

# The Lake and Peninsula School District

101 Jensen Drive King Salmon, AK 99613 907-246-4280 1617 S Industrial Way #1 Palmer, AK 99645 907-745-7090



To: Board of Education Lake and Peninsula School District January 17, 2025

- From: Marjorie Waggoner Special Education Director (Contractor)
- Re: Special Education Report

## **Special Education Conference**

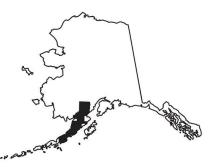
The annual Alaska State Special Education Conference will be held in Anchorage February 3rd-5th with preconference classes February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The theme of this year's conference is Interstellar Inclusion: Breaking Barriers to the Future. I will be attending the conference with two of our special education teachers. All of our special education teachers are dedicated professionals who work diligently to provide individualized services to our students. This year has proven to be difficult for many sped teachers to fit the conference into their busy schedules. Those of us who do attend will share the things we learn with our team members.

One of the many challenges our teachers experience is student behavior that is inappropriate. These behaviors can make teaching difficult and interfere with the learning and the safety of not only the student exhibiting the behaviors, but also the other students in the classroom. Kimberly Goode, our sped teacher at Kokhanok, and I will attend a pre-conference class taught by Lyon Johnson from the Special Education Service Agency (SESA). Lyon has been integral for several years in assisting our teachers when a student is demonstrating unacceptable behaviors at school. This class will focus on completing functional behavior assessments (FBAs) and behavior intervention plans (BIPs) and using these tools to shape desired behaviors.



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## **Crisis Prevention Institute**

Paulene Manning and Kacy Lou Leyba attended CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) training at the end of October to renew their trainer certification. They have the task of training individuals at each school site in verbal intervention which gives teacher and support staff confidence and skills to verbally de-escalate disruptive behaviors. They also focus on non-violent crisis intervention that provides staff with the skills to safely recognize and respond to everyday crisis situations. These skills include safe disengagement and appropriate restrictive interventions when required. We are fortunate to have these two ladies working with school staff to make our schools safe places for learning.

### Looking Forward to a Productive Second Semester

It's hard to believe that we are in our second semester of the 2024/2025 school year. The special education teachers and staff are looking forward to a productive semester. Using data to determine progress of students on their IEP goals, our teachers adjust their instruction to meet the need of their students and maximize student learning and social/emotional growth. We are fortunate to have strong teams of administrators, regular education teachers, special education teachers, and support staff working with the students of LPSD!