

April 2018 Outer Site Board Reports

Math and Social Studies Curriculum

Need an additional \$25,000 to complete the purchase of new math curriculum and e-resources. We purchased the majority of this last year, but did not have enough money to buy complete sets for all school sites. Also need to purchase middle school social studies curriculum for the upcoming school year. This extra money will also provide us with the funds to complete this purchase.

PEAKS Testing

All our sites wrapped up state testing this past month. I am optimistic that our scores will improve from last year, but we will not know until the end of May when we receive them from the State. Great job to Airica Tripple for setting up the tech devices and troubleshooting issues and Amy McDonald for training the staff and organizing the testing!

STEAM WEEK

Science, Technology, Engineering, ARTS and Mathematics or STEAM is the focus of our gathering of students and teachers on April 24th – 26th at the Thorne Bay School. We are very excited to have this opportunity for our district students participate and/or compete in events such as Science Fair, Bridge Building and Busting, Technology Digital Creations, Spelling Bee, Coast Guard Helicopters and Fast Boats, Poetry, Native Carving and Art, 3 on 3 Basketball, Speed Cup Stacking, Scholastic Book Fair, and a Talent Show. Students not only get to participate and compete in these events, they also get to spend time with students from geographically isolated school sites that they ordinarily would not get to interact with.

Native Youth Olympics

April 23rd is the date for the 3rd annual Native Youth Olympics. This year it is hosted at the Howard Valentine School. Students from around the district will gather to compete in various physically challenging events that have cultural relevance where we call home here in Southeast Alaska. Chad Dillman and his staff at Howard Valentine School have done a great job preparing this event!

SISD Prom

April 27th is the date that was chosen for this year's high school prom. It will take place at Thorne Bay School this year. The theme is "Under the Sea". A huge thank you to the Naukati School staff and parents for allowing us to use the incredible under the sea decorations that they created for their Fall festival!

Battle of the Books Pizza and Pool Party

SISD had over 100 students participate in this year's annual Battle of the Books. This event fosters a love of reading as well as developing good reading habits and

skills. The BOB Pizza and Pool party is scheduled to occur on April 28th from 11:00am – 1:00pm at the pool and then at 1:30pm at Pappas Pizza for a yummy lunch. 😊

Professional Development

Janet Stout, Alan Schwab and myself will be looking at putting together a comprehensive professional development plan for next year. We will be administering a survey about desired professional development to each site so that we can reach out both globally and do site specific PD next year.

Isaac Martin and Priscilla Goulding connected with an actual playwright, Zack Desmond, who works with the Island Institute out of Sitka. With the help of a grant they were able to bring him down to our school district for almost three weeks to work with our students and staff at each school on writing and theatrics. He has been warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated. We are looking at bringing him back in the Fall to work with the teachers for a day or two at our Fall inservice.

Phlight Club @ Klawock School

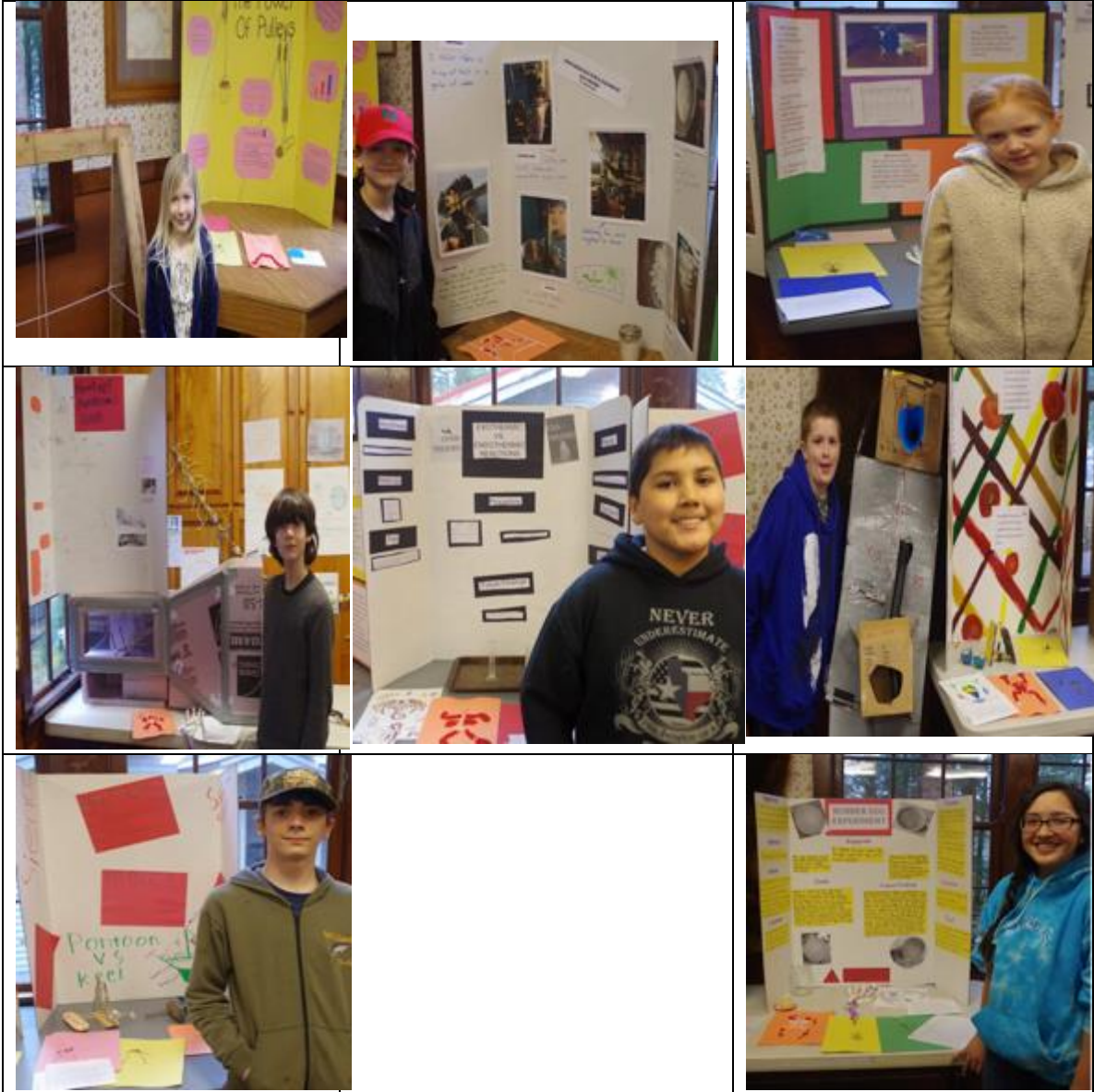
Phlight Club just wrapped up at the Klawock School this past weekend. Kids attended from all our SISD school sites as well as Klawock, Angoon, Craig, and Hydaburg School Districts. Amy McDonald and Kerri Carl led the activities along with our Derick Peterson. Everyone involved in the planning, preparation, and implementation did a terrific job ensuring that every student and adult got the most out of living in phull color!!!

Nick Higson
Outer Sites Principal

Port Alexander School

April started as a whirlwind with wrapping up Science Fair Projects and last minute prepping for PEAKS Testing. Our PA Science Fair/Potluck was a great time for students and community members alike. The community was able to ask the students about their projects and play some Maker Space-Arcade Style games during their walk through.

The students did a great job discussing there experiments of: Power of Pulleys, Effects of Vinegar on eggs, Aerodynamics, Sea Salt Harvesting, Endothermic verses Exothermic, Comparing boats with keels or pontoons, Which toys dogs like best and a Theory of travel to the center of the Earth! It was pretty amazing.



The Friday after testing, Mrs. Lowery and Sarah Cordova hosted a Dream Catcher Friday Activity. It was a great craft that parents and students enjoyed. Molly Kimzey also brought in the students beads they have been creating to finish cleaning for the PA Annual Art Show we have on Mother's Day.



We have four students traveling in to POW for Phlight Club on April 17 and a few of our younger student traveling in later to attend STEAM Week. PA would like to thank everyone in advance for all pooling together to make this week happen! It is an exciting adventure to meet all of the other site's students and for us teachers to collaborate with the other teacher.

We want to make sure to thank Amy McDonald for including us in the grant to attend Phlight Club. The seasoned students are pumping up the new students and are all looking forward to attending all of the leadership and team building activities. We also want to thank the Lauren Burch and the SISD School Board Members for continuing to keep our activities budget stocked and travel funds available. Also we'd like to extend a big thank you to Nick Higson and Terri Willard for acting as our travel agents and making all of the arrangements. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Your Partners in Education- Laura Anania and Shanna Smith

Kasaan School



This is an exciting month. We are currently on our fieldtrip in Utah. The students and staff are enjoying the trip and activities thus far.

We have been to the Discovery Gateway Science Museum. Where the students were engaged in various activities. The students-built racecars, studies wind tunnels, and used vacuums to name a few things they did.

The Clark Planetarium was a great adventure. We watched a 3-D movie on the Imax screen about the Hubble Telescope and we were able to participate in activities about the universe and planets.



Then we went to the Utah Hogle Zoo. This was the first zoo experience for many of our students. It was feeding time for many of the animals as we walked around the zoo. Which made it very exciting for the younger students to see the animals move and eat.





Some of the fun activities have been go to Lagoon an amusement park. We have found a natural hot-spring, where the students swam and played in the water.



Today, we are traveling to Moab to visit Arches National Park , and then we

are off to see the Grand Canyon, and Hoover Dam.

Shane Scamahorn, Lead Teacher

Naukati School

Peaks Testing

Students completed PEAKS testing this month. Other than one morning where the internet was down across the state, testing went without a hitch. Airica, Caitlyn, and Amy are knowledgeable and patient and did an excellent job preparing for the test.

Sports and Games

This month, elementary basketball, middle school volleyball and archery were in full swing. Every eligible student in the school is in one or more sports. Friday games activities had to be moved to Tuesdays because students are so active on Fridays! Games club is popular with the students and adults alike. Games club is averaging 7-10 people per meeting. Sports and games are making a huge difference to students in terms of teamwork, focus, sportsmanship, self-control, and relationships. Sports and games also made a difference in academics, since even our youngest students had age appropriate eligibility requirements in academics and behavior.

STEAM Week

March has seen a great deal of researching and bridge building. We are also practicing a Star Wars song for the talent show. The middle school students did a science fair experiment where they extracted DNA from different kinds of fruit to see if they could find a qualitative difference in the amount of DNA. This group of student has particularly enjoyed science labs this year, so they really enjoyed doing this one on their own.

Greenhouse and Chickens

For the first time this year, our greenhouse is starting come together. Our fish are doing well. Paul has mapped out a couple of leaks and is taking care of those. The elementary class is growing some gorgeous (aphid free) lettuce. We have started lobelia to plant around our school sign and herbs for pots and a perennial garden bed. Anything planted in the root vegetable area of the greenhouse is doing well. We are still shifting the clay media back into the beds and hope to plant there soon. We have divided our chickens by breed and found new homes for five roosters. The elementary students are researching what chickens need to lay the most eggs.

Dawn Jones
Lead Teacher, Naukati School

Whale Pass School

April in Whale Pass has been a flurry of activity. The month began with parent meetings on report cards. At this point, we are looking ahead already to next year. At present we have 19 students, will lose one to graduation, and gain three in pre-school next year. Hopefully that will put us at 21 students beginning next year.

Our Middle School Volleyball team (Emma, Joe, Logan, Alayna, Josh, and Jeremy) has definitely made a name for themselves this season. They have all played well and won a trophy for third place in the Stikine Tournament. This week they played in the Island Tournament winning against Naukati to go to the second round against Craig. They put forth a tremendous effort against Craig, but lost by marginal points. We are very proud of their efforts this season. One of the many challenges for them has been practicing in all weather conditions outside in snow, wind and rain. Way to go team!

One of our middle school students was able to go to Nationals in Salt Lake City from April 9-15. Logan Cooke was the highest scorer at our school. Logan returned to school recounting his adventure and his personal best score. Thanks Logan for representing our school and district.

Our middle school students are attending Phlight Club this weekend April 19-21 with chaperones Sarah Vasser and Kayleena Toman. They look forward to this time every year and always have interesting things to share during community when they return.

Stacy Mank visited our school on April 17 to share the “Kids Don’t Float” program with all the students 1st -8th grade. We will be continuing this program with training at the Craig pool on May 10th. Thank you Stacey for your hard work and training kids and adults on water safety.

This next week, April 23-26, starts a marathon week of fun and adventure for all our students. We will be traveling to Coffman Cove on Monday to participate in the NYO games. Tuesday through Thursday we will travel to Thorne Bay for STEAM week activities. On Saturday, all students who participated the Battle of the Books will have a pool and pizza party in Craig.

Amid the flurry of activities, we have been covering quite a bit of curriculum. The middle school social studies class with Mr. Cook has been wrapping up their WWII unit with the study of Communist China and Russia. Mrs. Cook has been covering the Middle Ages with her social studies class grades 1st through 5th. Her class has been working on family coat of arms and several other medieval projects. All science classes have been working on science projects for the Science Fair, as well as, building bridges.

Around the school, there has been continuous construction on the boiler and greenhouse. At present, we have planted seven cherry trees on the grounds donated by POW Gas. We have scion wood, crab apples, potato starts and currants on order. Our raised beds have been built and we are preparing them for planting the first week in May. As we wind down the last month of school, we will be focusing on getting our greenhouse prepared for summer use. Our Mother’s Day baskets have been planted and will be on sale starting the week of May 6th.

MS Volleyball Team

Kids Don’t Float Program



Hollis School

For updates, pictures and ongoing information please feel free to check out our Hollis School Facebook Learning Blog designed to keep our parents and community engaged in our learning. The link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1483681851918203/>

On Friday March 23, 2018 Hollis Intermediate, Junior High and High School students were introduced on the floor of the Alaska House of Representatives.

Thank you: Another month has passed and we have so many that we want to celebrate and send out some “thank yous” for some people who came together to help us have the resources we need to teach:



- *THANK YOU Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins and Noah!* Thank you for opening doors for our students' voices to be heard. Your assistance scheduling meetings with key decision-making made their ability to share their message. Your modeled value of their work and support of their efforts strengthened and empowered them as change agents and leaders of their learning and their communities.
- *THANK YOU JAMES AND JOHN STEVENS* for another wonderful archery season and a phenomenal experience at the 2018 Western Nationals! Next stop for SISD... World Championship!

- *THANK YOU Pat Tierney!* Thank you for providing our students with authentic hands on learning as they participate in your work to save the Yellow Cedar. They take every step of the projects very seriously as they know their work is meaningful
- *THANK YOU ALASKA SEAPLANES!* Thank you for providing our students with safe flights to Juneau and supporting our fundraising to continue authentic learning opportunities.
- *THANK YOU Public Health Nurse Colleen Watson, Challis Cates and Sam Schlobohm* for joining us on our Juneau Journey and doing such a marvelous job chaperoning and supporting a positive and engaging experience for our students.
- *THANK YOU Alaska State Troopers Ryon, Trooper Jenson, Trooper Supervisor Webb* for reaching out to our students. Your now routine visits to our school to check-in with our students was really appreciated. We are so excited as we continue to see this relationship grow and thrive as it is good for our students and good for our community. We know they are already incredibly busy so the fact that you are taking the time to sit down with our students is marvelous.

CELEBRATES:

We are excited to announce that Hollis student Tyson Dunn and Hollis School received the \$4000.00 A4LE Alaska Chapter Transformation Grant to fund his 2018 DIVE construction project. He is building benches on our outdoor classroom, designing and building a dog house to donate to the library for fundraising and his culminating project is to build a varmint proof chicken coop to bring chickens back to Hollis.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Greenhouse and the Garden: The garden is ready, seeds and starts are ordered and we hope to see amazing transformation as spring is finally, thought reluctantly, coming to Hollis.

Authentic, Place-based Citizen Science Activities:

- **Trees:** Patrick Tierney returned and our intermediate and primary students had an exciting time examining, measuring and determining the morphological leaf stage of our cuttings. Our student designed and built observation station did its job but now we need to add insulation before our autumn planting as the soil at the roots was not warm enough. We have yet to have complete success but with each round we learn of a new adjustment that will put us closer to success. The students know this work

has long term impact and are excited that when Pat returns in the fall, we can apply what we have learned thus far to our new test plots. We may even get to join him in the field.

- **National Weather Service:** We are monitoring precipitation.



- **Journey North:** Our Primary and intermediate students enjoy their role monitoring and reporting on daylight, the tulip test garden, birds returning and other signs of seasonal change.
- **Macro-invertebrates:** We will return to stream teamwork with Cheryl Fecko in May.

Community Involvement and Change Agent Activities:

- **Pesticides:**
Our trip to Juneau was an exciting learning opportunity. We covered a lot of territory. We visited the Juneau Empire, interviewed protest participants as practicing journalists, attended a House Budget Committees meetings, met with the legislative liaison at the Department of Transportation, visited Alaska's Arboretum and a glacier, discovered Costco, explored museums and art galleries, went climbing and swimming, visited all of the members of the House Transportation Committee and met with Lieutenant Governor Mallott and Governor Walker. We have already received some helpful feedback on our Advance Review Copy (ARC) of our book "Rainforest at Risk". Our goal is to inspire and empower other Alaskan youth to become change agents and address the issues that are important to their communities.

Our students returned with homework assigned by Governor Walker and this week they submitted an eight-page report to the Governor identifying alternative to the use of pesticides. Later this week Governor will be

meeting with the Director of the Department of Transportation to review our students' report and discuss the use of alternatives in lieu of herbicides in Alaska.

On Tuesday April 24, 2018 Lieutenant Governor Mallott and Hollis students will continue their conversations when he joins Hollis students for a Southeast Alaskan feast at Hollis School

- **Opioid Issue:** The students are attending the monthly task force meeting and they have identified a mentorship for foster children will be one of their projects.
- **Youth Leadership:** Their work is expanding to support others to also be Change Agents. They hosted a table at the April 9th Health Fair – tentatively entitled “EmPOWER YOUth” Many have joined a youth leadership program with the POW Health Network.

DIVE:

- Junior High and High School: Our 2018 “DIVE TIME” – Diverse, Independent, Vital, Exploration Time projects include but are not limited to “Learning Construction from Design Up”, “POP Up Art Sales and Instruction”, “Upcycled Basketball”, “Video Game Design” and “Comic Creation” We have some talented future island entrepreneurs and philanthropists.
- Primary and Intermediate: We have launched STEAM DIVE and they are excited. They are using Osmo for art and Coding as well as exploring with Dash and Dot Robots. Last week they starting with our SNAP Circuits sets and that has brought an entirely whole new level of learning fun. We remain grateful to the grants and donors who have made these projects possible.



TESTING AND GOALS:

We completed our Spring MAPS and PEAK assessments.

ACTIVITIES:

Archery: Archery season has been fantastic. We celebrate Ben Moots and Dakota Eller and all of the team members for representing our District at the April 13 and 14, 2018 National Tournament.

Basketball: Our elementary basketball team has a blast. They had five players and no substitutes and they all brought 100% to every practice and every game. They had fun and supported each other and other teams and they really taught the rest of us what sportsmanship really means.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Lisa is signed up for the June 2018 Science Camp with Ellen Hannen and Cheryl BoBo.

Julie Vasquez and Lisa Cates
Partners in Education
Hollis School

Hyder School

In April, we hosted a Chinese-Style Dinner Fundraiser, which was a great success. In May, the older students will be performing a play of their own making, acting out the story they have written about the Greek myth Pandora's Box.

The majority of our school had an opportunity to attend Phlight Club and had a wonderful time! It was so exciting to get to attend with our SISD Board President and get to know her better as well.

Everyone is also very excited about attending STEAM week in Thorne Bay. We traveled down to Bellingham, Alaska, just to catch our 1 day and 14 hour ferry to attend these awesome events on the island! The kids told me it was worth it to attend Phlight Club and STEAM week and they have made great connections with new and old friends from Thorne Bay and beyond! We would like to thank the SISD Board for making this trip possible!

We are winding down for this year and we are already making plans for next year!

Virginia Pulley, Lead Teacher

Howard Valentine School

March and April were a bustling time at Howard Valentine! We had many activities such as middle school volleyball, students preparing for the spring concert, preparation for the STEAM week, and the completion of the PEAKS testing. Our students are working hard to finish out the year strong. March was a month of learning about Women in History with research projects and trading cards, students participating in Read Across America Week and completing 25 days of at-home reading with reading scavenger hunt maps.

The students and staff also have been harvesting lettuce in the green house and helping sell the harvested vegetable to other school sites and locally in Coffman Cove to the school staff and community. The goldfish are thriving in the aquaponic growing tanks, as well as the herbs that float above. After School programs, such as helping hands, music Mondays, Newsletter, and Gaming Club continue to have great attendance and students are learning new skills every week. We also introduced a new architecture class for our Thursday electives, where the students are putting their geometry, physics, art and design to the test!

The school recently hosted the Elementary Basketball game and help concessions as an ASC fundraiser, hosting over 100 people island wide. Below are pictures of the students working on their Antarctica research project in Mrs. Howell's classroom and Flight Club in Klawock. We sent one 6th grader and lead teacher, Aly Howell, to Phlight Club this year, which was an enormous success!





Allyssa Howell
Lead Teacher