

# THRIVE Grant, Testing, and Counseling

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## Counseling

The scheduling team continues to meet weekly to ensure student and staff needs are being addressed and met. We have started to set up the schedule for the 2021-2022 school year. Our first priority is doing graduation requirement evaluations for our high school students. Charles, Joanna and I will have compiled these needs within the next week. Once these needs are met, we will work with individual sites to ensure their schedules meet their needs. I'm excited that we are getting a jump start this year! It will make the beginning of next year run much more smoothly!

I have participated with the team as we look at budget options for the 2021-2022 school year. It is a tough job and I sure appreciate the team who is looking at all options to do what is best for SISD, our students, families, and staff.

Spring is almost upon us and with it comes some social and emotional struggles. This is very typical for this time of year and I encourage everyone to remember to give ourselves and others grace, take some time to find joy, and show gratitude.

## Testing

PEAKS testing is right around the corner! The testing window opens March 29th and runs through April 30th. Students will be assessed in reading, writing and math in grades 3 through 9 and in science in grades 5, 8 and 10. The US DOE has said that states will conduct statewide testing and DEED in Alaska has given direction to move forward with assessing if our students are in session in person.

## THRIVE Grant

Since my last report we have had a few events for elementary students on POW. These events are made possible because of the SELECT grant with Klawock City School District (SISD is a partner in this grant.) and the THRIVE grant.

January through March Events:

- January 19th WebMasters Event in Coffman Cove - Middle school and high school students who have attended multiple PHlight Club events participated in this event.
- January 27th PHlight Camp in Klawock - Students in grades 4th through 6th from Hollis, Naukati and Klawock participated in this event.
- March 3rd PHlight Camp in Thorne Bay - Students in grades 4th through 6th from Thorne Bay and Klawock participated in this event.

Upcoming Events - All events are subject to POW school district Smart Start plans.

(locations to be determined if not listed below):

- March 24: PHlight Camp event for Thorne Bay K-3rd and Klawock 1st grades
- April 2-3: Wooden Paddle workshop for middle school students - hosted in Thorne Bay
- April 7: PHlight Camp event for 5th-6th grades in SISD outer sites and Klawock 6th grade
- April 9-10: Wooden Paddle workshop for high school students - hosted in Klawock
- April 13: PHlight Club for SISD and Klawock middle school students

- April 15: PHlight Camp event for K-4th grades in SISD outer sites
- April 22: PHlight Club event for TNB high school students
- May 5: PHlight Camp event for K-4th grades in SISD outer sites
- May 14: PHlight Club event for all POW middle school and high school students (Our fingers are crossed that we can have this event!)

In addition to student events we have a new resource to supplement the elementary Prism Lessons that teach about building Webs of Support for youth. This resource is a book list that includes a description of the book and resources to use to relate the story to the framework taught in the Prism Lessons. I am excited about adding this to our resources for teachers.

Brightways Learning continues to provide opportunities for me to present at conferences and with organizations that enable me to get information out there about the great things that are happening at SISD.

Below are some of these opportunities:

- Feb 5: Teacher Professional Development - Resilient Educators (in person presentation)
- Feb 19 and March 4: Transition Alaska (SERRC) - two sessions: Webs of Support and The Empowered Brain (virtual presentations)
- Feb 23: Montana School Counselors Conference - Webs of Support(virtual presentation)
- Mar 1: Alaska Gateway School District GAP (after school program) professional development - Webs of Support and supporting youth in trying times (virtual presentation)
- Mar 8: National Youth At Risk Conference - Building Rockets - how the brain works (virtual presentation)
- Mar 9: National Youth At Risk Conference - Connection Matters - Webs of Support (virtual presentation)
- Mar 10: National Youth At Risk Conference - No Shame, No Blame - how we deal with “bullying” in schools (virtual presentation)

I'd like to give a shout out to Transition Alaska (SERRC) and their Alaska Transition Online Project ([www.transitionalaska.org](http://www.transitionalaska.org)). They have created an resource that supports the transition to employment and life during and after high school. It is available free to all of us. If you have a minute, check it out.