1st Quarter October 2009



off Connection

Superintendent's Page

Good Day!

The school year is underway with over 1180 raven students and approximately 300 river students. This quarter has given me the opportunity to visit seven of the nine river schools. I also had the pleasure of bringing a Voluntary Public School Choice grant evaluator to Nulato. It was her first time in Alaska.

Before she arrived, she let me know that she would like to visit two sites and she had four hours to see them both. Boy, was she surprised to learn that it would take chartering a plane to see one site in amount of time! After her visit, she said that she now has a completely different

understanding of rural Alaska and she is writing up a full report to share with the representatives from Washington, DC. These visits validated the quality of our district. Dedicated teachers, talented staff, outstanding students, and involved parents are each essential ingredients that make YKSD a special place for children. I am very happy to be part of this school district.

Budget Outlook

The budget continues to look precarious, so we are monitoring our budget cautiously. As a result, administrative budgets are tighter. Once we receive final approval from the Department of Education on our stimulus application, funding will be available for afterschool activities, construction and welding acad-



emies and staff assistance for students who need sustained intervention. I expect we will receive approval in the next week or so.

Negotiations

MYEA has submitted an initial proposal for negotiated agreement years July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2013. The negotiating team will review and will continue to work to finalize the agreement in a

timely manner.

H1N1 Virus

Media attention has recently been drawn to the spread of the H1N1 influenza virus, initially referred to as swine flu. YKSD will monitor this situation closely. We are in contact with Health and Social Services and the Department of Education to

> receive updated information. will be sharing emergency school closure plan with principals in the event the flu situation spreads at a disproportional rate. New research does not recommend closschools ing unless learning is interrupted

lack of faculty or a significant number of students are absent. Other measures are recommended which are listed in YKSD's school closure plan.

Thank you for all you do each and every day in and out of your classrooms with students. You are making a positive difference.

Submitted by Kerry Boyd

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November 1st

Instruction & Curriculum

Thank you all for getting your HSGQE retest to me on time. Everything here in the office went well after they all came in. For a very few tests, there were some state ID's missing if the student didn't have a pre-code label. Most of those can be found on your PowerSchool account if the student is enrolled. I did not receive from most of you the daily "check-in, check-out" sheets. Please fax those to me as soon as possible to 907-374-9440. Scores on the web should be back around December 4th.

Aimsweb should be completed by now. The window has passed. Please enter the scores if you have not. The state has a password/account so they look at the participation and our reports. Remember, all students are tested now, K-12. High school students are tested on the 8th grade materials.

If you have students for the Terra Nova who will be using Braille or Large Print, I need to be able to tell EED now how many of those materials we will need for grades 5 & 7. The Terra Nova testing window is February 1st through the 19th. We will be testing as a district the first week of February. Then if you have students absent, the tests can be made up the 2nd week of the window.

Below are some important dates for testing:

District Writing Assessment:

December 1st – December 11th.

Aimsweb Winter Benchmark K-12: January 11 – January 22nd

Terra Nova (grades 5 & 7): February 1st – February 5th; make-ups February 8th – 12th

ELP testing (English language) on IPT: February $15^{th} - 26^{th}$

SBA, HSGQE, Science SBA (4,8,10): April 5th – 8th; Science on the 5th, SBA and HSGQE April 6, 7, 8

Spring Aimsweb Benchmark K-12: April 26th – April 7th As you can see the majority of testing takes place in the second part of the year. Please make note of these testing windows so you can get your students ready and familiar with the testing format and skills. Practice tests for the SBA and HSGQE are on the EED webs i t e a t http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/assessme nt/SBA ItemSamplers.html

The materials for the District Writing Assessment and all the Aimsweb Benchmark tests are already in notebooks out at your sites, thank you to Joan Jones. Please review before testing time.

Most of the core curriculum materials should be at your site by now. We had some backordered items that we are sending out this week (October 13). We are still waiting on approval for Social Studies texts which will be purchased by stimulus funds provided by the state. We have not received that money yet. Textbooks are very expensive. The purchase comes to \$135, 000+ to the village schools.

Reading committees still have some work to do in the framework for grades Kindergarten and 6-12. This work has to be completed by December so we

have set aside the week of November 16th through the 20th for curriculum work. The social studies committee will also be coming in at that time <u>IF</u> we have the social studies texts by that week. I will email individual members of the committees giving them more detailed informa-

tion. Reading committee, however, need to block November 18th for travel in morning, and work whatever of that day is left through the 20th.

Some of the writing materials that you requested from the inservice are here and are being mailed out this week.

"Battle of the Books" books are finally here. We will be sorting them this week so they can be mailed out. You will receive 3 sets of books for K-high school. The Raven offices will also receive 3 sets. There are 3 members to a team with one alternate. The district battles will take place in January. Since every school is mandated to be involved, there should be some exciting battles. State battles for the district winner take place in February. We have registered our district now so we



should have a password for practice questions soon.

Never Cry Wolf is one of the books being sent out for grades 6-8. It is one of the novels for the last 9 weeks (look at your syllabus). Some of the books were water damaged in transit so they will come a little later than the rest of the battle books. You should have enough of Never Cry Wolf for every member of your 6-8th class as all your students are reading/studying it as part of your literature English course.

New teachers, if you have any questions about any of the above information, please email me, cdoyle@yksd.com or call my direct line at 907-374-9418.

Submitted by Carol Doyle

If you have not done so
already, please fax in your
daily "check-in, checkout" sheets from the
HSGQE as soon as
possible to
907-374-9440
THANKS!

Page 2 STAFF CONNECTIONS

Counseling

Travis Sutton, our new itinerant counselor has been working with

elementary students in grades K-3 learning about the importance of

grown-ups in their lives. Travis and his students created "Webs of Fives" identifying important grown-ups kids can talk to about problems.



Nulato K-3 Students in Nate Lambert's classroom.

Other events in counseling this semester:

- Financial Aide
 Seminar was given
 over video
 conference
- RSS (Rural Student Services)
- IYD activities
- AK Scholars
- Scholarship link on district website

Special Education

The special education department went through its five year compliance monitoring review the week of September 8, 2009. The Alaska State Department of Education & Early Development, Teaching & Learning Support/Special Education Programs visited our district office for three straight days to ensure the YKSD Special Education Department is in compliance with all State and Federal laws and regulations. They look at two separate sets of standards that we must follow. First are the Administrative Standards which the Sped Coordinator must ensure are in place. They looked at over 65 standards with over 442 criteria within those standards. We received a perfect 100%!!! The second set of standards is the file review standards. EED randomly selected 19 student files based on disability category and reviewed over 546 criteria in each file. YKSD received an overall score of 88% which is truly awesome! Five years ago, the scores were 72% and 78% so we have come a long way as a department. Special "Thanks" to Marla Larson and Michele Patterson who gave up their entire Labor Day weekend to be in the office with me review files. A true example of "Whatever It Takes!"

Paybacks are GREAT! Ha ha! The same folks who came to audit us were then audited by OSEP – the Federal Government. I was asked to attend the

week long verification review in Juneau to represent the small school districts, one of only two districts asked to attend. The other was the Executive Director of Special Education from the Anchorage School District. It was a great learning experience and I was able to really brag on all the good things our district is doing for our students. Thanks for allowing me to share all of the success stories from YKSD. The State as well as the Feds were very impressed with the changes taking place in YK.

Counselor calendar on district website!!!! Please take a look at the counselor's calendar to see updates on travel, seminars, scholarship dates, etc. If you have any events such as IYD or Health/Career Fairs, please let Jen McLean know and she'll update the calendar.

Submitted by Cristina Poage



Executive Director of Sped for Anchorage (Jerry Sjolander), and an EED program Manager (Don

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YKSD

High School Artists:

- Lacey Sam
- Anna Huntington
- Dolly Simon
- Celestina Sarten
- Joshua Thompson
- Mary Captain
- David Levshakoff
- Shonti Mayo
- Kirk Mayfield
- Kelly Sweetsir
- Nathaniel Titus
- Candice Grant Gray
- Michael Ambrose
- Lyle McGinty
- Devon Esmailka
- Charles Stickman II
- Lloyd Edmailka
- Albert Nickoli
- Nicole Cleaver
- Lisa Cleaver
- Darrick Ambrose
- Wesley Alexie
- Killien Lolnitz
- Shawn Benjamin
- * These are all the students taking on the task of "Thinking outside the Box" Keep up the good work!!



Staff Connections

By Laura Kaiser

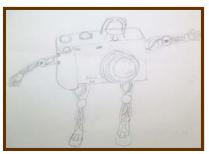
October 2009

High School Art off to a Great Start

After last year's art classes came to a close, I realized that I wasn't reaching a key group of students who have the ability to really excel in art— Our high school students!

With this thought in mind I began thinking on how I could make a studio art class (project based class in which assignments often take several weeks to complete) work over the video system. What it came down to was using www.quia.com as a tool for grading student reflections, as well as emails filled with digital images of student artwork.

The art class meets every day from 1-2pm in which attendance is key because the majority of work is done in class— in fact my syllabus



"Cameratron" By Michael Ambrose Kaltag School

states that I don't give homework (Mrs. Kaiser...my dog ate my homework). Students are expected to use each hour we meet towards completing projects.

Artwork this year will range from drawing to sculpture with a variety of goals in mind, but all challenging the students to think outside the box. They have been working diligently on a project titled "Lively Electronic Devices" in which they were given the visual problem of drawing an electronic device of their choice and "bringing it to life" The results were robotic i-pods and TV's.

I truly appreciate the three schools who have endeavor to get their students signed up in this class. Thank you Huslia, Kaltag, and Ruby for taking a chance and allowing me to do what I love best! Teaching high school students is a passion of mine and I can't wait to see where this year takes us.

Other Things happening in Art

Art is happening all over our district. We're halfway through our first quarter and I've been out to over half of our schools. In Ruby we made bird mobiles and bird collages for their culture week. In Hughes we made environmental art, building sculptures with only natural materials. We've printed fish in Minto and Kaltag and even did some landscape drawing in Manley.

Besides my site travels, Art is being offered over video conference to K-4, K-1, and 5-8. Both my younger classes are studying Nature's beauty. We've talked about the colors in nature as well as looking closely for details.

In my 5-8 grade class, we have been learning about story-

telling and art. I read a scene from the books "The Giver" and "Uglies" and asked that the students illustrate that scene however they thought would tell the story best.

Also, I know many of you out in our sites are working hard



Environmental Art by Hughes Students

to get art into your curriculum. Thank you!! Art is a wonderful tool for helping our students develop multidimensionally! We are so lucky to be in a district that values the arts.

1ST QUARTER Page 4

Welcome New YKSD Staff

Samuel Barnev—Huslia



I am from Alaska. I grew up near Fairbanks out on Chena Hot Springs Road and graduated from North Pole High. I graduated from UAF last spring 2009. This is my first year in my own classroom and I am really enjoying it.

My wife and I spent some time in Tanana and always wanted to get back to the bush and this job gave us that opportunity. We were also very prayerful about our decision and feel the hand of providence in this move.

My favorite experiences have been seeing some of my most belligerent and noncompliant students begin to settle down, work, and care a little about what I'm teaching. I really care about these kids and want to see them succeed in life.

My wife and I love having a wood stove. It's very inviting and feels like home.

Lisa Kleyenberg—Nulato



I'm from Michigan, where I've lived my entire life through college. I graduated with a duel education degree from Grace Bible College and Cornerstone University. I've spent time teaching ESL in China to middle and high

school students through a summer English Camp program. The summer following my China teaching experience, I traveled to the Dominican Republic where I worked with children living in an orphanage, teaching them basic English vocabulary and skills. I spent my four years of college tutoring in an inner-city school, where I later did my student teaching in the high school. which I loved. I choose to work in rural Alaska because there are students here who need an education just as much as anywhere else in the country or world; besides, I'm always ready for an adventure, something different from farm life or city life. These students are the future and they need teachers who care about them and their success. I moved to Alaska for the students and I cannot see myself anywhere else. My favorite experience so far has been being the Cross Country coach and working with my junior high runners to perform to their highest potential, traveling with them, and sharing in the joy of their victories as they exceed their own expectations. Another great experience was also my first hunting venture and taking part in the whole process.

Cathie Koss—Raven, Juneau

Cathie Koss moved to Juneau from Anchorage where she lived for three years to work for Raven Correspondence School. She came to Alaska with her two dogs 3 years ago from Louisiana. Cathie has worked in special education in various capacities for over 15 years. She is an avid runner and enjoys the many adventures Alaska has to offer.





Nate Lambert-Nulato

I am from Yakima, Washington. For my undergraduate degree I attended Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Il. In Chicago I earned a B.A. in Applied Linguistics. Recently I graduated with an M.I.T from Heritage University in Toppenish, Washington. In 2006 I worked as a dorm parent and middle school language arts teacher at a small private Navajo school in Arizona. In addition to this I have taught E.S.L. for several years. I chose to teach in rural Alaska to continue working in a crosscultural environment. The frigid temperatures will bring an extra challenge for me as I had my eyes set on somewhere much warmer than Alaska. My favorite experience so far has been the berry picking field trip that our elementary students participated in. It was wonderful to be outside of the class, hunting for berries, and having a great time. I look forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

Randi Shrider—Minto



I grew up in Charlo, Montana with a graduating class of 18. I moved from

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Welcome New YKSD Staff (contd.)

Ronan, Montana where I left my family and husband behind who will be moving up by Thanksgiving. I brought with me my youngest who is 6 months and my oldest who is 4 years. I have my associates degree in Early Childhood and my Bachelors in Elementary Education K-8. Within the next year I plan on pursuing my Masters degree in Special Education and Communication. This is my second year as a teacher, teaching in an Early Childhood Setting. I wanted to work in rural Alaska for the adventure and experience. I believe that it has all been an exciting experience so far. One day I was working in my yard and tending to my garden when I got the call from Edith asking me if I was still interested in the job. I packed up as much as I could in 2 days and began my journey North which took me 4 days to complete my designation. My housing was not ready and I was a week late for orientation due to the hiring process. Meeting the District Staff

and working with other Early Child-hood Educators through TCC has been great so far. I really enjoy being a staff member for Minto schools and look forward to a prosperous year as a YKSD staff member.

Travis Sutton—Nulato



Warm greetings! I come to YK from Wisconsin both where I received my education, and where my family resides. I studied philosophy and psychology (UWSP) as an undergraduate

and academic counseling in graduate school (CUW). While completing my education I enjoyed a variety of volunteerisms in mental health, Christian education, and healthcare. I am the youngest of four siblings, and the eldest of three half-siblings. My family is excitingly diverse having Asian, African, and Native American roots mingled within. I LOVE to travel, having taught and studied in Southeast Asia where I made many lifelong friendships. Aside from travel, I enjoy Starbucks, Latin music, honest company, and writing.

Tami Thompson—Ruby



I am originally from Washington state. After raising seven kids I went back to school. This is my third year teaching. I was teaching in the Northwest Arctic Region as a kindergarten teacher at June Nelson Elementary School with 18 kids in my class. I wanted to work in a smaller school in a smaller village so took a job with YKSD. My youngest son is 15 and living here in Ruby with me. We have a small dog team and have enjoyed being able to start training. We are both excited that the Iditarod will use the northern route this year and will be coming through Ruby.



Casey Weter—Huslia



I grew up in Huslia, AK. I attended Mt. Edgecumbe High School and graduated in 1999. This is my first year teaching. I graduated from UAF spring 2009 with a bachelors in elementary education. I have always wanted to return home to teach elementary school. Being able to live at home and work has been the best part about my experience so far.

Harry White— Fairbanks



Prior to working with YKSD, my position was with Galena City School District as the Boarding School Principal. My wife and I maintain a residence in Tok, which we previously used as our home on the road system. Now that we are 'city dwellers', we are looking for a 'fixer upper' in the Fairbanks area.

Although my start in education was as a volunteer coach, after realizing how enjoyable working with children can be, I eventually completed my teaching certificate. My first position was with a private school, teaching all secondary subjects to 14 students in grade 9 through 12. As a secondary science teacher, from the private school I moved into the public system teaching whatever was assigned as we all do,

Page 6 STAFF CONNECTIONS

Welcome New YKSD Staff (contd.)

however primarily Biology, Anatomy/Physiology and Genetics. My students talked me into becoming an administrator and after 12 years in rural (bush) Alaska, I now consider myself a 'city dweller'.

Working with YKSD, visiting the villages affords the opportunity to work with the BEST children in Alaska, and the dedicated staff who help those students achieve success. In my previous position, I had the opportunity to work with children who are related to those in our villages, or in many cases the same students. If I could have designed a position of preference, I wouldn't change a thing. Traveling to the rural sites, walking through the villages and meeting parents, village leaders and the elders is a real treat. I need a little more time to tie all of the cousins, aunties and uncles together, but that will come over time. Luckily, I did not start from scratch on relatives, so my 28/3 is already at about 15. It is always a great treat to see a student I know from

somewhere else, and catching up on things that have happened since we last met. I had the opportunity to hold one of my previous students child while visiting during a cover dish in the village, in another village visit while eating at a celebration, and ask how things are going at yet another site. Life does not get much better than that.

Rosalie White—Fairbanks



I was born in Germany, but grew up mostly in New Mexico. We lived in Washington for a number of years before moving to Alaska in 1997. I have taught home economics and am a librarian, and was happy to join my husband, Harry, in working for YKSD. I am impressed by the team effort for the good of kids in the district. I look forward to earning a spot on that team, and making my own contributions to the district's success.

Lisa Wicke—Allakaket



I'm from Houston, Texas which is where I studied elementary education. This is my second year in Alaska. I chose Alaska for a 180 degree change from Houston. I'm enjoying it and I'm looking forward to next year.

Porcupine in a tree taken in Juneau by Cristina Poage

Did you know?????????

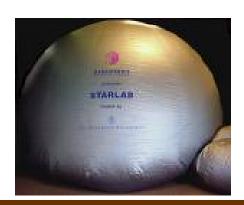
The District Office has a full Star

Lab (Planetarium) available for

you to checkout and have sent out

to your school.

If you are interested,



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News from Hughes

Here in Hughes we are all enjoying the unseasonably warm weather. Some folks here even put their boats back into the water to go seining. Students were invited to go also. Last year at this time we were pushing our way through over a foot of snow that didn't leave town until early May.

We've had a great start to the year. Our enrollment is up to 12. Yeah! We had a family with three high school age students move here from Huslia. The Cleveland kids are awesome. Nick is in 9th grade, Wendy is in 8th, and Olin is a 7th grader. The second day Olin was here, I announced the end of the day at 3:45 and his reply was "Thank God!" One minute later he was asking if he could stay after and I had to shoo him home at 5:00.

Madeline Williams brought us two of her granddaughters and they are also a nice addition to our school family. Melissa and Orvanna are both 9th graders. Melissa and Orvanna joined us last Friday for our "Kids Night Out". We had spaghetti and breadsticks and made brownies together. We discussed 'RULE OF FIVE'. We discussed and listed short and long term goals and the importance of staying away from high-risk behaviors.

Earlier this year we enjoyed a wonderful week at Cultural Camp. Three boys got their first moose. Susan taught all of the students the parts of a moose in Athabaskan. She initiated many activities using PEAK strategies. One game we played was called "Honey if you love me will you please, please, smile." Once someone said this to another person in the circle, the other person had to reply "Honey, I love you but I just can't smile", without smiling. I don't believe anyone was able to keep a straight face. Bob led the students in a Geo-cache game that was also fun.

In September we enjoyed visits from Cristina, Jon, and Laura. The kids really enjoyed playing basketball in the gym with Cristina and Jon. I think they were a little surprised at the aggressive playing exhibited by our 9 year old girls. They also enjoyed doing the Nature's Art activity with Laura. A little later in the month we had a terrific visit from Kerry Boyd and Harry White.

Our 6+1 trait writing training came just in time as far as I am concerned. I kept seeing talent in my students writing ability, but was so frustrated concentrating on conventions. We are now building a writing portfolio that we will be able to use as we go through developing an understanding of all of the traits. The pre-developed rubrics have also been a help. I hope we will have another 6 +1 training next year so we can begin to embrace it as we have PEAK.

Well that's all from Hughes until next quarter, have a great year.

Submitted by Dianne Shirrell



Al Shirrell and Susan racing for a chair playing In My World







The whole crew at cultural camp



Bill Williams showing Ethan and Olin how to cut moose



Learning plant names and uses Nick Cleveland



Keith working on his knowledge folder for Athabaskan Language

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Stories from Koyukuk

Dekeentl'ok

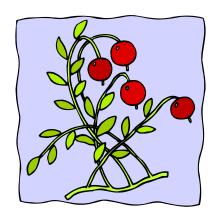
The man went hunting. He left a bowl of nonaldlode (fish ice cream) in his house. While he was out hunting, two hungry men came along. They kicked their feet at the door. There was no answer so they went inside. They saw the bowl of nonaldlode. They decided to taste it. It tasted good so they tried some more. Before they knew it they had eaten the whole bowl full.

Just then the man came back. One guy hid up in the rafters near the smoke hole. The other one hid in the storage place by the door. The man saw the empty bowl and asked the bowl, "Who ate out of you?" The bowl did not say anything. Then the man hollered at the bowl, "Who ate out of you!"

Finally the bowl said one man is hiding up in the rafters and the other one is hiding in the storage place by the door. Just then the man in the rafters turned into a ptarmigan. His eyes were red from the smoke and so to this day the ptarmigan still has red eyes. The other man turned into a mink and he ran away.

Retold by Treston, Antwan, Ashley, Robert, Autumn, and George of Ella B. Vernetti School

Kk'oondzaah (A dessert made with white fish eggs, cranberries and sugar)



Grandma Mouse

Grandma mouse was hungry. She cried for food. It started raining fish eggs. She picked up the fish eggs and put it in her birch bark bowl. She put it in her cache.

Then she wanted more eggs so she cried for more. It rained more fish eggs. She gathered it up in her birch bark bowl and put it in her cache. She filled up her cache. But she still cried for more eggs.

It rained bags of fish eggs and the bags crushed grandma mouse. Grandma mouse died.

The moral of the story is: Don't be greedy.

Kk'aadonts'ednee story told by Eliza Jones

Retold by George, Autumn, Robert, Ashley, Antwan and Treston

Technology Weekly Top 10

- 1. Internet Filter Activity- we have a new filter online and have adjusted the settings for this new service, please send in your requests for site filtering to your site techs, so we may place the correct web sites in the correct filter time/site slots. These requests should include after 4pm site overrides, 8-5 site block requests, and any educational related site that may be blocked but needed for instructional resources etc.
- 2. Administrative PowerSchool/PG implementation support- I will be scheduling Principals, Admin. Assistants and Techs to update school configurations, reports, and updates, for PS/PG.
- PowerTeacher- All teachers are taking daily attendance and inputting their daily assignments, so their information can be checked for accuracy before the report card posts.
- 4. PowerSchool- We have been working with sites publishing the 1st Quarter Progress Reports and will be looking to start Quarter 1
- 5. School Inventories- Site Tech property inventory sheets need to be completed by Nov. 1 in order to document site technical inventories for Erate purposes.

- Erate- Subsidies are dependent on the return of each schools Erate Family questionnaire, as they provide extra funding we need to keep our internet and video programs strong.
- 7. Computers- We are working on a new purchase program for new equipment.
- 8. Video Conference- Video Conferencing equipment is expensive and slow to replace, please ensure it is in a safe place and all equipment is secure. Please make sure that your sites Video Conferencing Equipment is plugged in and ready for video conferencing. It takes a lot of valuable conference time to troubleshoot a faulty connection at the start of a conference, thanks!
- Please send me the model# and serial # of the NEW video cameras in your school. Also a brief description of any BUGS/problems they are having. I need to send these to TandBerg in order to have replacement cameras sent for sites with broken camera rotators, remotes, etc.
- 10. Tech Tues- Tech "How To" will demonstrate how to setup and manage Study Island for your students.

Submitted by Shawn Coyle

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News from Manley Hot Springs

My First Moose

By Kjetil

I went out with my grandpa and one of my friends named Denny. We went down river to Pikes slough and we went up to the end of the slough, on the way back I shot my first moose. It took me 3 shots to kill it with my 30-30. Then we started to skin and gut it, we took the two hindquarters and one front shoulder the first day, and we came back early the next morning to get the rest of the moose. My Dad, Blayz, Grandpa, Denny, Trampes and I went up the second day to get the rest of the moose. Then we brought it home to hang it. It was September 5th when I shot it. It had a 46 inch rack. I was very excited because it was my first

moose and I plan to get another moose next year. In a couple more days we can start packaging it and preparing to eat it. I was out hunting for five days before I got this moose. It is very exciting to shoot a moose because they are a big animal and are difficult to prepare. It was quite a bit of work to do in two days. I am glad that I had people to help me skin, gut and hang the moose. You can make jerky, ribs, steak, and soup out of moose. You can use the hide as a rug or tan it to sew with. Moose is the main source fo r food, without moose you would go hungry if you were trying to live a subsistence life style.





CROSS COUNTRY

By Alexis

Cross-country is fun. I like cross-country because I'm an active kid and I like to run. Mrs. Redington started the cross-country here in Manley. Now Mrs. Wright is the running coach. Cross-country is good for the sprint/run fitness test. Everyone runs to the half-mile or mile mark. For a two-mile run the younger children ride their bikes half the distance. On Earth day we all rode our bikes to the landing.

Every other day the kids who are in cross-country run. On the weekends we have a slip that we turn in, we write how long we ran. I think everyone in the school should join cross-country. Cross-country is active and gives us something to do after school before homework.



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News from Ruby

Teachers Tami Thompson and Pete Moyryla may need to arm-wrestle to determine which side of the new duplex they will be living in. We have been watching the construction with great interest-especially the children who thought that the crews were putting in a new playground for their use (oops!)

In fact the kids in the 3-5-grade class were talking about the huge playhouse being built on the edge of the merry –go- round. A quick confab and a couple pictures later the building was moved back a dozen feet and the kids fears were put to rest!

Other than the housing unit, more of the outer buildings were cleaned out and organized to better serve the children here in Ruby.

I am proud to say that the staff here at MAK are working together as a team and continue to assist the students in their educational endeavors. Hoorah!!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

October 26, 2009

Beginning at 6pm

Frolicking fun filled evening at the MAK gym!

Community welcome, all are invited

Halloween raffle through out the evening - \$1.00 a ticket

Donation of baked goods welcome!

Board games to play with your child!

Help make Halloween decorations for our carnival!

Reading and writing information to be on display!

Juice and snacks provided

Plan on meeting with your child's teachers!!!



Ruby crew working on the new teacher housing. It is on schedule to be done by Christmas.



News from Raven



Barnes & Noble, Fairbanks

- Dress up as your favorite book or movie character and win a prize from 1:00-4:00 pm
- Get your picture taken with Corduroy the Bear from 12:00-1:00 pm
- Don't miss Storytime @ 11:00 am

Call Raven Correspondence School @ 374-9401 for more information

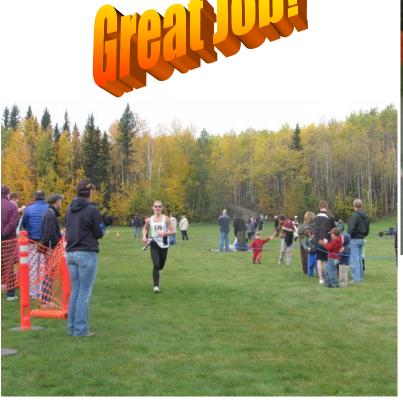


Page 11 STAFF CONNECTIONS

Congratulations to our Equinox Marathon Runners!



Bob Hawkins, Principal/Teacher Johnny Oldman School, Hughes



Melanie Redington, former MHS Gladys Dart Teacher



Branden Winebarger, Registrar/Tech Dept.



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2nd Quarter Birthdays....



| October | |
|---------|------------------|
| 10/18 | Heidi Wright |
| 10/20 | Marie Dayton |
| 10/21 | Sophie Alexie |
| 10/25 | Edith Hildebrand |
| 10/29 | Andrea Berg |



| November | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 11/6 | Max Larson |
| 11/7 | Tami Rump |
| 11/8 | Judy Madros |
| 11/10 | Pat Baser |
| 11/13 | Olga Semaken |
| 11/16 | Pete Daley |
| 11/24 | Evelyn Esmailka |
| | |



| December | |
|----------|-------------------|
| 12/11 | Joyce Billups |
| 12/14 | Monique Beetus |
| 12/19 | Nancy Mason |
| 12/20 | Emilie Campbell |
| 12/21 | Lynne Culbertson |
| 12/26 | Brandy Henderson |
| 12/27 | Christina Semaken |
| | |

Congratulations to our 1st Quarter "Whatever It Takes" Award winners!

Nathan Ekada, VPSO-Nulato



Nadine Estes, Raven-Anchorage Joan Jones, District Office-Fairbanks

Michele Patterson, Sped. Teacher Dave Pratt, Facilities Director

Pat Baser, Speech Pathologist

Jennifer Purinton, Aide-Nulato Dan Reum, Principal-Nulato

Travis Sutton, Counselor Julie Szidloski, Raven-Delta



This quarter's winners will receive a \$25 Fred Meyer Gift Card!