

December 2017

Yukon Koyukuk School District Staff Connections

Dear Yukon Koyukuk School District Community,

To showcase our schools in YKSD, a teaching and learning video was created this past year. Please be sure to take a couple of minutes to watch it, you will enjoy! Click the following link: [Teaching & Learning Link](#)

The Board of Education met for their annual retreat and reviewed the Strategic Plan Committee's work. The board is working on a comprehensive plan to develop a strong career technical education program, also known as vocational education program, that will provide our students with skills necessary for employment once they graduate from school.

The committee members are in the beginning stages of developing action plans in order to strengthen our focus on preparing students for lifelong success. Some of the strategies discussed include requiring a speaking and communications class, a history course which includes learning about ANLCA and Tribal Management, and infusing art into the classroom to foster creativity.

I would like to officially recognize the 2017/2018 YKSD Regional School Board, CSC Members and Area Wide Student Council.

YKSD Regional School Board

President: Maurice McGinty, (Nulato, Ruby, Koyukuk, and Kaltag)

Vice President: Fred Bifelt, (Huslia, Hughes, Allakaket and Bettles)

Treasurer: Dian Gurtler, (Manley, Minto, and the Road System)

Secretary: Gloria Patsy, (Nulato, Ruby, Koyukuk, and Kaltag)

Member: Wilma David, (Minto, Manley, and the Road System)

Member: Shirley Kruger, (Nulato, Ruby, Koyukuk, and Kaltag)

Member: Wilmer Beetus, (Huslia, Hughes, Allakaket and Bettles)

Area Wide Student Council

President: Elizabeth Henderson **Kaltag:** Trindity Madros, Jamie McGinty

Vice President: Dakota Titus **Allakaket:** Rhea Linus

Secretary: Zoe Ballard-Huffman **Jimmy Huntington:** Elizabeth Henderson, Zoe Ballard-Huffman

Treasurer: Ian Massey **Andrew K. Demoski:** Jonathan Miller, Charles Pitka

Minto Dakota Titus

Merrelaine A. Kangas: Darwon Paul, Misty Frank

Ella B. Verneti: Morgan Malamute, Damien Dayton

Johnny Oldman: Vacant

MHS Gladys Dart: Kalli Woellert, Ian Massey

Rampart: Teionna Wiehl, Liyana Newman-Woods



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Please remember that the greatest present you will receive this holiday season is the gift of being with family and friends. Beginning December 16th, students and most staff will be on holiday break until January 2nd.

Kerry Boyd



Board Recognition

Staff Award Winners



Holly Shier
Administrative Assistant
Raven Homeschool
Juneau, AK



Sigwien Cleveland
Maintenance
Johnny Oldman School
Hughes, AK



Terri Thurston
Advisory Teacher
Raven Homeschool
Anchorage, AK

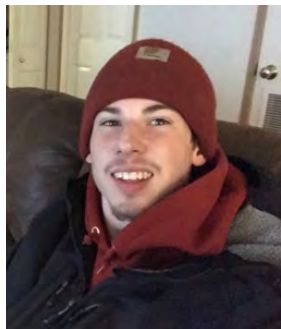
Student Award Winners



Charles "Chuck" Pitka
Grade 11
Andrew K. Demoski School
Nulato, AK



Alyona Savonin
Grade 11
Raven Homeschool
Delta, AK



Brannon Phillips
Grade 12
Raven Homeschool
Fairbanks, AK

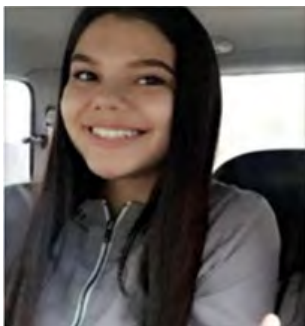


Alexis Moses
Grade 3
Ella B. Verneti School
Koyukuk, AK





Student Nominees



Chenoa Allen
Grade 10
Raven Homeschool
Fairbanks, AK



Taylor Duncklee
Grade 10
Gladys Dart School
Manley, AK



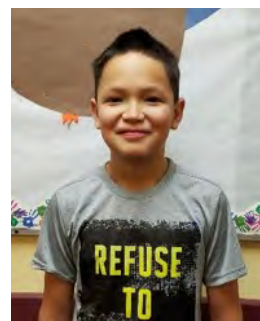
Ariella Edwards
Grade 8
Allakaket School
Allakaket, AK



Susan Frank
Grade 12
Minto School
Minto, AK



Caleb Koyukuk
Grade 2
Johnny Oldman School
Hughes, AK



Alec Malemute
Grade 4
Ella B. Verneti School
Koyukuk, AK



Teionna Wiehl
Grade 9
Rampart School
Rampart, AK





Student Nominees



Crystalee Sam
Grade 5
Johnny Oldman School
Hughes, AK



Kyler Charlie
Grade 8
Minto School
Minto, AK



Kiara Michel
Grade 4
Andrew K Demoski School
Nulato AK



Colton McDaniel
Grade 2
Raven Homeschool
Delta, AK



Carson Williams
Kindergarten
Jimmy Huntington School
Huslia, AK



Lucrezia Affatato
Grade 6
Raven Homeschool
Juneau, AK



Happenings from the Director of State and Federal Programs

By Gina Hrinko



It's hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us. It seems like just a few short weeks ago we were at the beginning of the school year, welcoming students on the first day. We hope everyone is enjoying this last week of school filled with holiday programs and parties. We've had a great first semester, thanks to all of your hard work, and are looking forward to an even better second semester!

Grant Highlights

"Stocking were sent out to all of our Pre-K students district-wide."

Pre-K Program: Stockings were sent out for all of our Pre-K students district-wide. The stockings have school supplies, a toy, a treat and some other small fun things that our Pre-K students will enjoy this holiday season. .

Expanding our Horizons: Through this project, on-site mentoring and coaching for teachers working in the primary classrooms is provided. Kim Barnes and Rachel

Reilly have been traveling to selected school sites to provide on-site, in the classroom coaching. Rachel also provides VTC support for all primary teachers quarterly through an early elementary PLC and ongoing support more frequently.

Indian Education: Each school site has been emailed an allotment that can be spent on supplies, cultural activities, art supplies, or support for re-

mediation. Please make sure to work with Sean to order the supplies you need for your activities and to spend your funding.

ANE Virtual Careers: Students have had numerous opportunities to participate in CTE camps and activities already this year, including a career fly-in, and an academy focused on the education field. Other activities provide students with opportunities to explore many different career paths.

Professional Development

All of our Principals attended the Principal conference in Anchorage back at the end of October. This was a rejuvenating time and opportunity to network and collaborate with other Principals from around the state. The conference focused on school leadership and climate. The next professional development opportunity for Principals will be in January where they will have the opportunity to attend the RTI conference in Anchorage.



Highly Qualified Paraprofessionals

By Rachel Reilly



The State of Alaska requires that every paraprofessional who works for a district implementing a School-Wide Program be Highly Qualified. To remain in compliance with this requirement, the Yukon Koyukuk School District offers all new hires a 90-day grace period to earn this status. There are two ways to become Highly Qualified: 1) submit transcripts showing that you have earned at least 36 credits at an accredited college/university or 2) pass the ETS Parapro Assessment. If you are interested in earning this status, please contact Rachel Reilly by email (rreilly@yksd.com) or phone (907-374-9418) to talk about your options.

Primary Support Program

By Rachel Reilly

The first semester of the Primary Support Program has been very exciting! Our new staff members are determined to make sure that every student knows they are important and that they deserved to be challenged each day. All staff members have also been working to incorporate high-quality experiential learning opportunities across content areas. Some are opting to do projects about who they are and how they can have positive impacts on their communities. Others are using manipulatives to help their K-

3 students develop a deeper understanding of their math concepts. Additionally, the early learning team has been building supportive and critical relationships with one another to assure that we are all striving to have a positive impact on student learning. It's been a lot of work but also a lot of fun.

We're also excited to announce that the Andrew K Demoski Pre-Kindergarten program is up and running. If your child turned 3 or 4 before September 1, 2017,

they are eligible to enroll in this program. The primary goals of our Pre-K programs are 1) to assure that students are socially and emotionally ready to learn in a classroom environment and 2) to develop a strong foundation in early literacy. Teachers have reported that students who participated in one of the district's Pre-Kindergarten program hit the ground running when they start Kindergarten. We are so excited to get to extend this high-quality learning experience to families with young children in Nulato!



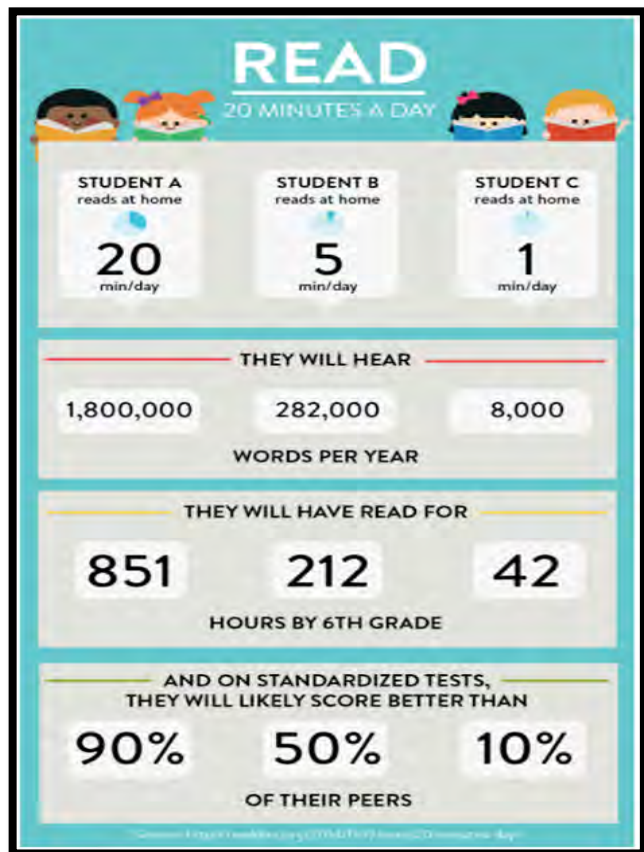
Indian Education

By Sean Lawson

This quarter our schools have been doing some exciting things with the Indian Education grant, which provides each school an allocation of funds to use for cultural education and development. In our district, this has meant everything from studying Native language and art, as well as learning about traditional cooking, clothing, singing, and dancing. At the Raven Correspondence School teachers have been showing students Native arts through a month-long Native culture workshop, that included everything from working with beads to carving soap statues. As the school year progresses the Indian Education grant will continue to support the education and cultural enrichment of our students, with the help of our dedicated teachers and principals.

Teaching and Learning Department

By Chane Beam



Click the link below to read the article
**“How Reading 20 Minutes a Day
 Impacts Your Child” :**

Article Link



Thank You Neil!

By Gale Bourne



The Yukon Koyukuk School District would like to thank Neil Sommers for the many years he operated the school bus providing daily transportation for the students of the Andrew K. Demoski School.

Each day throughout the school year, morning and afternoon, Neil performed a 32-point bus-inspection checklist before completing his route. He was diligent in his work, performing the routine tasks with thoroughness and care.

Neil drove the Nulato bus for approximately 30 years. The District commends him for his service and sends him a huge “THANK YOU.” He will be missed.



By Cristina Welker

WINTER BREAK SURVIVAL GUIDE

☐ STAY ORGANIZED - REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CHRISTMAS BREAK

December 18th-January 2nd

☐ GET INVOLVED!

VOLUNTEER!

This is your opportunity to get involved in your local community!

The next few weeks are filled with many activities at home and in your community as we prepare for the holiday season. This time of year can also be stressful on and demanding for students because they need to find a balance between holiday preparation and school work to finish the semester.

Remember, teachers, counselors and other school staff are here to help.

1. *Check with your school, there may be an upcoming Christmas program you can help set up or take down.*
2. *Talk with the leaders in your community; find out what is going on at the hall and how you might help.*
3. *Talk with the local health clinic, you may be able to start a food drive and help others this holiday season.*

☐ TIME MANAGEMENT

This is a big one. Time management will be the most important lesson and is a useful skill to have in general.

1. *Balance your schedule between education, fun and family.*
2. *Use a calendar to remember important dates*

For those of you who are seniors, remember to complete your college application and FAFSA today. If you need help, please schedule a time to meet with your counselor.



Scholarship Corner

By Cristina Welker

Alaska Performance Scholarship



[Forrest Jones Memorial Scholarship](#) Deadline 01/01/18

[Alaska Engineering Education Foundation Scholarship](#) Deadline 01/19/18

[2018 BP Alaska Principal's Scholarship Program](#) Deadline 01/31/18

[Denali FCU 2018 Annual Scholarship](#) Application will open Winter 2018

[Alaska Airmen Scholarships](#) Deadline 02/01/18

Please see our Counselor website for more available scholarships!

<https://www.yksd.com/Page/86>



CHANGES TO THE FAFSA PROCESS FOR 2017-18

SUBMIT A FAFSA EARLIER: Students will be able to submit a 2017-18 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2016, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit their FAFSAs as early as October 1 every year. (There is NO CHANGE to the 2016-17 schedule. The 2016-17 FAFSA became available Jan. 1, 2016.)

USE EARLIER INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION: Beginning with the 2017-18 FAFSA, students will report income and tax information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017-18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income and tax information, rather than their 2016 income and tax information.

Here's a summary of key dates for submitting the FAFSA depending on when you plan to go to school:

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE FROM	YOU WILL SUBMIT THIS FAFSA	YOU CAN SUBMIT THE FAFSA FROM	USING INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION FROM
July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016	2015-16	January 1, 2015-June 30, 2016	2014
July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017	2016-17	January 1, 2016-June 30, 2017	2015
July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018	2017-18	October 1, 2016-June 30, 2018	2015
July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	2018-19	October 1, 2017-June 30, 2019	2016

Federal Student Aid
An office of the U.S. Department of Education

StudentAid.gov/fafsa

Denaakkenaage' / Denakenaga' Hunek 'Our Language News'

By K'etsoo Susan Paskvan

In October, November, and December students have practiced learning their weather phrases, yes/no questions about weather; counting (two methods); counting things; sentences using the verbs 'I see' and 'I have' with counting things; parts of the body; create a wild self (buildyourwildself.com) and describe themselves in Denaakk'e or Benhti Kokht'ana Kenaga'; phrases on family; making either pumpkin pie cookie, butter or cherry cream salad with instructions in Denaakk'e or Benhti Kokht'ana Kenaga'; and in December learning a holiday song in the language.

To prepare for these lessons, sometimes it is easy when there are only two language versions of a phrase or dialect. For the counting lesson, there were seven different versions for the ten sites, which includes Tanana but not Manley Hot Springs. For Jingle Bells, there are seven different versions.

This year the video-conference classes are grouped by dialects. For most courses this has worked well, students only hear their dialect version. The only major drawback is having students in early and upper elementary in one class. The early elementary students need slower instruction with much repetition. The upper elementary students basically review what they learned in earlier grades, so I need to increase the complexity of the sentences to provide them with a challenge.

Fall Travel: In October and November, I've traveled to Ruby, Rampart, Allakaket, Hughes and Huslia. In Ruby I helped students make weather cards and did weather videos with students. In Rampart I made Halloween rice crispy treats with the students with directions in Denaakke. In Allakaket, I visited a classroom that doesn't receive language instruction and did a fun game using mathinyourfeet.com method. In the sixth hour and after school Andrea Nield and I taught six students how to make bets'egh hoolaanes. In Hughes, after school, I taught students and a parent how to make either a neck warmer or headband. They hand sewed the polar fleece. In Huslia, I cut my trip short because of funeral in Koyukuk. In the 2 ½ days I was there I worked with students in 6th hour and after school to teach them how to make bets'egh hoolaane. Leona Starr and Corrinna Sam set up their office in the Resource Center with nine sewing machines. 10 students, parents, and community members sewed for three nights. One was a teacher; she truly enjoyed the opportunity to work with the community members on making her dress.

In all five villages I took student portraits. The portraits will be made available to parents or legal guardians via email link to the Google Drive files.

Travel schedule for the remainder of the year

December 2-5, 2017 Washington, DC for AN ELDER grant meeting

December 9-10, 2017 possibly Nulato for the TCC sub-regional camp

December 11-12, 2017 Anchorage for training on Mukurtu.

December 13-15, 2017 Kaltag

11th Annual Virtual Holiday program is scheduled for Friday, December 15th at 9 AM. Parents and community members will be invited to attend.

AN ELDER Grant. A part-time Language Specialist/Administrative Clerk II position is currently in the hiring plan for the ANE grant. The person selected will help the Language Coordinator with the workbooks that will be developed, online resources, and support in administering different components of the three-year grant.



School Trips

By K'etsoo Susan Paskvan



Students Adam and Landon at the Merrelaine A. Kangas School answer the question: Doogh dzaanh dohoot'aa? by signing sunny while saying "Hek'edee'onh."



Students from Rampart School, Kane, Maryella, Nekoya and Ariyana show the rice crispy treat monsters they made. They described it's body in Denaakk'e, upper dialect: Nohbaaye neteeck'e et'aanh. It has two eyes.



Allakaket students Ariella and Nicole wear the bets'egh hoolaanee's they made with Andrea Durny and I. Six students started their project.



Johnny Oldman School Students from Hughes wear the neck warmers or headbands they made afterschool. They sewed each one by hand, saying "kk'ok'edetlkkon' ", which means "I am sewing."



Students in Mrs. Katie Riemer's class make pumpkin pie cookies with instructions in Denaakk'e: As they are pouring in the baking soda they say "Baahaa deneeltuze beyee desnoh." which means 'I'm pouring in baking soda'.

A panoramic view of the sewing room at the Huslia Resource Center. Leona Starr and Corrinna Sam along with Andrea Durny and I helped 13 students, a teacher, and parents make bets'egh hoolaane as part of their dance group regalia. Bets'egh hoolaane means 'the hooded one'.



Language Documentation

By K'etsoo Susan Paskvan



As part of the Native Language Program, helping community members to convert their cassette tapes to a digital format is a service YKSD provides. In return, YKSD gets access to original language material recorded by the speakers themselves. In this photo, Phillip Titus and Elaine Silas, both of Minto, listen to a recording by late Chief Peter John.



Technology

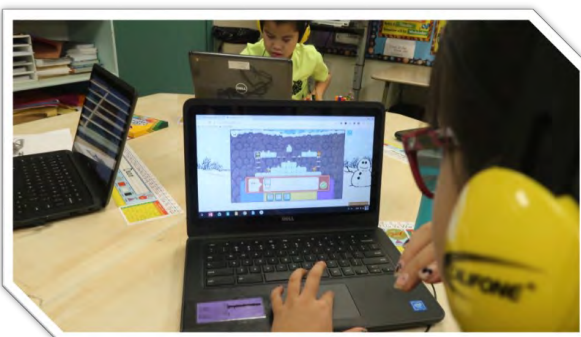
By Luke Meinert



Alaska had a week of code from December 4th - 8th! Our goal was simple: Introduce more Alaskan students to coding.

The following sites will give you a fast and easy way to get your students coding:

- Overview of coding: <https://code.org/hourofcode/overview>
- Coding activities, by grade level <https://code.org/learn>
- Extended Courses on computer science: <https://studio.code.org/courses?view=teacher>



Students from Ms. Highsmith's class at Jimmy Huntington school getting a jumpstart on coding!

Technology Update

By Luke Meinert



What is VoIP?

VoIP, pronounced “voype,” stands for Voice over Internet Protocol. At its most basic, VoIP is simply a method for transmitting voice calls over a packet-based data network like the Internet. VoIP is a major game-changer in human communications because it uses data networks rather than physical wire to transmit voice data from one device to another.

Why Choose VoIP Business Phone System?

Unlike an analog or digital phone system that requires direct cabling to each work station, a VoIP business phone system runs on your office’s main Ethernet network or LAN (local area network). That means you can easily add new phones and extensions without physical cabling, take your office calls from your mobile device or home office phone, and integrate with other applications like CRM or Microsoft Outlook.

Digital Library Launch

Did you know that YKSD is now offering free eBooks and audiobooks to students, faculty and staff? Our digital collection is available 24/7 and all you need to get started is an internet connection and your email address Check it out at: alaskaschoolsak.libraryreserve.com.

Our digital library connects students with a collection of reading materials to supplement their studies, as well as offering the kind of titles they would find in a public library for pleasure reading. There is a great opportunity to expand our collection with required reading and recommended titles that are used in classes. From classic literature to modern non-fiction, there is a wide variety of books available and we need your help and guidance to add new content to the site and build the best digital library resources.

Digital books are compatible with smart phones, tablets, eReaders and computers. Titles can be read right in the internet browser or downloaded using the free OverDrive app. At the end of the lending period, titles automatically expire so there are never any late fees.

Remind - Raven

If you're not already familiar with [Remind](#), it's a classroom communication app that makes it easy for teachers to communicate with parents and students via text messaging in a safe environment. We are currently rolling this out for our Raven teachers and families to utilize. All messages are sent through the Remind portal, so the teacher's cell phone number is not passed on to families. It also logs all communications, which provides great reports on how the tool is being used. Remind is free to use, and teachers will be able to get and send messages on any device.



Happy Holidays from the Business Office!

By Jenny Martens

The FY17 Audited Financial Statements were presented to the YKSD School Board at their November 8th board meeting. There were no findings thanks to the hard work of the YKSD staff, especially the Business Office staff. You can find a link to the FY17 Audited Financial Statements report on the Business Office Department page of the YKSD web-site. [FY17 Financial Statement Link](#)

It is a good time to share with you FY17 Business Office facts. In Fiscal Year 2016-2017 the Business Office:

- ♦ processed 3,330 payroll checks to over 292 employees
- ♦ processed over \$4.3M in employee benefit payments to nearly 20 state and federal agencies and health/life plans
- ♦ processed over 4,917 purchase orders
- ♦ processed almost 6,700 accounts payable payments
- ♦ tracked nearly \$30.5M purchases: General Fund \$17.1M, Special Revenue Funds \$4.5M and Capital Projects \$8.9M
- ♦ managed ten River Site food service programs that served 60,914 meals: 25,339 breakfast and 35,575 lunch meals
- ♦ made sure expenditures were correctly coded using over 5,500 account codes, 51 separate funds and 17 student activities accounts
- ♦ supported and processed hire documents for 106 new employees: 16 certified staff, 90 permanent classified staff and temporary staff.



The Business Office Wishes you a very Happy Holiday season!



Assessment Department News

By Patty White

This fall has been a busy time for District Assessments. We began the year with all students, grades 3-11, taking the Northwest Education Association Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP) assessments, in September and students in grades K-2 taking the Aimsweb Benchmark Assessment. The Winter Benchmark Assessments will begin January 8 at all sites for students in grades K-11. As an added benefit, the computerized tests give our student experience with testing on a computer, which will be the testing method for the State of Alaska Test, PEAKS, in the Spring of 2018 for all students in grades 3-9. Teachers will be helping students practice and prepare for the PEAKS assessments.

The Assessment Department completed the required **School and District Report Card to the Public** for all sites. These reports provide information on Statewide Assessment results, Attendance, Graduation Rates, and other pertinent information. These reports are available online at the district website: <https://www.yksd.com/domain/4>.

Upcoming assessments include: MAP and AimsWeb mid-year testing January 8-26; ACCESS test for student with Limited English Proficiency in February and March; the annual State of Alaska test, PEAKS – March 26- April 27 ; and MAP end of year testing April 23 – May 9.

Please feel free to contact Andrea Durny at adurney@yksd.com, 374-9424 or Patty White at pwhite@yksd.com, 374-9407 if you have any questions or would like more information regarding District Assessments.



Youth Leadership News

By Andrea Durny



AASB Youth Leadership Institute Nov. 8-12, 2017

For the past several years YKSD has sponsored officers from the AWSC to attend the Alaska Association of School Board Conference in Anchorage the first weekend in November at the Hilton. The theme of the 63rd Annual Conference is "Empowering the Whole Child". The officers who attended were Elizabeth Henderson (President) and Zoe Ballard-Huffman (Treasurer) of Huslia pictured with Superintendent Kerry Boyd and chaperone, Brandy Henderson.



District Office Christmas Tree

By Andrea Durny

Each year the District invites the sites to submit ornaments for the central office Christmas tree. Student's ornaments will remain on display outside the Superintendent's office during the month of December. For the classes who send in ornaments, the District Office will mail a box of 'make and take' ornaments to the students as a thank you. Funds for this activity were approved by the Area Wide Student Council fund. Thank you to the following classes for submitting ornaments: Priscilla Williams & Mike Day (Koyukuk), Evelyn Esmailka (Allakaket), Sarah Bailey (Nulato), Athalia Duby (Minto), Nancy Mason (Kaltag).



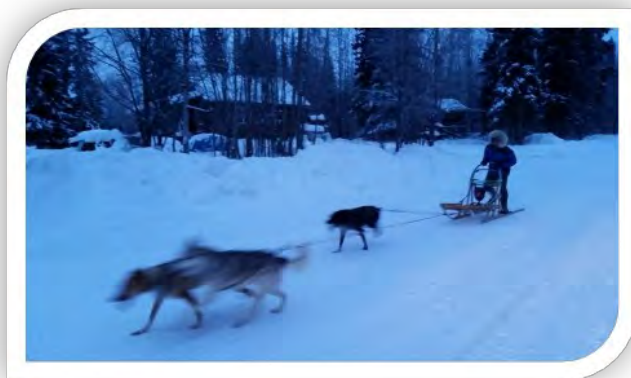
ACHILL Grant

By Andrea Durny

The Alaska Care and Husbandry Instruction for Lifelong Living (A-CHILL) program is a 4-year Indian Education Demonstration project that brings together Alaska Gateway, YKSD and local communities. We are working collaboratively to engage students in grades 6-12 to be inspired and learn valuable knowledge and skills related to the sciences, math, language arts, and college & career readiness. In the first semester 35 students from Minto, Rampart, Huslia and Allakaket took part in one of the following ACHILL courses.

- ◆ Alaska Culture and Dog Mushing
- ◆ Alaska Veterinary Technology
- ◆ Middle School Animal Science

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SIGNING UP FOR A CLASS 2ND SEMESTER
PLEASE CONTACT ANDREA DURNY**



Commack Stanley of Nulato mushing a three dog team



Justin Chalie and Andrew David, working on a dog sled. They will soon be mushing dogs.

ACHILL Grant continued

By Andrea Durny

For the sites who offered courses, we were able to send out NYO instructor Amanda Attla. She is the daughter of the late champion musher, George Attla, and has more than 20 years experience teaching the games. So far she has visited Minto, Manley, Huslia, Ruby and is scheduled to visit Allakaket and Rampart before Christmas break. While visiting the schools she will be available during the school day to teach the NYO games to students during each individual gym class or at other specified times. She is also available to work with teachers to setup schedules so practice can continue after she leaves. She is wonderful to work with and flexible, perhaps she can even do a community night one evening.



NYO Instructor, Amanda Attla, on her visit to Minto and Manley in October.

4th Annual Jamboree—Kaltag December 13 & 14

By Andrea Durny



The 4th Annual YKSD Basketball Jamboree will be in Kaltag December 13-14. The Jamboree first came about in an effort to reintroduce the sport back in our small schools that have not had a team in a number of years. This has turned out to be a fun event for players and our communities alike. We will have a full schedule with 12 games in two days. This event is open to all students in grades 8-12.



Excel Alaska Partnership

By Patty Woody



Yukon-Koyukuk School District is partnered with EXCEL Alaska to provide high school students with career exploration and planning opportunities through intensive camps. Camps range from week long up to the six-week long summer camps. They vary from grade level specific to heavy equipment operations, to aviation, to credit recover, and post-secondary planning. The camps give students the opportunity to select from a variety of certifications depending upon their interest, which may include:

- ◆ CPR/First Aid Certified
- ◆ Flagger Certified
- ◆ Forklift Certified
- ◆ OSHA Trenching and Shoring
- ◆ NCCER Heavy Equipment Operation Excavator
- ◆ NCCER Heavy Equipment Operation Loader
- ◆ NCCER Heavy Equipment Operation Dozer
- ◆ NCCER Heavy Equipment Operation Grades
- ◆ Alaska Driver's Permit
- ◆ Alaska Driver's License

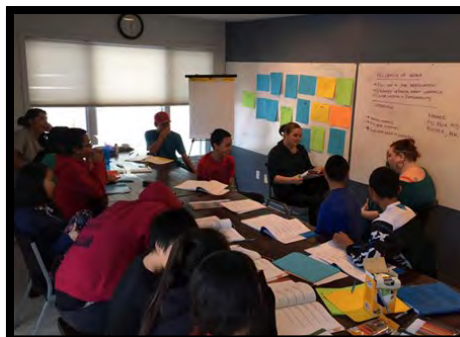
Students have to apply to attend these camps and have a 2.0 GPA, good attendance, minimal discipline issues, interest in camp area, on track for graduation, school and community behavior, and teacher, counselor, and/or principal recommendations, personal narrative, and other event participation. The application process is competitive with waiting lists established for students.

Upcoming camps for second semester include grade level specific, career exploration, and post-secondary planning:

- ◆ EXCEL 10
- ◆ EXCEL Mini Bridging Session at UAF
- ◆ Industry Boot Camp/Driver's License School
- ◆ Introduction to Aviation
- ◆ Math & English High School Credit Recover or Post-Secondary Prep Session
- ◆ EXCEL Mini Bridging at KCC/KPC
- ◆ Academic and Trades Decathlon
- ◆ EXCEL Capstone at Delta Mine Training Center/Internship



Excel Mini Bridging students learning about AVTEC.



Excel 9 Learning interview Skills.



Heavy Equipment Operations Camp.



Johnny Oldman School

By Patty White

The students at Johnny Oldman School had a great second quarter. We had 100% of our parents attend Parent/Teacher conferences on October 30. The community and the school collaborated on the Halloween Carnival on October 31, which was a huge success! We had great food and fun games. We really appreciate all the help from the parents and community. The students in both classes are learning music by using Recorders. The students learning and practicing songs for the Christmas program on which will take place on December 14th and really enjoying themselves.



Gladys Dart School

By Joe Kruase



Under the direction of teacher, Christine Krause, Manley secondary students presented the culmination of their Manley Test Kitchen project on November 18, 2017. Over 60 people made reservations and were served a delicious meal by Mrs. Krause's students. Professional chef Bryant Hiltz, from Deer Lodge, Montana, interviewed students, "hired" them to fill positions, and lined them out with tasks. The Manley community turned out in huge numbers to support our students.



Amuse-bouche is a single, bite-sized hors d'œuvre



Senior, Ian Massey, chopping greens



Ella B. Verneti School

By: Michael Day

This quarter the students have been working extremely hard to reach their reading and math goals and so much progress has taken place. We were very excited to host the YKSD School Board in Koyukuk on December 8th. The school held a Halloween Carnival on October 31st and a Thanksgiving luncheon on November 22. Both events were well attended by the community. The students also enjoyed the Toys for Tots visit on November 30th and the students are planning a Christmas fair on December 15.

Mrs. Williams' class: Her students completed their salmon cycle study and held a salmon dinner for their family members. During the dinner, the students presented the cycle of the salmon from the ocean to the rivers, and back to the ocean. It was a wonderful presentation and the meal was exceptionally good.

Mr. Day's Class: During the second week of November the students held their first chess tournament. Morgan Malemute took 1st place and Alec Malemute took 2nd place. They are looking forward to having another tournament in December. Each of the students built model cashes this quarter and they will begin building copper wire tress.



Merrelaine A. Kangas School

By Anne Titus

Students and staff around the MAK School have been continuing their collaborations around the building. Hard work in the academic areas led following recreational endeavors. Ping pong, dodge ball, and, for Justin, bike riding with his new three-wheeler! We're all having a great time learning and getting exercise.



Wishing all of the YKSD community Happy Holidays!



Allakaket School

By Evelyn Esmailka



One of our Project Based Learning plans is to start the Allakaket Dance Group. My students have been listening to old memorial songs on CD and practicing their dancing. The school purchased cloth to make hooded Bets' egh hoolaanes for all the girls and vests for the boys. Susan Paskvan and Andrea Durny-Nield came to Allakaket and worked with the girls and their moms. The girls prepped their patterns, materials, and sewed. Two sisters, Ariella and Nicole Edwards, were able to complete their Bets' egh hoolaanes. They did all the sewing and cutting with the help of Susan and Andrea. Good job! Our goal is to learn more songs and perform at the Festival of Native Arts, wearing our new dancewear.



Minto School

By Vicky Charlie



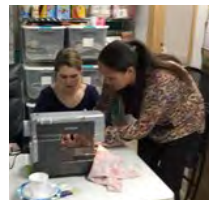
The Minto Middle School students wrapped up their season by hosting ten teams for a tournament on November 16-18, 2017. Teams came from Northway, Tok, Mentasta, Tri-Valley and Fairbanks. We hosted about 120 people for a three-day tournament. A big thanks to the students, parents, staff and community members for making sure that our visitors were well fed and for all of the hard work in hosting so many people. The Fairbanks Grizzlies took 1st place for the girls and the 907 Thutent Hoopers took 2nd place. The Fairbanks Wolves took 1st place for the boys and the Tok boys took 2nd place. The sportsmanship awards went to the Mentasta girls and the Mentasta boys.



Jimmy Huntington School

By Casey Weter

The JHS students enjoyed the awesome company of Susan Paskvan and Amanda Attla for a few days. Amanda held a few sewing classes and NYO Activities during the day and Susan worked with the kids for Native Language Studies and making bets'egh hoolaanes. Here are a few photos of the kids enjoying the activities with the help of Andrea Nield, Leona Starr, Audrey Bifelt, and Corrinna Sam. The kiddos had a blast with their sewing projects! Thank you Doreen David for the photos!





Rampart School

By John Hersrud

We have so many reasons to be thankful in Rampart: Great Area, Wonderful People and our children. We celebrated Thanksgiving together as a community. We had an enjoyable evening and a great meal featuring moose roast, Deep Fried and traditional turkey with all the trimmings and many wonderful pies. Special thanks to Mr. Main for his World Famous Pecan Pie. Rampart School has experienced a wide variety of positive changes this month. We have two new awesome students who came to us from Minto and Fairbanks. We are very happy to welcome Aiden and Hailey. Our teacher housing has been completed and the teachers have moved in and are very happy at Chez Rampart and we are close to having an official name for the school!

We have begun branding our school by setting up Facebook and Twitter accounts. We would love to have friends and followers: Facebook - Rampart School & Twitter - @RampartSchool.

Our "Around the World" dinner fundraisers continued with a trip to Poland. Kielbasa, Sauerkraut, and Paczki for dessert. We completely sold out. Next month we are going to Germany. Weiner Schnitzel, Spätzle and Strudel or Strusel (TBD) Additional fund raising activities are in full swing. Movie Night and Bingo will be returning to Rampart School in December. We currently have a 50/50 money board at \$20 per square and we are starting a Super Bowl fundraiser. 100 squares \$20 donation per square with 20 possible chances to win. We will be showing the game on the Big Screen and Dinner is included with your donation. If you would like to support our fund raisers, please contact Mr. Gilbert at 907-358-3320

We are pleased to announce our new Zumba "In the Interior" class. Mrs. Gilbert, a licensed Zumba instructor, is teaching introductory Zumba classes from 6:30 - 7:30 PM at the school. There is no charge and everyone is welcome to come join in on the fun. Our rifle club has begun and the students are making great strides. We have received word that we will be funded for an Archery in the Classroom program. We are also going to begin an Outdoor Education Club that we hope to build into a class for next school year. Students will learn game management skills, hunting, trapping, fishing and survival skills.

Moose season re-opens on December 1st and runs through the 15th. We are hoping to have a culture camp during this time. Our students will once again be participating in Native dance classes and will be going to Fairbanks in January for a presentation. Mrs. Susan Paskvan has been doing a wonderful job with our students with their Native language classes. We also have local elders coming in to share skill, stories and crafts with our students. Mitten sewing classes will begin soon too.

We are very proud of our 5th graders and middle school students for their efforts in basketball this year. A special shout out to Vicky Charlie for welcoming our students to be part of the Minto team. The students had success, learned new skills and made new friends. One of our high school students will be participating in basketball with Minto as well. We are looking forward to the upcoming season. Our high school students are currently in Anchorage as part of the Excel 9 program where they are learning about career opportunities. Patty Woody and Bob Hawkins are working with the school to set up a small engine class and a construction class for the second semester. We're very exciting for our students! Amanda York and Fargo Kelsey visited our school and worked with the kids. Thanks to them for going the extra step, literally, with our students. Mr. Main is working with the students for their Christmas presentation and a Christmas Bazaar is in the works too.



Kaltag School

By: Lizzie Alexie



Mr. Charles Burns



Halloween



Hard at work!



Andrew K. Demoski School

By Jason Johnson



Over the past few weeks things have been very exciting for the students here at AKD! We were lucky to host a basketball clinic with Damen Bell-Holter as well as invite nearby villages to participate in the event and we held Jr. High basketball games each of those evenings! Additionally, a large group of our students were thrilled to begin our wrestling program and the students are very anxious to learn more and prepare for their upcoming competitions!





Raven Homeschool

By Maegan Mascagno

November was a busy month in all of the Raven Homeschool offices! Our 6 offices all had different activities throughout the month for our students to attend and enjoy. It was a great month to remember how thankful we are for all of our Raven families!

Anchorage

In our Anchorage office we had a fascinating science workshop where students learned all about owls and they were able to dissect owl pellets. We also had a field trip to watch *Journey to Oz* and a field trip to an archery range where the students learned about bow and arrow uses and safety. In December our Lego leagues will be busy with a celebration party and a competition. We will also be going on a field trip to watch the *A Very Electric Christmas* show. Our Anchorage and Eagle River offices will be holding a joint holiday party at Bears Tooth to watch *The Peanuts Movie*!



Full Curl Archery Field Trip – Anchorage

Delta Junction



Youth Awareness Congress Members – Delta

Our Delta office had a lot of fun with the Lego Robotics League; they built a table out of Legos! We were also able to send four of our students to the Youth Awareness Congress in Anchorage. In December we are going to be busy with an ARTiculate workshop, Lego league, Battle of the Books, and a holiday cookie bake off!

Eagle River

Eagle River office students had the opportunity to learn about the south-west states in our Geography Club. We also learned how to dissect owl pellets, held a canned food drive in office and at Fred Meyer's, had a fun snowflake ARTiculate workshop, and went on a field trip to tour the Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department. In December, we will be very busy with all kinds of fun activities and field trips!



Fire Department Field Trip – Eagle River



Raven Homeschool continued

By Maegan Mascagno



Fairbanks



Rock Talk - Fairbanks

At the Fairbanks Office, BLM Geologist, Darrel VandeWeg, presented a hands-on, fun and entertaining talk about the geological processes of the world, different rock types and how they are formed. Show-and- tell included different types of rocks, some with fossils still imbedded in them and a Jell-O sedimentary layer of our earth' s crust, afterwards everyone who attended got to dig and eat the "rocks". The office has also been preparing for the holiday season with students caroling at the senior center, celebrating with a Nutcracker themed holiday party, and donating over 40 pounds of food and personal items to The Door, a 24-7 shelter for homeless youth aged 12-18. The shelter provides a safe place to sleep, home cooked meals, clothing, and connections to community resources to help youth find stability.

Juneau

Juneau is always a busy office and November was no different! We were able to take a tour of the fire station and celebrate a firefighter's birthday with him. We also had a fun ARTiculate workshop depicting bear dreams during hibernation. In December we will have a fun holiday craft party, chess club, and we'll be caroling at the elderly home.



Fire Station Tour – Juneau

Wasilla



Explosions Workshop - Wasilla

In the Wasilla office November was all about books, books, and more books! We have 3 different Battle of the Books teams, so we always have students in our office reading and practicing for the big district battle. We also had a pie bake off, with the winning pie being a homemade creamy coconut pit with a graham cracker crust. In December we will be learning about the science of balms, soaps, and salves. We will also have a cookie exchange, a senior scholarship meeting and a field trip to All About Paint.



Santa Claus

Z	H	S	V	C	E	J	W	O	R	K	S	H	O	P	N	I	G	H	T
U	G	T	A	H	S	B	D	N	A	U	G	H	T	Y	X	D	Q	R	E
H	M	P	H	I	O	O	R	E	A	T	R	C	O	H	O	H	O	H	M
C	A	A	G	M	N	O	E	L	V	E	S	R	O	O	F	T	O	P	O
O	G	I	I	N	Y	T	C	G	C	T	O	Y	M	A	K	E	R	L	C
O	I	M	E	E	R	S	N	N	O	R	T	H	P	O	L	E	E	O	U
K	C	R	L	Y	R	P	A	I	S	I	E	C	N	E	S	S	H	D	P
I	B	N	S	M	E	D	R	R	C	A	V	I	X	E	N	R	S	U	I
E	A	W	X	C	H	U	P	K	I	H	N	Q	N	M	Z	E	A	R	D
S	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	I	L	O	T	K	D	H	T	D	Y	R
R	U	N	R	E	D	S	U	I	T	K	S	L	A	U	E	T	I	L	A
F	A	T	H	E	R	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	A	E	P	L	E
R	E	O	B	I	M	I	L	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S	L	R	O	B
J	R	V	X	E	B	R	R	X	T	E	P	H	P	T	X	S	R	J	W

beard
Blitzen
boots
cherry nose
chimney
coal
Comet
cookies

Cupid
Dancer
Dasher
Donner
elves
hat
Ho ho ho
jolly

kindness
letters
list
magic bag
milk
Mrs. Claus
naughty
nice

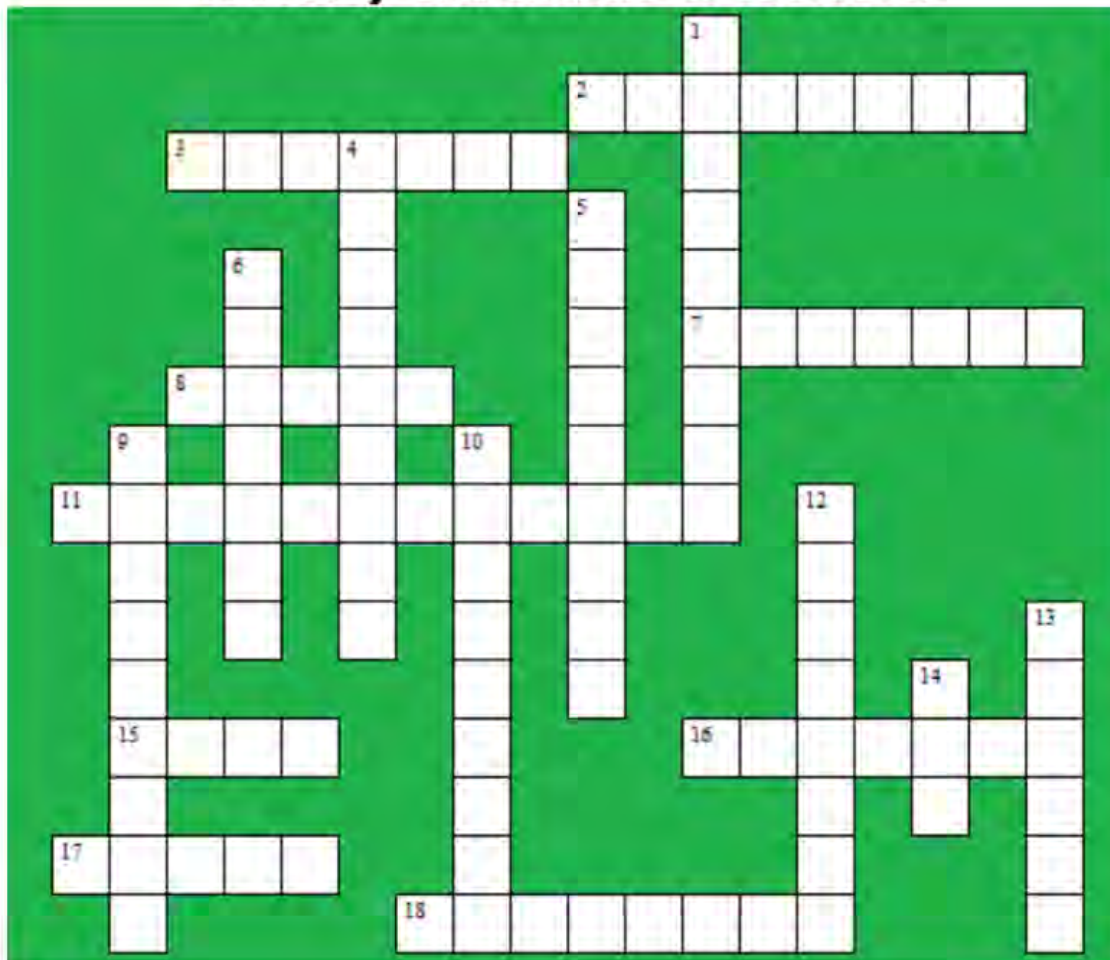
night
North Pole
Prancer
presents
red suit
reindeer
rooftop
Rudolph

Santa
sleigh
stockings
toymaker
Vixen
workshop



Name: _____

A Merry Christmas Crossword



ACROSS

- 2 Giant socks that might get filled with presents
- 3 Santa gets in your house through this
- 7 The only reindeer whose name begins with the letter p
- 8 Deck the halls with boughs of this
- 11 The night before Christmas
- 15 What's in Santa's bag?
- 16 Reindeer with the red nose
- 17 Person who brings gifts to good children
- 18 Christmas falls in this month

DOWN

- 1 Where Santa lives
- 4 If you stand under this, you might get kissed.
- 5 Things you hang on a Christmas tree
- 6 A snack you leave out for Santa
- 9 December 25th
- 10 Yummy red and white candy
- 12 Eight of these pull Santa's sleigh
- 13 Santa says this
- 14 A helper who makes toys

YKSD Birthdays

January	
Zach McCafferty	2-Jan
Evelyn Sarten	6-Jan
Linda Wholecheese	6-Jan
Chane Beam	10-Jan
Luke Meinert	15-Jan
Jenny Martens	16-Jan
Vivian Robb	17-Jan
Rudy Edwin	20-Jan
Lilah Nollner	21-Jan
Lizzie Alexie	21-Jan
Susan Erickson	24-Jan
Carl Sweetsir	24-Jan
Casey Weter	28-Jan
Sally Spellman	28-Jan
Irene Peters	31-Jan
Chad Snyder	31-Jan

February	
Charles Wofford	2-Feb
Brianna Stickman	3-Feb
Priscilla Williams	4-Feb
Wilma David	7-Feb
Katie Riemer	8-Feb
Irene Henry	12-Feb
Kim Pippin	15-Feb
Patty White	17-Feb
Lynnessa Baker	18-Feb
Joy Shier	22-Feb
Bob Hawkins	23-Feb
Gloria Patsy	24-Feb
Nicole Cleaver	26-Feb
Vicky Charlie	26-Feb
Constance Foster	28-Feb

March	
Veronica Miller	10-Mar
Sean Lawson	12-Mar
Susan Paskvan	15-Mar
Patty Woody	17-Mar
Colleen Weter	18-Mar
Melanie Burtis	28-Mar
Francine Wiehl	30-Mar
Melissa Captain	30-Mar
Joan Jones	31-Mar

Answers to the puzzle on page 27

Across	Down
2 stocking	1 North Pole
3 chimney	4 mistletoe
7 Prancer	5 ornaments
8 holly	6 cookies
11 Christmas Eve	9 Christmas
15 toys	10 candycane
16 Rudolph	12 reindeer
17 Santa	13 ho ho ho
18 December	14 elf

