



April 2019 Outer Sites Board Report

PEAKS Testing

State PEAKS testing is done for this year! I am optimistic that we will see student growth from last year scores as this is the third time that our students have seen this type of test. Unfortunately, we will not know until the end of May or early June when we receive scores from the State.

Great job to the certified and classified staff members that facilitated the testing, Airica Tripple for setting up the tech devices and troubleshooting issues and Amy McDonald for training the staff and organizing the testing!

STEAM WEEK

Science, Technology, Engineering, ARTS and Mathematics or “STEAM” is the focus of our gathering of students and teachers on April 15th – 17th at the Thorne Bay School. We are very excited to have this opportunity for students, district wide, to participate and/or compete in events such as Science Exploration Stations, Bridge Pinewood Derby, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Maker Space Art & Engineering, 3 on 3 Basketball, Rocket Golf, Speed Cup Stacking, Scholastic Book Fair, and a Talent Show. A huge thank you to all the staff and volunteers that work so hard to make this week possible!!!

Students not only get to participate and compete in these amazing events, they also get to interact with students from our geographically isolated school sites that ordinarily would not get to interact with.

Native Youth Olympics

April 22nd is the date for the 4th annual Native Youth Olympics. This year it is hosted at the Thorne Bay School. Students from around the district will gather to compete in various physically challenging events that have cultural relevance where we call home here in Southeast Alaska. Alyssa Howell and her crew at the Thorne Bay School have done a great job preparing this event!

SISD Prom

April 13th was the date for this year’s high school prom. It took place at Thorne Bay School this year. The theme was “Back to the 80’s”. A huge thank you to the Angelica Brown and Laura Anania for organizing this event!

Battle of the Books Pizza and Pool Party

SISD had over 100 students participate in this year’s annual Battle of the Books. This event fosters a love of reading as well as developing good reading habits and skills. The BOB

Pizza and Pool party is scheduled to occur on April 18th from 12:30am – 2:30pm at the pool and then at 2:30pm at Pappas Pizza for a yummy lunch. ☺

Professional Development

We are waiting for our strategic planning to be completed during the first week of May before we look at putting together a comprehensive professional development plan for next year. We did solicit responses for professional development needs for each site at mid-year. We will use this data along with the new strategic plan to develop PD for FY20.

Phlight Club @ Klawock School

Phlight Club is at the Klawock School this weekend. Kids will attend from all our SISD school sites as well as Klawock, Craig, and Hydaburg. Thank you to Amy McDonald, her crew, and the Thrive Grant for making this available to everyone, but especially the Hyder and Port Alexander students as this grant pays for charter air flights to and from Thorne Bay for their Phlight Club participants.

Nick Higson
Outer Sites Principal



Whale Pass School

We began the month of April with PEAKS testing. We had a few issues with kids being out sick, but we are proud to say all testing was completed on April 8th. The rest of April is a crazy month with STEAM week, NYO, Phlight Club, Battle of the Books Pool Party, and the National Archery competition. We hope to plan many low-key activities and adventures close to home and on this end of the island for May. Among these will be a trip to El Cap cave, Beaver Falls, and Memorial Beach.

Mr. Cook's Donor's Choose for his MS/HS class fly-fishing equipment was fully funded, so the students have been fitting in a few fly-fishing lessons. We also proposed another Donor's Choose to get a new treadmill. This project was funded in just three days.

In Mrs. Cook's social studies class we have been studying states. The students are planning a big project and will present these at the May ASC dinner. The April ASC meeting and dinner was a grand success. We had a BBQ dinner with all the trimmings, along with a dessert auction. Afterwards we had an archery shoot-off where community members and parents could challenge archers.

We are currently holding a 50/50 raffle to raise money for our archers going to Nationals. The raffle tickets will be on sale until our May ASC dinner and meeting on May 28th.

Lastly, we will have Elementary Swim Lessons every Friday in May.

Christine Cook
Lead Teacher

Hyder School

Hyder has been busy this month! We had our last fundraiser of the year, which was a bake sale to help with funds needed for extra things on our STEAM week trip. We are so excited for the trip and can't wait to participate in all of the exciting activities lined up! We have worked hard on our talent show pieces and built our soapbox derby cars, as well as made tie-dye school spirit shirts!

The elementary and middle school students have begun learning about the human body. All levels have started new books in English class: 3rd-6th is reading Matilda, 7th-8th is reading The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, and 9-12 is reading A Tale of Two Cities. Many students have reached their yearly Accelerated Reader goal as well and are very anxious for the end-of-the year parties to begin.

We have had some beautiful weather outside and have gotten to spend some time outdoors on walks and for recess. We are excited that spring is here and will provide us a better chance to do outdoor activities.



Virginia Pulley
Lead Teacher

Port Alexander School

School Happenings: We regularly update our school Facebook page if you would like to see the learning taking place in Port Alexander. We hosted the new Superintendent in PA by taking her kayaking and having a community potluck this past month. By all accounts she is a keeper! :)

6-12th Grade: Spring is a great time to live in Port Alexander. We completed our PEAKS testing, started building a tree house, studied



and launched rockets, hauled rocks, sand and kelp to build up our greenhouse with the preschoolers, cleaned, refurbished and painted our facility, we constructed models for the life sized tree

house we plan to build. We also hauled a lot of gravel to fill in and build up a large crevice in our playground where we installed a xylophone. Our students created video documentaries on various aspects of the fishing industry that they will share with the community at Bingo this week.



Kindergarten through 5th Grade: The springtime brings perfect time for improving our art skills. We took nature walks to inspire sketching practices. We went rock collecting for rock artwork and more sketching opportunities of course we had to play. We completed PEAKS testing with a general thought from students, "it wasn't that bad." We are working hard on our cookbook as part of



cooking class. This requires the use of typing skills, drawing and organization. The students are ready for STEAM week and taking time to use skills they have acquired.



~Soar High~Port Alexander!~

Joe VonDoloski, Anna Mekki, Shanna Smith, Laura Pollard, Heidi VonDoloski

Naukati School

April has been a busy month. We have finished up testing. The students did a great job and were treated with an Ice Cream Sundae Party. There were sticky fingers and smiling faces at the end of the day.

Our Chinese Dinner fundraiser for Archery was wonderful. Thank you to Shelly and John Guerra for the idea and volunteering to cook all of this amazing food. They had many

helpers besides the archers and pulled off a lucrative feed. We had a great turn out and a very exciting dessert auction. Our cheapest dessert sold for \$75.

Maybe we should start up a bakery! (just kidding) Thank you to all of you that came out to support the archers of Naukati.



As the archers prepare to go to Utah for Nationals, the middle school volleyball and elementary basketball seasons are coming to a close. The Wildcat Volleyball Team took 3rd place at the Ketchikan Tournament!

Thank you Ernie Jones for coaching the Elementary Basketball Team!

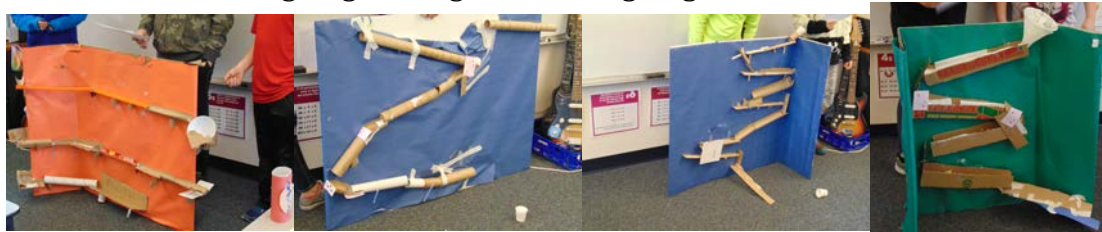
Naukati School is wishing everyone the greatest last few weeks of school! Summer is getting closer everyday.

Best Wishes,
Naukati School Staff

Howard Valentine School

How is it already APRIL??? With PEAKS done, our kids are looking forward to the upcoming events that usher in the last several weeks of school. They are hard at work preparing their Pinewood Derby Cars, practicing for the Spelling Bee, and getting ready for another STEAM Week. However, they are still hard at work and learning some new and amazing things.

In Science, our kids partnered up and worked on The Great Marble Race, in which the winning team was the team with the **slowest** time! Using Newton's Three Laws of Motion, our kids had to design a marble track and incorporate the three laws into their designs. They also continued learning about the Engineering Design Process at the same time. The kids had a blast designing, testing, and redesigning their tracks.



For social studies, our middle and high school students finished their unit on Mesoamerica with a "Museum Walk" and presentation. Each student was responsible for creating an

authentic representation of an artifact from the civilization they researched. Our kids showed their creativity with their artifacts. We had some students make food, make ceramics in the cultures' style, and even had some student's 3D print artifacts!



For our electives, the kids have been enjoying making balloon cars in Maker Space and designing d20s for gaming (20 sided dice).



Best,

Chad Dillman
Lead Teacher
Howard Valentine School

Hollis School

Thank you...



Everyone who made calls and helped us to make the necessary connections to get our live newborn chicks when they were delivered while the Klawock Post Office was expectantly closed for the week! We now have nineteen (19) amazing chickens in our classrooms awaiting their new coop!



Branzon for your work to get our wood fired boiler back up and running – the baby chickens and geese are appreciating the warmth as are our students and teachers. Thank you also as you continue to persevere to unravel the filter maze so we can have potable water.



We have another round of thanks to all who maintain, support and allocate vehicles. Thank you Alex and Terri for helping us so we can ensure we have safe transportation for our pre-school!



Librarians! This week we celebrated all librarians on National Library Day! Thank you Hollis Librarian Sandy Curtis for her weekly story and activity time at the library for our Pre-K and Kindergarten students. Thank you SISD Librarian Amanda Blankenship for always creatively supporting our students and teachers.



POW Health Network Director Heidi Young and Assistant Amy Eller for crating and supporting a enrichment opportunities for our You th Leadership members to expand their talents and interests while other events will allow the students to benefit from opportunities to lead and serve in our communities. This last month they had the chance to try scuba dicing! Once again we thank Earl Jeffrey's for mentoring our students.



James and John Stevens for supporting our Nationals Bound Archers' Chloe and CJ ongoing training to ensure they will have an amazing experience!

Current Academic Explorations:

Primary students continue to work on their exploration of community and quality of life. They have written their pamphlet text after STEAM Week they will use the green screen to create their film to celebrate their community, their learning and share with our Community Council.

Intermediate and Middle Schools continue to dive further into their Alaska Hoops Project and their New School Planning project. We are excited to see where both of these explorations take their and our learning. They will resume their progress after we return from STEAM week.

High School is wrapping up their exploration of Alaska History and Civics. We were disappointed as we had hoped to meet "Land Gone Lonesome" author Dan O'Neill when he was in Ketchikan last week but sometimes the 30 minutes distance between Hollis and Ketchikan may as well be halfway around the world. After STEAM week they will conclude their work as they identify what they believe are the most pivotal moments, places and people that define Alaska's story.

High School will spend their last month of school exploring their story as they complete their personal creed Project. Ww are looking forward to finding out what they learn about themselves.

Chicken Coop and Garden:

We are excited for our greenhouse to so be completed. In the meantime, we are locating dirt sources and a "Dirt Saturday" will soon be calendared to hardest what we

need to support our garden and greenhouse beds. We are thrilled our seeds have arrived and spring planning is underway. We hope to have another wonderful summer of community gardening in Hollis.

Our long awaited new chicken coop is almost finished. PLEASE celebrate the amazing efforts of Mike Congdon along with his thoughtful instruction to enable our students to participate with the build our coop would still be on the drawing board. We are so excited and appreciative for A4LE Alaska Chapter 2018 Transformation Grant and all of the district's support of this project so our students who have this incredible construction experience and chickens can once again be an important part of our Hollis School community.

Training:

Completed:

WOW what a STREAM Day... On Friday April 5, 2019 we had the amazing opportunity to work with, learn from and laugh with our colleagues as we Thank you to Cheryl Fecko for putting together this rejuvenating learning experience that cannot help but improve our instruction

Scheduled:

Lisa is scheduled for the annual science camp and is excited to bring back new ideas to implement in the coming year.

Julie is enrolling in the Alaska Staff Development Course for Elementary Reading Intervention Strategies.

Lisa Cates and Julie Vasquez
Partners in Education
Hollis School

Kasaan School

Hooray, we are done with testing. Testing seemed to go well in Kasaan. The students put forth great effort in testing and we did not have any technical difficulties during that time. The students are relieved to have it completed.

Like all of the other schools we are looking forward to STREAM week and the Native Youth Olympics over the next week. The students are excited to see and visit friends throughout the district and have the hands-on experiences that STREAM week provides.

On April 23 the high school students will be participating with the Mining Symposium that is put on by the Organized Village of Kasaan. The students are planning on attending one of the mines that will be toured over those days and participating in the other activities that are available.

Then on April 25 the school will be having a field trip to Ketchikan. We will be attending the First City Players Club presentation of Ramona Quimby at the Ketchikan High School. While on the field trip we will be visiting the Discovery Center in Ketchikan and if we can make an appointment we would like to tour one of the Alaska Marine Highway vessels.

In May we have a couple of field trips planned to study aquatic insects with Cheryl Fecko and the Coffman Cove School. These field trips were preempted by a training that Mike Congdon and Shane Scamahorn attended this month on this subject matter.

The elementary students are also looking forward to the upcoming swimming lessons that are available in May.

We have two students that are planning on attending Phlight Club and participating in the college trip.

Shane Scamahorn
Lead Teacher
Kasaan School