

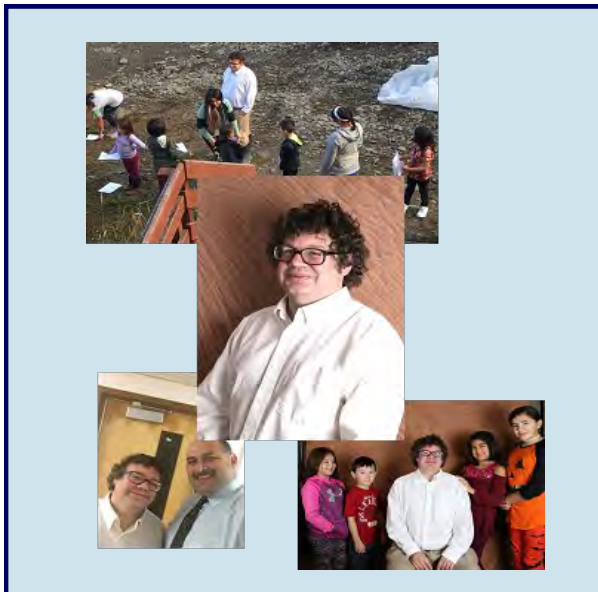
March 2018

Yukon-Koyukuk School District Staff Connections

Congratulations to our Certified and Classified Employees of the year !

Superintendent Boyd

The Employee of the Year Award is given each year to the staff member that colleagues and community members recognize as providing outstanding contributions to their schools and communities. Please be sure to send them a congratulatory note! Their accomplishment is well deserving! To learn more about our celebrated employees, please read the article in this newsletter.



Certified

Tim Main, Teacher at Rampart School in Rampart, Alaska



Classified

Holly Shier, Administrative Assistant at Raven Homeschool in Juneau, Alaska



Retirement

Superintendent Boyd

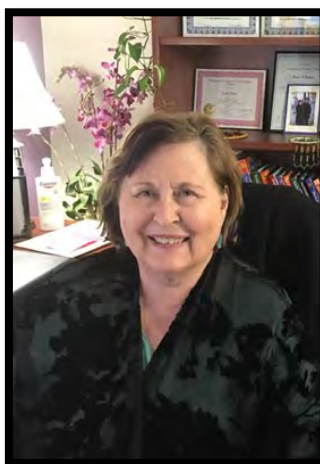
I would also like to highlight four staff members who are retiring after spending decades working for Yukon Koyukuk School District.



Pat Baser, Speech and Language Pathologist



Anne Titus, Principal/Teacher at Merrelene A. Kangas School in Ruby, Alaska



Joan Jones, Teacher at Raven Homeschool



Heidi Wright, Special Education Teacher at Raven Homeschool

These four individuals have dedicated their lives to working with students and have impacted the lives of their students and families. Resolutions created by YKSD staff and outlining their accomplishments and can be viewed by going to the YKSD website.

YKSD Board Scholarship Recipients

Superintendent Boyd

Congratulations to our YKSD Scholarship and YKSD School Board Scholarship recipients for working hard and furthering their education. These students continue to impress us with their perseverance and dedication to higher learning and their futures!



September Massey (Manley Hot Springs), Serenity Melendrez (Minto) and Jocelyn Patsy (Nulato)



Cameron Hildebrand (Nulato)



Governor Walker Proclaims February as School Board Recognition Month

Governor Walker has declared February to be School Board Recognition Month, a time to honor school board members and to express appreciation for their contributions.

The Yukon-Koyukuk School District is joining with other districts throughout Alaska to recognize the important contributions board members make to their communities.

Alaskans benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by a group of more than 300 men and women across the state. These public servants are elected to serve by local constituents and give of themselves with tireless efforts. These men and women are the local school board members of Alaska.

These people unselfishly contribute their time and talents toward the advancement of public education. They represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education.

Even though we are making a special effort during February to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their contributions reflect a year-round effort on their part. They are dedicated individuals who are committed to the continuing success of our schools and students.

The men and women serving Yukon-Koyukuk School District are:

Maurice McGinty, Chairperson

Section II – Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, Ruby

Fred Bifelt, Vice-Chairperson

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

Gloria Patsy, Secretary

Section II – Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, Ruby

Dian Gurtler, Treasurer

Section III – Highway Area, Manley Hot Springs, Minto

Wilmer Beetus, Member

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

Wilma David, Member

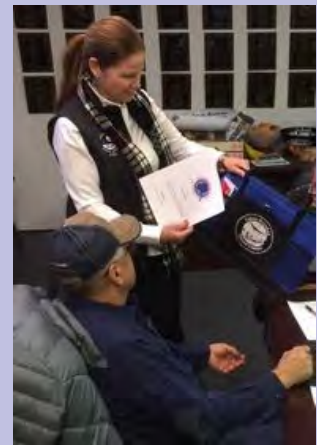
Section I – Allakaket, Bettles, Coldfoot, Evansville, Hughes, Huslia, Utopia Creek, Wiseman

Shirley Kruger, Member

Section II – Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato, Ruby



2018 Regional School Board



Thank You

Meet our Certified and Classified Employees of the year

Tim Main ~ Certified Employee of the Year

Tim has earned the honor of Certified Employee of the Year through his continuous efforts at the school. This year has provided many challenges and Tim has risen to the occasion without being asked. Tim has taken on a couple of extra duties while continuously serving as classroom teacher, gym teacher and has also served the school as cook and janitor.

In addition to his regular classroom duties, where he juggles six grade levels, he also serves as our TECH liaison between the district and our ISP. He also ran the Battle of the Books team, held open gym for the students, developed a cooking class into his math program, and did a district presentation on the Solar Eclipse. Tim's efforts did not stop there as he also has served as cook, breakfast and lunch monitor, janitor and filled-in as building supervisor when needed. Tim has also embraced and excelled at implementing district and school initiatives. He has also shown great flexibility when impromptu special program opportunities have presented themselves. Out of school Tim also supports all fundraisers and serves as spiritual leader for the community.



Tim has an ability to identify student needs and differentiate his instruction in an effort to make learning fun and meaningful for the students. Tim uses techniques including multi-color presentations, lessons with musical or video implementation as well as an unique ability to relate most lessons to a cultural event or significance.

Tim's attitude is nothing but positive. He finds the good in all situations. Tim also works well with community members on multiple levels. Tim sends a weekly letter and communicates with parents when they come in to the building.

Tim has taken the lead on partnering the MS/HS students in buddy reading and math activities. On collaborative days, Tim demonstrates his openness to district initiatives through his questioning and offering suggestions on implementation and improvement in what has worked for him. Tim is also open to constructive criticism and accepting to others ideas that have worked for them.

Holly Shier ~ Classified Employee of the Year

Holly Shier has been dedicated to Raven Homeschool. Holly has a rare quality that shines through the years and absolutely astonishes me. Holly is one of the few people around the world that without a doubt is pleasurable to be around. She is a colorful, bright, and kind young woman. She deserves this award.



She plays a major role in the community and the school making sure that everything is organized and functioning smoothly. She loves working hard and her dedication proves this important fact.

She makes a significant impact on the students. She displays a hard working personality, but knows when to have a good time. She is always the first person you can count on. She cares for the students and knows how to encourage them to improve. She is a leading example for the students in Raven.

She is the very definition of positive! She demonstrates wonderful interpersonal and communication skills, and is punctual.

She displays exemplary performance with her responsibilities and her patience around others is spectacular! She actively fosters cooperation and she brings joy and happiness for everyone! She creates a peaceful and pleasant atmosphere for everyone.

Board Recognition

The Yukon-Koyukuk Regional School Board recognizes excellence in students and staff members at each meeting. Congratulations to the people listed below! We hope that you will continue to strive to meet your goals and continue to be an excellent role model for your peers.

Staff

The following staff member has been recognized for her excellent contribution to education:



Katie Riemer
Elementary Teacher (Grades 5-6)
Jimmy Huntington School
Huslia, Alaska

Student Winners



Clayton Bergman
Kindergarten
Johnny Oldman School
Hughes, Alaska



Warren Vent
Grade 2
Raven Homeschool
Delta, Alaska

Board Recognition

Student Nominees



Rayana Madros
Grade 4
Andrew K. Demoski School
Nulato, Alaska



Jacob Elliott
Grade 10
Raven Homeschool
Wasilla, Alaska



Conlon Rishel
Grade 9
Raven Homeschool
Eagle River, Alaska

BoardDoc Training

Superintendent Boyd

The YKSD regional school board is receiving training on using the new software, BoardDoc, with Chromebook computers.



Happenings from the Office of Federal Programs

By Gina Hrinko

Greetings from the Federal Programs department! Our department continues to be busy looking for and writing new grants, as well as completing reports that are required of the grants that we currently have.

Program Highlights

We have lots of exciting activities happening through the grants that are being implemented. Through the *CRESEL*, *Start Strong* and *School Improvement* grants, the district has hired three instructional coaches to provide on-site support to both staff and students.

Paint Nite: Through the Start Strong Program, after school painting activities are being provided. 'Paint Nite' provides students, staff and community members to come together for an evening of painting. Every school site has been given the opportunity to sign up for this fun event. So far, Hughes and Rampart have had Paint Nite at the school.

Literacy Nights: Also through the Start Strong program, literacy nights are being conducted across the district. Literacy nights provide students and families with an evening of fun and engaging activities to help build literacy skills.

Indian Education: Each site was provided with an allotment of funding to use for increasing academic achievement. Activities can include after-school tutoring, cultural activities, purchasing of supplies or student incentives. Principals will work with staff to determine how to best use these funds.



Rampart Paint Nite painting a beautiful Alaskan scene

New River School Library Books!

Over the 3rd quarter the YKSD State & Federal Programs Department has been busy compiling, purchasing, and shipping (and occasionally re-routing) sets of new books for all of our River School's libraries. With the help of the Start Strong Grant we have been able to distribute loads of new books for all age groups to each of our villages, and with the help of our school's staff and principals we have been able to get them inside of the schools and in to the hands of our students! We would like to thank everyone who has helped us and who is still helping us facilitate this process. (we know that as much as everyone likes getting up early on a Saturday to pick up truckloads of heavy boxes, it can start to wear a little thin when it's -60 degrees outside!) We hope that our students and staff will enjoy the additional reading material for many school years to come!



State & Federal Programs

Primary Support Program

By Rachel Reilly



The second 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.

High-Impact Coaching

By Rachel Reilly

Through the *Start Strong* project, the *CRESEL* grant, and our School Improvement grants, the district has been able to hire and train three instructional coaches this year. The research on high-impact coaching is clear; when educators have a thought partner with whom to review data collected from their classrooms, set goals, select and implement strategies to meet these goals, and reflect on progress, educators' sense of efficacy increases and so does student achievement. Our coaches are not only available for on-site support, but they can also work with you over phone or video whenever you need. If you're interested in connecting with one of our coaches, send Rachel Reilly an email.



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.

Counseling Corner

By Cristina Welker

FYI! Accommodations for students with Disabilities on an IEP or 504 Plan

It's that time of year again!

Accommodations: are changes in practices and procedures that provide equitable access to grade level content during instruction and assessment that do not alter the validity of the assessment, score interpretation, reliability, or security of the assessment. Accommodations are intended to reduce or even eliminate the effects of a student's disability; **they do not** reduce learning expectations. The accommodations provided to a student should generally be the same for classroom instruction and for assessments. It is critical to note that although some accommodations may be appropriate for instructional use, they may not be appropriate for use on a standardized assessment. Because of the close link between assessment and instruction, the IEP or 504 plan must describe how the accommodations for assessment are provided routinely for classroom instruction. The IEP or 504 team should select appropriate accommodations based on the student's need, and must provide documentation and the rationale for the accommodations in the IEP or 504 plan.

Research shows that an unfamiliar test accommodation given to a student with a disability may negatively impact performance. Accordingly, an IEP or 504 team should be cautious about adding an accommodation shortly before an assessment. In general, a good practice is to make sure an accommodation has been used in the student's regular or special education classes for instruction and classroom assessments for at least three months or 90 days before testing. This will ensure that the student has experience with the accommodation and that the accommodation is appropriate for the student. When accommodations are provided as part of a computer-based assessment, the IEP team must take care to ensure that students have opportunities to become familiar with the technological aspects of the accommodations. In addition to using the accommodation in instruction, students should have the opportunity to use the computer-based practice tests to be familiar with how accommodations will be made available on computer-based assessments.



Maintenance Department

By Gale Bourne



SERRC has completed a comprehensive asbestos inspection and management plan for the Yukon Koyukuk School District. This report is available for your inspection during normal school hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) at the District Office and online at <https://www.yksd.com>.

As a result of the inspection performed by SERRC, asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) were identified and their condition assessed. The areas noted have been encapsulated or removed by the District. A long-range plan for handling the materials has been developed.

An ongoing operations and maintenance program which includes periodic surveillance and re-inspections has been implemented by the District and will remain in effect until all ACBM has been removed from District facilities. Please direct any concerns to Gale Bourne, Director of Facilities, at (907) 374-9439.

Teaching and Learning Department

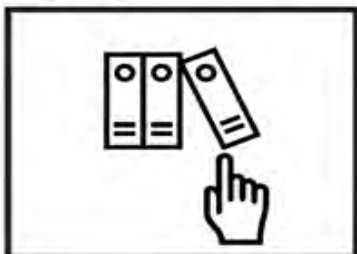
By Chane Beam



READ 20!

Yukon Koyukuk School District

GOAL: Every student reads 20 minutes everyday with an adult.



STEP 1- STUDENT PICKS A BOOK



STEP 2- STUDENT READS TO YOU



STEP 3- PROVIDE SUPPORT



STEP 4- ASK QUESTIONS



STEP 5- PRAISE EFFORT



STEP 6- REVIEW EXPERIENCE



Try these reading prompts.



PREDICT

I think _____ will happen because _____.



CLARIFY

I didn't understand the part where _____.



VISUALIZE

I imagine _____ in my mind.



QUESTION

I wonder about _____.



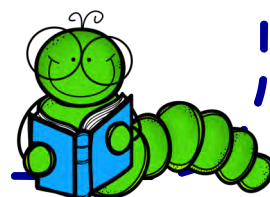
CONNECT

This reminds me of _____.



SUMMARIZE

So far _____ has happened.



Denaakkenaage' Hunek; Denakenaga' Hunik 'Our Language News'

By Susan Paskvan

The goal of the Board of Education is to increase the capacity of the Native Language program.

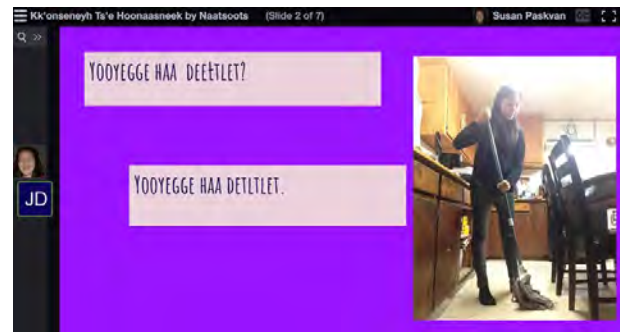
Courses:

The topics taught in January and February included: winter birds (what do you see?); counting winter birds; review weather and feeling phrases; torn paper collage with ptarmigan and identify the parts of the ptarmigan; rabbit book foldable; wolf book foldable; animals and color book; valentine cards with phrases for 'I love you' with kinship terms; colors; and classroom items, colors and demonstratives (give me that red cup over there).

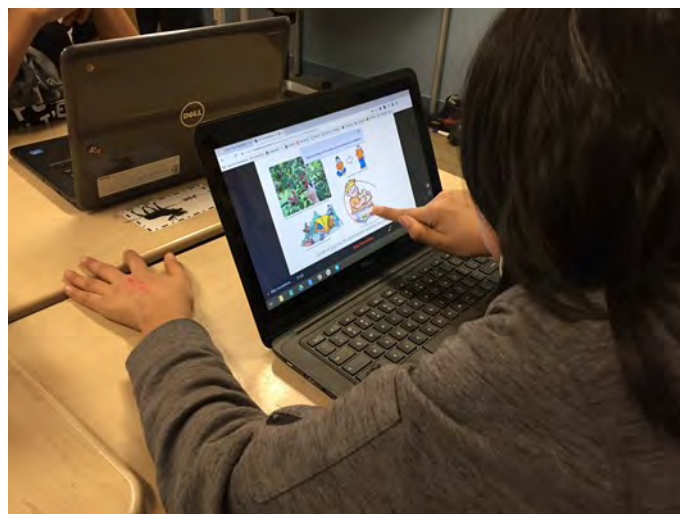
Students in grades 4 – 8 started using Google Classroom; Google Slides and VoiceThread for a book about "Genee Neen'aaanh?" 'what do you see?'. This assignment was very challenging to teach over video-conference, but once the students were comfortable with the programs, they really enjoyed choosing images, typing the text, and finally recording their own voice. The VoiceThread software allows students to read and write on an image. This is the software we will use to assess their proficiency, once they are all comfortable with the software.



Here is a screenshot of a student's Google Slides Genee neen'aaanh? based on the writing format from the book "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" by Eric Carle. Here is a link to a Huslia students' slide: <https://voicethread.com/share/10286409/>



Last semester, for an extra credit assignment, Jordan D., created this book on chores. Jordon and fellow student Molly P., added voice comments to the pages. Jordan also took all of the photos. <https://voicethread.com/share/9669587/>



A student in Ruby reviews the Denaakk'e materials on VoiceThread. Students can listen to the recording, record their own voice, and circle the matching picture.



District Travel

By Susan Paskvan

Ruby: February 13-15, 2018. On this trip, I worked with students in grades 3-10 on how to use VoiceThread. They were very engaged in learning Denaakk'e through this method. The students in the upper grades learned how to download a pdf of a presentation they made using Google Slide, then upload to VoiceThread (VT). I wasn't able to assess the younger elementary grades because their main technology tool is the iPad and I didn't develop an assessment for that.

Anchorage: February 17-18, 2018. Attended the ASTE conference to learn Google Apps for Educators. Most of my learning was on my own, so it was great to learn from the Google cer-

tified educator on slides, classroom, templates, and fun extensions like Movelt, OneTab and how to create Gifs.

Rampart: February 20-21, 2018. I taught VoiceThread to the elementary students with limited success, due to poor internet. As part of the AN ELDER grant, I held an afterschool language and culture night. The students learned how to introduce themselves in Denaakk'e, then painted a birch tree scene with animals.

Upcoming Travel

Huslia: March 18-24, 2018. Travel with junior high and high school students to Hot Springs. I'll teach language and culture lessons.



Emmersyn W. of Merrelene A. Kangas School in Ruby beads edging onto a woven valentine heart she made during the after-school activity.



*Students at the Rampart School paint *kek'esh* (birch trees) as part of a birch tree art project. Several of the students submitted their artwork to the Legislative Fly-In art call.*

Iditarod Biography Project

By Susan Paskvan

Judy Ferguson of Voice of Alaska has been busy writing chapters on Alaska Native mushers who raced in the Iditarod. We were saddened at the news of Rudy Demoski of Anvik's passing. His story of racing in the Iditarod is part of the project.

Welcome Ophelia Moses



Hi all, my name is Ophelia Moses, I am the new Native Language Assistant here at Yukon-Koyukuk School District. I was raised in the village of Huslia, Alaska where I graduated from Jimmy Huntington School. I moved to Fairbanks in 2014 to attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I have two wonderful boys De'Andre (2 years) and Fred (2 months). I enjoy sports, cooking and spending time with my family. I also have a passion for our Native language and I am excited to be a part of the language teaching system.

AN ELDER Grant

By Susan Paskvan

Ophelia Moses, formerly of Huslia and YKSD graduate, has been hired as the Language Assistant/Administrative Clerk II. She started January 22, 2018. She has quickly learned the different software to create language assessment tools in Google Slide, PowToons, VoiceThread and Canvas. She's editing drafts of the 3rd grade curriculum with edits from several languages specialists.

Through the grant, each student will be assessed on their language fluency. Using VoiceThread, we can individually assess a student's listening and speaking skills. Students will be assessed based on the curriculum framework for 3rd grade that we have been using over the years.

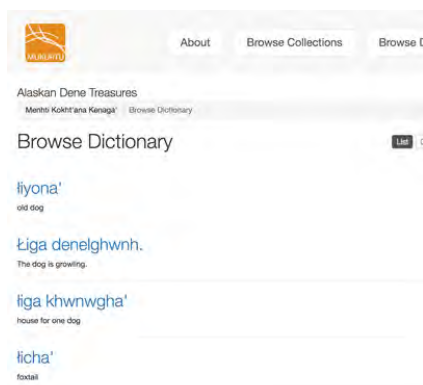
There will be a Native Language Curriculum Workshop March 3-4 with three educators and five language specialists. We will answer the essential question "What do you want our students to know and say in their Native language?" Through this we will identify language priorities and draft a calendar.

Several years ago I created several lessons in what is now Transparent Language Online (TLO). These lessons have been dormant, until Doyon Foundation, received a language grant in which TLO team can provide technical support. All the units I previously made need to be modified (primarily shortened and put into a scope and sequence plan). These lessons are interactive. They require literacy, internet and a microphone.

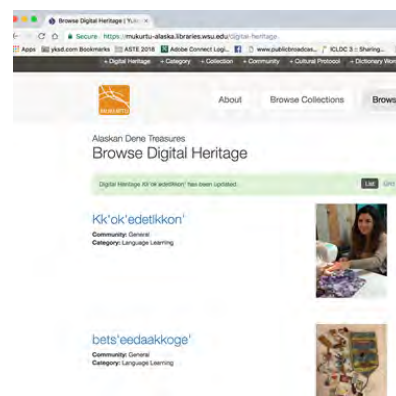
If you are interested in enrolling in the online TLO **high school** or **adult Denaakk'e** classes, please contact me at spaskvan@yksd.com for registration information.

To provide a resource for students to look up phrases I have been working with the Alaska Native Language Archives (ANLA) on inputting data into the Mukurtu Content Management System, aka Mukurtu. This digital archive will host audio, photo, and video files in Denaakk'e and Benhti Kokhut'ana Kenaga'. To view the digital heritage materials and online dictionary words we have collaboratively inputted go to this link:

<https://mukurtu-alaska.libraries.wsu.edu/dictionary>



Sample dictionary words in Mukurtu.



Sample digital heritage items in Mukurtu.

Community Collaborations

By Susan Paskvan

Several organizations send requests for translation assistance. Since January I have assisted Tanana Chiefs Conference communications department on a multi-language coloring book; University of Alaska Chancellor's office on a greeting phrase; several people with their Denaakk'e names; and digitized cassette tapes for the Ggaaldoh Singers.

Technology Corner

By Luke Meinert

Team4Tech

YKSD is fortunate to be selected as the one district in Alaska for a collaboration with CoSN, Team4Tech, and Pure Storage. Here's the article they have on their website:

Need: Yukon-Koyukuk School District (YKSD) is a public-school district located in Fairbanks, Alaska. It has 1,850 students in grades Kindergarten, K-12. 100% of the students in the school district are on community eligibility provision (CEP), which is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP allows the nation's highest poverty schools and districts to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications.

Project: YKSD recently rolled out its 1:1 initiative where every student in the school district have a Chromebook. What they're looking for is to build the capacity of their teachers and principals to use the devices to transform learning. Specifically, they'd love to receive training on project-based learning, making, and google applications. YKSD has a small technology team and would love a team of technology volunteers to assist them with architecture, IT health assessment and upgrades, cybersecurity and virtualization.



<http://www.team4tech.org/content/it-infrastructure-and-teacher-workshops-consortium-school-networking-yukon-koyukuk-school>

Technology Corner continued

By Luke Meinert

E-rate

We've submitted our yearly form 470's to advertise for eligible services through E-rate, and will be filing our form 471's very soon. USAC's category I contribution will be approximately \$1,653,264 to help supply Internet services for our schools and district office. Along with Internet services we've submitted three form 470's for switches, routers, and wireless controllers. This is a time-consuming process as we've been meeting with vendors on a regular basis who wish to bid on these projects.

Raven 1.1

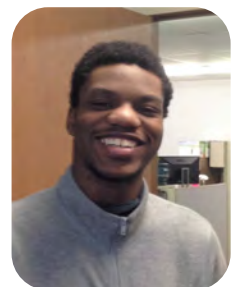


YKSD has an RFP posted for a 1:1 device contract that will provide each Raven student with a laptop to complete academic work and will be used for state assessments. The district has received several bids for both the device and associated services, and we've select to continue our partnership with Dell. Each Raven student will be eligible for a device.

A group of Raven teachers participated in a Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) Teacher Academy in Anchorage on February 16th to enhance their knowledge of digital tools available to our students.

YKSD Regional Basketball Stream

The YKSD Tech Team provided a live stream of the 2018 Golden Heart IA Regional Basketball Tournament. Thanks to Dante Duncanson, former Raven graduate and YKSD technology intern, for doing the broadcasting!



Dante Duncanson



Assessment Department News

By Patty White

The Statewide assessment, Performance Evaluation for Alaska Schools (PEAKS), from DRC will be administered again this spring 2018. Students will take the English language arts and math assessments in grades 3 through 9, and the science assessments in grades 4, 8, and 10. All students will take the assessment on computer this year. Please check with your school for the exact testing dates and help your child be prepared by getting proper sleep before testing.

These end-of-year assessments inform policy makers and the public, including parents, about how well students are meeting Alaska's academic standards; provide data to improve schools and to close achievement gaps; and ensure equity in educational opportunity for all students. School districts will continue to use classroom assessments throughout the school year to monitor student progress and inform instruction.

A six-minute video that explains the purpose of Alaska's statewide assessments may be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/193465985>. Frequently asked questions may also be accessed through the following link:

[FAQs for Parents: Why Should My Child Take the State Assessment? \(pdf\)](#)

Upcoming assessments for YKSD students include: PEAKS, the annual State of Alaska test – March 26 – April 27; and MAP end of year testing April 23 – May 9.

Please feel free to contact Andrea Durny at adurny@yksd.com or Patty White at pwhite@yksd.com or 374-9400 if you have any questions or would like more information regarding District Assessments.



Map Testing

By Andrea Durny

The Spring assessment window begins April 23 and ends May 9.

7th Annual Virtual Pizza Party ~ April 21st

By Andrea Durny

Over 100 pizzas will be sent out to all sites to celebrate their testing efforts. Each year the party continues to be a huge hit. Students present during PEAK Testing are given "do your best" novelties and they are entered into drawings for prizes such as: a gift Basket, \$10 iTunes Card, \$25 Visa Card, DVD, and a Phone Card. There will also be grand prizes!

Grand Prize:
Grades 3-6: Bikes
Grades 7-12: \$100 gift card



Youth News

By Andrea Durny

Alaska Association of Student Government

AWSC President, Elizabeth Henderson of Huslia presents the student board report to the school board during the March 8 meeting.



YKSD Boarding Home Program



Formerly known as the Boarding Home Program, the Home Away Program is a reimbursement program which assists families with housing costs of \$600 per month for students who transfer into or within our district. We will begin taking applications for the 2018-2019 school year the beginning August and the deadline to apply is October 1, 2018. For more information please contact Andrea Durny, adurny@yksd.com, 907-374-9424.

1A Regional Basketball Tournament

By Andrea Durny

Huslia hosted the 2018 1A Golden Heart Conference Regional Basketball Tournament March 1-3 at the UAF Patty Center. The teams included Huslia, Minto, Tri Valley, North Way, Ft. Yukon, Nulato and Tanana. Congratulations to defending champions: Tanana Wolves and Tri Valley Ladies who will be representing our conference at the 1A State Basketball Tournament at the Alaska Airlines Center in Anchorage March 15-17, 2018. Photos submitted by Susan Paskvan.



Jr. North American Dog Races

By Andrea Durny



Talia Henry of Huslia along with her brother, Trevor Henry, and father, Wes Henry. Talia came in first on the last day and overall second place in the Junior North American Sled Dog Championship.



Robbie David, 7th grade and brother Andrew David, 6th grade from Minto compete in the Jr. North American Sled Dog Championship.

Skijoring

By Andrea Durny

Author, teacher, dog musher/sprint racer Mari-Hoe Raitto came to Ruby through the ACHILL program for a workshop. Mari will be heading to the following sites over the remainder of the semester. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.

Huslia- March 10 & 11

Allakaket- April 7 & 8

Nulato- April 14 & 15

Manley & Minto- April 28 & 29





April 27-30, 2018
Kaltag, Alaska

Teens & Adults will have a blast – Sign-up Now!

Working to make our schools and community a place where all youth feel connected, respected, and successful.

Join Phlight Club to make the world a better place for yourself, your families, and your friends!



- Fun & challenging activities
- Healthy meals
- Overnight at the School – bring sleeping gear, etc.
- Connect with adults
- Build your web of support
- Leadership

Kaleidoscope Connect
Full-spectrum Youth Development



**Applications Due:
Tuesday, April 3, 2018
to adurny@yksd.com**



**Facilitator: Andrea Durny
907-374-9424**

Business Office News

Food Service Department

Trevor Bridgewater

The 2017 – 2018 school year is the first full year with all 10 of our YKSD schools offering a breakfast and lunch program. Providing two meals a day for all our students is a rewarding challenge that never has a dull moment. I would like to thank all staff that step up to keep our kids fed. These programs have shown to increase instruction time and create a more stable environment for students to learn.

March is National Nutrition Month!



Q: What does the invisible man drink at snack time?

A: Evaporated Milk!

Healthy balanced meals are our goal for every student.



Traditional Foods in School Meals

In the continuing effort to reduce plate waste, increase participation, and satisfaction in school meals a **Committee for Traditional Foods in School Meals** is being formed. Members will be developing menu items with traditional foods to incorporate into breakfast and lunch service. This process will take a community effort in school nutrition to be successful. We look forward to creating meals everyone can be proud of.



Bull Moose on the way home from Minto. (courtesy of Patty Woody)

Welcome Victoria!

By Jenny Martens



We would like to welcome a new member of the YKSD Business Office Team, Victoria Patsy, our Accounting Tech II. Victoria is a graduate of the Andrew K. Demoski School. She moved to Fairbanks/North Pole in 2005 with her husband James and son Justin. Victoria started working for YKSD in 2015 as an Administrative Assistant for Fairbanks Raven Home-school. She is enrolled in the Applied Business program with a concentration in Management with UAF's Community and Technical College. Her goal is to obtain her Associates degree in May of 2019. Victoria's hobbies include fishing, hunting, sewing and boating.



Allakaket School

By Larry Parker

On Valentine's Day and the day after, the Allakaket School showed their love and respect to their community by creating, illustrating and narrating a song book highlighting the Upper Yukon Athabaskan language and culture. This project was spearheaded by Principal Larry Parker and led by Bob Whicker, Director of the Consortium for Digital Learning from the Association of Alaska School Boards. All of the students and staff had a role to play in the production of the book. The book contains 4 songs, pages on counting and the months and seasons of the year, all in Denaakk'e with illustrations representing each respective item. All students participated in at least one song sung in Denaakk'e and produced the art work for the illustrations. Watercolor, torn paper, colored pencil, markers, transparencies, Styrofoam, and pastels were used for the illustrations. Students and staff are looking forward to the digital copy of the book which will be produced by the Association of Alaska School Boards staff in the next few weeks. Thanks go out to teachers Ms. Evelyn Esmailka, Ms. Jessie David, Ms. Ann Elshazy, Mr. David Fields, and Ms. Kelli Biggs for the help and support. This activity is funded by YKSD's Alaska Native Language grant which supports each community in their development of a digital book this spring.



Allakaket School continued

Bardathon on the Koyukuk

By David Fields

The Allakaket high school class had a great opportunity recently to dive into some familiarity with 'the Immortal Bard' – William Shakespeare.



The Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre (FST) held their annual 'Bard-a-thon' event from February 18-25 at Raven Landing Community Center in Fairbanks. Bard-a-thon is the brainchild of Bruce Rogers, the founder and artistic director of FST. Its premise is simple – read all of Shakespeare's plays, sonnets, and poems over a weeklong, 24 hour-a-day period. That's right – 24 hours. It sounded crazy when it started in 2000, but the event quickly caught ground with actors, ex-actors, scoundrels, public officials, teachers, and lovers of Shakespeare around the state, country and globe.

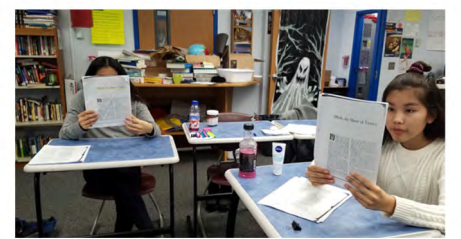
Each play is given about a four-hour window to be read, reader's theatre-style by the participants in the room. Participants outside of Fairbanks are piped into the reading room via speakerphone, and the whole performance is streamed onto the Web.

FST made the offer to give a slot to Mr. Fields, who introduced Shakespeare to his class first by explaining the three types of Shakespeare plays – tragedies, histories, and comedies. The class decided that they would like to study a tragedy, and after hearing synopses of the plays, the students settled on *Othello*, *the Moor of Venice*.

The class first watched the 1995 film version of the play, then set about with a week-long study of the play in class. They were super prepared to read, and having to speak loudly enough to be heard over the phone was great training to get these students more comfortable with public speaking, as well as using intonation for dramatic reading.

Students who participated in this year's Bard-a-thon began their day with a special breakfast prepared by Mr. Fields and Allakaket's reading specialist, Kelli Biggs, who both read along with students for the whole block of morning classes.

They read along with actors from Fairbanks as well as a class from Ryan Middle School who also wanted to participate in reading *Othello*. The Allakaket students read so well that after lunch, the students were asked to come back and read for part of the next play, *The Comedy of Errors*.



It was a great and unique experience, and a real honor for our school to be offered one of their much sought-after 'school slots' for Bard-a-thon, and the students genuinely enjoyed themselves. We hope to be part of Bard-a-thon XX next year!



<div style="text-align: center;"> BARDA THON XIX February 18-25, 2018 Opening Ceremony 4 PM Sunday February 18 Raven Landing in the Conference Room 1222 Cowles Street, Across the street from the Noel Wien Library A ROUND-THE-CLOCK reading and celebration of the COMPLETE WORKS of William Shakespeare! </div>				
	SUNDAY 18	MONDAY 19	TUESDAY 20	WEDNESDAY 21
8 AM	Opening Ceremony @ 4 & Next Summer's Show	King John	Henry IV Part 1	School Show
NOON	Merry Wives of Windsor @ 5:30	Love's Labour's Lost	Henry IV Part 2	Edward 3
4 PM		As You Like It	Henry V	Cymbeline
8 PM	The Tempest	Romco & Juliet	Henry VI Part 1	The Taming of the Shrew
Midnight	All's Well That Ends Well	Othello	Henry VI Part 2	Two Gentlemen of Verona
4 AM	Troilus and Cressida	Winter's Tale	Henry VI Part 3	Titus Andronicus
	THURSDAY 22	FRIDAY 23	SATURDAY 24	SUNDAY 25
8 AM	School Show	School Show	Sonnets	Antony & Cleopatra
NOON	Timon of Athens	Comedy of Errors	Measure for Measure <small>By Fairbanks Shakespeare & Housing</small>	Julius Caesar
4 PM	Coriolanus	Henry 8	The Merchant of Venice	Richard 2
8 PM	Twelfth Night	A Midsummer Night's Dream	King Lear	Richard 3
Midnight	Hamlet	MacBeth	Much Ado About Nothing	
4 AM	Pericles	Two Noble Kinsmen	The Rape of Lucrece & Poems	



Johnny Oldman School

By Patty White

The students at Johnny Oldman School had a great third quarter. Students completed the Aimsweb and MAP benchmark assessments in January. They made good growth and we look forward to the end of year benchmarks in May. Students in Ms. Bates' class, started presenting a radio show each morning in Hughes which included the weather, the day in history, community announcements, and a joke of the day. The community looks forward to the broadcast every morning at 9:30 am. We had a CRESEL Community Meeting on January 11th with great community participation. Many terrific ideas were shared on how to bring more culture into the classrooms. We really appreciate all the help from the parents and community. Students in Ms. Sally's class celebrated the 100th day of school with fun learning activities. The district provided a Paint Nite on March 3rd that was enjoyed by students, parents, and the community.



Kaltag School

By Nancy Mason

Brochure prepared By Nancy Mason's Class.

THANK YOU
FOR SHARING
YOUR
KNOWLEDGE
OF MOOSE:

RICHARD &
VIOLET, TRISTAN, JOEY,
ALBERT, JUSTIN, FRED,
STEWART, CALVIN, AND
FRANKLIN JR.



MOOSE FACTS KALTAG STYLE



Long time ago, there were very few.
Bulls grunt and use their antlers when they fight.
The moose cows kick their calves away when they are 2yrs. Old.
Moose like to stay in lakes to eat and be near the water.
Moose like to eat willows and grass.
The size of the antlers, tell their age.
Moose gather in a group because there might be bears or wolves.
Bull dig a hole in the ground and pee in it to attract cows.
Smaller moose follow bigger ones to get the cows.
Moose don't hibernate they migrate.
Their fur keeps them warm in the winter and to keep the bugs off in the summer.
Hunters check lakes and sloughs, for moose.

Ella B. Vernetti School News

By Mike Day

Ella B. Vernetti School has enjoyed a wonder year so far. The students are extremely engaged and actively learning in both classes. We had the opportunity to hold both a literacy night along with a school fund raiser. The students earned over \$500 selling Navajo Tacos, in fact we were sold out within the first 45 minutes. Everyone had a great time. Both the students and staff are looking forward to Spring Break. We have so many ideas that we want to introduce when we return.

Mrs. Williams' Class:

Mrs. Williams has been working hard with her students and their academic growth is extraordinary. Many of her students made great progress in their benchmark testing and have shown strong improvement. Even though there were a few low scores, Mrs. Williams is working long hours after school and on the week-end to fill those gaps for her students.

She is constantly tying in art projects with her lessons and involving the community in many of her lessons. The students just finished a project with several of the community leaders. Their ideas and artwork will be presented to the community at a meeting that will be held in the Community Hall the first Saturday of March.

Mrs. Williams class working on community meeting art and presentation:



Mr. Day's Class

Mr. Day started a typing class for his students to prepare them for the upcoming PEAKS testing that will take place the first of April. Just like Mrs. Williams class, Mr. Day's class had some great movement in the benchmark testing this past month. Even though there were a few students who dropped in their scores, we are confident that those scores will improve this spring.

Beside the academic side of education, the students were actively building model catapults that were part of their Fusion Science unit on engineering. They are now in the process of working with leather to make sheaths for the knives that they will make later in the year. (Please note the kids were not allowed to operate any power tool, if you look closely you can see that the drill bit is stationary, I did all of the drilling, the students assembled the parts with wood and glue.)



Jimmy Huntington School

By Brandy Henderson

It's Fun Friday again here in Kindergarten and First Grade. Each Friday students are rewarded for their hard work with different STEM activities. This week we learned how to code robots with the Ozobots. As you can see it was a big hit. Students loved changing the robots' colors and getting it to follow different lines. It took lots of trial and error but the student persisted. It was a great learning activity.



Merrelaine A. Kangas School

By Anne Titus



On March 2nd K-5 students in Ruby celebrated Dr. Seuss! The events included a wacky roadway, reading stories, painting, coloring, bingo and of course snacks! Yes, a sweet version of green eggs and ham were consumed.



Rampart School

By Tim Main

Rampart School has had a very busy and exciting time lately! At the beginning of February, as part of the A-CHILL dog-mushing program, musher Cole Larsen brought his dogs over for a visit. Students got to meet the dogs, talk to Mr. Larsen, and ride behind the team!

In mid-February, Susan Paskvan came out to visit. Besides helping us improve our Denaakk'e, she was able to provide the students with a creative after-school art project that all enjoyed; in fact, some of those projects are now headed to Juneau for display!

For the first weekend of March, the entire community headed to Fairbanks for the Festival of Native Arts, where the Rampart dance group performed at various locations, including the district office, the Pioneer Home, and the University. The students were the core of this group, and had been practicing daily after school for more than a month.

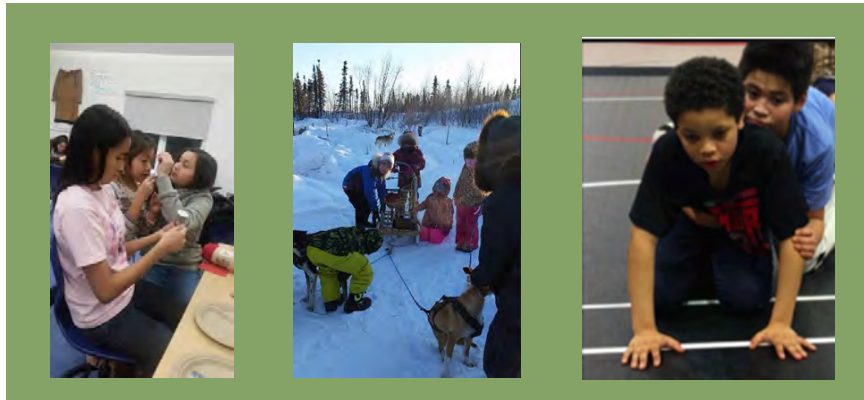
Besides all the special events, of course, the good work of learning is continuing; the teachers enjoy watching all the students gain skills on a regular basis. We're even gaining new students! Rampart School is thriving!



Andrew K. Demoski School

By Jason Johnson

Things have been in full swing since returning from Christmas Break. Dog mushing through the ACHILL program is gaining tremendous support and the students are really falling in love with their new friends! Many of our students are taking part in the sewing nights that are happening at the school as a direct result of the community's support of our school! Lastly, many of our kiddos are gearing up for wrestling matches against Galena in March and our older students are having a wonderful year on the basketball court. They all enjoyed hosting our invitational basketball tournament and gym commemoration on February 23rd and 24th!

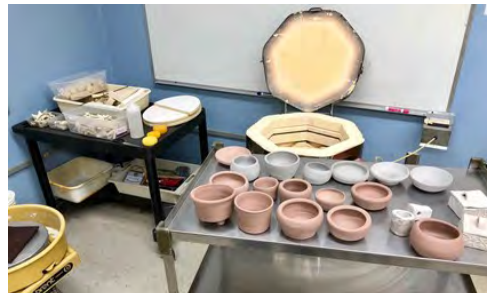


Gladys Dart School

By: Joseph Krause



Cole Larsen, Manley's A-Chill Musher, works with teacher Christine Krause and some students.



Joe Krause's students have a batch of greenware getting ready to fire.



Manley elementary students try their hand at cross-country skiing.



Manley 3rd grader throws on the wheel.



Congratulations Athaliah and Steve Duby!

By Patty Hill

Iwalani R. Duby

Born: February 19th
Weight: 9 lbs 11 oz
Length: 22"



Raven Homeschool

By Maegan Mascagno

The past several months have been busy and exciting in our Raven offices! Each office has had different fun, educational activities and field trips each month. We have recently launched a “Love Raven” re-enrollment campaign to sign families up for the 2018-2019 school year, and it is going really well! We love seeing which families plan on continuing with Raven and hearing what nice things they have to say about our program.

Raven Homeschool—Anchorage

Anchorage is continuing with monthly science workshops taught by Deb Fancher. She has taught our students all about bacteria, astronomy and even dissected a beaver during one workshop! We have had some really cool field trips to Full Curl Archery, Papa Murphy’s Pizza where each student made their own pizza, “A Very Electric Christmas” light show, and the “Anatomy of a Piano” show at the performing arts center. We hosted a food drive during January and February where we were able to raise 532 pounds of food for our local food bank! The robotics teams, Awkward Blocks and Stack Attack, competed and each team won an award. Awkward Blocks won the Robot Design Award, and Stack Attack was awarded the Judges’ Award. The Anchorage Battle of the Books teams, Bulu Readers (3rd/4th grade) and AWK-Ward Readers (5th/6th grade) won their district battles and will be moving on to the state battle in March!



Raven Homeschool—Eagle River



Our Eagle River office seems to always have some kind of activity or workshop going on! Deb Fancher has also been in our office teaching about bacteria, astronomy and beavers. We partnered with Fred Meyer's to host a canned food drive and a wrapping paper station for the community. During the food drive we were able to raise over 200 pounds of canned goods to donate to our local food bank! Advisory teacher and counselor, Randi Shrider, has been teaching Kids2College workshops in the Eagle River and Wasilla offices and our students are really enjoy-

ing them. We've had some really fun field trips to go ice skating, we rented out the turf field for students to play games, and we went to the Alaska Native Heritage Center. We had one Battle of the Books team for 3rd/4th grade, the Midnight Ravens, and they tied with our Wasilla office for 2nd place in our district battle! It was a very close battle between Anchorage, Eagle River and Wasilla.

Raven Homeschool—Wasilla

The Wasilla office seemed to be focused on treats and baked goods the last few months! We hosted two different Culinary Bake Offs, one was for pies and the other was donuts or yeast breads. We were even able to have a few police officers and a firefighter judge our donut competition! In addition to the Culinary Bake Offs, we held our 2nd Annual Cookie Exchange for our families to participate in. Mr. Bergey has been in our office several times teaching our students all kinds of different science workshops. The science workshop topics include geology, chocolate, acids & bases, cells & bacteria and many more. We kicked off a brand new Spanish club in January! Students in the Spanish club are learning how to sing songs, play games, and we even had a chili cook-off. Our middle school Battle of the Books team, Lunar Wolves, won the district battle and gets to move on to state!



Raven Homeschool—Juneau

There is no such thing as a quiet day in our Juneau office! We are constantly busy offering various workshops, activities and field trips to our awesome families. During December we held student creation workshops where students and families would come into our office and create fun crafts to sell during the Market at the Mall. We also went holiday caroling to the senior centers around Juneau. We held our annual tea party and we had over 30 students and family member attend for an afternoon of tea, snacks, and stories. Our counselor, Ryan Tilbury, came down for a visit and we had a CTE tour, tour of UAS, a Career and College Workshop; plus, we were able to go on a tour of the Coast Guard Station. We also rented out the movie theater and had a fun family potluck/movie night, over 60 people joined us for that. February 1st was World Read Aloud Day and we celebrated with a pajama party and reading lots of books together!



Raven Homeschool—Delta Junction



The Delta Junction office has been staying busy with their monthly activities and field trips. We held an All Girl's Tea Party and it was a huge success! We had 45 moms and daughters join us for a fun afternoon of dressing up, tea and delicious snacks. The boys at Raven also got to enjoy their own night our Counselor, Ryan Tilbury, chaperoned a Boys Night Out where sons and father got to learn all about making knives and black powder rifles. Our high school Battle of the Books team, Applesauce Penguins, won their district battle and will compete during the state battle. Our robotics team, The Raven Robotics, recently won two different awards during competition. They won the Robot Design Award and a Teamwork Trophy! Great Job!

Raven Homeschool—Fairbanks



Our Fairbanks office also participated in a holiday food drive, they were able to donate over 40 pounds of food to The Door. They also held the Raven Holiday Potluck where over 90 people, including Superintendent Boyd, attended! There was a field trip to the Fairbanks Animal Control Shelter where we learned all about how the shelter works and even got to play with some of the animals there. We held our 7th Annual Cookie Bake Off competition and were blown away by the creations from our students! The winning dish was a Puppy Chow Cookie. Some of the Raven and YKSD staff also competed in the Literary Council 26th Annual Spelling Bee. We didn't win the spelling bee, but we did win a prize for the best table decoration!

Welcome Tami!

By Chane Beam

The Fairbanks Raven Homeschool office welcomes Tami Rump to the team! Tami has worked for the Yukon Koyukuk School District for 18 years, including the last four years in the business department. We are fortunate to have her as our "first friendly face" of Raven as families come into the office. Many families will already be familiar with Ms. Rump as she has participated in the Fairbanks Raven Christmas Event and the Golden Days parade for several years. Additionally, she has in-depth knowledge on the inner workings of both YKSD and Raven Homeschool. While at home, Tami is busy raising four girls, ages 4, 9, 12 and 17. We are very excited to have her join the Raven team!



April	
Tim Main	7-Apr
Amanda York	7-Apr
Dorothy Juneby	10-Apr
Joseph Krause	10-Apr
Aleta Leblanc	10-Apr
Kimberly Elshazly	17-Apr
Patty Hill	19-Apr
Rolland Linus	20-Apr
Theresa Miller	20-Apr
Steve Swatling	22-Apr
Tim Pavlick	28-Apr
Danae Davis	30-Apr

May	
Josephine McGinty	5-May
Danielle Esmailka	6-May
Shirley Kruger	6-May
Annette Moses	9-May
Thomas Esmailka	10-May
Nicholas Graves	12-May
Karen Sam	20-May
Victoria Patsy	23-May
Charles Backe	30-May

June	
Teresa Trinidad	4-Jun
Marilyn Marshall	9-Jun
Ralph Kriska	12-Jun
Monica Alexie	18-Jun
Anne Titus	18-Jun
Monica Williams	24-Jun
David Fields	26-Jun
Wayne Smoke	26-Jun
Breanna Semaken	30-Jun
Kia Wiehl	30-Jun
Madeline Willimas	30-Jun

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

<http://yksd.com>



Yukon Koyukuk School District

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HUGHES
KOYUKUK
RAMPART

DELTA JUNCTION
HUSLIA
MANLEY
RUBY

EAGLE RIVER
JUNEAU
MINTO
WASILLA