

Patrick's Lead Teacher Report

The school year is off to a great start. We have a great team in the elementary that is helping to provide the levels of differentiated instruction that our students need. We have Michaela working as a student teacher and she has been great at planning and teaching lessons in some subjects, and assisting students in all subjects. We also have Laura working as a paraprofessional, who has been excellent in supporting our students.

We typically spend our mornings working hard on reading, writing, and math lessons. In the afternoon we are engaging our students with science lessons based on our diverse, rich ecosystems. As well as social studies lessons that focus on earth science, history, and information about our fascinating world.

We have also started right into our archery lessons and practice sessions. This is the first time in my six years in Port Alexander that we have had a strong interest in archery from multiple students. We chose to begin practice early while the playcourt is warm so that we are not battling the cold weather as much later in the fall. The students are improving their skills as archers each practice session!

Looking ahead, we have some upper elementary students interested in photography. I have been communicating with other teachers and staff in our district on how to successfully launch lessons on photography. We are gearing up for testing next week. And we are enthusiastically planning for the school board meeting to be at our site on September 17th.

A big thank you to our maintenance staff for the new doors and upgrades to our school this summer. We appreciate the support. Also a shout out to our host parent, Susan, who is taking on the cook/food prep position at our school.

We are striving to do the best at educating all of our students and making school a positive experience.

Julia's ATTSAA Report

Our twelve 2025 ATTSAA students have been intrigued in the beautiful world that surrounds them in Port Alexander. We started off our program with orientation on Saturday where we had some fun engaging get-to-know-you activities, talked about safety expectations, tsunami awareness, reviewed our program contract, talked about strategies to overcome certain circumstances he/she might face while in the program, and gave out materials for their welcome kits/backpacks. Kayak training was completed by Mr. Trischman on Monday with about half of the students tipping over and re-entering the kayak successfully.



During our first day of school, it was so nice that we had to walk to the Point to go over our syllabus and our “on-going-project” expectations. The first day ended with completing their first scientific field journal entry.

Wednesday was full of Port Alexander history through a powerpoint and some “old-timers” coming into the classroom to help relay how the town was “back in the day”. We also watched a video that was created by high school students 25 years ago! That was followed by a tour of the history museum, and a walk into the muskeg to count the species in the muskeg! We are off to a great

start and have many themes and experts to look forward to! Week 2 AMSEA (Alaska Marine Survival Education Association) training will be taught by Michaela Larsen, Week 3 intertidal zone will be taught by Kari Paustin from the Sitka Sound Science Center, Week 4 will be traveling to Port Armstrong to learn about the fisheries of Alaska and how the hatchery works, Week 5 Northwest Coastal Formline Art will be taught by a Tlingit from Sitka (Robert Hoffman), Week 6 Forage to Finish will be taught by Julia Trischman, Week 7 Marine Debris will be taught by Julia Trischman, Week 8 Mycology/subsistence processing will be taught by Julia Trischman, and Week 9 and 10 will be spent presenting on-going projects and getting ready for Whalefest November 7-10. We have a great bunch of students, and I look forward to progressing through our program together!