

Tikigaq School  
November 5, 2020

It has been a challenging year for our students, staff and community as we started two weeks late and on yellow. Students and staff wore masks and parents and community members had limited access to the building.

Some of the changes are:

1. Elementary school students, ECE to Grade 6, are attending school in a 5 day per week in either a morning or afternoon shift. Students are focusing on the core subjects of Language Arts and Math along with Inupiaq language instruction.
2. We moved from a 7 period class day to a 6 period class day for Middle and High School students, 5 days per week.
  - A. This was done to allow for more time for students in class. (3780 minutes for 1/2 Credit vs 1620 minutes.)
  - B. We realized that if we ran a 2 day class schedule students would become upside down on their sleeping schedules and with the lack of Internet connectivity our students couldn't access online learning. In class is best.
  - C. With over 120 students in grades 7-12 we needed to add class sections in order to keep class size near 10 students each. We added Mr. Berry the credit recovery/interventions teacher, teaching Grade 7/8 Math and Principal Schildbach, teaching Grade 7/8 Physical Science. We have advertised recently for a Middle School Math and Science teacher.
3. There is a 1 hour and 45 minute break in the middle of the day to allow time for cleaning. There are two 15 minute transitions at the beginning and end of the break. There is a 30 minute teacher lunch and a 45 minute teacher preparation period.

Community Resource

1. We are working on establishing a branch campus with Ilisagvik College within Tikigaq School. Students will be working after school to gain college credit or work on credit recovery. Any community member that is interested in pursuing training or college credit are also welcome.

Student work

1. During our recent 3 ½ week closing of school almost all of our students picked up packets of work. There were between 10 and 15 students that did not and our bus staff delivered the work to homes. This would be similar to the number of students that we are usually monitoring for performance.
2. Last Spring, students had 'banked' their grades from the third quarter and the grading policy that was put in place allowed for students to not fail. The struggle this fall is that students did not have this buffer in place and they received grades for the work they turned in this fall. After students returned, last week, we worked with them to make up their work prior to quarter grades. We will be working with students to make sure that they will not have to be participate in credit recovery.

### Teacher and Staff Health

1. Staff and teachers have been encouraged to take mask breaks and participate in exercise breaks during the day.
2. We are working on a staff member(s) of the month program to offer rewards to staff that are going above and beyond.
3. With most of the staff staying over Christmas Break we are looking at gatherings or activities that staff can participate in.

### Athletics & Activities

1. The Tikigaq School Cross Country team successfully participated in the Alaska State Championships. Coaches Jesse McCloud and Ryann Schedel were instrumental in helping our students attend this activity while keeping them safe from Covid. Joelian Lane and Henry Kowunna qualified for State, but Henry did not attend due to concerns about Covid. We did send an alternate student, Roman Lane, but he was not allowed to run. Tatianna Nashookpuk and Virginia Teayoumeak qualified on the Lady Harpoonerettes. Joelian ran well but twisted his ankle and could not finish. Tatianna finished 8<sup>th</sup> and Virginia finished 9<sup>th</sup> in their Division.
2. There is an after-school music program that we are offering twice a week to our students.

### Maintenance and Operations

1. With the school shut down there was a lot of work completed by M&O
  - A. The main Elementary bathrooms, that had burst water lines, were repaired. A new water line heating manifold was added to prevent water line breaks in the future.
  - B. The propane delivery lines were replaced and the propane storage shed was repainted.
  - C. All of the shipping containers were moved to a central location, organized and inventoried.
  - D. Porches were rebuilt on 5 of the teacher housing units. Most were close to failing.
  - E. A swinging gate was built for dumping garbage from a back porch. This will minimize injuries from lifting heavy garbage cans.
  - F. Two units in the 5-plex were renovated using onsite materials and labor.
  - G. The Johnson Control's computer unit, that controls the air handlers in the school, has been replaced and heat is much more even in the building.
  - H. The large freezer compressor is not working correctly and needs repair to make it through the year. This is being scheduled for repair soon, after funds are allocated.