



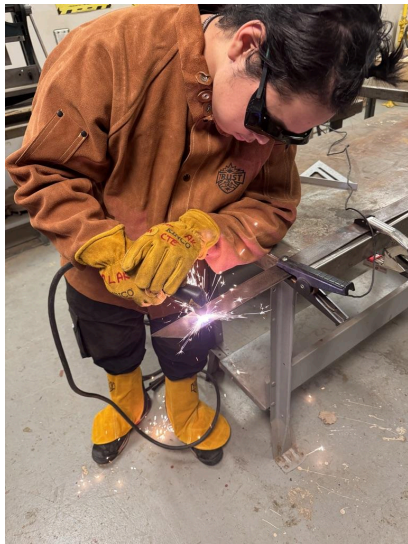
**Ałak School  
Highlighted School Report  
May 2026**

**Interim Principal: Harlee Harvey**

**Distinguished Student**

***Evans Panik, 12th grade***

He is regarded by peers to be a leader, often being approached for his advice and insight. He is willing to try new things and has taken advantage of the myriad of opportunities offered from our Ałak CTE teacher and through the intensives at Qatqiññaigvik. He has participated in construction, welding, and more through those programs. In addition to his academics, he is active in our music program. He has performed at several school events, both as part of the Music Club group and solo. He has expressed interest in pursuing a career in the trades after graduation, but is not exactly sure what trade he is going to pursue yet. Evans Panik graduates on May 8th. We are excited to see what the future holds for him and his fellow classmates.



*Students with 90% or better attendance:*

*Ambrose Harvey - ECE 4  
Alexander Harvey - 2nd grade  
James Ipalook - 3rd grade  
Oliver Aveoganna - 4th grade  
Tristan Bordeaux - 4th grade  
Harper Harvey - 5th grade  
Lizzie Okpeaha - 6th grade*

*Marshall Bodfish - 7th grade  
Chelsie Patkotak - 7th grade  
Melanie Ahmaogak - 8th grade  
Everett Nashoalook - 12th grade  
Eben Panik - 12th grade  
Evans Pank - 12 grade*

*Students with 80%-89% attendance*

*Malakai Phillips - ECE 3  
Howl Alvarez - ECE 4  
Elora Gaité - ECE 4  
Thomas Aveoganna - 1st grade  
Zoey Ekak - 2nd grade  
Beverly Aveoganna - 3rd grade  
Martin Okpeaha-Oktollik - 3rd grade  
Shelbi Agnasagga - 4th grade  
Michael Brower - 4th grade  
Asher Harvey - 4th grade  
Calvin Okpeaha-Oktollik - 4th grade*

*Janelle Kagak - 6th grade  
Lorisa Okpeaha - 6th grade  
Grace Mekki - 7th grade  
Jerry Panik - 7th grade  
Carmen Ungudruk - 7th grade  
Nathaniel Ahmaogak - 8th grade  
Sadie Panik - 8th grade  
Millie Peetook - 8th grade  
Donovan Bodfish - 9th grade  
Cyrus Kippi - 9th grade  
Adina Nayakik - 11th grade*

**Distinguished Staff**

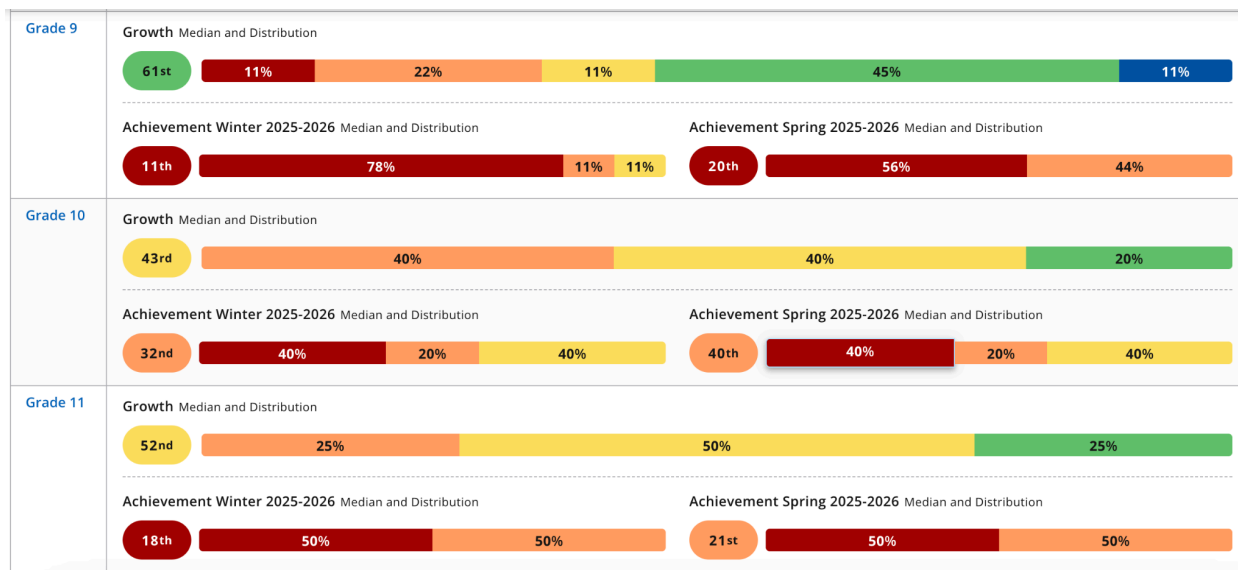


*Daisy Esguerra, Math & Art Teacher – Certified Staff*

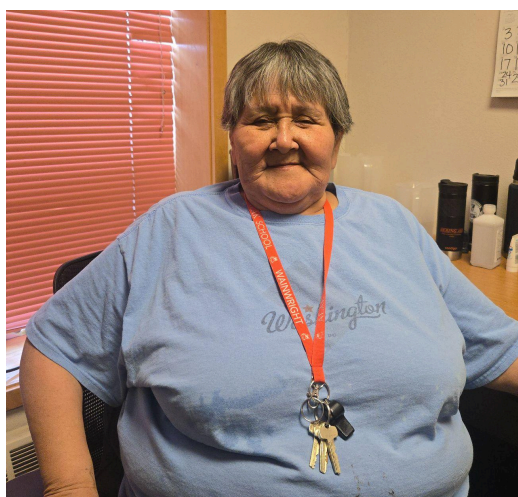
Ms. Esguerra has worked at Alak School for 3 years. She is a calm presence for her students and the high school side of our building. She primarily teaches high school math. Her instruction is grounded in the lives and cultures of her students. People frequently claim to not know how they will use the math skills gained in high school in real-life. Nobody sitting in her class can make that claim. She gives real-world examples of how her content applies directly in the lives of her students. She is intentional about including Inupiaq knowledge systems and culture in her classroom. Her math classes also had some of the greatest growth in our school, with all classes seeing growth and improvement in achievement. In addition to teaching math class, she also has taught art this year. Her room is a display of the amazing work our students can do through a variety of mediums. Through her support, students have entered several art competitions for their drawing, painting, and sculpting. One

of our students, Arianna Agnasagga, had her artwork selected by Congressman Begich for consideration for the Congressional Art Award. We are thankful for Ms. Esguerra's dedication and guidance for our students and school.





*Elsie Bodfish Ahmaogak, Home School Facilitator– Classified Staff*



Elsie has served as our home school facilitator for many years, providing consistent support and service to our students and their families. She shared with me that she has been employed by the district for 48 years! She started with the North Slope Borough School District in September of 1977. She is welcoming of all staff and students and is willing to help wherever she is needed. Her level of dedication brings a calm and consistent atmosphere to the building, for students, staff, and families.

**Enrollment: 133**

Pre-K3/K4: 13	Kinder: 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade: 10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade: 9	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade: 9
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 12	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 9	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 6	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 12	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 7
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 10	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 7	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 9	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 15	

**Attendance: 70.6%**

Attendance will be a big focus of school improvement as we move into next year. While we have faced significant challenges in this area, particularly illnesses that hit our families hard in the spring, we believe there is growth to be had and expect to see an increase next year with some of the efforts we will be trying.

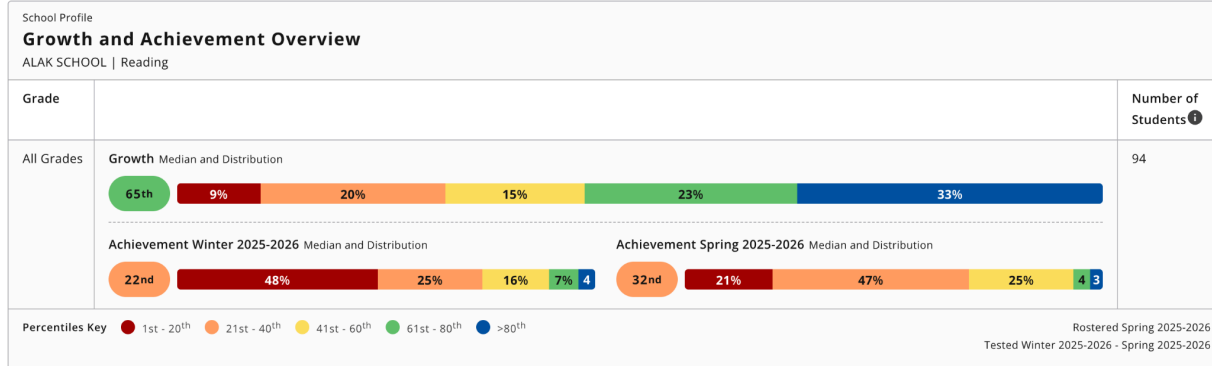


# Highlights:

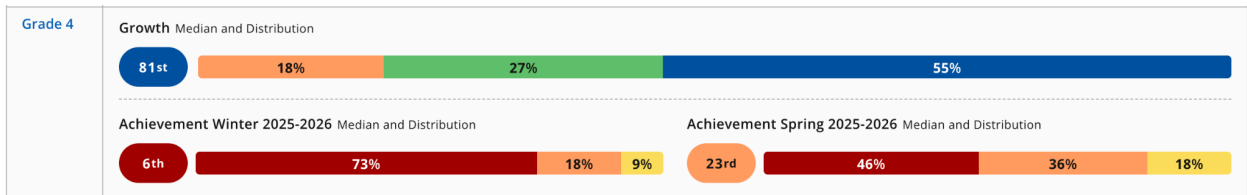
## Student growth and achievement:

NWEA MAP testing window has closed. Here are some highlights from that test:

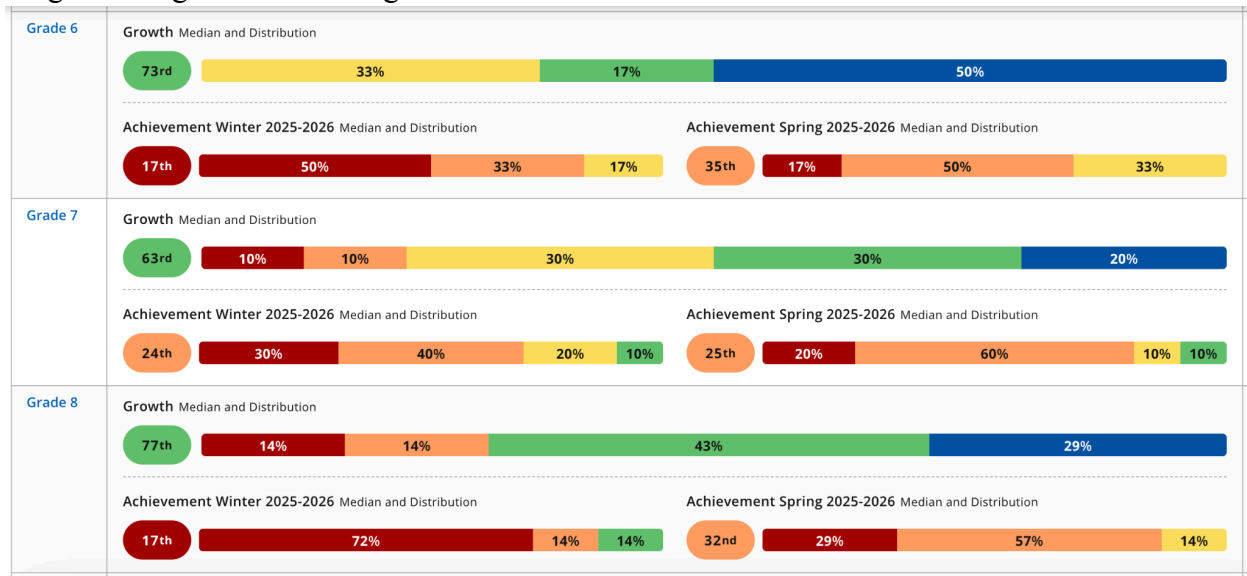
From Winter '26 to Spring '26 our school was in the 65th percentile for growth in Reading. Our achievement jumped from the 22nd percentile to the 32nd percentile.



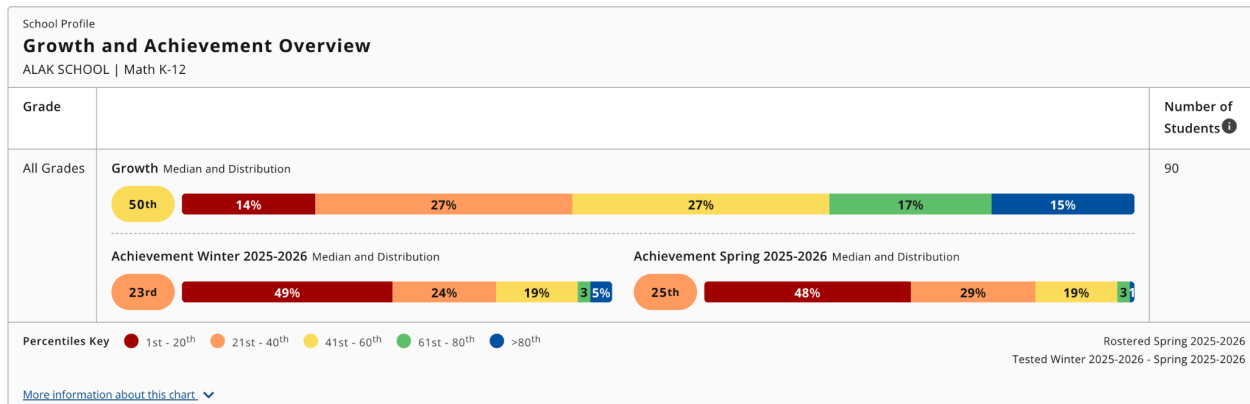
The most notable growth occurred in 4th grade, which had growth in the 81st percentile.



Our middle school students also shone bright during this testing cycle, with all three classes in the green for growth in reading!



We also saw higher growth from Winter to Spring than was observed between Fall and Winter. As a school, our growth was in the 50th percentile. Especially notable with the growth observed in Ms. Esguerra’s high school classes.



Our focus on academics has manifested itself in several notable ways. Our boys basketball team earned the academic award at regionals and 93% of our seniors graduate May 8th!



Alak Boys Basketball team earning the academic award at regionals. Pictured (left to right): Jonathan Sarren, Kunuk Peetook, Jesse Bodfish-Panik, James Bodfish, Kendall Ekak, Kaden Ahmaogak, Donovan Bodfish, Dennis Aveoganna-Zabala, Tommilynn Ahmaogak (coach)

### Student activities

Our students have had many opportunities to engage in extracurricular activities this year. We had students compete in basketball, NYO, robotics, art, volleyball, and battle of the books. We also have an active music club, having performed during the Christmas program, for the Tumitchiat Sivunmen Period,



and most recently, prom. We were also very lucky to have coaches from Ski-Ku make a trip to our site in April, including Olympian Hailey Swirbul who represented Team USA recently in Italy. Students of all ages were able to take advantage of the nice weather for skiing outside.



*NYO athletes at the Juneau competition*



*NYO athletes competing at State*



*Amy Matthews and Kaelyn Driggs performing for the district during TSP*



*Group photo with Ski-Ku*



## Prom

We celebrated prom on May 2nd. We started with a grand march and coronation ceremony. Families were welcome to take photos after, before closing the event to only high school students. The students had an enjoyable night of singing, dancing, and enjoying each other's company. It is a great way, particularly for our seniors, to celebrate the week before their graduation.



## Iñupiaq Language

Kathy Bodfish (Ilisauri Aalak) and Madeline Hickman (Ilisauri Apikrak) have worked hard this year towards helping students in their language acquisition efforts.

In Ilisauri Aalak's class, students focus on verbal production and conversation. Every day she is teaching in Iñupiaq and the students are listening and responding. It is exciting to see and hear. Several students have made impressive progress in Ivalu. Nashookpuk (James Ipalook, 3rd grade) has passed 13 units. Kalayyak (Dominick Aguvluk, 5th grade) and Ibburlik (Asher Harvey, 4th grade) have gained 14 units. Attagnaq (McKenzie Nayakik, 3rd grade) has gained 15 units. And Avaiyak (Alexander Harvey, 2nd grade) has gained 16 units. These students have to listen and identify the vocabulary words and phrases in the Ivalu program. They also have to pass a verbal production test in order to pass onto the next level. The gains these students have made are very impressive!



## **Ilisauri Apikrak has also been focusing on instructing in**

### **Message from Ilisauri Apikrak:**

*Iñupiaq class 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> have done an awesome job with translating from English to Iñupiat, also translating from Iñupiat to English. They have learned to ask fellow students in each class qanuq taiñaqpak taniktun "uqausiqput piññaqnaqtuq " Siakiaruk in which he replies "our language is valuable. Then he in turn asks another student "qanuq tiañaqpak Iñupiatun - I will speak everywhere, in which that student say "sumipayaaq uqagnaqtuḡa. The students are awesome readers in Iñupiaq, both in singing Iñupiaq songs and reading from the green book which are in Iñupiaq.*

*The middle school students did sew Christmas ornaments and they did well. The 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grade students have advanced in reading and singing in Iñupiaq. When Susan Hope came, she started the students in sewing nasautaq. One 11<sup>th</sup> grade student did finish her nasautaq and one 9<sup>th</sup> grade student is getting close to finishing her nasautaq also. The rest of the students are also close to connecting the leather cover, to the muskrat, and the fur inner lining.*

*I am so proud of the students for excelling in learning to read in Inupiat. I am also proud of a parent telling me that her two kids converse in Iñupiaq at their home, and mom keeps asking what they are saying. Some day soon the kids will start talking amongst themselves in our Iñupiaq. I am truly proud of all the students. - Madeline*



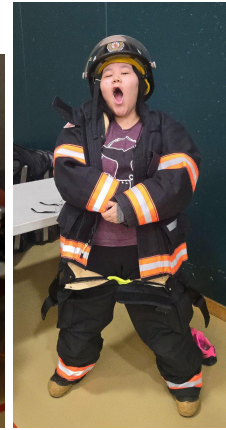
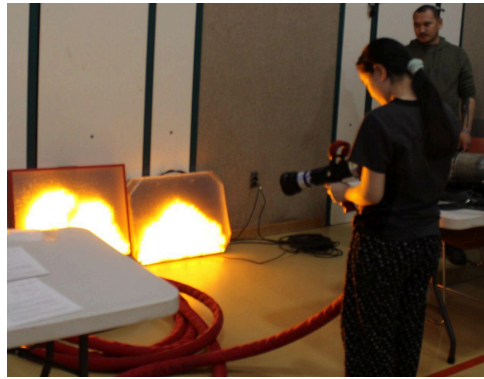
*Ilisauri Apikrak with students during an award assembly in January*

## **Community partnerships**

We had several events sponsored by the City of Wainwright, in collaboration with our school. We held a T-shirt contest in the fall for a new logo. We had both a Middle School Tournament, attended by Atqasuk, Hopson Middle School, Point Hope, and Point Lay in April. We also had a Little Dribblers tournament in April.

On April 30th, we held a Wainwright Job Fair for middle school and high school students. We had representatives from the North Slope Borough, City of Wainwright, and Iḷisaḡvik College. Students were able to talk to plumbers, mechanics, the police department, powerplant operator, EMS workers, health aides, and office managers.





Earlier in April, we had visitors from ASRC come for Iñupiaq Days. Our students appreciated the stories shared and the opportunities presented as they consider what the future could hold for them.

During April, we also had a major issue with our boilers. Director Broome and Jill Crooks worked to get support out quickly to address the situation. We are thankful to Chester Ekak and his team (David Roy Ahmoagak and Michael Agnasagga) for supporting Enoch Oktollik from our M&O staff to address the problems. And for James Kreilich who flew out from the district over the weekend. Quyanakpak!

### Teacher highlights

I asked teachers if there was anything they wanted me to highlight as we wrap up the year. Here are some of the pictures I received, in addition to the ones already presented:

### ECE - Career exploration



Kindergarten -



### Middle School -

The students were challenged to complete a service project during the TSP. Students had great ideas, including organizing the library, helping with janitorial services around the school, and teaching younger students. Here are some photos from the service project where students were teaching the 1st and 2nd grade students an art project focused on planets.



### High School Science

High school students did a unit focused on arctic shelters and heating. Here are some photos of the snow shelter they built in collaboration with multiple grades throughout the day.



**To wrap up, I want to thank our dedicated C.S.A.C. and B.A.G. members who have helped me lead the school in the best interest of our students. Their participation, insight, wisdom, and guidance have been invaluable to me.**

**CSAC Members:**

Stella Anasogak (President)  
Jennie Bodfish (Vice-President)  
Edna Bodfish (Secretary)  
Janet Carson (Member)

**BAG Members:**

Tiffany Proffitt (Chair)  
Jennie Bodfish (Co-Chair)  
Renee Arakaki (Secretary)  
Alex Harvey (Member)



**Upcoming Events:**

May 8th, 2026 - Graduation

May 14, 2026 - Last Day of School

May 18 - 28, 2026 - Summer School

