

Yukon-Koyukuk Connections

Winner of the **Snowmachine** for Perfect Attendance to School is...

Jackson Wolfe

5th Grader from MHS Gladys Dart School in
Manley, Alaska!

**Congratulations from the
YKSD School Board!**



From the
Superintendent's Office
Kerry Boyd

**Congratulations to Certified and Classified Employees of
the Year!**

Mr. Joseph Marley and Mr. William Monroe

Happy Retirement!

Mr. William Monroe and Mrs. Marie Dayton



Continued on Page 2

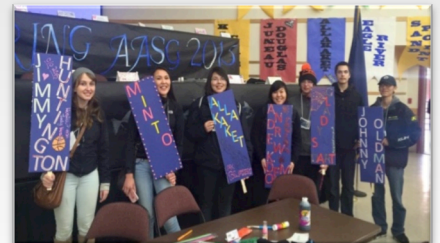
What's Inside:



Native Language News



Sled Dog Races



AASG in Sitka



Certified Teacher of the Year! **Mr. Joseph Marley**

On behalf of the Yukon Koyukuk School District and Regional School Board I am pleased to announce the selection of Mr. Joe Marley as our 2015 Yukon Koyukuk School District Teacher of the Year!

Mr. Marley is currently a distance education instructor for the Alaska Independent Distance Education (AIDE) program. Mr. Marley has been employed with YKSD for over 17 years. He started his work with YKSD in Koyukuk as the Principal/Teacher. While in

Koyukuk, Mr. Marley identified a need for distance delivery courses for learners needing extra motivation. As a result, in 2004 Mr. Marley began developing online courses. Today over 400 students from across the United States have a choice of 21 courses in all areas of study. In 2009 Mr. Marley earned his Masters of Arts degree in Educational Leadership from Viterbo University in La Crosse, WI. Today Mr. Marley continues to find ways to provide more and better resources to the students. Mr. Marley is an exceptional teacher who consummately balances distance education instruction with sincere care and commitment for his students and their individual needs. He understands that not all students learn in the same way and at the same rate and makes sure to treat everyone with kindness and respect. Mr. Joe Marley exemplifies all the qualities of a wonderful person and an outstanding teacher. Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Classified Employee of the Year! **(Also retiring after 25 years!)** **Mr. William (Bill) Monroe**

Mr. William Monroe has served the Yukon Koyukuk School District for 25 years as a maintenance mechanic. He drives from Nenana, Alaska every day to Fairbanks no matter what the weather or road conditions. Even with an hour drive, he is very punctual and can be counted on to be at work on time every day. He works behind the scenes often doing unpleasant tasks and working in cold weather so that our schools stay operational. He conducts himself in a professional way and treats co-workers and community members with great respect. Mr. Monroe has a positive attitude and is known for his ability to make others laugh with his jovial nature. He always has a joke to make people laugh. He communicates well and treats others in a respectful way. He has often had to change personal plans and travel on short notice to work on schools within our district. He has made countless trips out of town often working in cold weather to restore heat, water, electricity, or sewer to a school or teacher house. He always has a good attitude even when these assignments extend into the weekend. His positive attitude and knowledge of maintenance has earned him the respect of his colleagues. His quality characteristics have fostered a spirit of cooperation and harmony in the maintenance department. Bill has always been able to maintain a successful working relationship with former maintenance employees too. This has been very helpful when the schools needs



help during an emergency and they are willing to work with him to get the school operating again. Not only is Bill Employee of the Year, but he is also retiring from YKSD. He has been an outstanding person and wonderful employee who has dedicated a quarter century to YKSD. Mr. Monroe also stays busy by supporting organizations in Alaska. He has served as Vice Chairman of the Toghotthele Corporation for the last 20 years. He served on the Board of the Lion's Club and also served on the Nenana Ice Classic Board. He takes with him a wealth of knowledge that only experience can replace. Thank you Bill for everything you have done. You will be missed by everyone!



Happy Retirement! **Mrs. Marie Dayton**

This year marks Mrs. Marie Dayton's last year working as a teacher with Yukon Koyukuk School District. Marie Mary "Yughulooghelghee" Dayton has been a devoted employee of Yukon-Koyukuk School District for 35 years and is retiring to spend quality time with family and friends.

Mrs. Dayton started her career as a paraprofessional with YKSD at the Ella B. Vernetti School in 1979, holding this position for 14 years. In 1994, Mrs. Dayton earned her Bachelor's degree and became a certified teacher. Her expansive career included work as a teacher in Allakaket School, Kaltag School, and most recently Ella B. Vernetti School for the last 7 years teaching elementary school. Mrs. Dayton also worked in partnership with the Association of Interior Native Educators.

In addition to her teaching career, Marie Dayton has contributed to the educational field by serving on the YKSD Strategic Planning Committee, Native Language Curriculum Planning Committee, as a Site Tech., FNSBSD Strategic Planning Committee, National Education Association member for 15 years, Koyukuk Tribal Council, and is currently serving on the Koyukuk City Council.

Mrs. Dayton is recognized as a cultural knowledge bearer; teaching her students their Denaakk'e (Koyukon Athabascan) language, traditional singing and dancing; traditional sewing skills like making fur hats, fur boots, canvas boots, fur mittens and gloves, bets'egh hoolaane, vest, and beading.

Marie Dayton will be greatly missed by students, staff and community members. Her wonderful sense of humor and her yearn for learning will be remembered forever. She has touched the lives of so many students. Thank you Marie for your dedication and commitment to YKSD!

There are many staff members nominated this year for their outstanding service to the students of YKSD. I would like to mention the top ten nominations who also deserve recognition.

Bob Hawkins- District Office, Brandy Henderson- Jimmy Huntington, Casey Weter- Jimmy Huntington, Evelyn Esmailka-Allakaket, Francine Wiehl-Minto, Holly Shier- Raven Juneau, Irene Peters-Allakaket, Scott Brucker-Minto, Scotty Starr-Merrelaine A Kangas & Tami Rump- District Office.

Submitted by Superintendent Kerry Boya

Office of Assistant Superintendent & State and Federal Programs

Migrant Education

In March, we held a second Migrant Book Distribution at each of our schools. As with the first semester's distribution, books were given to our migrant students in conjunction with an activity designed to promote literacy. Our staff members at each site did a great job coming up with engaging and educational literacy activities. In Hughes, for example, Rachel Reilly (of the State and Federal Programs Department) and the teachers at the Johnny Oldman School had students and their families come to the school and rotate through four different reading stations, where the kids could read to their families, pick out their migrant books, learn about the migrant program, and make posters about how much they love to read. Literacy Nights continue to be one of the most popular parts of the Migrant Education Program in the district.



Over the summer, we will be sending out backpacks to each of our migrant students. These backpacks will contain a variety of things, like books, educational games, and school supplies. For more information about the migrant backpacks, literacy nights, or other benefits associated with the Migrant Education

Program, Parents and guardians of migrant students are encouraged to attend our next quarterly Migrant Parent Advisory Committee Meeting on Wednesday, May 6th at 2:00pm. The meeting will be held via videoconference with each of the villages, so if you would like to attend, please contact your site's principal.



Indian Education

Each year, our sites are allotted funds from the Indian Education grant to be spent on educational and cultural enrichment activities and materials. Over the past few months, our principals have been doing a great job putting these funds to use. At our Anchorage Raven Correspondence School office, a portion of the allotment went towards a painting course for homeschool students. In Minto, the funds were put towards arts and crafts materials for students of all ages to use. **Across the district, Indian Education funding has produced a diverse range of educational opportunities.**

Submitted by Steve Barnes, State & Federal Programs Assistant

Office of Assistant Superintendent & State and Federal Programs Continued On Next Page...

PEP Grant



Jason Johnson, the district's Itinerant PE teacher has been busy during the third quarter working with the students in Nulato, Ruby, Allakaket, Juneau, Wasilla and Fairbanks. He also works regularly with students at his home site, Huslia. During his time at the sites, he conducts lessons using the SPARK PE curriculum and hosts community fitness events. It has been great to see so many families come out for his family fitness nights during the third quarter!

*Left: The RCS-FAI students learning how to ice skate with Debbie Cook;
Right: Winner of Fall Healthy Futures*

Challenge, Trinidad Madros, with her brand new skis from Goldstream Sports!

We are in the process of wrapping up our Spring Healthy Futures Challenge. So far, 50 students from across the district have earned awesome Project FIERCE prizes by being physically active for at least 30 minutes, 3 days/week during each week of the activity periods. We have 20 students currently vying for this spring's grand prize: a new bike! Get those logs in, everyone!

Thank you to all of the teachers and staff who set aside time to help their students form healthy habits by hosting the quarterly pedometer activities, helping their students fill out their Activity Logs for the Healthy Futures Challenge, and hosting high interest physical activities after school! It's exciting to see how many students across the district are choosing to incorporate vigorous activity into their daily routines.



Pre-K

The Pre-Kindergarten Program staff in Allakaket, Koyukuk, Ruby, Minto, Kaltag and Hughes have been hard at work during the 3rd Quarter establishing rich learning environments and high quality instruction to our district's youngest learners. We have also been working hard to engage families in their child's learning through individual conferences and family activity nights. Kimberly Barnes and Rachel Reilly traveled to three of the sites (Koyukuk, Allakaket and Hughes) to provide support to the teachers, paraprofessionals and students in each classroom. It was exciting to see how well the students are progressing!

Close Up

During the third quarter, Brendan Patsy (Nulato), Brian Henry (Allakaket), Stephanie Williams (Ruby), Autumn Williams (Koyukuk), Brianna Charlie and Latisha Roberts (Minto) were invited to participate in

[Office of Assistant Superintendent & State and Federal Programs Continued On Next Page...](#)



the Alaska Junior Close Up Program. The students attended a weekly class to help them prepare for their time in Juneau; they completed three lessons focused on themselves, their communities and their local and state governments. They then traveled to Juneau to work with their peers from across the state to discuss the impact of political issues on their local communities. Senator Olson even invited the students to his own home for a spaghetti dinner with his family and the students from the Lower Yukon School District (see pictures on left).

Submitted By Rachel Reilly, Early Childhood Education Specialist,

From the Office of Assistant Superintendent Gina Hrisko

As the school year is quickly coming to a close, I'd like to thank all of our Principals for their hard work and dedication. We have had the opportunity to meet as a group several times throughout the year. These times together are truly valuable as we learn from each other and continue to grow. Enjoy the last few weeks of school with your students. I hope everyone has a fun and relaxing summer!

Congratulations to Battle of the Books Winners!

The students competed by answering questions about the books they read.

K-2 Grade

Allakaket
Koyukuk
Minto
Ruby
Manley
Wasilla-Raven

3-4 Grade

Koyukuk
Minto
Ruby
Manley

5-6 Grade

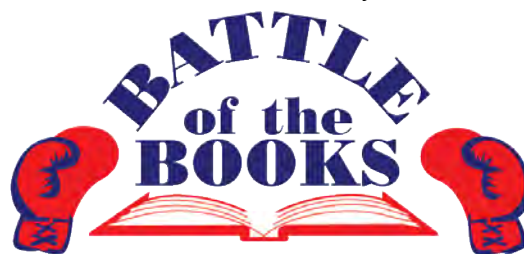
Koyukuk
Minto
Ruby
Manley

7-8 Grade

Koyukuk
Ruby
Manley

High School

Ruby
Manley
Raven-Wasilla



Winners that went to state...

K-2 Grade Group - Anchorage-Raven

3-4 Grade – Manley

5-6 Grade – Manley

7-8 Grade - Ruby

High School - Wasilla-Raven

*Submitted by Danielle Esmailka, Administrative Assistant,
Instruction, Curriculum & Professional Development Department*

Instruction & Curriculum Department

Chane Beam, Director

Summer Reading Tips for Parents



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books lose up to two months of reading performance during the summer. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she maybe 2 ½ years behind! Check out these six great tips to help your child improve their reading over the summer!

1) Make time for reading

During the busy summer months, it can be hard for you and your child to find a chance to read. Set aside a quiet time each day for reading, and remember to include "reading time" when planning summer activities.

2) Keep different kinds of reading materials at home

To stimulate reading at home, keep reading materials throughout the house, including newspapers, magazines, and brochures. Keep some fun things on hand too, like word games, puzzles, or the kids' section of the newspaper. This will increase your child's access to books and printed material, providing more opportunities to practice reading.

3) Beat boredom with books

Help your child find books that she finds interesting — especially on rainy days! These might include non-fiction books, fun fact books, arts and crafts books, hands-on activity and project books, or cookbooks with kid-friendly recipes.

4) Read aloud every day

Try to find time each day to read aloud to your children — even the older ones. Reading aloud benefits children and teens, particularly those who are struggling readers. Read aloud in different places, from the porch to the park. And don't be afraid to use silly voices and act out the story!

5) Encourage your child to learn new words

Introduce your child to new words every day. Talk about what these words mean and how they are used.

6) Write away

Keep writing materials handy such as pencils, paper, and crayons so that your child can practice writing. Encourage her to write letters or post cards to friends and relatives over the summer, to keep a journal, make a summer scrapbook, or to write stories and poems. Ask your child to help you when making shopping lists

Facilities Department

Gale Bourne, Director

Water Usage

Take 15 minutes to conserve gallons of water every day, and stop the waste. You may think those little leaks in your bathroom don't amount to a drop in the bucket. Not so. The sneakiest drip can be found in your bathroom toilet. Toilet tank leaks, almost undetectable to the naked eye, can waste more than 50,000 gallons of water per year.

New addition to the McFarlane family earlier this year! Jasiel was born on January 7th and weighed 8 lb 5 oz and was 20 1/2 inches.



FACTS ABOUT WATER LEAKS

Leak Size	Water Wasted per Month	Water Wasted per Year
○ 1/4 in.	393,830 gals.	4,485,960 gals.
◦ 1/8 in.	98,666 gals.	1,184,000 gals.
◦ 1/16 in.	24,666 gals.	296,000 gals.
· 1/32 in.	6,166 gals.	74,000 gals.

Q: What activity in my home uses the most water?

A: Toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water in a home. Most toilets use from 4 to 6 gallons of water for each flush. On the average, a dishwasher uses about 50 percent less water than the amount used when you wash and rinse dishes by hand if the dishes are not pre-rinsed and if only full loads are washed in the dishwasher.

Toilet flushing – 40%
 Bath and shower – 32%
 Laundry – 14%
 Dishwashing – 6%
 Cooking and drinking – 5%

Submitted by Gale Bourne, Facilities Director



Special Education & Counseling Department

Cristina Welker, Director

CONGRATULATIONS to all seniors graduating in May!! This is your moment, 2015 is your year, **YOU** are awesome!! May your graduation be the beginning of a future filled with success and happiness!!



Left: Pacer the Pup and students.



Right: Winners of the prizes for taking the tests.

We are wrapping up our Second Step lessons in K-2 classes. Over the course of the school year, Pacer the Pup has taught students how to problem solve, how to have social skills, and how to identify and demonstrate coping skills for dealing with conflicts. We often role play different scenarios such as introducing ourselves to someone new or solving a problem with a friend.

Middle school/High school students have recently been learning about the meaning of tenacity and how it relates to success. The program we have been doing is called “A Year of Awesomeness” where we learn tips and tricks to help us sort out the stresses of teenage life. Everyone likes the idea of success, but not the demands it requires. Success isn’t about your level of talent, it’s about your level of tenacity. You must be tenacious. This means that you hang on and never quit.

If a person tries something new- puts himself out there... and fails... this is where most people quit and believe one of the biggest lies a person can believe- “I guess success is just not for me”. Michael Jordan, one of the most successful basketball players, has missed more than 9000 shots in his career; 26 times he was trusted to take the game winning shot but missed. Did he run home and cry into his Nike endorsed pillow? Of course not, he used that moment of failure as motivation. He didn’t see that moment as a failure, he saw it as an opportunity to get better. He was **tenacious**.

As the school year wraps up, don’t check out before the year is over! Don’t give up because you’re overwhelmed! Be tenacious! Hold on and finish 100%!

Submitted By Jenna Turner, Itinerant School Counselor

Assessments Department

Patty White, Director



Student Activities

Article Submitted By Andrea Durny, Assessment Coordinator

March 22-24, 2015. Future Educators of Alaska Statewide Gathering, Juneau, AK. Along with 70+ other FEA students from villages throughout Alaska, the YKSD students who attended were: Logan Dugay (Allakaket), September Massey (Manley), Charliisa Titus, Kerry Frank & Triston Titus (Minto), Corrina Sam & Maddison



Attla (Huslia). Some of the highlights of the gathering for students will be to tour the UAS campus, meet faculty and students from UAS School of Education and Rural Student Services, learn from local cultural knowledge bearers, attend a resume-writing workshop and participate in mock interviews. YKSD works in partnership with the State and FEA organization to “Grow Our Own Educators”, designed to get our students interested in the Education field.



April 2-4, 2015. Alaska Association of Student Government (AASG)- Mt. Edgecumbe - Area Wide Student Council representatives Kerry Frank (Minto), Alexis Rowlett-Woellert (Manley), Sara Henderson (Huslia), Jocelyn Patsy (Nulato), Olin Cleveland (Hughes), Sarah

Henzie & Logan Dugay (Allakaket) attended the conference. There were over 240 students and 40+ different schools represented.

Two members at each of our schools are elected to represent their school on the AWSC which meets monthly throughout the school year.

Continued... Student Activities

The FY15 AWSC consists of:

President- Sara Henderson- Huslia

Vice President, Sarah Henzie- Allakaket

Secretary- Kelly Sam- Huslia

Treasurer- Jocelyn Patsy- Nulato

Site Representatives:

Kaltag- Austin Esmailka & Ethan Semaken

Allakaket- Logan Dugay

Minto- Letharean Jimmie, Kia Wiehl, Kerry Frank

Ruby- Katrina Albert & Jackie Morgan

Manley- Kaitlyn Hoffman & Alexis Rowlett-Woellert

Hughes- Olin Cleveland

Nulato- Chasity Alexie

Huslia- Rachel Weter & Kelly Sam

Koyukuk- Treston Demoski, Robert Pilot

April 17. 5th Annual Virtual Pizza Party - One hundred pizzas were sent to all sites to celebrate the AMP testing efforts. Each year the party continues to be a huge hit.

Thank you, for your dedication in the classroom throughout the year. Continue focusing on your studies, and finish up this school year strong.

Students were entered into the drawing for being on time and on task each day of AMP testing. Prize winners are listed below.

Easter Basket: (Grades 3-6) Taylor Alexie, Cierra Sommer, Morgan Malamute, Davien Douglas,



Ashton Williams, Lewis Williams, Ryan Greenway, Stuart Bergman, Maddison Williams, Justin Charlie, Molly Kesey. (Grades 7-12)

\$10 iTunes Card: (Grades 3-6) Trinidy Madros, Cody Kriska, Ashley Williams, Evan Sam, Joseph Williams, Molly Penn, Vernon Albert, Ariella Edwards, Adrianna Charlie, David Gomez. (Grades 7-12) Leon Semaken, Ethan Semaken, Austin Esmailka, Brendan Patsy, Michael Hildebrand, Robert Pilot, Jakob David-Simon, Bruce Sam, Corrina Sam, Keith Bifelt, Katrina Albert, Sarah Henzie, Chase Mayo, Leon Titus, Matthew Titus, Kalli Woellert, Kaitlyn Hoffman.

DVD: (Grades 3-6) Stephen Pitka, Bethany Madros, Jimmy Silas, Shaylie Stickman-Pilot, Damien Dayton, Jordan David, Stewart Cleaver, Misty Frank, Nathan Moses, Mercedes Frank, Isaiah Alexander, Jackson Wolfe. (Grades 7-12) Marvin Mountain, Treston Demoski, Devin Penn, Sholanda Vent, Tony Sam, Olin Cleveland, Sadie Wright, Rea Linus, Elizabeth Edwards, Patrick Smith, Austin Nollner, Parker Wolfe

Phone Card: (Grades 3-6) Ellen Pitka, Chloe Sipary, Cassidy Huntington, Kaden Sam, Charles Ambrose, Nicole Bergman, Aiden Woods, Cormac Kesey. (Grades 7-12) Jocelyn Patsy, George Albert, Thomas Henry, Courtney Agnes, Tessa Sam, Jeremiah Henry, Lena Ambrose, Kevin Bergman, Briana Charlie, Ryan Hoffman

\$25 Gift Certificate: Austin Esmailka, Shayna Esmailka, Shawn Demoski, Shane Peters, Autumn Williams, Kelly Sam, Emily Penn Beattus Moses, Elijay Sam, Ethan Nicholia, Mackenzie Nollner, Jordan Williams, Brian Henry, Deven Woods, Alexis Woellert

The winners of the **district wide grand prize** drawing are:

Bike: Kenneth Esmailka (Kaltag) & Jeremiah Beach (Huslia)

\$100 Visa Gift Card: Morris Saunders (Allakaket),

Continued... Student Activities

Devin Penn (Huslia) & Treston Demoski (Koyukuk)

Phlight Club 2015 in Allakaket

YKSD Boarding Home Program. For students transferring into YKSD this next school year. YKSD will begin offering the Boarding Home option to students who meet eligibility requirements. Together with our communities and families, this program is intended to assist those students within our district who may need additional tangible supports in reaching their academic goals, and don't want to leave the cultural/family setting. For more information please contact Andrea Durny, adurny@yksd.com, 907-374-9424 beginning in August. Deadline to apply is in October 2015.



Native Language News

Robyn “Delk’oohaa” George, with baby Rezlayn “Hek’eeldzaayh”, partner Walter “Aaleegoz” Stickman II, children Tazife “Nohaaldoh”, and “Commack” “Sedeneeghelyo” receive names from elders Eliza “Neekteloyeelno” Jones, Pauline “Ts’oozelol” Peters, and Paulina “Aadzee” Stickman at the naming ceremony in Nulato.



A naming workshop was held in Nulato and Koyukuk to research genealogy and the documented Tl'eeyegge Hukk'e names from Jules Jetté's Census of the Denaa. The elders, Eliza Jones, Pauline Peters, Paulina Stickman give names to Robyn George and Walter Stickman II's family. Their names and meaning are: Walter Stickman II's name is Aaleegoz, meaning unknown, named after Fred Stickman Sr.; Robyn George's name is Delk'oohaa, which means 'robin'; Commack's name is Sedeneeghelyo', which mean's 'I am entertained by him', it was Stanley Pitka's name; Tazife's name is Nohaaldo, which means 'she's a speaker', named after Josephine Mountain; Rezlayn's name is Hek'eeldzaayh, which means 'it is bright'.

During the workshop, in our way, we burn food because we are recalling our ancestors by saying their name. A potlatch with traditional foods was held in both Nulato and Koyukuk to present the names. Those with new names paid the elders at least a dollar to acknowledge they are receiving a big gift.

After receiving instructions from Olin C., “nelaan needaaneet’ol”, Ethan N. of Hughes cuts meat off of the moose ribs as he says “nelaan needaanest’ol”, which means ‘I’m cutting the meat’. Students in Hughes, Huslia and Allakaket are learning Denaakk’e through cooking and baking.



Two summer language camps will be held in June this summer at the Howard Luke Gaaleeya Camp. The first camp will be in Denaakk’e (Koyukon) from June 15-19, 2015. The second camp will be in Benhti Kenaga’ (Lower Tanana) from June 22-26, 2015. The camp is funded in part by grant awards from Doyon, Limited through their Language Revitalization Program. The YKSD summer camp program was made possible with funding by Rasmuson Foundation through the Youth Cultural Heritage Fund, and is administered, under contract by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Please contact Susan Paskvan at spaskvan@yksd.com for more information on the camp.

Submitted by Susan Paskvan, Native Language Coordinator

Food Service

Hello Everyone,

There is a new face for food services. Kaitlyn 'Kiki' Storms is now a part of the YKSD team! Being from Unalakleet and attending Mt. Edgecumbe, she knows the importance of the food service program in our villages. Kiki is working hard to maintain the food service program and improve to make it the best for the schools in our district.



Health Tip

The peels of fruits and vegetables are filled with nutrients and fiber. Encourage your youngster to eat whole apples, pears, peaches and kiwi, or give them slices with the peel intact. The same goes for potatoes: Serve baked or sweet potatoes with the peel on- and set an example by eating it. *Note:* Be sure to rinse fruits and veggies first!

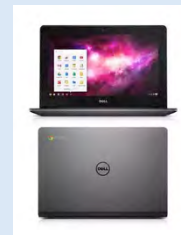
Submitted By Kaitlyn Storms, Head of Food Services

Tech Corner

Luke Meinert, Technology Director

1:1 Laptops

Every 7th – 12th grade student in our district will have a laptop to use in school next year. Most will be using the Dell Chromebook 11 with touch screen. We just purchased 90 of these machines, and we're beginning to get them inventoried and ready for student use.



Online Registration

Our school district will begin registering all of our students online!

This will provide the following **benefits**:

- Parents will no longer have to fill out the same forms every year. They will just verify information on a yearly basis.
- Registration can take place in the spring so educational time isn't used enrolling students.
- Data entering PowerSchool will be correct and complete.
- Makes job easier for secretaries and registrar as it cuts down on data entry.
- Securely stores important forms in electronic database for years to come.
-

Pexip Video

In an effort to improve our video collaboration offerings we're implementing a new video bridge from Pexip. The bridge is virtualized on a new server dedicated for video traffic. Pexip has performed flawlessly in testing, and provides a much improved video/audio experience for all users. It also allows users to come into conferences via their web browser on their computer. This is an excellent offering as it doesn't require the user to download any applications or plugins, thus simplifying the videoconferencing experience for all users.



Allakaket School

Allakaket, Alaska

Our students have had a busy few months in Allakaket. March 10-12, we hosted a group from Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge. They spent a few days with our students in their classrooms making moose antlers, dissecting owl pellets, and learning about animals that live under the snow. In the evening, the group hosted a community dinner and we played bingo while learning about the refuge.

This semester our high school students started taking a class called Natural Resources. They have been learning about outdoor safety, trapping, the Iditarod, and skinning.

Above:
Squirrel Trap

Below:
Marion Acker
skinning a
hare



Our students have been doing a lot of traveling this quarter. Brian Henry was chosen to go to Juneau for middle school Close-Up. He had a great time and asked some awesome questions of the legislators and their aides.

Logan Dugay went to Juneau for the FEA leadership conference. Sarah Henzie and Logan Dugay attended the AASG retreat in Sitka.

March 17, we had Literacy Student Afternoon. The students stayed after school and read to one another from books they received from the Migrant Book Program. Students were able to choose a book of their liking and read it to a friend. They also read to some adults who came in and the principal.

Submitted by Laurie Beam, Principal of Allakaket School



Ute Kaden from the University of Alaska came out to Allakaket [in April]. She led explorations on mystery substances (polymers), magnetism, electricity, and air pressure. Here, she is using a microto complete an electrical circuit with Logan Dugay.

We had AMP testing the week of April 6. All of our students completed the testing within a week. The students preferred the computerized testing compared to the old fill-in-the-bubble, paper & pencil SBAs. A lot of hard work and practice went into the tests and we wish everyone lots of luck!!



Jessica Henry has been coming out from the Allakaket Tribal Office to help inspire students to use their creativity. In this session, students are creating a dog team using origami. This is a great way to foster attention, manipulative skills, order-of-operations (which is very important in math), following directions, cooperation, and it enhances creativity because it gets our students thinking outside of their usual patterns.



The primary class works very hard, so they get a little time to play. Of course, there's a learning objective in every play option! Here, Terrence Strassburg is being the clerk at the store. We asked, "How much does this cost?" He'd name the price. He is learning social skills, words to go with money, buying, and selling.



The high school has been studying Earth Science. Morris Saunders got interested in volcanoes. He made a model to teach the elementary students how volcanoes form. He taught them that magma is inside the volcano and that it erupts when there is enough pressure built up. He taught them

that when the magma comes outside of the volcano, it is called, "lava."

They were really excited. Ms. David and the students asked

many questions about how the model was made. Morris patiently explained the whole process, starting with the recipe for making the dough that the volcano was made of. I bet the elementary students make their own models soon, don't you?



Of course, everyone was busy outside of school, too. Many students and their families went to Hughes for the KRC races. Then, when they came home, there were the Last Chance dog races. Our own Ms. David raced. Here she is, taking off! It was a fast race. After, everyone enjoyed a nice picnic courtesy of the Dog Musers.

Submitted By Karen Kallen-Brown, SPED Teacher


Hughes, Alaska



We are going on a trip to Los Angeles for a high school field trip. We raised money for about 3 years by selling food and having raffles. We worked very hard for this trip. I hope it's fun. I can't wait to go to L.A. because we get to get out of Hughes for a while. Two of the places we are going are Universal Studios and the Hollywood walk of fame. I really don't know what to expect but I'm getting excited. We are also going to the Hollywood sign, the zoo, and a museum. I'm not sure what zoo or museum we are going to. I have been to a zoo before but it will be fun to go to a different one.

Submitted by Keith Bifelt

On April 9th, I was on a plane that was going to take a quick stop in Juneau on our way to Sitka. Once we all got to Mount Edgecombe, we were at an activity center to organize that who was going to what meeting. All the students registered to what workshop and pods people are going to take. All of the students went to an activity center for the opening ceremonies. After that, we went to Region Meetings. People from the same region went to that meeting. Then right after that, all of the students went to a meeting together called an Assembly Meeting.



First thing we did in the morning on the 10th, which was the second day, was go to Region Meeting. We then had General Assembly 2 and 3. Next we listened to a Keynote Speaker. Then we went to the two workshops the students chose the day before. The workshop I chose was Robotics, which I thought it was very cool. It was a double session, so I didn't have to pick two. The next activities were Region Meeting 4 and General Assembly 4.

On the third and last day, on the 11th, we went to the Region Meeting and General Assembly, which was our last time to do that. Afterwards, we went to the Pods the students chose. Finally, all of the students went on a bus that was going to a large boat for a whale watch cruise. When we were done, we went back to Mt. Edgecombe. We then had a banquet and closed the ceremonies. The three days of meetings were really enjoyable and exciting for me. The picture below shows the student representatives for each school. *Submitted by Adrian Cleveland*

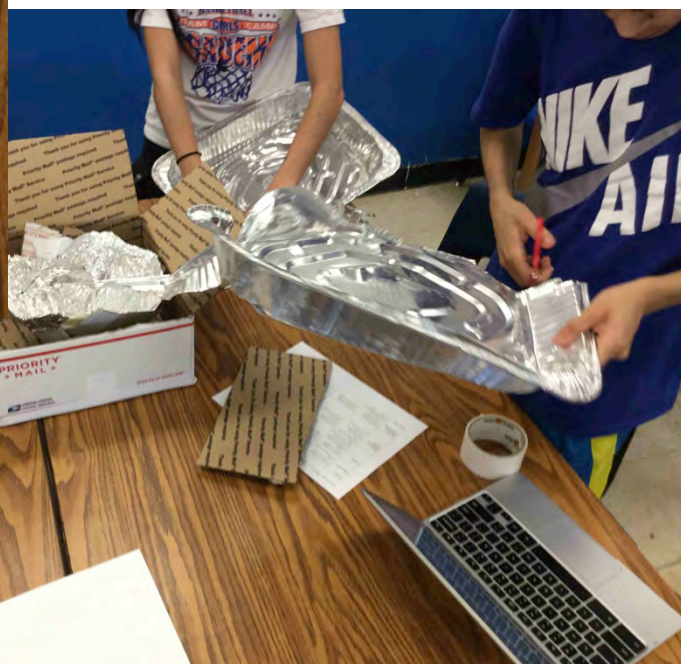
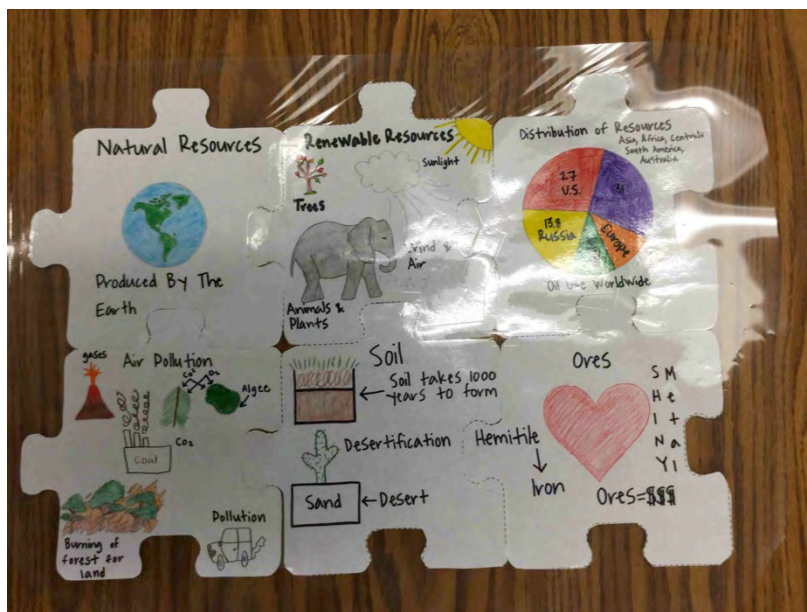


Jimmy Huntington School

Huslia, Alaska

Students in high school Earth Science at Jimmy Huntington School have been studying energy resources. They have used our puzzle piece notes to create posters to educate the public about our renewable and non-renewable energy sources. As a culminating project, students are building solar cookers to see who can create a design that increases a thermometer's temperature the most. Other projects include solar panels, thermal electric generators, wind generators and a water wheel. To piece together their build and research students will create a digital book to share with the world.

Submitted by Steve Swatling Jr., Math/Science Teacher at Jimmy Huntington School in Huslia



Kaltag School

Kaltag, Alaska

New Year in Kaltag

Every year in Kaltag we celebrate New Year's Day by going from house to house singing and chanting for people to throw food into the canvas. We all gather at the hall usually around one o'clock. The whole village does this ceremony for good luck.

Children usually drive the snowmachine with a sled to haul the food that is thrown in the canvas. Sometimes children are tossed into the canvas for good luck. Food such as dried salmon, dried moose jerky, fish ice cream, and difference types of berries, one teased in the canvas. People try to throw their best food in the canvas. After we have gone to all the homes in the villages we usually go back home. At seven o'clock we all gather at the hall again to distribute all the food that was collected. People get a variety of different items of food that were thrown into the canvas.

Long ago people in our village were starving and this in how they used to share with each other. This tradition still continues today in Kaltag and Nulato. We are fortunate to carry on our ancestors' tradition.

Submitted by Dana Semaken



Survival Trip at Tripod Cabin

Kaltag School students at Survival Camp at Tripod sponsored by the Kaltag Tribal Office. Students learned from community members about setting traps, building fires, and other survival skills. Many thanks to Ann Neglaska and Donna Esmailka for organizing the event, and the many community members teaching Kaltag School students traditional values.



Ella B. Vernetti School

Koyukuk, Alaska

The big news in Koyukuk this spring was that the Iditarod Dog Race came right through town this year!



Students participated in the IditaRead and began reading books as the mushers took to the trail. Students posted the books they read in the hallway and followed the path of the dog teams from check point to check point. The whole town came out to welcome the first mushers on a cold Saturday morning (-40) on March 14. Students baked bread for the mushers and workers, made welcome signs, and collected autographs from the mushers. It was a great time and many books were read by the students!

MHS Gladys Dart School

Manley Hot Springs, Alaska

We've been busy here in Manley!



As with many of the other villages, Manley had the Iditarod come through town, with many of the mushers coming to the school to sleep and rest before continuing on to Tanana. The students got a lot of great pictures and interviews and put together some very cool iMovie news productions about The Last Great Race.

To wrap up the year we have the end of the year field trip to Fairbanks, where we'll be visiting Chena Hot Springs to learn about their geothermal electricity production (and swimming!), going on the Riverboat Discovery, panning for gold at Gold Dredge #8, some hiking, and other educational activities

We ended up the cross-country skiing season with a meet in Nenana that included over 60 skiers and four different schools, with everyone doing very well, and two skiers placing in the top five in their divisions. We also had two skiers who, with a lot of fundraising help on the part of the community, went to the Western Interior Ski Association state ski meet in White Mountain. The two sixth graders competed in a race, biathlon, and relay and finished in 3rd place as a team, competing against seventh and eighth graders.



Some of our students with Aliy Zirkle

Submitted by Fargo Kesey

We're very proud of our students this year for their excellent attendance rates, hard work, and great attitudes as we finish up the year!

Minto School

Minto, Alaska

Congratulations to Coach Candace Charlie and the Minto Lady Lakers on their first place finish at the Golden Heart Conference Regional Basketball Tournament.

The last time that the Lady Lakers advanced to State was 2002 so there was a lot of excitement from the people of Minto. The Lady Lakers advanced to the State Tournament where they won two games and lost two. Great job Lady Lakers!

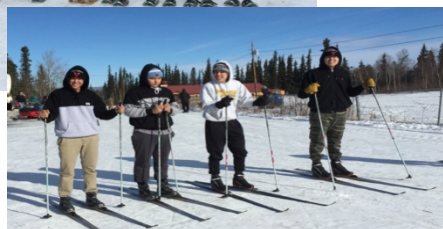
Some of the middle school and high school students took a two night trip to Old Minto for the Iditarod.

Steve Duby, Scott Brucker, Triston Titus and Lethearen Jimmie skied to Old Minto. It was reported that many mushers were surprised to see people handing out hot dogs and hot chocolate in the middle of nowhere! Thank you to Keith Charlie, Eilleen Frank, Rachel Titus, Geneway Frank and Susan Paskvan for chaperoning the students and

assisting with the cultural lessons.



Minto School hosted a Junior Spring Carnival on March 30th and 31st. Students participated in ski races, snowshoe races, hula hoop contests, gunny sack races, sled relay races and a bubble gum blowing contest to name a few. The students enjoyed themselves and it was a great way to get out of the classroom, enjoy some fresh air and get fired up before AMP testing. Each student received a bag full of prizes for their participation.



Submitted by Vicky Charlie, Principal, Minto School

Andrew K. Demoski School

Nulato, Alaska

The Round Robin Jamboree in Nulato last January was a huge success!



Originally we anticipated 8 teams with a total of 57 passengers into Nulato, however due to the cold weather only 24 passengers who include: 2 Manley, 6 Kaltag, Galena JV boys & girls teams, referee and I were able to make it. Despite the cancellations we still had a full 9 game schedule including Nulato students, ending with a fun “All-Stars vs. Coaches & Volunteers” game on Saturday. We also had a dance for all the players and the kids had a great time dancing, playing games and midnight basketball. This was a great community event, the committees did a wonderful job of making everything extra special for the guests from the posters on the wall, to the national anthem, fully stocked hospitality room, clean up crew, presentation of the American flags and game announcers just to name a few. Concessions were in full swing, the gym was packed and people were cheering. The aura in the gym was so amazing; everyone could feel the pride and school spirit. The Galena players kept stating this was the “funnest trip they have ever been on”. We did have several transfer students who stated, “they wished they were back in this district” because it was so fun. The YKSD students were very engaged; we had full participation from everyone.

Submitted by Andrea Durny



Merrelaine A. Kangas School

Ruby, Alaska

The **MAK archery team** started out this year with 2nd-12th grades shooting on the junior varsity



team and held varsity tryouts in December for the 8 slots allotted with the following varsity qualifiers: Elementary Division- Art Morgan, Alex Mendoza, Trinity Sarten, and Misty Frank; Middle School Division: Stephanie Williams, Sadie Wright, Mackenzie Nollner, and Cheyanne Esmailka.

Our varsity team then held a "Final Five" shout out in February to determine the top 5 qualifiers for the March 19th Alaska NASP state archery tournament. Trinity Sarten, Misty Frank, Alex Mendoza, Cheyanne Esmailka and Mackenzie Nollner advanced onto the March 19th Alaska NASP state tournament.

Results from the March 19th Alaska NASP archery tournament were as follows with the top 10 finishers in each grade level moving onto the national championship in Kentucky:

Elementary Division:

Misty Frank, 3rd grade girls division: 11th place

Alex Mendoza, 5th grade boys division: 18th place

Trinity Sarten, 5th grade girls division

Middle School Division:

Mackenzie Nollner, 8th grade girls division: 13th place

Cheyenne Esmailka, 8th grade girls division: 3rd place

Cheyenne Esmailka, Trinity Sarten and their coach Scotty Starr will be traveling to the

NASP national archery championships in May. This will be Trinity Sarten's second trip to Kentucky since last year she placed 2nd in the 4th grade girls division and in the top 25% of

Archery practice during pajama day.

all girls competing in the 2014 Kentucky championship.

The junior varsity and other varsity members have been busy shooting archery on "Fun Friday's" and have raised over \$3,000 for the student fund by selling pizza's/fry bread, organizing cake walks and raffles, as well as writing letters to corporate sponsors. Special thanks to our principal Anne Titus for organizing the staff and the community members that have come up to the school and cooked, swept, mopped and organized at our fund raising events! It's been a fun year and we wish Trinity and Cheyanne the best in May!

Submitted by Scotty Starr, Special Education Teacher

In March, as part of the aSLP program, Patty White and Ute Kaden from UAF visited Elisa's primary class and did some hands-on **science experiments** with them. They learned about physics, sound waves, and water pressure, but they didn't really notice because they were having so much fun.



Submitted by Elisa Koler, Elementary PreK-1 Teacher, MAK School

Raven Correspondence School

Fairbanks, Alaska

Matthew Read

First Place – Science Fair in Fairbanks!!

Matthew's project was about the Blackfoot People and how they interacted with their ecosystem. His diorama depicted landforms, flora and fauna that he learned about during the project.

Congratulations!!



Submitted by Heidi Wright, RCS Special Ed Teacher



Above: Mr. Bergey's Science Classes were a blast! The kids made chocolate and learned about slime.



Left: We had this PE Activity in March with Jason Johnson! We went to UAF and learned to ice skate; it was fun!

Submitted By Sierra Chandler, Raven Administrative Assistant

Raven Correspondence School

Anchorage, Alaska



Left:
Cookie
Bake-Off

Right:
Family
Share
Night



Submitted By Valerie Thurston, RCS Administrative Assistant



Yukon Koyukuk School District
Administrative & Support Offices
4782 Old Airport Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Kerry Boyd
Superintendent
kboyd@yksd.com

Telephone: (907) 374-9400
Fax: (907) 374-9440

Dear Staff, Parents, Students and Community Members:

I would like to thank all of you for making this a wonderful school year. I am proud to be part of Yukon Koyukuk School District and a community that continues to step up in support of our students, staff and parents. Thank you to our CSC members at each site! Your ongoing support is invaluable to the schools and students. Our students work hard every day and come to school ready to learn.

I would like to especially thank our outstanding graduating class of 2015! Way to go!

Andrew K Demoski School

Shirley Ekada
Gavin Sam
Larisa Silas

Johnny Oldman School

Adrian Cleveland
Ethan Nicholia

Jimmy Huntington School

Sara Henderson
Deanne Moses
Elijay Sam
Rachel Weter
Brandon Williams

Merrelaine A. Kangas School

Jacqueline Morgan

Minto

Christian Baker
Kerry Frank
Gabrielle Titus
Kia Wiehl

Gladys Dart School

Kjetil Jervsjo

Teachers, Principals and Support Staff, you have helped our students complete yet another successful year. Your devotion to your students and to our schools makes my job as superintendent a real pleasure.

May your summer break be filled with family, friends and memories. The last day of school is May 21st and the first day of school next year is August 25, 2015.

Sincerely,

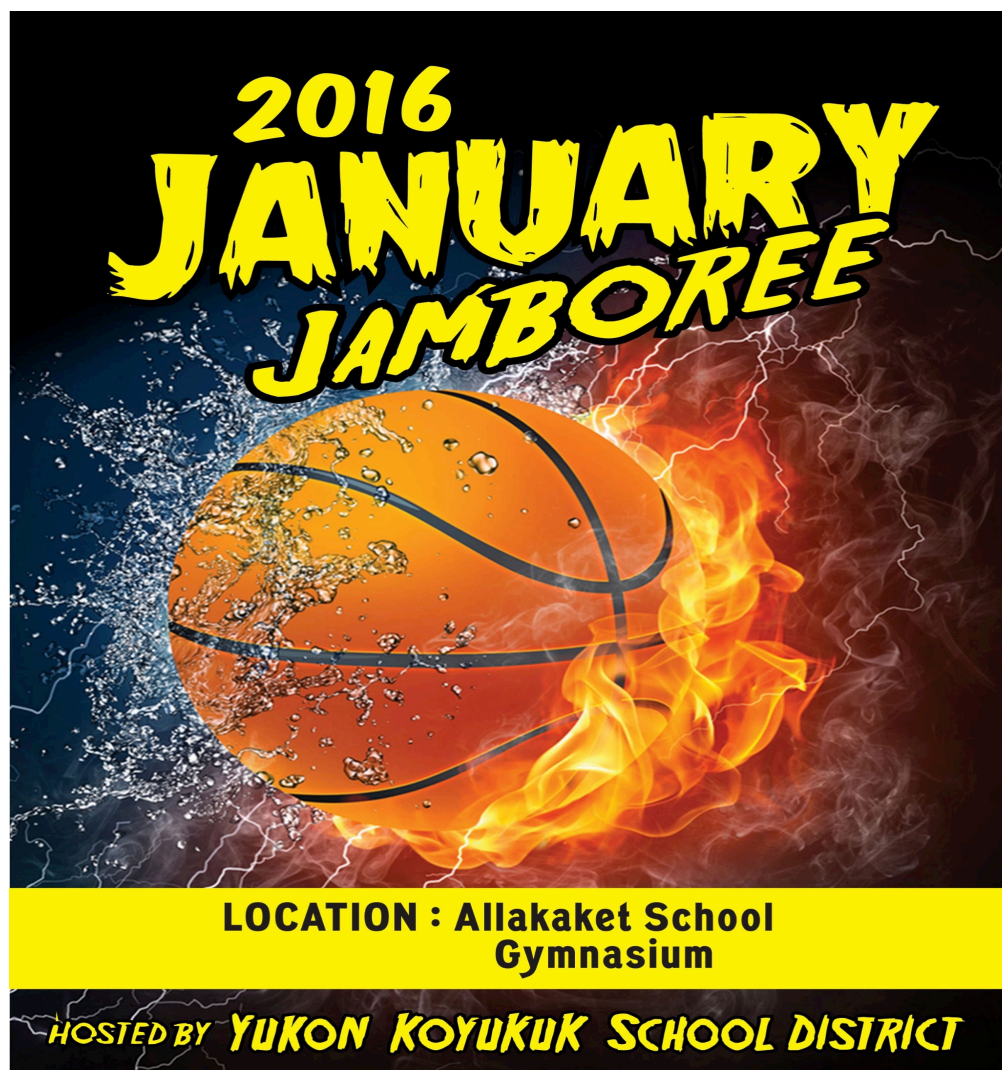
Kerry Boyd, Superintendent

The mission of the Yukon-Koyukuk School District, in active partnership with its families and communities, is to provide our students with the skills and knowledge necessary to become contributing members of their families, communities and society.

2015-2016 YKSD School Year Calendar

July-15							August-15							September-15							October-15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
					H											H											
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
															H												
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
								NT	NT	W	I	W													E		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
								I	I	I	I	I															
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
								W	O													M					
							30	31																			
# of Work Days:						0	# of Work Days:						14	# of Work Days:						21	# of Work Days:						22
# Legal Holidays:						0	# Legal Holidays:						0	# Legal Holidays:						1	# Legal Holidays:						0
Total Contract Days:						0	Total Contract Days:						14	Total Contract Days:						22	Total Contract Days:						22
Nov-15							Dec-15							Jan-16							Feb-16						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
																			H								
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
															W												
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
												E															
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				H	H			V	V	V	V	H			V												
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29					
								V	V	V	V																
														31													
# of Work Days:						19	# of Work Days:						14	# of Work Days:						19	# of Work Days:						21
# Legal Holidays:						2	# Legal Holidays:						1	# Legal Holidays:						1	# Legal Holidays:						0
Total Contract Days:						21	Total Contract Days:						15	Total Contract Days:						20	Total Contract Days:						21
Mar-16							Apr-16							May-16							Jun-16						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					E																						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	V	V	V	V	V														C								
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
															W												
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					28	29	30				
	M														H												
# of Work Days:						18	# of Work Days:						21	# of Work Days:						16	# of Work Days:						0
# Legal Holidays:						0	# Legal Holidays:						0	# Legal Holidays:						0	# Legal Holidays:						0
Total Contract Days:						18	Total Contract Days:						21	Total Contract Days:						16	Total Contract Days:						0
H	Paid Holiday						W	Teacher Work Day																	August 12, 2015 - May 23, 2016		
V	Vacation Day						E	End of Quarter																	Total Work Days:		185
I	Inservice						O/C	First/Last day of school for students																	Total Holidays:		5
NT	New Teacher Work Days						M	Early Release-Parent/Teacher Conference																	Total 2015-2016 Days:		190

The YKSD Regional School Board is pleased to present the
2nd Annual Basketball Jamboree



2014-2015 YKSD School Board Members

Maurice McGinty, Chairperson

Section II – Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, Ruby

Shirley Kruger, Vice-Chairperson

Section II – Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, Ruby

Eileen Jackson, Treasurer

*Section I – Allakaket, Bettles, Coldfoot, Evansville,
Hughes, Huslia, Utopia Creek, Wiseman*

Dian Gurtler, Secretary

Section III – Highway Area, Manley Hot Springs, Minto

Fred Bifelt, Member

*Section I – Allakaket, Bettles, Coldfoot, Evansville,
Hughes, Huslia, Utopia Creek, Wiseman*

Wilma David, Member

Section III – Highway Area, Manley Hot Springs, Minto

Gloria Patsy, Member

Section II – Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, Ruby

Yukon-Koyukuk School District Office

4762 Old Airport Way, Fairbanks, AK 99709 | Phone (907) 374-9400 | Fax (907) 374-9440 | www.yksd.com

Questions about the newsletter can be sent to kpippin@yksd.com or contact Kimberlee Pippin at the district office.