

March 2011

Staff Connections



Yukon-Koyukuk School District

3rd Quarter

Happy Spring from the Superintendent

March has arrived and with it we can see the end of the long winter season and hope of a beautiful spring. It is a great time of year. March 13th is daylight savings time changes- remember to spring forward an hour.

With less than 12 weeks of school left, the budget planning for next year is underway. The first public hearing of the budget is scheduled for March 17th. Administration is also organizing the staff development calendar of activities for the 2011-2012 school year. A primary focus of the training will be on PEAK professional development and alignment of reading, writing and math curriculum.

Per the MYEA collective bargaining agreement, YKSD will assemble a Health Insurance Committee. We need of one more teacher to serve on the committee. The committee will select a Health Insurance Company for YKSD employees. Using videoconference, the committee members will meet four times per year; April 26, May 31, September 13

and October 11, 2011 at 2:30. Please contact your MYEA president if you are interested in participating.

School Closure

Most of you have heard that the Jimmy Huntington Elementary School was closed due to a fuel spill inside the boiler room of the school. Crews are working hard to remove the spillage from the area. The school will re-open once the air quality tests deem it safe again. In the meantime, parents were notified that school will be in session at an alternative site. Students will make up the missed school days.

Suggestions?

Your Suggestions are welcome and needed. Through the school improvement process, we hope to promote a positive atmosphere and increased communication and welcome your input and suggestions on ways to accomplish this. Please use the opinions and ideas link on our new website at suggestion@yksd.com to share any ideas or concerns.

Thank you...

Thank you for working hard each and every day.

Please remember to nominate a Classified and Certified Staff Member of the Year by using the forms on our new website. Next month we will bring the names of the nominees to the regional board of education.

Thank you to those of you who offered suggestions for our new Website. We continue to make improvements and have appreciated your recommendations and ideas. Continue to send your feedback to patty hill at phill@yksd.com. The new website will be posted March 21st of this year. I am very thankful to the District Maintenance and custodial staff for clearing mountains of snow at each of our buildings. In addition, there were several community members who answered the call for assistance.

Teacher contracts have been mailed to site administrators. Thank you for choosing to work for YKSD. We know that you have choices.

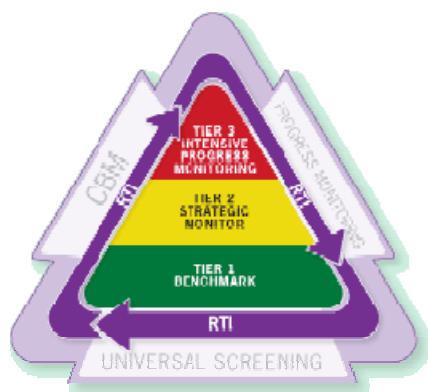
Kerry Boyd
Superintendent

Inside this issue:

<i>AimsWeb & Library</i>	2
<i>Grants & Counselor</i>	3
<i>Student Opportunities</i>	4
<i>Art Department</i>	5
<i>PEAK In-service</i>	6
<i>News from Hughes</i>	7
<i>Manley & Minto</i>	8-9
<i>Minto Jumps</i>	10
<i>Regional Basketball</i>	11-12
<i>A New Face & Birthdays</i>	13

AIMSweb Progress Monitoring

You can use progress monitoring to see how your students are doing as well as giving them practice on testing. You may give them the sample tests whenever you choose...ie..once a week, everyday, or once a month. When you do give them the test, keep track of their grades. If you could email me your class roster then I can set up your "Progress Monitoring Caseload" in AIMS Web online to save you time. Then all you have to do is input grades. This is a great way to get the kids practicing for the benchmarks. Hope this helps:



Directions for AIMS Web Progress Monitoring:

1. Log into AIMS Web at: <https://aimsweb.pearson.com/Login.cfm>
2. Click on the top yellow "Downloads" tab.
3. Click on the "Prog. Monitor" tab to the far left.
4. Click on the select measure type and scroll down to "Reading" or "Mathematics" and click go.
5. For reading there are several passages to choose from...I suggest doing them in order from top to bottom.
6. For math, click on the top "M-COMP" tab. There are several probes available for grades 1-8.
7. The test administration directions are the same as the Fall and Winter exams. 8 minutes for math tests and 1 min. for each of the three passages for reading...and take the middle score.

Directions for Entering Grades

1. Login to AIMS Web
2. Click on the blue Progress Monitoring Tab on the top.
3. Click on the Schedules tab on the left side of the screen.
4. Find your Progress Monitoring Caseload.
5. Click on the Next Score columns in blue for entering grades.
6. You can also change goals for each student in the Goal Columns in blue. This is also where you will find the Target Benchmark for each student.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to call me at 907-374-9496.

Ava Vent
YKSD Education Specialist

Library Notes

We now have library aides at all sites. Please welcome:

Dawn Pomrening, Johnny Oldman School (Dawn will fill in for the remainder of the year)

Michelle Sam, Allakaket School

Be sure to check out the Alexandria library link on the district website. The system currently contains all new library materials, and we plan to add older materials to facilitate searches.

A sampling of Go Readers and Play-

aways will be added to library holdings at each site. Both are single-title reading devices that will be fun and easy for students to use.

The State Battle of the Books competition will be held during the week of February 28th, at 9 a.m. each day. On Monday, high school will compete (Delta Raven team), on Tuesday, 7th/8th grades (Juneau Raven team), on Wednesday, 5th/6th grades (Nulato team), and on Thursday, 3rd/4th grades (Fairbanks Raven team).

Through the NIE (Newspapers in Edu-

cation) program, the Fairbanks News-Miner is now available to students and staff at the river schools.

See your library aide for login help. Take advantage of this resource to enhance your curriculum, and happy reading!

Rosalie White
Library Media Coordinator



State and Federal Programs

Grants

Our department is always busy this time of year. Currently, we are in the process of writing the Alaska Native Education grant, the School Libraries grant, and a Tobacco Prevention grant.

Accreditation

This spring, Raven Correspondence School will go through their accreditation evaluation. A response team has been selected to make visits and complete the evaluation. We are working with Raven staff to complete their accreditation document. Stay tuned for further information

regarding this process.



Career and Technical Education (CTE)

This spring, ten students will be selected to attend the Construction Academy which will be hosted in Huslia for 10th - 12th grade students. Applications have been emailed out to all site principals and counselors. Please encourage your high school students to apply. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to learn a trade, receive college credit and earn their 10-hour OSHA basic safety card. Please remember that

applications need to be emailed or faxed directly to the Federal Programs department.

Gina Hrinko

Director of State & Federal Programs



Counselor's Corner

During the month of January and February, the guidance office at Jimmy Huntington School focused on two developmental guidance topics: filling the bucket & human growth & development. For "filling the bucket," elementary students learned that we all carry an imaginary bucket around that we, and others either add to, or take from. Our manners and the way we treat

others causes the bucket to be filled up, or dipped into. The surprise twist is that students can fill their own buckets by treating others with kindness because we often feel good inside, when we truly are good!

Our human growth and development lesson focused on two areas: how all of our bodies change as we approach puberty, and the importance of keeping our bodies safe (appropriate/inappropriate touching). Students learned the differences among puberty for boys and girls along with specific physical changes that occur. Further, we also had "circle-talk" where students learned what's considered good and bad touching, and what to do in the event it happens to oneself or others.

At the middle-school level, the JHS guidance office is pleased to announce we've officially launched KeyTrain curriculum which helps prep students for the newly state required WorkKeys assessment.

Let's all fill our buckets with kindness and goodness!

Thus far, students have been working on the Applied Mathematics portion of the curriculum.

Finally, for those 11th grade students who've taken the WorkKeys assessment, the guidance office is pleased to announce that some have scored HIGH ENOUGH or quite nearly to meet one of the most difficult requirements of the new Alaska Performance Scholarship—Please CONGRATULATE Anna Huntington & Dolly Simon for their hard work and diligence!

Travis Sutton
Counselor & Registrar



Opportunities for Students

Testing Incentives Program

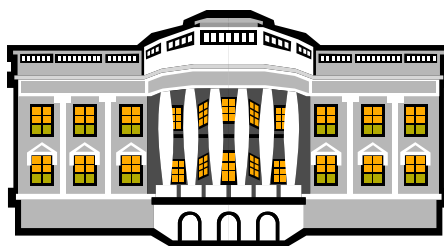


Last year the testing incentives and pizza party was a big hit, so we are pleased to announce that we will continue the incentive program this year. Our goal is to provide support and encouragement for students to “do your best, to pass the test”, while continuing parent and community involvement. You will see some flyers in the near future to send home with students on the prizes and testing tips. Students who arrive each day will be entered into the district wide drawing for door prizes. The district wide virtual pizza party and door prize drawing will take place Friday, April 8th. Exact times TBD.



2011 Future Educators of Alaska

The Annual Student Gathering is held each year in April for high school students who participated in Future Educators of Alaska. Although increasing student involvement and creating greater awareness about the education profession is the primary objective, the students benefit by attending motivational workshops, meeting professionals in the field of education, and touring the campus of University of Alaska Southeast. The Gathering begins Monday evening and concludes Wednesday. There are 5 open slots for YKSD students to attend, if students are interested in attending please email adurny@yksd.com.



Washington DC Close Up

April 9-16, 2010 seven students will have the opportunity to attend Washington DC Close Up. This year's students who applied and were chosen to attend are, Jacob Howell, Raven Correspondence, Alexander Vent and Erica Ambrose, 12th grade from Huslia; Gerald Patsy, 11th grade from Nulato; Dwight Titus and Joseph Alexander, 12th grade from Minto, and David Levshakoff, 12th grade from Ruby. The teacher/chaperone for the trip will be Nicholas Graves and Rachel Reilly from the district office.

Thanks to all who made this trip possible, the students for applying, the teachers/staff for helping the students apply, and the chaperones. The funding for this opportunity is provided by a grant from State & Federal Programs Department.



Alaska Bilingual Multicultural Education/Equity Conference

The Alaska Department of Education and the Alaska Association for Bilingual Education are pleased to announce the 37th Annual Bilingual Multicultural Education Equity Conference to be held April 20-22, 2011 at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel.

The goals for the conference are:

- To engage educators in discussions about content and performance standards and effective practices to strengthen teaching and learning.
- To increase public and professional awareness of successful program practices in bilingual and multicultural education and share strategies to prepare all students to meet district and state performance standards
- To provide an opportunity for selected high school students and future teachers to share and explore issues in heritage language education and develop leadership skills.
- To address community-based strategies which enable students to become proficient in their heritage and culture.

To address educational equity issues of gender, race and national origin in Alaskan schools.

There is funding for YKSD students to attend the conference through the FEA partnership. If students are interested in attending this year's conference please email adurny@yksd.com

Andrea Durny
Youth Resiliency Assistant

Digital Photography off to Good Start!



Photo by
Nicole Cleaver, Ruby

High school students from Ruby, Huslia, and Kaltag have enrolled for this exciting opportunity to learn about the world of photography. Students began the semester learning about the camera and how and why it works. For their first assignment, they ventured out on a field trip where they went on a scavenger hunt looking for items that fit descriptions like "something tall", and "something fuzzy".

Currently the photographers-in-training are working on mastering shutter speeds and f/stops while also trying to concentrate on composing their pictures in an aesthetically pleasing way. It's hard work and a lot to digest but they're having fun while they do it. The students are enjoying getting out of the classroom for an unconventional education.



Photo by
Haley Sam, Huslia



Photo by
Joe Bifelt, Huslia



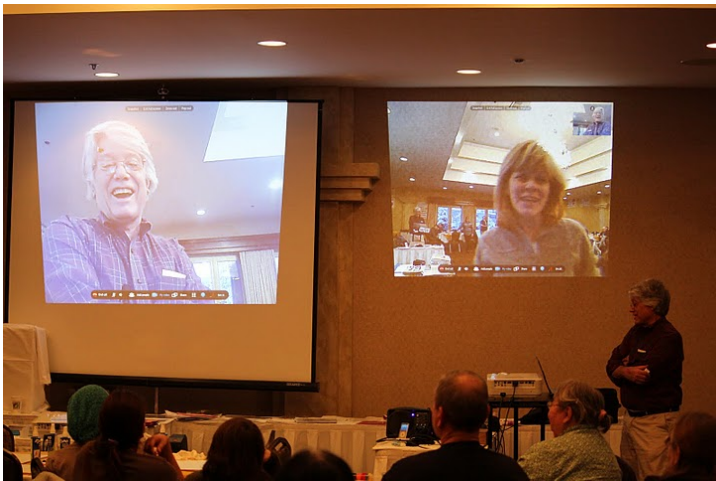
Photo by
Josh Thompson, Ruby



Photo by
Laura Kaiser



PEAK In-service A Success



News from Hughes



*Congratulations to
Dawn Pomrening!
She came in 2nd with a total
time of 15:47*



"Elder Bill Williams from Hughes, showing students and community members how to skin a marten during the after-school program."

"Three skins are needed to make one marten fur hat."



Musician Visits Manley

Mike Mickelson visited Manley and taught the students at Gladys Dart School to play guitar, sing and dance. His visit ended with a concert and potluck for the community the last week of January.



Words By Kjetil and Mickey To the tune of "Sweet Home Alabama"

Snow Machine track keep on turning, at least we're not alone
We wish that we were trapping, Not bogging down on our way home
We know the was a bad idea, Us crossing Hay Slough
Between Tanana and Manley, And now we feel like some fools.
Sweet Home Manley Hot Springs
You know I love my family too.
Sweet home Manley Hot Springs
I hope we make it back to you, back to you
Hay Slough is very Dangerous, With lots of overflow
We did not see the water, Until we were on the go
Now my throttles to the bar, Mickey's sled is slowing down
I hope I can do better, And make it back to solid ground, solid ground.



The GDS students had a sleep over at the school with counselor, Whitney Adams.

The students played a basketball game called Bump, played Tag, and watched scary movies! They also enjoyed tasty snacks of pizza rolls and rice crispy treats, followed by a breakfast the next morning with waffles, apples, and juice.

The students had so much fun that they can't wait to have another sleepover with Ms. Whitney at the school!!

After School Beading & Sewing in Manley



Cindy Furtado, Manley's Principal Aide has been holding Beading & Sewing classes after school for the students and community of Manley Hot Springs, with the help of the State Fiscal Stabilization Funds award to the district.



Mark Snell's K-2 students did an oral presentation to the Elders of Minto; "What is it to be Athabascan" at the Minto Lodge.

Minto Jump Ropes for Heart

Our 34 Minto students participated in Jump Rope for Heart, a fundraiser for the American Heart Association. As a group, students raised \$940.00!!!

Top fundraisers were:

PreK-2nd grade:
Augustus Shrider \$269.00

3rd-7th grade:
Briana Charlie \$145.00

8th-12th grade:
Kia Ho Chee \$78.00

Top jumpers were:

PreK-2nd grade:
Mercedes Frank, 166 jumps in 3 minutes

3rd-5th grade:
Laura Ekada, 420 jumps in 5 minutes

6-12 grade:
Kia Ho Chee, 653 jumps in 5 minutes

Adults:
Kelsey Charlie, 309 jumps in 2 minutes

Poster contest winners were:
("What it Means to be Heart Healthy")

Randi's class: Chad Roberts

Mark's class: Miranda Smith

Madeline's class: Ben Charlie

Thanks to everyone who donated money and/or participated. Thanks for making this event so successful!

Whitney Adams
Counselor



Way to go Minto students!!



1A Golden Heart Basketball Tournament a Success

Minto School hosted the 1A Golden Heart Conference Basketball Tournament at Monroe High School March 3-5, 2011. The boys teams attending were Allakaket, Fort Yukon, Huslia and Minto. The girls teams were Fort Yukon, Huslia and Minto. Many exciting games were played throughout the three day tournament. On the girls side of the bracket the final game came down to the Huslia Lady Huslers and the Fort Yukon Lady Eagles. Erica Ambrose of the Lady Huslers was injured the night before but came out for the championship game on an injury. Despite their best effort the Lady Huslers were defeated by the Lady Eagles. The boys championship game came down to two YKSD teams, the Minto Lakers and the Huslia Huslers. The Lakers were coming out of the loser's bracket and the championship game was their second game of the day. They played a tough game with Huslia winning, 28-37.

Minto School would like to thank our tournament sponsors: Doyon, Fairbanks Youth Sports, Interior Regional Housing Authority, Minto Village Council, Minto Worship Center, and Seth-De-Ya-Ah Corporation. A special thanks to the many volunteers and Monroe High School.

Awards went to the following:

Free Throw Champ (boys) - Joseph Alexander of Minto

Free Throw Champ (girls) - Erica Ambrose of Huslia

Three Point Champ (boys) - Craig Fleener of Fort Yukon

Three Point Champ (girls) - Karissa Carroll of Fort Yukon

Boy's Team Sportsmanship: Fort Yukon Eagles

Girl's Team Sportsmanship: Minto Lady Lakers

Academic Team (boys): Aaron Solomon (Ft. Yukon), Tyler Henderson (Huslia), Christian Baker (Minto), Corbin Kanayurak (Minto), Alexander Vent (Huslia), Levi William (Allakaket), William Vent (Huslia), Joseph Bifelt (Huslia), Tyler Douglas (Huslia).

Academic Team (girls): Kaylen Gray (Allakaket), Sara Henderson (Huslia), Ophelia Moses (Huslia), Michaela Graham (Huslia), Kaylyn Riley (Minto), Salone Saunders (Allakaket), Kia Ho Chee (Minto), Kandace Carroll (Fort Yukon), Erica Ambrose (Huslia), Barbie Sam (Huslia).

All Tournament Team (boys): Scott Dayton (Ft. Yukon), Christian Baker (Minto), Dallas Sweetsir (Allakaket), Tyler Henderson (Huslia), Alexander Vent (Huslia), Dallas Charlie (Minto), Christopher Moses (Huslia), Dewayne Dayton (Fort Yukon), Travis Charlie (Minto), Joseph Bifelt (Huslia).

All Tournament Team (girls): Gabrielle Titus (Minto), Brittany Carroll (Fort Yukon), Angie Herbert (Fort Yukon), April Peter (Fort Yukon), Kia Ho Chee (Minto), Barbie Sam (Huslia), Erica Ambrose (Huslia), Kaylen Gray (Allakaket), Salone Saunders (Allakaket), Claudia Thompson (Minto).

MVP's: Joseph Alexander (Minto) & Candace Carroll (Fort Yukon)

Boys Team Runner Up: Minto Lakers

Championship Boys Team: Huslia Huslers

Girls Team Runner Up: Huslia Lady Huslers

Championship Girls Team: Fort Yukon Lady Eagles

Flowers were given to the following Seniors: Erica Ambrose (Huslia), Barbie Sam (Huslia), Christopher Moses (Huslia), Alexander Vent (Huslia), Joseph Alexander (Minto) and Dallas Charlie (Minto).

Vicky Charlie
Principal/Teacher, Minto School



Tournament Champions—Huslia Huslers, photo by Patti Brown

1A Golden Heart Basketball Tournament a Success



Barbie Sam, Huslia



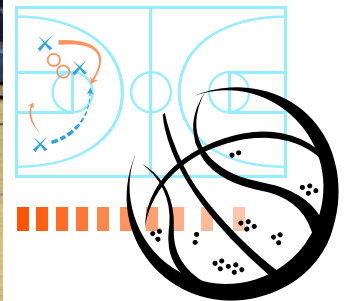
Christopher Moses, Huslia



Erica Ambrose, Huslia



Dallas Charlie, Minto with the ball



Joseph Alexander, Minto with the ball



Alexander Vent, Huslia with the ball

YKSD BIRTHDAYS

March

March 5	Tanya Yatlin
March 6	Johnathan Sommer
March 15	Susan Paskvan & Phillip Roberts
March 16	Kimberly Turnbow
March 19	Pete Moyryla & Josephine Semaken
March 23	David Pratt
March 26	Kathaleen Steckel
March 30	Francine Greenan
March 31	Lisa Wicke, Joan Jones & Cathy Koss

April

April 1	April Williams
April 12	Edward Hornsby & Yuko Heinrich
April 15	Peggy Bruno
April 19	Patty Hill
April 20	Roland Linus
April 22	Michele Patterson & Steve Swatling
April 23	Joe Marley
April 26	Barbara Arkell
April 30	Danae Davis

May

May 4	Clinton Bergman
May 5	Geoff Johnson & Josephine McGinty
May 9	Annette Penn
May 10	Thomas Esmailka
May 12	Nicholas Graves
May 14	Chris Simon
May 17	Lisa Kleynenberg
May 19	Neil Sommer
May 20	Joyce Sam
May 23	Jeremy Charlie
May 25	Vina Bilow
May 27	Virginia Ned
May 30	Robin Davis



Welcome



Rhonda Lohrke is our new Administrative Assistant working at the District Office. She is assisting with the day to day operations of the Business Office, and helping with Food Service when needed. Please welcome her to our YKSD family.