



HOLLIS SCHOOL  
OCTOBER 15, 2020  
SISD BOARD REPORT

CONNECTION:

*Connecting our stories, connecting our cultures, connecting our world history, connecting with each other, connecting with our community, connecting with our elders.*



The Hollis Crew on the first week of October 2020:

**Gratitude:** *Doyackshin, Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa, Muchas gracias, Thank you, Thank you from all of our Hollis School student community – Tsimshian, Tlingit, Haida, Spanish, English*



Thank you to community members for sharing your harvests so our students can know how to preserve and prepare as well as enjoy healthy locally harvested foods to include venison, salmon, halibut, crab, shrimp, herring eggs, and tea. We were excited to have Board Member Sandy join us for one of our harvest lunches.



Thank you to SEAlaska and the Klawock Tribal Association for salmon we can preserve for our feasts.



Thank you Trooper John Ryan for adding to our science island collections and our understanding of the wildlife on our island and teaching us new ways to process our finds. Thank you also for connecting with our kiddos.



Thank you Trooper Ben Mank for checking on our “caught” student, for your addition to Science Island, and for bringing some salmon for our Japanese fish print project.



Thank you Deena for banana plants, ancient papyrus plants, and elephant eats to green up our school and connect us with other cultures and history.



Thank you community member for the giant Norfolk Island pine to make our students' wishes of trees in the school come true.

## Southeast Island School District Vision, Mission, and Goals

**Vision:** Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations.

**Mission:** Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals and adapt to an ever-changing world.

### Goals:



#### Prepare students for post-secondary life



We are incorporating the upcoming election into our instruction at all grade levels.



We are starting a small student store for authentic life skills learning and allow for students to earn funds to make purchases.



Renaissance testing, school wide AIMS Web benchmark assessments, and Fall MAPS assessments are complete. There formative assessments will help us to plan instruction and allow our students to identify strengths and gaps, set goals, and document progress. Middle and high school are completing learning styles, interests, and executive functioning scales which they will review along with their overall assessment data records to create academic and character goals.



Middle School and High School are collaborating on our scaffolded research papers, group projects processes, and leadership as we bring the Alaska Hoops Project into fruition. The most exciting thing is that they have taken total ownership of the project and incorporated our upcycled permaculture values. The end product will exceed expectations while also being nothing like what was envisioned and that is marvelous.



Our elementary students world's studies exploration has launched with learning not only about computer use but also both digital citizenship and leadership. Our first country is Japan and the others they have selected to explore include: Mexico, Germany, Italy, China, Ireland, Egypt, and Korea. It is a big world out there and it is hard to cover it all but please let us know if there is an important country you suggest we add to our list.



We recently gave the recommended "First Chapter Fridays!" a try on a Monday and we plan to make it a part of this year's studies. There are many reading recommendations on the Internet but most coveted are those that come from people that have connections with our students and/or our school. We are hopeful to have a moment of your time to learn what you would recommend for our students to explore the best literature from around the world during our First Chapter Mondays (High School), First Chapter Tuesdays (Middle School), and

First Chapter Wednesdays (Intermediate -4th & 5th). Here is the link to a quick survey to share your recommendations:

<https://forms.gle/L5xLNgcCSiB6zqCr7>



### **Provide sufficient/effective staff support**



We have gratitude for the time we were given for Bus-driver Nick to help us with small maintenance projects last spring – it made a huge difference.



Thank you Amy Erling and Coffman Cove School for lettuces, cucumbers and apples. We are hopeful to use the apples to make some homemade applesauce and press some homemade apple juice. We cannot wait until our “Monty’s Orchard” begins to add to our pantry.



Thank you Natalie Mcauliffe for making the trip to Hollis to deliver food and share your insights and ideas. We appreciate your efforts and connection.



Thank you to Branzon Arena for his continued work to keep our water system working, for getting our weed eater repaired, and for committing to send someone to weed-eat and get our campus spiffed up.



Thank you Charles for meeting with our high school students to discuss ingenuity.



Thank you for supporting the funding for our Ameri0corps Volunteer and our Pre-School paraprofessional – these two individuals are already having a significant and positive impact in our school and greater community.



Thank you James and John Stevens for scheduling another Archery training to allow us to have enough coaches to support our students.



Thank you Superintendent Becker for arranging for us to have a professional photographer come to Hollis School for our first ever professional school pictures. Our families and community were very appreciative.



Thank you to Brightways and Amy McDonald for scheduling our upcoming Phlight Club Day and our two-day staff development to raise us up.



### **Improve communication district and community wide**



Our students did a remarkable amount of work over the summer to plan the possible new school. We continued on our path following the directions we were given for creating the planning process to serve as a model for other small Alaskan communities to build a cost effective 22<sup>nd</sup> century learning community school. Our understanding is that limitations will prevent the vision to be utilized at the planned level. We may look are publishing that work to support other districts and school leadership communities.



We have contacted Amy McDonald to explore a digital way to connect our students during the school day – perhaps a lunch hangout.



### **Increase visibility to share lifestyle and increase enrollment**



Hollis staff and students launched some ongoing service projects and others are in the planning phase:

- Launched:
  - Gratitude bag trash pickup on Hollis Chilkat Road (we were appointed to the task by the Hollis Community Council – we are exploring getting a sign similar to those on the “Adopt a Highway” program.
- Launched but in need of further revision:
  - Hollis Resource Cooperative - Connecting People
  - Hollis Community food pantry
  - Tiny Little library (needs repair) and we want to add a Tiny Little Pantry.
- Planning:
  - Taking over management of the Hollis Seed Library.
  - Community bus stops (James Stevens mentor)
  - Phone Booth reactivation
  - Upgrading the “Alaska Kids Don’t Float “ life jacket shed.



Citizen Science: We are anxiously waiting upon word to know if we can resume wolves research. We are preparing to adopt an important salmon stream adoption and cannot wait to begin our work. Launched citizen science projects include:

- reporting to the US Weather Service.
- documenting observations on Journey North.
- participating in the annual virtual Monarch Butterfly migration.
- caring for Yellow-cedar seedlings and recording our data.



For updates and ongoing information please feel free to check out our Hollis School Facebook Page. We committed to keeping that current and students and all staff are pitching in to share all perspectives. It is a tool for us to document our learning, access resources and provide school information to our target audience – our parents and community. The link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1483681851918203/> and they tell us it will be caught up this weekend.



Hollis School staff and students continue to volunteer at the Hollis Public Library, the Volunteer Fire Department, and the Volunteer Emergency Medical Services.



High school and middle school students are writing articles for local papers to share their learning while practicing quality writing for authentic audiences.



The school continues to report as an official part of the Hollis Community Council agenda and we have been added to the town’s website.