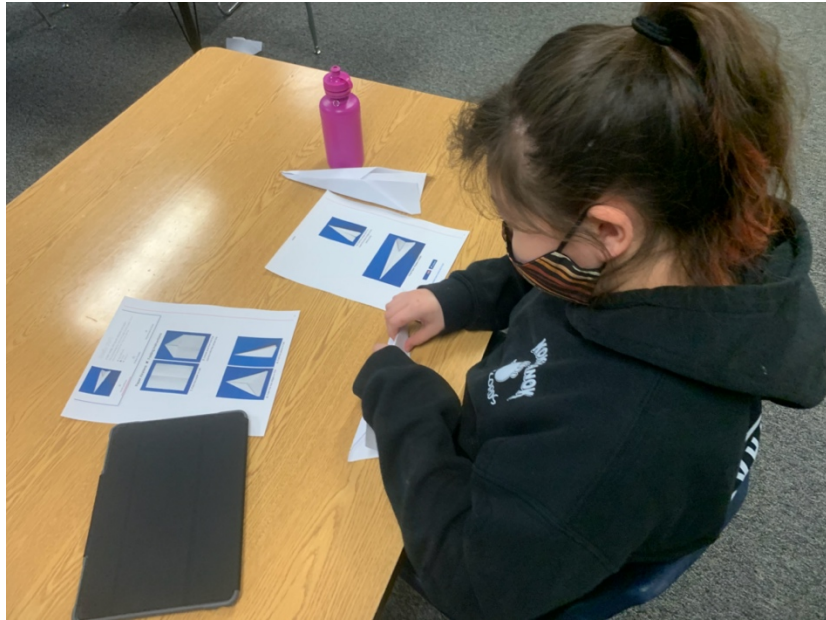
Learning doesn't stop when we're in quarantine! Ms. Dana was able to practice with the hybrid model. Teaching in school and online is no easy task, especially with puppies!



It takes a lot of prep work to make sure meals go out to all of the kiddos. Thank you, Tammi and Theresa, for making sure we had enough meals for our students. Thank you, Mr. Davis and Mr. Jenks ,for taking on this task!

**KINDERGARTEN BATTLE OF THE BOOKS CHAMPIONS!  
WAY TO GO WARLORDS!**





Mrs. Davis's reading class, integrating science again, after reading about speed, time, distance, thrust, and all that is required to launch a space shuttle! We had fun learning!





Students aren't the only ones who enjoy getting a sticker! Ms. Dana earned her first COVID-19 sticker on January 28<sup>th</sup>!

Mr. Jenk's class always warms us up with their smiles, even on a chilly, Kokhanok winter day!

