

Date: September 11, 2024

To: LPSD School Board

From: Kacy Lou Leyba

Regarding: August / September Student Services Report

I am so excited to be back working with students and our amazing staff after a rejuvenating, sunny, Alaskan summer! Our team hit the ground running by helping put on New Teacher Induction in Anchorage from August 21st through the 24th. Elisabeth Ludwig (our new Social Worker In-Training), Patty McCasland (our BBRCTE Career Guide), and myself were all able to be in person with our new staff to help guide them through their transition to their school sites. I think it is so important to support our new teachers, while also helping them to put a face to our team members' names, since we work so closely with students across the district for a variety of reasons. During that time, we were also able to have an in person team meeting with Kasie to begin to more clearly line out Elisabeth's role for the year. While she will be doing many things for our sites, her first big undertaking has been lining out district-wide social and emotional learning (SEL) lessons and individual student check ins via Zoom. We are also excited about the possibility of her helping to facilitate more holistic family interactions and activities within our schools this year. Stay tuned for more details!

As Elisabeth has gotten her feet under herself, I have begun setting up my travel calendar and weekly student meeting schedule. I was able to fly to Newhalen over Monday's inservice to meet with Elisabeth and Ed in person for a bit of strategic planning and to assemble SEL / leadership curriculum packages for sites who have requested them. It is my hope to make it to Port Heiden, Chignik Lagoon, and Perryville in October for site visits and staff CPI training as well. While I have loved the Monday inservice time, and think it offers our staff valuable professional development time and our families the time we all need to prepare for winter through our various subsistence activities, the four day weeks throughout September have made my student meeting schedules incredibly tight– even just within the first few weeks of school. I have been incredibly encouraged by the number of students who have reached out to me to continue on with their individual SEL plans or small group employability standards lessons from last year.

I know it will be a great year and we are all looking forward to continuing to make connections with students and families across the district.

For the kids,
Kacy Lou Leyba