

January 22, 2020 School Board Meeting

Regional School Board Report – Grants Department, Brian Krosschell

School Bus Replacement Program from Alaska Energy Authority

We were awarded funds to help with the purchase of 4 school buses from the Alaska Energy Authority. The buses will cost us \$115,950 each up front. We will be reimbursed for 80% of the cost after we complete the requirements of the grant which include destroying the engine and frame of the bus. The goal of the grant is to take old polluting vehicles off of the road and replace them with cleaner more efficient vehicles. For this reason, the buses must be destroyed to get reimbursed for the new buses.

Greenhouse Plan

Coffman Cove Greenhouse and Aquaponics System: We continue to look for grant funding and to reach out to outside organizations. There is a very competitive USDA grant called SPECA that we may apply for. We also started discussions with UA and Sealaska for possible partnerships.

Thorne Bay Greenhouse and Aquaponics System: Priscilla Goulding is volunteering to help with the greenhouse. She would like to create a team of volunteers to share the responsibilities of the greenhouse and aquaponics system.

Kasaan Greenhouse: We are working with the LaNiece Congdon with the Organized Village of Kasaan to grow mushrooms as part of a soil remediation project.

Whale Pass and Hollis: Greenhouses and chickens are surviving the cold.

Port Alexander: Would like to consider goats as an addition to their agriculture program.

Hyder: Should be receiving an indoor garden/hydroponics system any day. They are already growing herbs and plants in a smaller indoor unit.

Alaska Comprehensive Literacy Grant from the State DEED

We were awarded the Comprehensive State Literacy Development grant. We applied for the grant as the fiscal manager to provide services to SISD, Chatham SD, Hoonah SD, Yakutat SD, and Pribilof SD. The grant is just over a million dollars for the consortium of districts during the 5 years. This year will be a planning year. The remaining 4 years would be implementation years. Charles Becker will be the Literacy Coordinator for the grant.

Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Planning Grant

The Opioid & Addiction Task force will be meeting from the Thursday, January 23, from 12PM-1PM. The goal of this grant is to come up with a service plan to address opioid addiction in our region. After the plan is developed, there is an implementation grant that will be made available around April.

Dancing with the Spirit

The Dancing with the Spirit group continues to work its way around the district sharing music with the K-12 students. This opportunity is the result of hard work from Priscilla Goulding securing funds from multiple sources including the Crossett Foundation, RurALCap, and SEARHC.

Preschool Grant Update

Thorne Bay School – average of 14 students

Howard Valentine Coffman Cove – 2 students

Naukati Bay School – 1 student

Barry Craig Stewart Kasaan – 3 students

Port Alexander School – 1 student

Hyder, Hollis, Whale Pass not part of the grant at this time.

The schools in the grant are using the *Creative Curriculum* program. This program aligns with the required *My Teaching Strategies* assessment we are using as part of the grant.

If you have any suggestions, or ideas that need funding, please feel free to call me at (907)828-8254 or email me at bkrosschell@sisd.org .