



Bill Cornell <bcornell@lpsd.com>

Return to Igiugig

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To: Bill Cornell <bcornell@lpsd.com>, Kristin Henke <kristinhenke@lpsd.com>, Robert Fagerquist <rfagerquist@lpsd.com>

Dear all,

As you know, my family suffered a major loss last week. Thankfully, I was out of the village when I heard, so I could be with them rather quickly. Mat and the dogs, however, had to drive for seven long days through snow, ice, and nothingness to make it here. The realization of just how quickly an emergency can arise and how far away Igiugig is from our families was illuminated by this whole event. Therefore, after much thought and many conversations with our respective families, I (we) have made the decision not to return to Igiugig.

Please accept this as my letter of resignation. I sincerely regret any inconvenience this may cause for everyone involved, but we are compelled to stay closer to our families at this time. I cannot bear to be so far away should another illness or tragedy arise, and the holiday season will be particularly difficult this year. I will mail back my laptop to Kristin next week (the iPad is located in my desk drawer), and Mr. Bill's MacBook is behind my desk should anyone else need one in the interim. I think my standards tracking is up to date, although I'm not 100% certain that I did it correctly with regard to report cards. I'm happy to make any necessary changes, but I may not be able to do so until next week. I would also be willing to work with students virtually, although there is already an online reading & writing option available to them. Regardless, I'd be happy to work with them on English, history, technology or employability in the interim if it would be helpful. This is uncharted territory for me, so I'd like to help in any way that I can without returning to Igiugig.

I hope the students enjoy the texts and supplies I received through my Donors Choose project. Please let them all know that I am honored to have met them and to have experienced their village. They are a fantastic bunch,

as are all of my colleagues at school. I also enjoyed working and learning with all of you, but I must put my family first at this time.

Finally, whoever moves into our unit is welcome to keep the dishes, pots, pans, coffee maker, rugs, linens, and anything else I left behind. Please keep what you like and dispose of the rest.

Thank you for all your support. I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Elise Hickey