



Fred Ipalook Elementary School Highlighted School Board Report January 11, 2024

Principal: Roger Wells Assistant Principal: Susan Johnson Assistant Principal: Christina Nash

Enrollment 22/23 school year: 532. Enrollment 23/24 school year: 530

K3: 32. K4: 64. K: 54. First: 77. Second: 65. Third: 65. Fourth: 77. Fifth: 91.
Female: 271. Male: 259

Attendance:

22/23: August: 72.78 %. Sept. 78.45% Oct. 81.37%. Nov. 78.05%

23/24: August: 79.89%. Sept. 83.53% Oct. 81.83%. Nov. 80.94%

Distinguished Students:

K3: Selina Harris:

Selina is one of the most studious students and is a super role model for others in the classroom. Selina listens carefully to her teacher and is quick to begin the task. Selina may be very quiet, but her character shines.



K4: Qayaaq Harcharek

Qayaaq is one of the teachers' role models for all her K4 students. He works and does what is expected without fail. His language skills are tops: He knows, Inupiaq, Yupiik and English. A star student.



Inupiaq Immersion: Ulimaun Vadiveloo

Ulimaun is such a great helper in the classroom. He loves to teach the K3 students how to write. He is always willing to help others in the classroom when they need help. He enjoys playing the animal card games with his peers. He even teaches the students the names of the animals in Inupiaq. He always has a smile and an awesome role model for other students.



Kindergarten: Rhoda Pikok:

Rhoda is an amazing student; she is always in school and always exceeds in everything she does. Rhoda is willing to try new concepts and keeps trying until she succeeds. Rhoda's teacher says: She is an absolute joy to have in class!



Grade One: Charles Sakeagak:

Charles is a respectful and responsible first grader. He sees a need and jumps in to help without hesitation. Charles also works hard, completes tasks, participates in all activities and has excellent attendance. Charles has spent the first semester of school taking every learned skill to become an all-around awesome student. He has worked so hard to strengthen his reading skills and use those skills to become a fluent reader and he is well on his way!



Grade Two: Dustin Reich

Dustin is an excellent student in every way, he comes well prepared to class and pays close attention when learning new concepts. He follows up with careful, accurate work that he completes with an abundance of pride. His penmanship is very neat and he puts out his best effort to be successful. Dustin also has many character strengths which include a great attitude and a fun-loving spirit. Dustin is a student who will go out of his way to help others and to show friendship and kindness when he sees someone having a bad day. Thank you, Dustin, for being a positive role model.



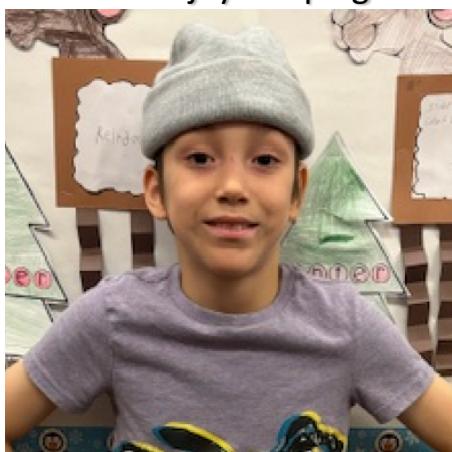
Grade Three: Andrea Brown

Exciting News: The third grade is thrilled to celebrate Andrea Brown for being an absolute superstar in everything she does! Andrea loves learning and is always ready to tackle new challenges with a big smile. Andrea is not just great at school, but also incredibly nice to everyone. Sharing, caring, and helping others are like a second nature to her. For being awesome at learning and super kind, Andrea totally deserves to be highlighted. Big cheers for Andrea Brown!



Grade Four: Jaxson Fishel

Jaxson has improved in all areas of the 4th grade in the last month. He volunteers in class to read aloud and likes to answer math questions with confidence. He has become a leader in his class and enjoys helping his classmates when needed. Great Job Jaxson



Grade Five: Ella Monnin

Ella is the Ipalook Elementary student council president. She is very deserving of recognition for her hard work and dedication to her school community. She strives for excellence in everything she does. Ella is dependable and trustworthy and will do great things in her future.



Distinguished Certified Staff and Volunteer

Certified Staff: Special Education Instructor: Joan Davis

Joan is friendly and helpful to everyone. She has made all the new staff members feel comfortable and supported. Joan has offered great advice along the way for student success.

Joans Bio:

Joan is from Butte, Montana and has always had the desire to travel and teach students in Special Education. Joan started her teaching career in Montana and has taught in Guam, Mountain Village, Palmer, and Chignik Lagoon and finally in Utqiagvik. When she came to Utqiagvik in August of 2003, she found herself working with amazing students, and supportive colleagues, parents and friends. Her IPK colleagues have become her family away from home. In Joan's own words: We help support one another throughout the year. I realize how fortunate I have been to spend the last 20 years working and looking forward to what each day will bring with my students. I am lucky to have these amazing experiences during my career. The past 37 years have been filled with adventure and fun. I look forward to seeing what will come next.

Classified Staff: School Nurse: Bertrand Britt

Bertrand Britt, RN, NSBSD School Nurse. Bertrand became our district's school nurse in October 2022. He came to us from the North Slope Borough Public Health Nursing Program after serving as an NSB PHN for over a decade. He has a wealth of knowledge of our North Slope communities, health care needs, vaccination protocols for the State of Alaska, and expected child development and needs associated with children with developmental delays or other health concerns. Bertrand has over 20 years of nursing experience and is an asset to our communities and schools. On a personal level, his wife has been a Dentist for SSMH for 17 years and they have four children who are also students in our school district. Outside of school hours, you'll frequently find him assisting with basketball or other kids sports in the community.

Distinguished Volunteer: Stacy Bowen

Stacy has been a school advocate and longtime volunteer at IPK for many years. Stacy offers her time as well as items for school projects and celebrations. Stacy has also been a positive sounding board for teachers and administration. Stacy has provided her input on school improvement and is the main player in our schools' success. Stacy: Thank you for all you do for our students!

Highlights:

Inupiaq Immersion:

We are excited about the new immersion program and the progress students have made with the direction of Ms. Tennessee Judkins, Ms. Dora/Alu Brower, and their staff as well as JaeJae Ningeok and Donna Westdahl our Immersion teachers. Students are learning the language and are immersed into the Inupiaq culture. Students participate in culturally based field trips as well as hands on cultural activities.



Curriculum and Instruction:

Fred Ipalook Elementary staff have been working diligently to implement the new grade K-3 language arts curriculum as well as the new math curriculum. We appreciate the help and ongoing support we have received from the C&I department. We also appreciate the ongoing staff development we have received directly to teachers individually as well as school wide staff development. Our students continually strive to reach their academic benchmarks through ongoing assessments and further interventions. Through our ongoing interventions and afterschool tutoring programs, we strive to help our students reach academic success.

Elder Visits: Kate Kignak

Ms. Kignak is the adopted elder for first grade this year, Kate came and shared muktak and then helped with a class art project. Kate retired from Ipalook seven years ago and was a para in the first and second grade wing. Kate was an amazing colleague and taught our teachers so much about the culture and community.



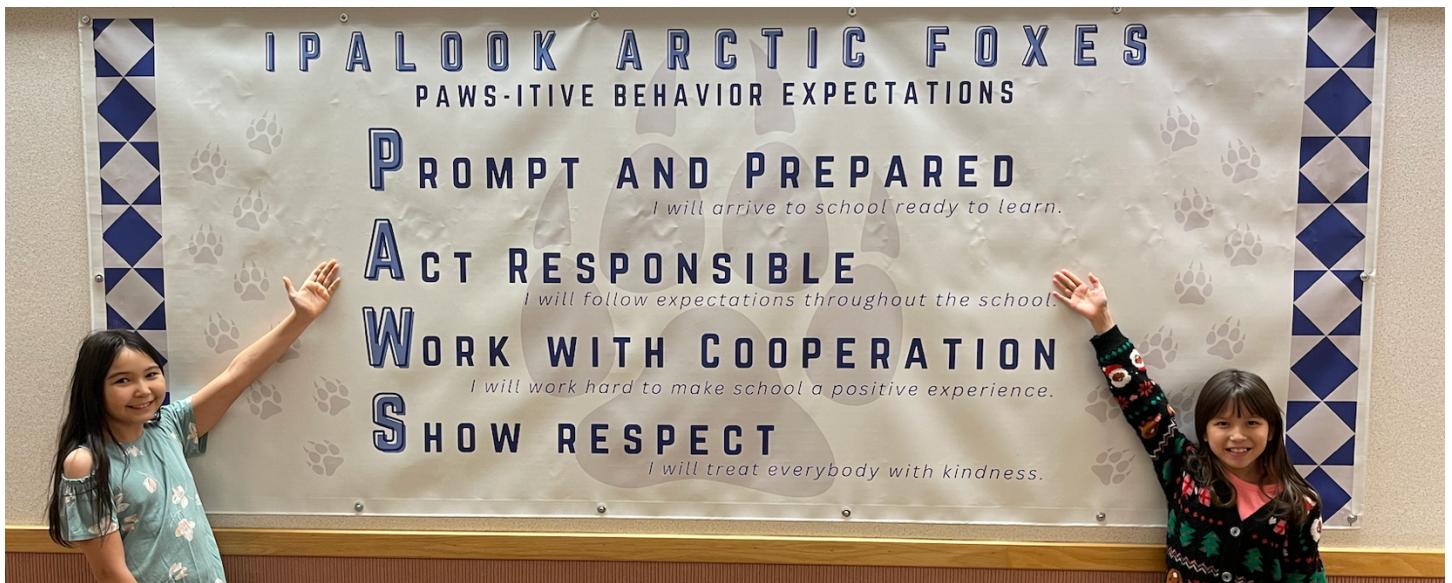
Attendance Incentives:

Fred Ipalook Elementary has enjoyed an amazing start to the first half of the school year, our students have been challenged to come to school every day and were recognized for their outstanding and improved attendance. Students with 90% and above attendance will have the opportunity to earn a chance to win a bicycle. Students with improved or attendance of at least 80% will be able to choose lunch with the principal of their choice.



PBIS:

We are continuing the process of Promoting Positive School Climate PBIS: Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports: all students learn the 3 R's: Be Ready, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. The classroom expectation matrix was completed and rolled out on December 6th. Posters for classrooms will be available to teachers and students.



Battle of the Books:

As we kick off our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Battle of the Books practice, students are excitedly jumping into reading and discussing the chosen books. Everyone is working together, talking about the stories, and sharing their favorite parts. It feels like a big team adventure filled with fun and learning. Each student has their list of books and is exploring new worlds through reading. Our practice sessions are like a cool journey where we're all becoming experts in these awesome stories. The practice space is buzzing with happy sounds as we start this fun and exciting reading challenge. Get ready for a great time full of books and adventure.



Book Buddies:

Grades one and three are participating in the book buddy activity: The goal of the program is to build positive relationships, while strengthening students' literacy skills. The teacher shares a read aloud and the students do an activity that coincides with the read aloud and then they read together when the project is complete.



Veterans Day:

Student Council with the help of advisor Jessica Kalvig, planned the Veterans Day Festivities with recognition, fellowship and a meal.





Celebrating Eben Hopson's Birthday!





Fred Ipalook Elementary will continue to follow the mission of our board and community. We will empower our students, we will remain culturally rooted, our students will strive to be bilingual, healthy, critical and creative thinkers. We will continue to be lifelong learners.

