

Tanalian School Site Report, February 2021

To: Superintendent Ty Mase
and LPSD School Board Members

From: Nate Davis, Principal

Outstanding Activities and Events

- We are very grateful for in-person schooling! Teachers and students all doing well. Green since the beginning, except for a few days of Yellow and Red in early November.
- We are very grateful for Lynx basketball season. A huge thanks to Newhalen for the home/away, and to all the officials and cleaners on both ends who were testing, social distancing, and wearing masks.
- Families were very grateful to be able to watch their children/siblings play live...all others were able to enjoy the livestreaming. PTA hosts Basketball Regionals on March 13 for a best two out of three series, with the tiebreaker games, if needed, to be played at Newhalen on March 20.
- Battle of the Books! Congratulations to the Tanalian Lynx students, parents, and coaches (and thanks to all our competitors!) for winning rounds at State Battle of the Books, with a top finish of 12th at State from our 5/6th grade team.
- Enjoy some artwork from our Art class in this edition, taught by volunteer Katherine Martin. We are very grateful for her efforts and the training our students are getting.



Personnel

- Teachers and staff are doing well.
- Tanalian was happy to host student-teacher, Rachel Speranza, who jumped right and made herself a part of the education team, hosted by ELA teachers, Cam and Nicole Metzgar. Thank you to all three for making it a successful mission for students and staff! Rachel's 8-week internship has concluded.
- Tanalian is happy to host UAS K-8 practicum student, Michael Dickerson, who is also a great musician and is giving above and beyond, by giving personal music lessons to students after hours, as well as preparing and delivering music and art in education professional development to teachers.
- Tanalian is happy to host Tutor Kacy Lou Leyba, who is doing a great job with a full schedule of students. Kacy lived at PTA for a couple years a few years back, but is an experienced teacher and principal who is adding much to our school.

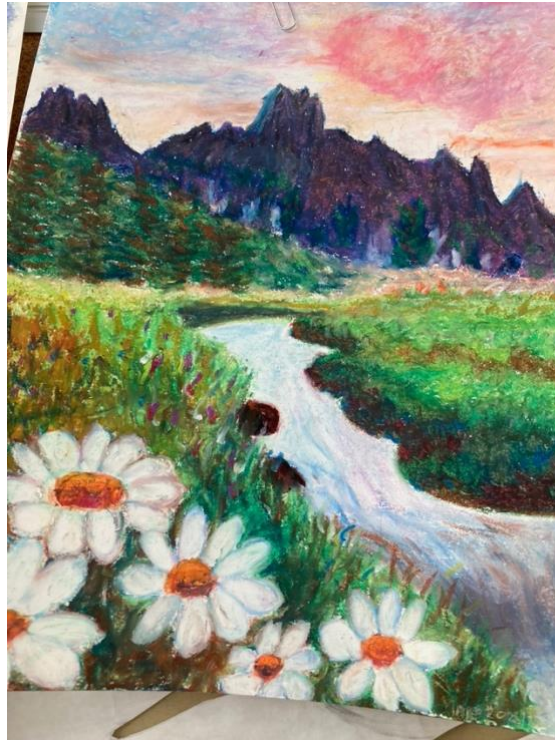
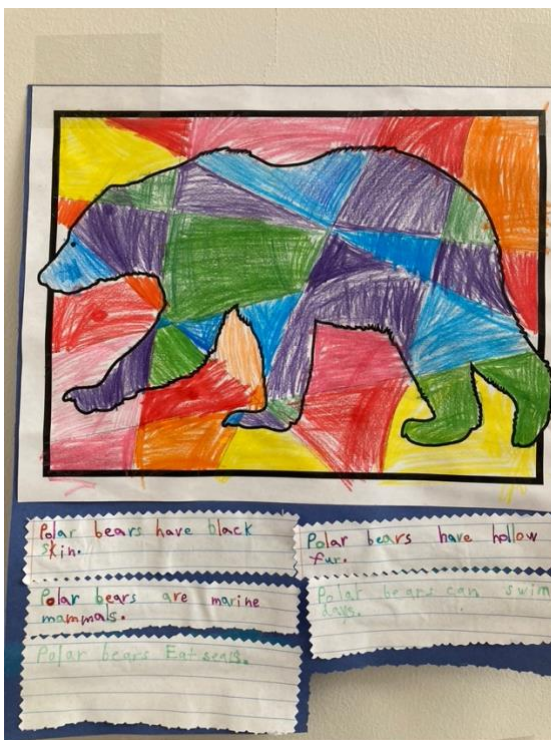


Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress

- All students continue to progress, thanks to in-person learning, hybrid learning when necessary, and the great support from teachers and parents.
- Senior Julian Rice finished all of his standards in January and was selected for the 3-month CTE marine program in Valdez. He plans to return to Port Alsworth April 16 to graduate with his classmates on April 18th. Julian reports it is a great program and he is loving it... which earns a shout-out to Zach Stenson and BBRCTE!

Technology Progress

- Students were thrilled to receive their brand-new laptops and accessories. A HUGE thanks to the LPSD Tech team and onsite Laura Wilder for all the behind the scenes set-up and then getting them out the door and into student hands!



Facility Update

- COVID adjustments: desks spaced out as far as possible, equilateral triangle seating at lunch, limited to 3 people per table, extra tables and chairs set up at lunch, 20 additional cleaning and disinfecting hours per week employed, spray bottles and wipes in every classroom, disinfectant gel available in several locations, almost all recesses outside with reduced numbers of students, smaller cohorts, and masks required since November.



LSAC Activity

- Tanalian LSAC continues to have regular meeting, most recently March 2, with standard agenda items, but an emphasis on COVID-19 precautions. LSAC sent letters to the school board and Covid Council to request that Tanalian be allowed to return to its Site Specific Smart Start Plan when we are in the Green.

Volunteer Report

- Katherine Martin- offers Art to several classrooms when Tanalian is in the Green
- Mark McGee, Bret Zimmerman, Patti Brock, Sherri Davis, Jordan Weber, Nicole Metzgar, Rachel Speranza- helping in their respective ways to pull off basketball games.
- Christy Zimmerman and Sherri Davis- working with Nicole Metzgar to guide the AK Studies students to build their own kuspuks.
- Jen Opland, PE Aide, volunteers even more time to keep our Library in order
- Heidi Wilder volunteers regularly in the pre-school room.

Professional Development

- Michael Dickerson (UAS Practicum student) offers bi-weekly professional development for teachers, as we explore how to use music and art to help teachers teach and students learn across the curriculum.
- Science projects, below:



Pupil Attendance

- Attendance has been relatively good, but has fallen off with the mask mandate and out-of-village travel. Two to three students do not come to school when masks are required. Three to five students leave early in the afternoon whenever masks are mandated. One or two students get migraines or other illness and leave early when masks are mandated.

Student and Staff Safety

- This year has been all about COVID-19 precautions. We have been Green except for a few days last fall in the Yellow and Red.
- No cases of Covid-19 since December.
- We started morning exercises in January. Each morning at 8:15, we start music in the gym. At 8:25, we watch a cross-over brain video and follow the exercises, followed by speedy announcements, a word of the week, the Pledge, and then off to class at 8:31... all with social distancing. These have helped with morning energy and the good feelings of camaraderie and school spirit.
- Wash your hands, keep your distance, cover your cough, no symptoms in school- and Keep Living!

Subsistence Calendar

- PTA teachers continue to deliver strong instruction whether in Green, Yellow, Red, or Subsistence!

Other

