

HAROLD KAVEOLOOK SCHOOL

North Slope Borough School District



Harold Kaveolook School SAC Report

Members:

Alicia Solomon-President
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Basketball season is winding down, as our teams are currently in Anaktuvuk Pass for the regional tournament. With our limited number of high school students, our boys utilized our 8th grade students, and the girls co-opted with Atqasuk. Our number of high school girls that will be able to basketball for the next few years remains very small. Our boys team is a young team, comprised mostly of 8th grade students. They continue to learn and grow, and will someday be very competitive in our region.

This year we had students competing both at the high school and middle school level in robotics. Our high school team was scheduled to travel to Juneau for a competition, which was canceled due to the November earthquake in Anchorage. Our middle school team placed first place in the virtual meet, bringing home the project and the performance award. Three students, Edwin Solomon, Jim Allen Killbear, and Price Stine-Gordon, represented Harold Kaveolook School at the state competition in Anchorage. They did a great job and learned many new skills that they will be able to use in future competitions.

Harold Kaveolook School did very well again this year in the Battle of the Books, bringing home multiple trophies. We had four teams come in first place, including, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 7th/8th grades. The 3rd/4th grade team tied for fifth place and the 5th/6th grade team earned third place. We are so proud of all the students that competed and are excited to see how much they read to prepare for the battles.

Over the past few weeks Harold Kaveolook School has had two snow days. The first Saturday school make-up day is scheduled for March 2nd. This being the date of the ceremonial start to the Iditarod, the staff decided to plan a day incorporating activities associated with the Iditarod. We have also purchased a classroom set of

Sphero Bolt robots that we will be incorporating some STEM activities. Jonathan Hursh from the Educational Technology Department will be visiting Kaktovik and assisting with this activity.

This has been a challenging hiring year and we have filled our vacant positions with long-term subs. Burt Neimeyer filled the 3rd/4th grade position through Christmas, then agreed to come back and finish out the school year. We are very appreciative of his willingness to get us through the year. Lorrie Scoles joined us after Christmas as the school counselor. She has applied for, gone through the hiring process, and will be joining HKS as a permanent full-time counselor next academic year. We have also hired a permanent full time 3rd/4th grade teacher; Sanna Wise will be joining us next school year. To date we have filled all of our certificated positions at Harold Kaveolook School. We had several classified openings at the beginning of the school year, including a paraprofessional aide, library aide, night rec aide, and cook's helper. We also added an intensive SPED aide after school started. After several months, we filled the paraprofessional aide position. Regrettably, this person has resigned due to limited day care. Rick Cross was hired as the cook's helper, Georgianna Tikluk as the night rec aide, and Daisy Frankson as the intensive SPED aide. This leaves two current unfilled positions- the paraprofessional aide and the library aide.

Harold Kaveolook School attempts to offer elective classes that provide meaningful and motivating opportunities for our high school students. This can be a challenge when you only have two high school teachers, but we work outside of our comfort zones to provide these classes for our students. This semester, we have offered digital photography and Introduction to Food Service. The students really enjoy the hands-on activities and the challenge of coming up with unique recipes to cook.

Over the past few months we have had several issues with the sewer pipes in the building. Much of the cast iron pipe has surpassed its useful life. In many situations it is literally disintegrating and falling apart. Additionally, we continue to have problems with the lack of heat in the new addition. A couple months ago when we had an east wind and subzero temperatures, one of the main water lines inside the school building froze. The maintenance staff identified and plugged some air leaks which has helped some, but problems continue to pop up.

The annual Kaktovik culture camp is in full preparation mode. We are working on identifying students and staff that will be attending. The student interest in attending is much higher this year, as many of them observed last year's activities and now want to be part of expedition. There are also a number of community members who are showing more interest, including several elders.