

Yukon-Koyukuk Connections

From The Office of Superintendent

Dear Yukon-Koyukuk School District Community Members,

The first few months of the school year have gone by quickly and it has been an exciting and eventful time! In this quarterly newsletter you can read about what other schools are doing and the fun they are having learning. Our schools have completed their first quarter and are half-way through their second. Parents have met with their children's teachers during parent conferences last month. The local CSCs have assembled new members. The student body has been busy voting on their representatives, and we have welcomed a new member to the Regional School Board and said goodbye to Eleanor Yatlin, a longtime Regional Board member who advocated for all children. Below is a listing of our regional school board and our Area Wide Student Council that represents the entire district. They are elected members who are the voice for your school and community.

Regional School Board Members:

Maurice McGinty, (Nulato, Ruby, Koyukuk, and Kaltag) President
 Shirley Kruger, (Nulato, Ruby, Koyukuk, and Kaltag) Vice President
 Eileen Jackson, (Huslia, Hughes, Allakaket and Bettles) Treasurer
 Dian Gurtler, (Manley, Minto, and the Road System) Secretary
 Wilma David, (Minto, Manley, and the Road System) Member
 Gloria Patsy, (Nulato, Ruby, Koyukuk, and Kaltag) Member
 Fred Bifelt, (Huslia, Hughes, Allakaket and Bettles) Member

Student Council Members:

Sara Henderson (Huslia) President & Student Board Representative
 Sarah Henzie (Allakaket) Vice President
 Kelly Sam (Huslia) Secretary
 Jocelyn Patsy (Nulato) Treasurer



Thanksgiving is just around the corner! As I reflect on the things for which I am thankful, I want to take this opportunity to share just a few of them with you: I am thankful for our students who come to school every day ready to learn – you give us all a daily reminder of what is important and why we are here. I am thankful for the support of the parents in creating a partnership for our students. I am thankful for the support staff, teachers, and administrators who care about students and have the best interests of our students at heart.

On behalf of the Yukon Koyukuk School District, I would like to wish all of you a happy and relaxing Thanksgiving holiday. The students will have a nice long four-day weekend to spend time with family and friends. On the last page of the newsletter is a coloring page of a snowmobile that students may want to color over the long break. This year the Regional School Board is awarding a brand new snowmobile in May to one fortunate student who has exemplary attendance. For more details, please speak with your school principal. Enjoy!

Happy Thanksgiving!



2014-2015 School Calendar

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				P	P	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	P/NT	P/NT	W	I	W	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	I	I	I	I	I	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	W	O				
31						
September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	H					P
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
					MT	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
						P
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					E	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	M					
November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
						P
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
					MT	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
				H	H	
30						
December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
						P
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
					E	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	V	V	V	H	V	
28	29	30	31			
	V	V	V			

2014	
AUGUST	7-8 Principals on-site 11-12 Principals & New Teachers at District Office 13 Teacher Workday at site 14 Teacher In-service Day at site 15 Teacher Workday at site 18-22 District-wide Inservice in Fairbanks 25 Teacher Workday at site 26 First Day of School
SEPTEMBER	1 Labor Day Holiday 6 Principal Workday 19 Mid-term Progress Reports
OCTOBER	HSGQE Retakes 4 Principal Workday 17 End of 1st Quarter/Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards 27 Parent Teacher Conferences/Early Dismissal for Students
NOVEMBER	1 Principal Workday 14 Mid-term Progress Reports 27-28 Thanksgiving Holiday
DECEMBER	6 Principal Workday 20 End of Semester/Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards 23-31 Holiday Break-No School

2015	
JANUARY	1-2 Holiday Break - No School 5 Teacher Workday - No School 10 Principal Workday
FEBRUARY	7 Principal Workday 13 Mid-term Progress Reports
MARCH	7 Principal Workday 20 End of Semester/Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards 23-27 Spring Break 30 Parent Teacher Conferences/Early Dismissal for Students
APRIL	4 Principal Workday 7-9 Testing 24 Mid-term Progress Reports
MAY	21 Last Day of School for Students/Report Cards 22 Teacher Workday 25 Memorial Holiday 26-30 Principal Workdays

C	Last Day of School/Report Cards
E	End of Quarter-Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards
H	Legal Holiday
I	Inservice Day
M	Parent-Teacher Conf-Early Dismissal for Students
MT	Mid-Term Progress Reports
O	First Day of School for Students
T	Testing
V	Vacation Day
W	Teacher Workday
P	Principal Workday
NT	New Teacher Workday
O	Regional School Board Meetings

January						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
				H	V	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	W					P
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
February						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						P
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					MT	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						P
8	9	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
					E	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	V	V	V	V	V	
29	30	31				
	M					
April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
						P
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		T	T	T		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
					MT	
26	27	28	29	30		
May						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				C	W	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	H	P	P	P	P	P
31						
June						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Native Language



Denaakk'e

Genee gonee?
Go ees teekone.
Go ees nek'eghunh.

Teekone dot'aanh?
Teekone lehaanh.
Teekone lehaanee'?
Oho' teekone

Benhti Kenaga'

Deyado Jonee?
Jo lo tukoni.

Tukoni dot'anh?
Tukoni nedhet.
Tukoni nedthethi'?
Èhè, tukoni nedhet.

English

What is this?
This is a wolf.
This is a wolf.

What is the wolf doing?
The wolf is standing.
Is the wolf standing?
Yes, the wolf is standing.

This is a lesson in two Athabascan languages: Denaakk'e (Koyukon) and Benhti Kenaga' (Lower Tanana) about animals. In addition to learning the language, students learn a little bit of sign language. The signs help them to remember the meaning of the words. Teaching over video-conference is not optimal, but using sign language definitely helps, especially when I can monitor the students participation in all classes, just by watching their signs.

This fall many schools held culture weeks or culture camps. It has been a juggling act trying to balance school visits while maintaining the video-conference schedule. I truly applaud the teachers in the villages for willing to learn our languages and keep the lessons going even when there is no video class.

Students are encouraged to take their weekly artwork home so they can practice their language with their family. If family members are interested in getting a copy of the week's lesson, please send me an email.

Submitted by Susan Paskvan - spaskvan@yksd.com

Susan's Site Visit Reports:

A photo montage of my visits to our schools.

Fargo Kesey and Cathy Walker lead students in unity building activities every morning during their circle time at 8:30 AM. Students learn to work cooperatively, communicate effectively, and build trust amongst themselves. As a visitor, I appreciate this opportunity to see the students having fun while learning life skills.





Camping out at 20°F was a learning experience for many of the students, but they rose early to go for a jog and have a warm breakfast. In this photo, students made emergency oil lanterns out of tin foil, a papertowel wick, and vegetable oil. ACHIEVE instructor, Alan Dick, also taught the students to make tlaabaas (ulu), which they used to cut fresh caught noolaaghe (chum salmon).

Josephine Esmailka shows student Derek P. how to make naatdlode (fish ice cream). This year there was an astounding lack of berries throughout the Interior. Josephine emphasized the importance of picking berries so we can have our tleegho maam (Native food).



Josie Dayton helps students Christian and Alec M. make a yeh (house) as part of their kkaayeh (village) diorama.



Memorial potlatch held in honor of late Emily Sam and Catherine Attla of Ts'aateyhdenaadekk'onh Denh (Huslia). This song is part of the dzaahtaah k'eleek (mourning songs), commonly known as the cloth dance.

20 songs were made in honor of these two grandmothers who contributed so much to our language, cultural traditions, and families. Huslia is known for how well their students sit quietly as speeches are made.

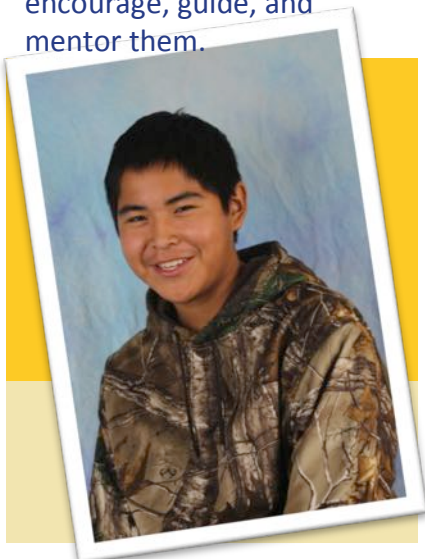


Students and former Phlight Club participants teach why everyone needs a web of support to help encourage, guide, and mentor them.

A highlight of the Phlight Club is the formal dance. Thanks to Natalee Chapin and to her neighbors in Michigan who donated many of the formal dresses and suits.

L-R: Jessica H. of Manley, Brianna S. of Nulato, Natalee Chapin, Leon T. of Minto, Autumn W. of Koyukuk and Layla H. of Huslia.

Jocelyn P. of Nulato roasts tlaaghelmaay (grayling) over the fire. This was the first tlaaghelmaay I ever caught so, in keeping with first catch, I gave it to elder Paulina Stickman.



Jakob D-S of Huslia smiles for his portrait.

As part of my travels, I take school portraits. YKSD will once again have every school will publish a yearbook.

Submitted by Susan Paskvan, Native Language Coordinator



A Parent Guide to Alaska's New Assessments

Alaska will assess students in English language arts and math in grades 3 through 10 in the spring, as it has done for many years. But there are some improvements.

Before, students took separate tests in reading, writing, and math for three days in a row. Combined, the tests had up to 185 questions. The tests were untimed but, typically, students spent two or more hours on each test.

Now, students will take just two tests: English language arts and math, with a combined total of 140 questions. The tests are still untimed. But schools don't have to give the tests on back-to-back days. Also, schools can break up each test into shorter sections and give students just one section a day. If schools do that, students might answer 15 or 25 questions in a sitting.

Students with disabilities may receive accommodations as determined by the student's team. Students with severe cognitive disabilities may be eligible for an alternate test.

What do the AMP tests look like?

The Alaska Measures of Progress are more challenging and more engaging than our old tests. Students will have fewer multiple-choice questions. Instead, students will have to analyze the question, perform multi-step tasks, solve problems, and apply what they know to new situations. That's the kind of thinking that employers and colleges look for.

Teachers will have AMP assessment tools they can use in their classroom to gauge student progress and gain more information about each student's learning.

Students will take the tests on a computer. In math problems, students might drag and drop items or plot points on a graph. In answering an English language arts question, students might highlight text or put sentences in order. Using computers, students actively participate in the test.

Students will become familiar with the new tests before they take them. With technology practice tests, students will learn to answer questions using the computer's tools. The technology practice tests are at education.alaska.gov/akassessments/.

Schools that don't have enough technology capacity will use paper for now. The computerized tests and paper tests have the same questions. The state will work with schools to increase their technology capacity.

Who made the AMP tests?

Alaska hired an experienced testing company, Achievement & Assessment Institute, to create tests for our standards. Alaska owns the tests. Alaska educators will review the test questions for clarity, relevance, fairness, and cultural bias. Alaskans will write passages of text for the English language arts test.

How are the AMP tests scored?

The Alaska Measures of Progress are not pass/fail tests. Students' scores will place them in one of four levels of performance defined by Alaska educators. The third- highest level represents meeting the standards, but no level represents failure.

Students' scores on AMP in 2015 will serve as a baseline. As students take AMP tests in future years, we can see whether they are growing in their English language arts and math skills.

A Parent Guide to Alaska's New Assessments Continued...

We need a new baseline because we have a new goal: Students will graduate with the English language arts and math skills to succeed in the workplace or postsecondary training of their choice.

Because the Alaska Measures of Progress are so different from our old tests, we can't compare results from the two tests. AMP is a new beginning.

Parents and educators will receive reports about their students' results. No data about individual students will be released to the federal government. Alaska has never done so. Each school's test results will help its district and the state decide if the school needs to make improvements and what those should be.

What is my student being tested on?

The Alaska Measures of Progress assess students in our state's standards in English language arts and math. It's easy to find the standards that apply to your student's grade. Go to the yellow Parents star on the front page of education.alaska.gov. Click on the Standards tab. You'll see links to Parent Guides and Tips for each grade. The Parent Guides summarize each grade's standards in two pages. The National PTA contributed grade-level tips on how to help your students. The Standards tab also contains links to the complete standards for each

See the Parent Guides and Tips

<http://education.alaska.gov/akparentscommunity/>



Learn more about AMP

<http://education.alaska.gov/akassessments/>



**Alaska Department of Education
& Early Development**
education.alaska.gov 907-465-2800

CONGRATULATIONS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEAM!

The special education department had their State Monitor September 8-10 and came through with flying colors! It takes an incredible amount of hard work and dedication by each special education staff member to ensure results of this magnitude! Please congratulate your local special education teacher and/or paraprofessional today!

Suibmitted by Cristina Poage, Director of Special Education & Support Services



Culture Week

Ella B. Vernetti School in Koyukuk held their culture week on September 15-19, 2014. We did not have any fish or moose meat to work on so the students in Josie's class made a village and did language activities. These are some of the words the students learned: kkaayeh – village, beedoye – canoe, yeh – house, tso – cache, leek yeh – dog barn, kkuskkuno – community hall, denaa – man, softaanh – girl, keele – boy and leek – dog. The students also learned how to make sausage with Heidi Rader from Tanana Chiefs Conference. They turned our delicious. Thank you Heidi. Submitted by Josie Dayton, Elementary Teacher.



The entire student body of Gladys Dart School in

Manley participated in Cultural Week from 9/22/2014 through 9/26/2014. Alan Dick and Susan Paskvan drove to Manley to assist with the training and hands-on activities. Classroom instruction included fish cutting, tlaabaas making, boat safety and a number of survival skills. The students used fresh fish from a local fish wheel for the hands-on experience of cutting and drying the fish. The older students camped out for two days where their survival skills training were tested. All the students and their chaperones survived the camp and had a good time. Thanks to Alan and Susan for all their help. Submitted by Bea Schafer, Principal Aide.

Hello from the Counseling Department!

2014 is a big year for changes in the testing requirements for our high school students. Alaska has repealed the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam and in its place all 11th grade students will choose one of three assessments that will help them prepare for the next step after high school: SAT, ACT, or Workkeys. The SAT and ACT are college readiness tests while the Work keys is a great assessment for career readiness.

Nulato, Ruby, and Koyukuk students have been learning a lot about the importance of building a career portfolio and what goes into a portfolio. We have compiled writing samples, personality inventories, and career interests into a folder to keep for important events such as school interviews, scholarship applications, or job interviews. Furthermore, Nulato & Ruby students have taken Gardeners' Multiple Intelligence Surveys to identify which ways they learn new information the best—whether it be through music, listening, reading, doing hands-on work, or drawing.



Our K-1 classes are enjoying monthly guidance lessons with our Second Step curriculum and the beloved "Pacer the Puppy" puppet who helps teach the lessons and watches for good listeners. With Second Step Lessons, students are learning about empathy, the steps to problem-solving, and how we can calm ourselves down when we are feeling angry.

Submitted by Jenna Turner, Counselor

5th Annual District Wide Fun Run



Fun Run in
Kaltag

3 miles, Grades 8-12 Runners

Ruby	Katrina	Albert	11
Nulato	Chasity	Alexie	10
Ruby	Lena	Ambrose	8
Hughes	Olin	Cleveland	12
Huslia	Jakob	David-Simon	11
Allakaket	Logan	Dugay	10
Kaltag	Austin	Esmailka	8
Ruby	Cheyenne	Esmailka	8
Allakaket	Daryl	Gray	11
Huslia	Layla	Heard	8
Allakaket	Sarah	Henzie	11
Manley	Jessica	Hoffman	9
Minto	Lethearen	Jimmie	11
Huslia	Lily	Lolnitz	9
Kaltag	Gabe	Mason	8
Huslia	Deanne	Moses	12
Nulato	Marvin	Mountain	11
Nulato	Cimeon	Mountain	11
Nulato	Jocelyn	Patsey	10
Koyukuk	Robert	Pilot	8
Nulato	Charles	Pitka	8
Huslia	Kelly	Sam	11
Huslia	Irene	Sam	10
Nulato	Brianna	Stickman	11
Minto	Triston	Titus	10
Minto	Tehya	Titus	10
Minto	Leon	Titus	9
Allakaket	Gilbert	Vent	11
Huslia	Chase	Weter	8
Koyukuk	Autumn	Williams	8
Ruby	Blake	Williams	9
Manley	Kalli	Woellert	9
Manley	Parker	Wolfe	9
Huslia	Steven	Woods	9
Minto	Devan	Woods	10

Race Results

3 Miles Grades 8-12

		Grade	Time
Allakaket	Daryl Gray	10	23.28
Minto	Lethearen Jimmie	11	23.38
Allakaket	Logan Dugay	11	23.51

2 Miles Grades 4-7

		Grade	Time
Kaltag	Jamie McGinty	5	16.07
Minto	Chad Roberts	4	16.15
Minto	Elijah Titus	5	16.16

1 Mile Grades K-3

		Grade	Time
Koyukuk	Alec Malemute	1	6.41
Koyukuk	Morgan Malemute	3	7.41
Koyukuk	Dazlyn Dayton	2	8.15



Students in
Ruby
participate
in the Fun



Runners at Phlight Club
in Nulato.



Runners in Kaltag sporting this year's
Fun-Run t-shirt.

1 mile, Grades K-3 Runners

Location	First Name	Last Name	Grade
Minto	Jewel	Alexander	1
Nulato	Natasha	Alexie	1
Hughes	Gabrielle	Ambrose	K
Huslia	Jeremiah	Beach	3
Huslia	Gage	Bifelt	1
Hughes	Payton	Bifelt	K
Huslia	Serenity	Bifelt	1
Minto	Justin	Charlie	3
Minto	Jonathan	Daivd Jr	1
Koyukuk	Dazlyn	Dayton	2
Nulato	Peyton	Ekada	K
Huslia	Jonathan	Emmons	K
Kaltag	Kenny	Esmailka	3
Minto	Maddison	Frank-Charlie	1
Huslia	Latrill	Graham	K
Huslia	Linda	Graham	K
Ruby	Chasity	Greenway	K
Ruby	Ryan	Greenway	3
Koyukuk	Milla	Harris	K
Ruby	Shawn	Honea	1
Ruby	Tyson	Ingram	2
Minto	Kanye	Johns	2
Koyukuk	Evan	Jones	1
Ruby	Esai	Joseph	2
Nulato	Kellian	Kriska	1
Nulato	Cody	Kriska	3
Nulato	Vegaas	Krueger	1
Nulato	Travis	Madros	3
Nulato	Henry	Madros	K
Nulato	Cadence	Madros	2
Nulato	Rayana	Madros	1
Kaltag	Bethany	Madros	3
Kaltag	Keirsten	Madros	2
Kaltag	Trinity	Madros	3
Koyukuk	Alec	Malemute	1
Koyukuk	Morgan	Malemute	3
Ruby	Gabriella	McCarty	1
Ruby	Sidney	McCarty	1
Kaltag	Calvin	McGinty	2
Nulato	kiara	Michel	1
Ruby	Steven	Morgan	1
Koyukuk	Christian	Moses	1
Koyukuk	Alexis	Moses	K
Kaltag	Brayden	Nicholas	PK
Kaltag	Lena	Nickoli	1
Huslia	Donovan	Olin	1
Nulato	Thomas	Patsy	3
Nulato	Aiyana	Patsy	K
Nulato	Shaylie	Pilot-Stickman	3
Huslia	Owen	Roberts	2
Huslia	Zane	Roberts	PK
Huslia	David	Sam	1
Hughes	Crystalee	Sam	2
Hughes	Dymond	Sam	K
Nulato	Gerald	Semaken	K
Kaltag	Aiden	Semaken	K
Nulato	Darla	Shryock	2
Nulato	Jimmy	Silas	3
Nulato	Chloe	Sipary	3
Minto	Jennafer	Smith	1
Nulato	Cierra	Sommer	3
Nulato	Rylan	Sommer	K
Nulato	Commack	Stanley	1
Huslia	Miles	Starr	3
Huslia	Makias	Starr	K
Huslia	Jr	Starr	PK
Minto	Asher	Titus	2
Ruby	Liliana	Titus	1
Huslia	Norman	Vent	1
Huslia	Margaret	Vent	3
Huslia	Carmen	Vent	K
Huslia	Adon	Weter	1
Ruby	Emmersyn	Wheil	1
Koyukuk	John	Williams	1
Hughes	Lewis	Williams	3
Ruby	Levi	Williams	1
Ruby	Taliyah	Williams	2
Huslia	Mia	Wright	3
Ruby	Sullivan	Wright	K
Kaltag	Susan		



Kaltag runners with their shirts



Koyukuk runners



Minto runners

Congratulations to our runners and keep up the good work! Submitted by Andrea Durny, Assessments Coordinator



The Manley Hot Springs Gladys Dart School Cross Country Running Team has had a great season! The team attended the University of Alaska Troth Yeddha 5K Run on 9/13/2014 and all of the runners finished the run in the top 25 (aherm, out of 28, but still).

The YKSD Fun Run, here in Manley, had a 59% participation rate for our student body, with 10 of our 17 students running one of the 1, 2 or 3.2 mile courses. It was a cold, windy day and so our times weren't good, but everyone finished with a smile.

Submitted by Bea Schafer, Principal Aide

2 miles, Grades 4-7 Runners

Location	First Name	Last Name	Grade
Koyukuk	George	Albert	7
Ruby	Vernon	Albert	4
Ruby	Sheldon	Albert	6
Minto	Isaiah	Alexander	4
Ruby	Charles	Ambrose	4
Minto	Adrianna	Charlie	6
Minto	Kyler	Charlie	5
Minto	Robbie	David	4
Huslia	Jordan	David	5
Huslia	JesCynthia	David	7
Koyukuk	Damien	Dayton	4
Koyukuk	Treston	Demoski	7
Kaltag	Tia	Esmailka	7
Ruby	Misty	Frank	4
Kaltag	Jamie	McGinty	5
Ruby	Alex	Mendoza	5
Koyukuk	Isaac	Morgan	5
Kaltag	Clayton	Neglaska	6
Nulato	Brendan	Patsey	7
Nulato	Agnes	Patsey	4
Kaltag	Ellen	Pitka	4
Kaltag	Steven	Pitka	5
Minto	Chad	Roberts	4
Huslia	Tyler	Roberts	5
Huslia	Kaden	Sam	6
Huslia	Evan	Sam	4
Ruby	Trinity	Sarten	5
Kaltag	Dana	Semaken	4
Minto	Miranda	Smith	4
Nulato	Ashlyn	Sommer	5
Nulato	Kenneth	Stickman	4
Minto	Elijah	Titus	5
Huslia	John	Vent	7
Huslia	Shalonda	Vent	7
Huslia	Carl	Vent	6
Huslia	Brandon	Williams	7
Koyukuk	Ashley	Williams	5
Huslia	Joseph	Williams	6
Ruby	Stephanie	Williams	7
Ruby	Sadie	Wright	7
Ruby	Joseph	Wright Jr	4

Construction Camp

During October this intensive two-week course provided in partnership with EXCELAAlaska/Kuspuk School District, students received basic instruction in construction. Students have the opportunity to obtain their NCCER Core certification by demonstrating competency with construction math, use of hand and power tools, understanding of construction drawings and basic rigging, basic communication skills, materials handling, and employability skills.

During their 96 hours of hands on construction the students will build a structure from start to finish.

Submitted by Patty Woody,
Career & Technical Education
Coordinator



YKSD Tech Team

Language Arts Online: I've been excited by the opportunity to work with Chane Beam & Peggy Bruno to establish a distance learning Language Arts class for our middle and high school students. Peggy worked hard on her technology skills this summer to better facilitate the course. She is meeting with students on a daily basis over our videoconferencing network, while using Google Drive and other collaborative tools to distribute and collect student work.

Bandwidth Upgrades: Students and staff are enjoying faster Internet speeds at all school sites this school year. We bumped up bandwidth capacity in conjunction with offering more distance learning opportunities. More and more resources are web-based, and we want our students and staff to be able to take advantage of online tools.

Observe4Success: Our principals have a new web-based tool to conduct teacher observations and evaluations on their web enabled device. The system stores these observations over the life of the teacher's employment with our district. It makes it easier for principals to identify trends with their teaching staff. Directors and coordinators will use this system for school walkthroughs as they visit sites.

Palo Alto Networks: We're very excited about our next generation firewall purchased at the end of the school year. The new appliance gives us a great deal of flexibility in establishing specific content filtering rules for students and staff. If students need a site such as YouTube for a class we're able to allow it for a specific group or class and not the entire school, thus saving bandwidth for educational purposes. The new firewall will also keep our students safe on the network. In the past, students have used specific apps to circumvent our district's filtering. This is no longer possible as the firewall can detect such applications and block their use while in school.

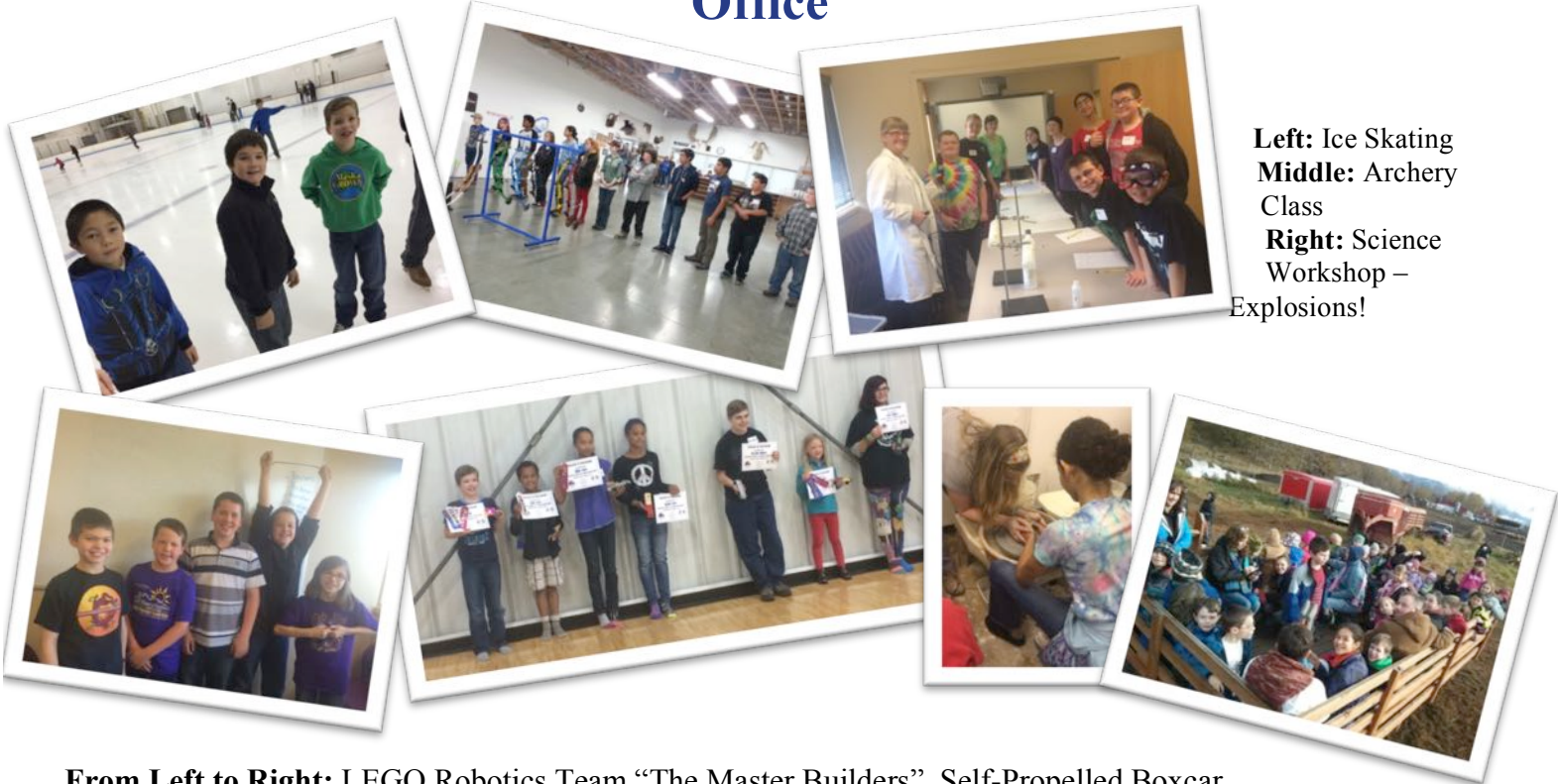


Teacher Housing Internet & Satellite TV: As part of the teacher retention grant the district has been working with DRS and Microcom to install Internet & Satellite TV to our teacher housing units. DRS will provide Internet, while Dish Network will be the Satellite TV provider. As of this writing, all of our sites have television services and 3 sites have the Internet services installed. We expect Internet services to have been fully installed by the middle of September.

Submitted By Luke Meinert, Director of Technology

Raven Correspondence Schools

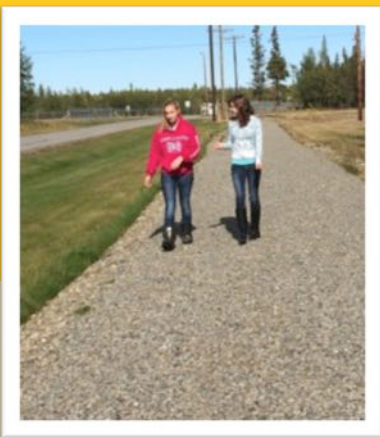
Anchorage Office



Left: Ice Skating
Middle: Archery Class
Right: Science Workshop – Explosions!

From Left to Right: LEGO Robotics Team “The Master Builders”, Self-Propelled Boxcar Derby, Pottery Class, Reindeer Farm with Anchorage & Wasilla families

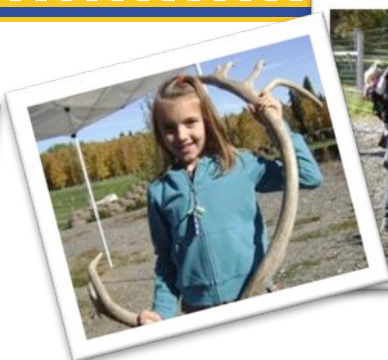
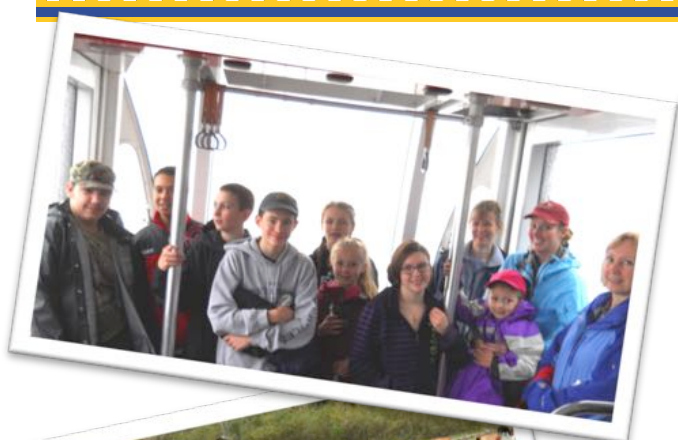
Delta Office



Left: On Thursday, September 4, a small group met for trail walk at the Ft. Greely Community Center.

Middle: On Wednesday, September 10, Raven students came together for a fun-filled day of bowling!

Right: On Wednesday, September 24, we enjoyed a tour of the Ft. Greely Fire Department!



Fairbanks Office

Above: Large Animal Research Station Field Trip

Right: First LEGO League organizational meeting.



Juneau Office

Top: Mount Roberts Tram Field Trip

Middle: Gold Rush Dog Sled Tour

Below: Tracy Arm Fjords 8-Hour Tour

Fairbanks Raven Correspondence School is off to a rockin' good start this school year! School counselor, Whitney Adams, and graduation coach, Joan Jones, hosted senior nights at each of the five Raven locations to get students excited for graduation. We are starting our efforts early to ensure every senior has a successful year and a solid plan once they graduate. It was a great opportunity to meet and greet other students in the area, eat pizza, and earn door prizes while brainstorming graduation plans and exploring postsecondary opportunities. We will continue regular meetings and check-ins with seniors throughout the year so they have the support and motivation they need to succeed. This will be our best year yet!



Curriculum Cures



New Alaska State Standards FAQ's

What are some of the ways Alaskan students will benefit from the Alaska English Language Arts Standards?

The Alaska English Language Arts Standards will

- Help prepare students with the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in college or workforce training programs.
- Equip students with the skill and abilities to be competitive in job markets in and out of Alaska.
- Develop, apply and assess students' ability to effectively comprehend all types of text, construct rich understandings of content, and successfully articulate well-formed ideas verbally and in a written form.

Do the new Alaska English Language Arts Standards have implication for instructional practice?

Yes. The Alaska English Language Arts Standards reflect three key shifts, which will encourage changes to instructional practices and curriculum.

- Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction.
- Reading, writing, and speaking grounded in evidence from literary and informational text.
- Regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary.

What are some of the ways Alaskan students will benefit from the Alaska Mathematics Standards?

Alaska Mathematics Standards will:

- Help prepare students with the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in college and careers.
- Provide a deeper understanding of the content presented.
- Develop, apply, and assess their mathematical knowledge.

How are the Alaska Mathematics Strategies organized?

There are two sets of standards, which work in unison to provide a deep understanding of the topics covered in each grade level or course.

- Standards of Mathematical Practice
 - o These standards stress procedural skills and conceptual understanding. They seek to define experiences that build understanding of mathematics and ways of thinking in which students develop, apply, and assess their knowledge.
- Standards of Mathematical Content
 - o The content is grouped into domains, which are large groups of related standards.
 - o In grades K-8 there are grade-level expectations within each domain. Mastering the material in each grade-level domain sets the foundation for new material each year.
 - o In high school, content material moves to conceptual categories taught in the form of courses (Algebra, Functions, Geometry, Statistics & Probability) that build on concepts learned in grades K-8.

Curriculum Cures Continued...

What grades will participate in the new AMP test?

Grades 3-10 will take tests in Reading, Writing, and Math

Do students still have to take and pass the HSGQE?

No, but 11th graders are required to take the SAT, ACT or WorkKeys Test

How can I prepare my students for the new assessments? Can students study for the test?

The most effective way to prepare students for the new assessments is to ensure that the new standards are being taught and learned. Practice tests for students will be available in January. Students should be practicing the computer skills needed on the test already.

Teacher Evaluation FAQ's**What are the districts required to report to the state? When will the reporting begin?**

A district is required to report the number and percentage of teachers, administrators and special service providers at each of the overall performance levels. On July 10, 2016, the districts will report this information for the 2015-2016 school year for the first time.

Will a teachers evaluation or documents that are a part of my evaluation be made public?

No. State law requires that evaluations be confidential. Teachers', administrators', and special service providers' evaluations are not and will not be a public record, per Alaska Statute 14.20.149 (h). The reporting requirement described above will not include individually identifiable information.

Will teachers and administrators be evaluated on one standardized test that is only a snapshot in time?

No. The new regulation requires that two to four measures of student growth be used when determining a teacher's or administrator's performance level in student learning. For areas in which an appropriate statewide standardized assessment is available, the assessment will be used only as one of at least two sources of evidence. The weight of the statewide assessment data will be at least as high a proportion as any other measure of student growth used by the district.

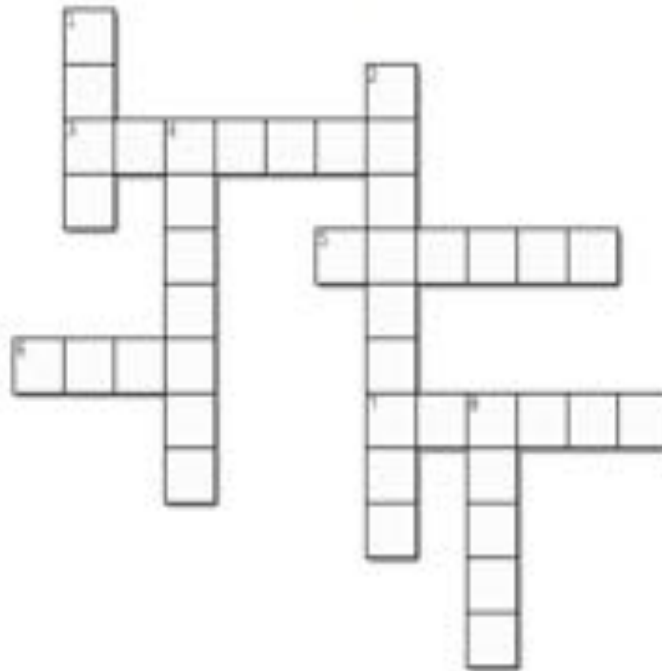
Submitted by Chane Beam, Director of Instruction, Curriculum & Professional Development.



Name: _____

Animals in Benhti Kenaga'

Complete the crossword below



Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Crossword Maker

Across

- 3. caribou
- 5. moose
- 6. dog
- 7. it is standing

Down

- 1. sheep
- 2. eagle
- 4. it is lying down
- 8. it is sitting

K, 1st, and 2nd Grade Students Making Jewelry with Beads at Minto School.



It is fun making jewelry with beads. We use the colors that we like and make a variety of patterns. We make necklaces and bracelets for ourselves and our friends and relatives.

October 15, 2014



Spanish Class,

Raven Correspondence, Anchorage



Above: Battle of the Books K-2nd Grade of Raven Correspondence Anchorage Team **Below:** First Aid & CPR Certification Course Anchorage Raven Correspondence



Happy Halloween

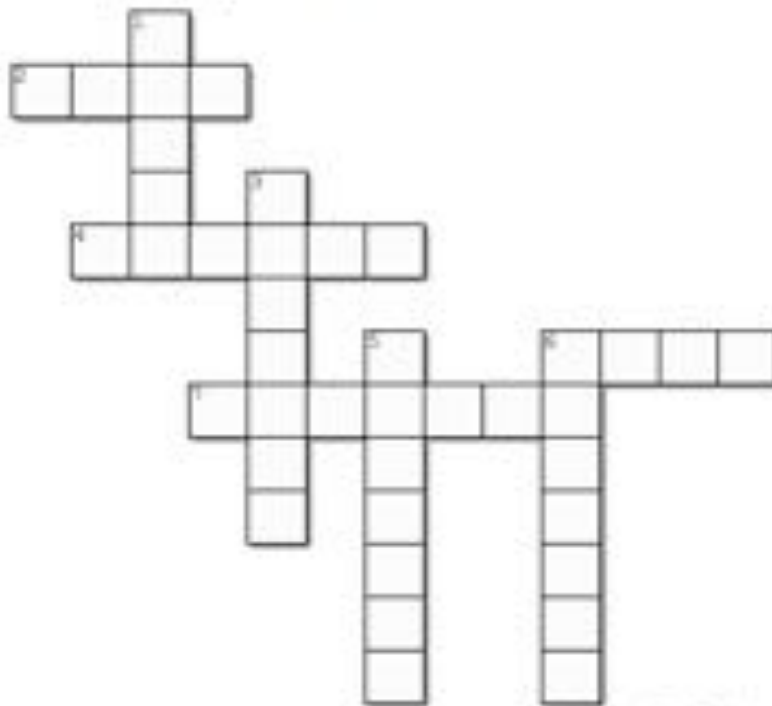
From Ms. Claudia's Class



Name: _____

Animals in Denaakk'e

Complete the crossword below



Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Crossword Maker

Across

- 2. dog
- 4. eagle
- 6. it is sitting
- 7. moose

Down

- 1. sheep
- 3. caribou
- 5. it is lying down
- 6. it is standing

snowmobile



COLORINGPAGESKIDSBYBOYS.COM

Our Regional School Board is giving away a snow machine as a prize for exemplary attendance!

Go to school everyday and the winner will be announced in May!

Yukon-Koyukuk Connections Newsletter

Yukon-Koyukuk School District
4762 Old Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709