



**Nuiqsut Trapper School  
SAC Report  
March 2026**

**Principal: Joslyn Pierce**  
**Assistant Principal: Ivie Greenwood**

**SAC Members: (Indicate which member is President, Vice President, Secretary)**

Name, Seat 1	Colleen Sovalik, Seat 4
Name, Seat 2	Elizabeth Ahtuangularuk, Seat 5
Maryanne Napageak, Seat 3	

**Enrollment: 149**

Pre-K3: 6	Pre-K4: 6	K: 6	1st Grade: 11	2nd Grade: 10
3rd Grade: 8	4th Grade: 9	5th Grade: 12	6th Grade: 12	7th Grade: 13
8th Grade: 13	9th Grade: 14	10th Grade: 11	11th Grade: 12	12th Grade: 4

**Attendance:**

We regularly use our school Facebook page to recognize students who come to school every day and do their best. Our students join the “100% Club” when they come to school every day in the month. We had 24 students join the 100% Club for February! We are hopeful we will beat the total for March! We want to give a special shoutout to 7<sup>th</sup> grade student Brandi Sovalik. She has not missed one single day of school this school year. She is showing grit, determination, and resilience by coming to school every day ready to learn.

**Staff:**

Teachers: 15	Office Staff: 1
Counselor: 1	Substitute Full/Part-Time: 1
Special Education: 1	M&O (Facilities/Custodial/Kitchen): 4
Para Professionals: 0	Interventionist: 1 (Currently teaching 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade)





## Highlights:

### Strategic Plan Goal & Pedagogy Implementation:

#### Family & Community Collaboration

Goal 1: Prioritize and implement intentional and purposeful partnerships.

Due to a recent tragedy in our community, we are looking forward to collaborating with the Health Department on getting training for our staff to help students dealing with various trauma. We are not clinicians but want to make sure we are listening to our students and acknowledging their feelings by bridging the gap between the school, the home, and the clinic so that no student "falls through the cracks" during their healing process.

Iġisagvik College was on campus in January for Driver's Education. We had three students and four community members get their driver's license and one community member renewed his CDL.

#### Culturally Responsive Instruction

Goal 2: All students perform at or above grade level

Some of our classes are exploring Inupiaq stories found in children's literature—traditional tales that reflect the values, environment, and culture of Inupiaq communities in Alaska. These stories often teach lessons about respect, cooperation, survival, and the importance of the natural world. Our focus skill is making inferences, which means reading between the lines to understand the deeper meanings, lessons, and characters' motives.



JH ELA students did a poetry study. Lines, rhyme, stanzas, and imagery were discussed, along with unfamiliar vocabulary in their reading of the poem. To make things interesting and

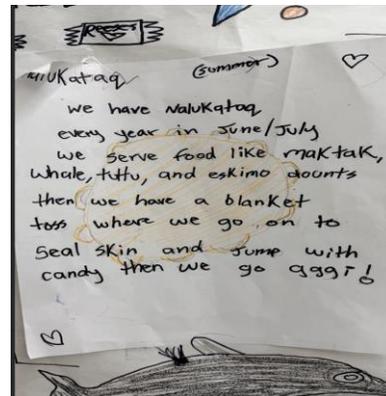
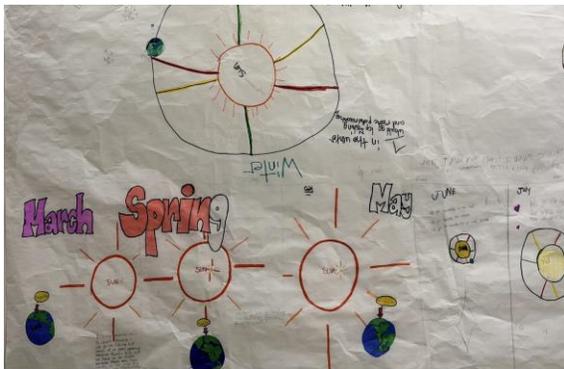


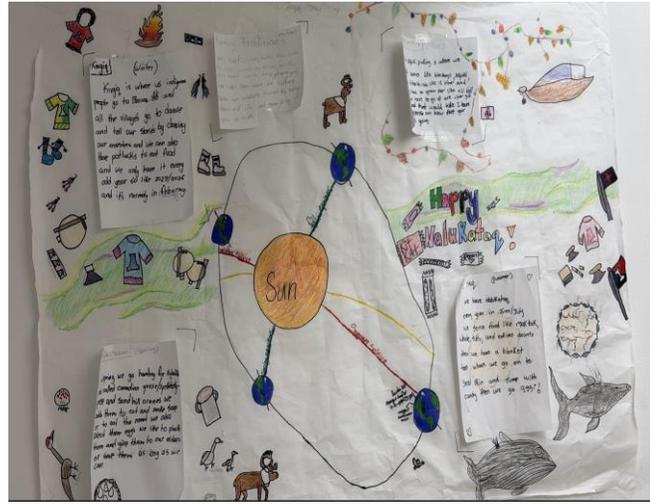
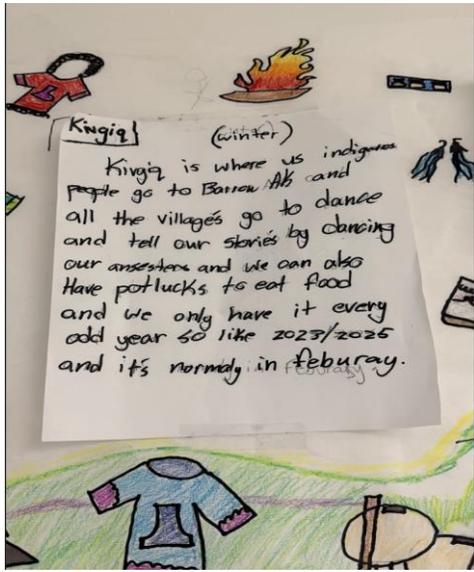


relevant, students were able to choose their favorite line from the poem and rewrite it the way they wanted to create a new poem. The students read their poem as part of the broadcast on KBRW for Trapper School. They did an excellent job displaying both their oratory and artistic skills.



Our students are writing across the curriculum. In this science lesson, the students worked together to create models of the Earth's relationship with the sun and how it creates seasons. They then wrote paragraphs describing things they do in each of the seasons. Students also discussed how unique the movement of the moon is in the Arctic compared to everywhere else on the planet.





Goal 3: All students are prepared for their pathway of choice post-high school

Mr. Dennis Carrier was here on campus with our students, teaching welding for two weeks. The students did an excellent job, and Mr. C, as he likes to be called, said he couldn't wait to come back and work with them again.



Goal 4: Graduate bilingual students





During our cultural inservice, Ms. Susan Hope brought a new game to teach us. We learned our numbers from 0 to 10 in Inupiat. We had to be able to read and recognize the written numbers in order to add cards as they were pulled to equal 10. The person with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner. This game is fun for all and can be used outside of the ILT classroom.



### Student Social & Emotional Wellbeing

Goal 5: Facilitate & maintain culturally, emotionally, & physically safe learning environments

At Nuiqsut Trapper School, we recognize that academic excellence is impossible without a foundation of social and emotional well-being. For our students to thrive, they must see their Iñupiaq values reflected in their hallways and feel a profound sense of safety—both physical and psychological. I greet the students every morning at the door with a smile, letting them know I'm glad they came to school.

Some students greet me with a hug, fist bump, high-five, and I have even learned a few different handshakes. This is my way of measuring the mood. If a student comes in and is having an off day, we do our best to meet that student's needs. They may need to see their “trusted adult”. Even though I would like to be that person for all my students, I know that's not realistic. Their person could be Ms. Lottie, our cafeteria manager, Ms. Danielle, our counselor, or Ms. Ivie, our assistant principal. Our staff is committed to our school being a safe environment where positive relationships are built wherever possible.

Our school counselor, Ms. Danielle, conducts individual and group counseling for students with emotional and/or behavioral challenges. Throughout the month of February, Ms. Danielle held classes with students in grades K- 6 and went through NSBSD's Body Safety Program. It is designed to help students understand the importance of respecting their own bodies and the bodies of others. By fostering open communication and building awareness, we work together as a campus along with the district to create a safe, supportive, and respectful school community.

### Staff Support & Professional Development

Goal 6: Build and sustain a thriving workforce aligned with the mission of this District





Our Mission: Students who are empowered, culturally rooted, bilingual healthy, critical, creative, and life-long learners.

**2/13 Cultural Inservice:** Ms. Susan Hope spent the week with our students making trapper hats during the day. During sessions in the evening, Ms. Hope worked with community members and staff on various projects including mittens, parkas, and atikluks.

On Friday, during our service, staff were able to choose between sewing mitten shaped key chains or an Ayuktaq. We started the morning off by talking about NYO. We talked about the strength and skill that generations of Native Alaskans used for survival in everyday life. Former Nuiqsut NYO coach John Ipalook was scheduled to come in and speak to the staff about the games but was unable to. We talked about how the NYO games promote a healthy lifestyle, promote positive self-esteem, and leadership skills. We watched a video about Don Heflin and how participating in NYO has influenced his life.



Throughout the school year Wednesdays have been used for grade-level PLC meetings, all staff meetings, and district PLCs. Teachers work in groups looking at data to help guide discussion for small group activities, intervention, and cross curricular opportunities in lesson planning.





Our elementary teachers have been working with district coach Kim Neakok on making sure our data is in edHUB for our students receiving Tier II and III instruction. Our JH and HS teachers have been working with the Attuned consultants on helping our older students write better. Teachers are being asked to look at student work and help them create well-crafted sentences using specific language in their responses. (This helps students get creative with sentence structure).

### Financial & Operational Stewardship

Goal 7: Standardize high-functioning, efficient, student-focused operations

Our continued work with Kristie Parsons from the state and Nicholas Settle on our needs assessment for our School Improvement Plan has been good. While the only two parents that participated in the first meeting were also staff members, we had a productive meeting! We have a date set for our next meeting (Thursday, March 26) and have already started targeted efforts to get more parents to participate.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **March 3 –5**
  - **Basketball Camp sponsored by Santos**
- **March 9 – 13**
  - **Celebrating Read Across America**
    - Monday - Snuggle up with a good book (Wear your PJs)
    - Tuesday – Paws-itively wild about reading (Wear animal print)
    - Wednesday – Book Look (Dress as your favorite character)
    - Thursday - Reading colors our world (Wear bright colors)
    - Friday – Team up for reading (Wear school colors. Students will pair up with various grade levels and read together)
- **March 12**
  - **Math/Science Night**
    - **The Price Is Right: Whaling Edition**
- **March 16 – 20**
  - **Spring Break**





- **March 26**
  - **School Community Leadership Team Meeting**
    - **5:30 Trapper Library**
- **April 17**
  - **Cultural Inservice**

**Door Decorations from our Trapper Homecoming held February 16 – 20 in honor of our only home basketball game.**



