

Kokhanok School Report  
September 2021

Our school year began well, with almost all of the previous year's staff returning. We have only had to post and hire for three positions: we hired a new cook, a new SPED Aide, and a new preschool teacher, all of whom are getting great training and support as they adjust to their new roles in our school. Many thanks to Tammi Peterson and Amber Kresl in this regard. At this time, we have 40 students.

As our staff, both classified and certified, is a very capable and veteran crew, and seeing how the school is running smoothly, we decided that this year we would try to take it up a notch. We will certainly be working hard toward achieving measurable goals such as: higher test scores in math, more students reading and writing at their grade level, and preparing our juniors and seniors for their post-secondary careers by way of real-world experiences (thank you, Zach Stenson and CTE). However, we recognize that to achieve these goals we will need the students (and staff) to take on increased ownership of the processes.

We have decided to encapsulate this drive for accountability in our theme for this year: *Doing the Right Thing*. We chose these words, because, "*Doing*" denotes an ongoing action, and aiming for "*the Right Thing*" requires that we stop and reflect on our actions before we can determine if it is the *Right Thing*. Therefore, if we would like to see the students *Doing the Right Thing*, we as the staff resolve to: 1. model the behavior we would like to see, 2. call out and recognize students when we see them *Doing the Right Thing*, and 3. allow the students the resources, space, agency and opportunity to do so.

This means emphasizing volunteerism – both by allowing our students opportunities to help outside of school, and by encouraging community members to become more involved in school projects. We have increased our involvement in other extra-curricular projects:

- Our XC team will be participating in an extra meet this year. (Jordan Davis – coach; Beth Hill, Austin McCourt, Dana Wolff, Kait Moitoza – assistants).
- We have also joined the ranks of Mix-6 volleyball.
- Student Government has gotten off to a thriving start this year with exceptional volunteerism, especially with the graveyard and church clean up within the first week of school! (Josh Jenks, SG Advisor)
- Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hill and to the Igiugig Village Council, Kokhanok students are again involved in a maritime construction project: building a sailboat! More on the F.V. *Doing the Right Thing* as it develops.
- On the creative side we have begun a logo-design project in order to brand our *Doing the Right Thing* vision - and plaster it everywhere! T-shirts, coffee mugs, stickers, you name it.

Other aspects of our day include, reinstating the all-school every-morning meetings in the gym; we love to start our day off on the right foot! Our library is ready to go to support student learning, and community interests. As the year progresses we plan to build off of the good we are already doing, by *Doing The Right Thing!*



Student Government meeting for the first time – lots of great plans for this year!



Our Student Teacher, McKenna Conselyea jumping right into Dana Wolff's K-1 class - literally



Our new Preschool Aide, Krista Hobson, putting her classroom together



There's the XC team – I tried to get a close-up action shot, but they were just too fast!



The whole gang - *Doing the Right Thing*