



## November 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 Board Report

### Principal's Report

We continue to have a very cohesive staff district wide, one of the best in years!

The holiday season is well upon us and each school site has been going above and beyond with their Friday activities, swim lessons, holiday plays, fundraiser dinners, Veteran's Day programs, food drives, and many other activities. Lead teachers and site staffs organize these activities in addition to the educational day. I am very proud of them for creating and maintaining a bridge between school and community. As you can see from their board reports and pictures below...these are exciting times at our schools.

We have a **Food Service audit** coming up at the end of January so we will be performing site visits in December to do impromptu inspections at our sites. I have completed the one in Port Alexander and will complete Hyder's inspection in early January when I do my scheduled site visit.

**The Thorne Bay Cafe** has been running on one adult staff and at least one paid student worker as well as a student intern from the culinary arts program. The new scaled down menu is out and Sydney has hot soups each weekend made fresh from the culinary arts students. Sydney has done a great job of organizing the cafe labor force to include members of her culinary arts class. Each student has to do at least a 15hrs internship as part of the requirement of the class. There have been some students that have already completed this internship and have requested that they be allowed to continue to volunteer down at the cafe. This is quite a testament to how Sydney has endeared herself as a classroom teacher and cafe manager to many of the students at the Thorne Bay School. She will be girls head basketball coach starting up in early December. Keep up the good Sydney!!!

**Thursday night fundraisers** at the Cafe have been a nice success. We have had three of these thus far and have had good crowds. Christy Plate has organized a list for all of the Thursdays through April. Great job Christy!!! The cafe has been a pleasant change away from the school to stage these fundraisers.

### Curriculum

The Social Studies committee members continue to meet and evaluate the current curriculum and related resources. The State has very "loose" social studies standards so we are striving to clarify ours so that each grade level learns about current events and geography as well as world, US, and local history. Monies have been allocated for this committee to meet on a few weekends and give the district feedback as well as a proposed direction to head. Lisa Cates leads up this committee.

The curriculum webpage is fully up to date and staff is being encouraged to use this as a tool not only for instruction but also assessment. We continue to add elective class syllabi

to the curriculum webpage. These are in Word format so that teachers can modify them to fit their individual school and student's needs.

## Professional Development

We are looking to send a couple of teachers to the annual ASTE conference this year. The travel and lodging are made available through a math/science grant. Cheryl Bobo is managing this grant and has been very good about getting us the information about training opportunities for our staff. Thank you very much for all that you do for our staff here at SISD and HCSD Cheryl!!!

November 18<sup>th</sup> saw our staff come together at Thorne Bay School for our teacher inservice to continue training on the Renaissance Learning program, gain an introduction to "Ed Camp" presented by Colter Barnes, and learn about how our current teacher evaluation instrument has been converted to an on-line instrument. This new on-line version has the advantage of allowing teachers to upload supporting documentation that aligns to the teacher standards. It also allows them to view classroom walk through documentation as soon as it is completed. A big thanks to Julie Vasquez and Lisa Cates for volunteering to pilot it in the Spring semester.

## Whale Pass School

Whale Pass School continues to run smoothly on a daily basis. Our October ASC dinner was a great success serving Spaghetti to all our Veterans in the Community. The students have created a wall to celebrate Veterans and their families. Each family has brought in and placed pictures of family members serving from WWII to present day. See pictures below.





Each month we elect a student of the month by secret ballot from all students in the grades and staff members. Each student receives a \$5 dollar bill and a candy bar. This month we had a tie between JD Alford-8<sup>th</sup> grade and Kelsey Brownson-Kindergarten. Congratulations to them both.

Of course the hottest topic of the month was Election 2016 on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. We've had some very interesting debates and conversations concerning the issues addressed by each candidate since school began. We've read magazines, watched debates and researched the issues. On Election Day, each student and school staff member voted in the voting booth for his/her choice of candidate. The results are as follows---Donald Trump=11, Hillary Clinton=4, Meadow Cooke=1, Rafael de la Fuente=1, I don't know=2. So as you can see Whale

Pass School had this election already figured out.







At present, we are gearing up at this time for our Christmas program. We will be performing a musical play involving all students K through 11<sup>th</sup> grades.

As a special note to the School Board and Superintendent, I would like to extend supreme gratitude to Laura Cooper for teaching the Middle School Math Class (Grades 6-8) via VTC this year. The students are enjoying and excelling from her teaching style and really like the class. Personally, I appreciate having one less class to teach and plan for. Ms. Cooper does collaborate with myself each week and daily with Anggi Wakefield who is the parapro for the class. Thank-you Laura for all your hard work!

Christine Cook  
Lead Teacher

## Hyder School

Since the last board report was before the Hyder School Halloween Party, here are some pictures of the great time everyone had!



November was an exciting month for the Hyder School. The students have been busy learning, creating crafts, and celebrating the holiday season. On Friday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, in collaboration with Ms. Scott's class at the Bear Valley School in Stewart, BC, the students participated in the annual Remembrance/Veteran's Day celebrations. In the weeks leading up to the celebration, the students learned the history behind Veteran's Day, the Star Spangled Banner and O' Canada to perform for the Remembrance/Veteran's Day celebration.



November also saw the first snowfall of the season!!!



All year long, the students have been eager to learn, and November was no different. Both the elementary and the secondary students have been busy doing projects this month. The elementary students have researched and presented on animal habitats, the Southeast

Region of the U.S. and what they wanted to be when they grow up. The secondary students researched and presented projects about Geo Scientists and Ancient Civilizations.

Chad Dillman  
Lead Teacher

## Port Alexander School

Old Man Winter has booked his “flight” to Port Alexander and is planning to stay for a while. Gone are the sun-streaked mornings and peaceful, calm evenings where one could enjoy sitting on the porch watching the eagles frolic above the bay. Now it is the time for frosted boardwalks and bone chilling rain. The weather attempted to catch us unawares but the people of Port Alexander are ready. Logs have been gathered, boats are being stored, and pantries are being filled with the last of the garden harvest and out come the thick sweaters and indoor activities.

The school is having the opposite phenomena happen. This short week before the Thanksgiving Break, we decided to go a little crazy. Monday turned out to be a Crazy Hair and Hat day.



Tuesday came around and we wanted to show our school colors of red and black. GO EAGLES!





Wednesday seemed to be a relaxing day in our PJs. At one point it seemed a bit too relaxing as “reading buddies” turned into naptime. Everyone was pretty wiped out after a big morning and they couldn’t keep their excitement going any longer.



The PA School students are “gearing up” for our Winter Program and other Winter activities that will take place over the next month. We have our annual *Holiday Bazaar being held at Bear Hall on December 3 from 11-1*. This is an opportunity for the community members to peddle their wares and for the students to show off their skills in craft making and baking. The funds earned from the students’ crafts and baked goods will go towards Friday Activity supplies and end-of-the-year travel.

We are wishing everyone a safe and happy wintery slide into December. This is PA signing off until next time.

Laura Anania  
Lead Teacher

## **Naukati School**

November was another busy month here in Naukati. We had 2 fundraisers for the ASC one at the Coffman Cove bazar and one in Craig at their Fall bazaar. We took students swimming in Craig as part of the POW Health Network Grant.

The students in the middle and high school civics class learned about the election process and on election day watched the results come in and then held a debate about it. We hosted over 15 Veterans from the island at a Veterans Day dinner on 11/11. The dinner and dessert also had a Veteran’s Day trivia contest with branch vs. branch. The Navy men and women ended up winning.

We hosted a community Thanksgiving for about 60 community members. The dinner included a pie auction that raised about \$500.00. The school donated half of the proceeds to a local community member former student that had a house fire. The Girl Scouts have been busy building Lego robots. We are enjoying our school goats and chickens. The students have been very busy helping feed and take care of these school animals.



The students have also been reading their books for the upcoming Battle of the Books. We have gained 2 new students to our Naukati School family so we are very excited. Our upcoming holiday show is going to be Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with a visit from Santa.

Jessica Goldman  
Lead Teacher

## Hollis School

The Hollis Crew on the first week of school:



### STARTING OFF THE SCHOOL YEAR:

We have a super crew at Hollis School and we are excited to share that we have twenty-five (25) new and returning students enrolled for the 2016-2017 school year. We have students ranging from Pre-K (3 & 4 yoa) through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in attendance.



Thank you: We want to send out some "thank you's" for some people who came together to help us have the resources we need to teach:

- *Thank you to the POW Health Network and Gretchen Klein and the Prince of Wales Art Center* for an amazing opportunity to work with clay to integrate art with both our life science and US history studies. Our students have thrived under Jeri's thoughtful mentorship and we have no doubt this will be another healthy life long activity. We are inspired and plan to make a homemade kiln for continued opportunities with clay.
- *Thank you Coach Gunkel and Mikael Ashe:* We had two young men participating on the District Middle School Basketball team. They loved it. Thank you to a dedicated Hollis parent who drove them to their practices and Mikael for assistance with a vehicle. Thank you Coach Gunkel for your guidance and support of our students. We so appreciate everyone's work to give our students this opportunity.
- *Thank you Alaska State Troopers:*
  - *Paul Randall* for stopping and checking on our crew when he came upon us out in the field. We sure appreciate knowing our
  - *John Ryan* for making a special trip to the school to award one of our students her first place prize for the HVFD art contest. Then, when we were not here, you went looking for and found us in the field when we were checking our hair boards. It means a lot to our students that you not only went looking for us, but that after you completed your task you stayed and enjoyed good conversation with teachers and students while we worked.

Trooper Randall and Trooper Ryan, we hope you come again. There is always fresh coffee or tea or a glass of water for Troopers when visiting Hollis.
- *Thank you Cheryl Bobo and Ellen Hannan* for your continued tireless efforts to bring authentic real world state of the art learning opportunities and resources for our students and teachers. Julie and Lisa were able to attend the recent OSMO workshop and our students are now able to access and use OSMO in the classroom. Next week Julie and Lisa will get to attend a workshop on Gizmos and Gadgets.

#### Grants and Upcoming Events:

##### *Donors Choose Grants—*

We have been so excited about our work Osmo and Dash and possibilities for our students that Julie submitted two Donors Choose grants. We are hopeful that with the addition of these items our make space with be even more exciting. The links to the grants are:

1. Dash and Dot Robots and Osmo Coding program:  
<https://www.donorschoose.org/project/help-young-eager-scientists-succeed-wit/2312332/>
2. Inspire and Encourage Creative, Artistic and Confident Kids with Technology:  
<https://www.donorschoose.org/project/inspire-and-encourage-creative-artistic/2312458/>

#### *December 15, 2016 –Hollis School Community Harvest Dinner*

Hollis School will be hosting a Harvest Dinner for students and their families and community members. Foods will include eggs and garden vegetables and wild berries we preserved as well as venison and salmon and halibut that has been donated. We are excited about building relationships, and enjoying the company and the good food prepared by our students.

#### Curriculum Highlights:

We are enjoying seeing all of our progress with the Visualizing and Verbalizing and Story Grammar Marker across curriculum in our 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms to support their writing and reading comprehension skill development and enhancement.

Junior High and High School students are really enjoying their work on the island wide wolf study and our elementary students are enjoying their continued real hands on life science with Journey North as they report on and monitor eagles, and daylight. It had even provided an opportunity for our students to connect with a school in the interior.

Our students are eagerly reading and enjoying the new Battle Books. We are exploring and looking forward to doing some literature circles with other SISD schools using Battle Books

#### Testing and Goal Setting

Junior High students are working on setting their data informed goals.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

***“Healthy Futures”***: We have another season of 100% qualified student involvement in the State of Alaska’s Healthy Futures Get Outside campaign. The students enjoy tracking their data and watch for the packages.

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

##### Current Training:

In November Lisa and Julie completed Osmo training. Both trainings included classroom resources to share with the students.

Scheduled Current Training:

Julie and Lisa are enrolled in a December 2016 Gizmos and Gadgets training. Lisa is scheduled to take an online Arts Integration class.

## **Kasaan School**

Wow this month flew by. We have had a good month although not too many exciting things have happened.

We had parent/teacher conferences that went well. We had a good turnout of parents that participated and they were pleased with the progress that the students are making.

Mr. Higson accompanied our school to the Natural Resource Day in Klawock. The students saw and participated in activities that directly impact our little piece of the world. The water erosion table was particularly interesting to all the students, and the display on the impact of the mining in Canada were of conversation after the trip.

While we were out and about that day we also went roller-skating with Mr. Higson. The students loved this activity and also tried to cripple Mr. Higson during a race by pushing him in to a wall. Thankfully he was not physically injured in the process, but he may still suffer from the trauma mentally.

All-in-all it was a very good month and things were smooth in Kasaan.

Shane Scamahorn  
Lead Teacher