

Date: September 19, 2023

To: Lake and Peninsula School Board

From: Kasie Luke, Superintendent

Re: Report: September 26, 2023

Front Burner Dates & Happenings:

Regional XC Qualifier Event - 9/29-9/30, Dillingham BBRCTE Week 1 - 10/2-10/7, Naknek/Dillingham/Palmer XC State Event - 10/7, Anchorage

Alaska Legislative Advocacy 2023-2024

Our advocacy efforts have already commenced with conversations regionally among the Superintendents in Dillingham, Southwest Region, and Bristol Bay School Districts to carry a united message in support of funding for students of our Region. I have been in contact with Representative Bryce Edgmon to understand perspective from the Capital. Several topics we will dive into seeking support for are residential housing funding through the Department of Education/State Legislature for our BBRCTE program, continued general funding support, and a continuation of the Tax Credit Program that will sunset this December impacting entities like BBNC who receive a tax credit for supporting programs such as BBRCTE.

Alaska Reads Act

In the AASB Conferences, as well as the ACSA (Alaska Council of School Administrators) Conferences, there is a lot of emphasis on implementation of the Alaska Reads Act. Ms. Moon McCarley has led LPSD in adopting and ensuring we are in compliance with required aspects of the Act, as well as carefully evaluating what portions truly could benefit students on a tangible level in conjunction with what funding sources we have available to support these efforts. Thank you to Moon for her continued focus on this area in hopes we can truly use this Department of Education/Govenor driven Act to help our LPSD students become more proficient in reading, writing and learning.

Experiencing Out

With your continued support for unique opportunities for learning, our students have been engaged in Experiencing Out projects and Cultural Capstone work. Mrs. Nicole Metzgar compiled the interesting data below at the end of last school year - it's amazing to see the amont of effort students put into their learning and the topics they are focusing on;

Experiencing Out For Credit Data

2020-2021Total Experiencing Out Projects for Credit: 5

2021-2022 Total Experiencing Out Projects for Credit: 10

2022-2023 Total Experiencing Out Projects for Credit: 21

Cultural Awareness LV 10 Capstone Project

Student completes ONE capstone project encompassing all pillars, or looking at one pillar in depth. The project must be approved by the student's head teacher or principal, a community mentor (of the student's choice), and the Curriculum Director before the student begins his/her work. Pillars include: Personal History/Identity, Language, Art/Dance. Food/Subsistence, Building/Tools. A total of 7 projects were completed each year in 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023.

Migrant Education Celebrations

Mrs. Becca Stenson, our Migrant Education Coordinator, shared with me information regarding this wonderful program and, based on the feedback she received from a Migrant Education Survey, catered spending our monies accordingly.

- All migrant students & families ordered backpacks, zipper binders, and school supplies with notebooks, pencils, etc.
- All LPSD students received a three-month subscription to Kiwi Crate this past summer, which are hands-on STEAM kits to help engage students with learning over the summer. Teachers aided in selecting age-appropriate topics of interest for each student.
- With the help of West Marine, Becca was able to send out high-quality life jackets (Mustang Brand) to all migrant education students in June because another one of the top priorities from the survey was water safety. All students 16 and older received the automatic inflatable vests that are super lightweight and small but will automatically inflate if submerged in water, so the hope is that they aren't too bulky and will wear them. The water safety gear went along with virtual water safety training offered to all students last May.