

SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Greenhouse/Ag Report May 3, 2023, SISD School Board Meeting Submitted by: Amanda Kiely, Greenhouse Ag Program Manager

SISD has officially been awarded a \$60,000 USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant for the 2024 growing season. This grant will pay for a full-time professional greenhouse manager in Coffman Cove March-September who will lead a systematic data collection study to determine the highest yielding vegetable crops for an Alaskan aquaponic system. Data collection will be tied into school curriculum, enhancing student knowledge and agricultural interest. The study will optimize vegetable yields and streamline efficiency for years to come, increasing the availability of healthy, locally grown produce to POW residents.



Upcoming Plant Sales:

Saturday May 6 - Coffman Cove - small sale with potted flowers and vegetable starts Saturday May 13 - Thorne Bay - LARGE SALE - Over 100 Mother's Day hanging baskets, potted flowers and vegetable starts Saturday May 20 - Hollis - tentative

Students in multiple grades are helping with greenhouse duties, plant care, raised bed planting, and more. Homeschool students have recently been participating in horticulture lessons at the Thorne Bay greenhouse.

The Coffman Cove greenhouse pipes are finally (mostly) repaired! Goldfish are coming and starts are planted for eventual transport into deep water beds. Major Coffman Cove school orchard and raised bed improvement projects are scheduled for May 18-25 when the PCA mission group is visiting.

