

## Tanalian School Site Report, September 2021

To: Superintendent Kasie Luke  
and LPSD School Board Members

From: Nate Davis, Principal

### Outstanding Activities and Events

- We are off to a great start for our Lynx cross-country season! Four varsity runners and two junior high students traveled to Anchorage September 10th to compete in the ACS annual race & Palmer Invitational. These students raced their hearts out and are looking forward to racing in Seward, Eagle River, and Naknek over the next several weeks.
- September 8th was the official kick off for Lynx JV & Varsity volleyball. Our students have enjoyed being back in one of the rhythms they love most and we are hopeful for a full season, complete with cautious travel this fall.
- A huge shout-out to the Tanalian staff making our elementary sports program come alive for our K-6th grade Lynx. In August, Brandon Hummel coached football and soccer. Throughout September, Matthew Grossmann is coaching ultimate frisbee three afternoons a week to keep our students active.



Lynx XC at their first meet of the season in Anchorage!

### Personnel

- Tanalian is happy to host two student teachers this fall from SUNY Geneseo College in New York. Caroline is co-teaching K through 2nd grade alongside Mrs. Brock and Katie is co-teaching 3rd through 5th grades alongside Mrs. Voran. Both student teachers have already gotten into the subsistence lifestyle, as they were welcomed with a berry picking adventure in the woods just outside campus. We also have Port Alsworth local Kacy Lou Leyba joining our team this school year as a principal practicum student through UAA's educational leadership program.
- Sarah Wardell officially joined the Lynx teaching staff this fall as our new part-time Special Education Teacher, after serving successfully for years as one of our special education aides!
- Additionally, Riley Morigeau joined our team as our part-time P.E. teacher and custodian and Patty Alsworth will be back volunteering for "Music Mondays" with our students.



Left photo: Sarah Wardell hard at work || Right photo: Our student teachers berry picking with principal practicum student and their new neighbors.

### **Standards Based System/Curriculum Progress**

- PEAKS scores are in! Once again, our students performed very well, with 65% of Tanalian students Proficient or Advanced in Math and 75% Proficient or Advanced in Language Arts, compared to 34% and 40%, respectively for the State of Alaska. Well done students, parents, and teachers! It takes all of you working hard to achieve so high. Let's do it, again, this year!
- Senior Nezzie Fowler recently completed her standards and chose to graduate this fall in order to pursue an internship in the Anchorage area.
- We currently anticipate having 3 additional graduates this school year.
- Several students are in the process of applying their summer work and cultural experiences toward their PEP standards to Experience Out. We look forward to seeing their presentations at LSAC meetings throughout the fall.
- Having lost 1.0 FTE due to decreased enrollment, we have been able to arrange our school schedule this year to allow our highly qualified teachers to spread their passion and knowledge to all grade levels. Thank you to teachers for their great scheduling ideas, flexibility, and their can-do spirit!



Mr. Hummel is living his dream of teaching various levels of science this year.

### Technology Progress

- We are excited to use our new Pixelot sports camera for volleyball season that Shane Mullins worked tirelessly to install last spring.

### Facility Update

- Led by Patti Brock and Jen Opland, Tanalian School was the recipient of an entirely new library collection this summer thanks to this year's Literacy Grant. We were able to donate our previous library collection to homes all throughout our community, thus increasing our students' ability to learn and grow at home.
- 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, spray bottles and wipes in every classroom, disinfectant gel available in several locations, more recesses outside with reduced numbers of students, smaller cohorts, and masks are recommended. Weekly negative test required for all student-athletes traveling out of the village.

### LSAC Activity

- Tanalian LSAC continues to have regular meetings, most recently September 14th, with standard agenda items, but an emphasis on COVID-19 precautions. LSAC and parents are very thankful the Board and Covid Council allowed PTA to continue to execute its Site-Specific Smart Start Covid Plan.

### Volunteer Report

- Jen Opland and Patti Brock continue to go above and beyond to ensure our new library is kept in order. Thank you for your help!
- Thank you, Matthew Grossmann and Brandon Hummel for keeping our elementary students moving this fall through our new sports initiative.

### Professional Development

- Our district-wide back-to-school professional development time was largely focused on ensuring our students' learning is data driven. Thank you Nicole Metzgar, Bill Cornell, Kate Cornell, and the rest of the LPSD team who helped make sure our team was well prepared for the school year.

### Pupil Attendance

- Students were excited to be back in the building after a long summer and our attendance continues to be good.



Mr. Metzgar leads elementary students in making "bobcat and rabbit scat" cookies. Yum?

### Student and Staff Safety

- This year continues to be about COVID-19 precautions. We are currently exercising caution to the best of our ability through the measures listed above.
- We are constantly encouraging everyone to wash their hands and be good friends from a distance.

### Subsistence Calendar

- PTA teachers continue to deliver strong instruction whether in Green, Yellow, Red, or Subsistence!
- Many PTA families are continuing to love the subsistence lifestyle we are afforded here in our beautiful state. Three cheers for moose season!

### Other Father-Son Moose Hunt: Coach Davis and Coach Davis

