

October 2018

Yukon-Koyukuk School District Staff Connections

From the Desk of Superintendent Boyd

Congratulations! Thank you for helping your student to successfully complete the first quarter. We hope that you will join your students for Parent Teacher Conferences scheduled at each of our schools for the end of this month where they will showcase their hard work. YKSD has a lot to celebrate! There are many activities taking place this time of year. Many sites have already hosted their culture week, other schools are preparing for winter activities, and our secondary students are taking advantage of intensive learning academies where they can earn their driver's permit or driver's license. In fact, this week we had 16 students travel into Fairbanks for the fly-in and 15 walked away with their driver's license or permit.

Thank you to all of the community members who have been volunteering their time to help the students learn traditional ways. Many of you will be attending AFN. Please be sure to check out the dancers from YKSD. Rampart and Nulato will be representing. This year will be the first time in over 100 years Rampart is participating in dancing! Our past graduate, Tristan Madros was the Key Note Speaker for AFN! How outstanding!

YKSD has been awarded the first ever Native American Education Language Program Grant as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act. The program is intended to help our district expand the district's existing Athabascan immersion program from grades K-4 to all students, Pre-K to grade 12 and to publish digital story books in Native languages. YKSD has partnered with Brightways Learning and the Association of Alaska School Boards. All of the books created so far are posted on our website at

<https://www.yksd.com/domain/166>

Research supports that in order for students to learn, they must be engaged and present each day. In an effort to streamline communication in our school district and communities, YKSD will be utilizing a mass communication notification system to share relevant news and timely updates with families. The new system is expected to be up and running by December. Allakaket School has already tested it out this past week and were very pleased. Please continue to also check the website and Facebook for activities and upcoming information! In addition, parents please know you have access to your students' grades in PowerSchool. For more information about how to access PowerSchool, please call your teacher or principal.

The YKSD Regional School Board election results took place this month. Please join me in congratulating Shirley Kruger from Nulato and Wilmer Beetus from Hughes for being elected to the YKSD board again! Wilmer and Shirley join Maurice McGinty, Board President, Nulato, Fred Bifelt, Vice President, Huslia, Gloria Patsy, Secretary, Nulato, Dian Gurtler, Treasurer, Manley, and Wilma David, Minto. CSC election information will be provided next month.



October is National Principal Recognition Month

Superintendent Boyd

In an executive proclamation, Governor Walker recognizes the vital role principals hold in the education of Alaska students and proclaims October 2018 as School Principals and Assistant Principals Recognition Month. National Principal's Month is an opportunity to say "thank you" to principals and to share with the community all the great work that principals do. The key to student success is a great school and the key to a great school is a great principal.

YKSD is fortunate to have a wonderful team of principals. Joe Krause, Manley; Paul Gilbert, Ruby; Larry Parker, Allakaket; Charles Burns, Kaltag; Casey Weter, Huslia; Mike Day, Koyukuk; Shaine Nixon, Nulato; Patty White, Hughes; Vicky Charlie, Minto; Matt Dawson, Rampart; and Kim Bergey Wasilla. Please thank them for their hard work either in person or through social media!



Happenings from the Office of Federal Programs

Gina Hrinko

Greetings from the Federal Programs department! Fall is definitely in the air – or should I say winter? The leaves have changed color and are quickly falling from the trees. This quarter, our department has kept busy working on grants, helping you implement grant programs and ordering supplies for your classrooms!

Program Highlights

We continue to have lots of exciting activities happening through our current grant programs. Our Start Strong grant focuses on increasing student literacy proficiency by providing instructional coaches who travel to sites to work with teachers and students. These coaches will be analyzing student data and will collaborate with teachers on how to best meet the needs of students. We have also been sending out some wonderful literacy resources that can be used to supplement your curriculum.

Literacy Nights and Paint Nite

These after-school activities have been successful and the feedback we've received has been really positive. We're happy to be able to continue to offer these activities at each of our school sites. Both of these activities provide an evening of fun as staff, students and community come together to participate.

Grant funding

If you have an idea of an after-school activity you would like to implement, or if you need supplies/materials for your classroom, please email us at [#Federalprograms](#) and we will respond to your request within 24 hours.

Enjoy these last few days of warmth before winter sets in!

Literacy Nights

Kristi Burns

We are super excited to be able to offer literacy nights at our school sites and to have Sara Henderson on our team as the Literacy Night Liaison! Our literacy team has put together some amazing events and Sara is traveling to each school site to conduct themed literacy nights! Huslia, Koyukuk, and Kaltag have already had this experience. Hughes is getting ready for their special event!



Future Schedule:

November 8 ~ Nulato

November 15 ~ Manley

November 29 ~ Allakaket

December 6 ~ Ruby

Sara is looking forward to coming to your site soon!

High-Impact Coaching

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.

Our Pre-Kindergarten Program is Changing

Rachel Reilly

For the last two decades, the YKSD has been committed to offering High Quality Pre-K programs at all of our sites without a center-based Head Start program. This commitment helped our students to develop strong early literacy skills as well as the social-emotional skills needed to be successful in Kindergarten. These programs also allowed us to build supportive relationships with our students' families.

To assure that our early learners continue to have access to developmentally appropriate learning experiences (and that their peers in our primary/elementary classrooms are also appropriately challenged), we have started offering standalone PreK programs with Associate Teachers at four of our seven sites with PreK. This change was made based on feedback shared during the Stakeholder Strategic Planning meetings in the spring of 2018. We're so excited to be able to welcome new teachers to the YKSD team, and we're also really looking forward to seeing what our littlest learners can accomplish this year!



Highly Qualified Paraprofessionals

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.



Migrant Education

Tasha Egalite

YKSD's migrant education program is off to a great start. Recruitment training was provided by the State Department of Education in August and we are now in the process of recruiting families who qualify as migrants. The Migrant Program is in place to help fill the educational gap for students who participate in seasonal activities with their relatives.

I have been sent by the District to help locate families who are qualified to receive migrant services. Some of the services available are classroom aides, tutoring, and migrant student activity packages.

We are in the process of recruiting migrant families and that will



There's a first for everything: first flight to the Upper Northwest this year. First flight to a remote village where I felt at home and at peace. First time recruiting students to participate in a Federal and State Program!



Cristina Welker, Tasha Egalite and Melissa Detlaff.

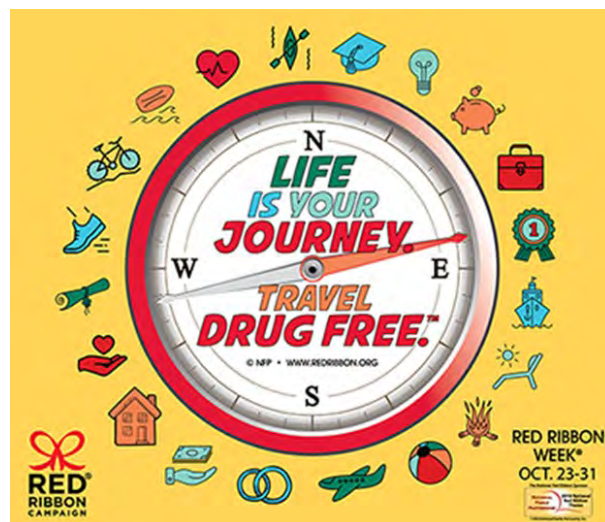
be completed on or before November 15, 2018. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email Tasha Egalite at 907-374-9443, tegalite@yksd.com



Counselor's Corner

Cristina Welker

Red Ribbon Week is October 23-31!



Join the Counseling Department in creating awareness about being drug free!

Counseling Corner continued

Cristina Welker



October is National Bullying Prevention Month! Your counselors will be working with students of all ages this month on preventing bullying type behaviors, reporting such behaviors and helping friends who may be experiencing bullying.

Business Office News

Kristen Winters

The Business Office said goodbye to Amanda Brecht, Accounting Specialist, on September 28. Amanda left Alaska to move to warmer weather and closer to family in Arizona. She will be missed.

I am pleased to announce that Susan Erickson will assume the role and responsibilities of providing support to the Raven Homeschool program. Susan has been with YKSD since December 2013 in Accounts Payable. She is excited about the challenge and looks forward to learning something new. Please congratulate Susan in this new role.



Maintenance Department

By Gale Bourne

Annual Asbestos Notification

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 on line at <http://ykzd.schoolwires.net/>.

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) 374-9404.



Teaching & Learning

Chane Beam

How do I get my 20 minutes?

- Read during snack time
- Keep a few books in the car
- Make a set time to read aloud to your child—even if it's for 5 minutes!
- Add reading into transitions—reading while you clean up lunch or finish getting ready to leave
- Read everything! Signs, food boxes, magazines, etc.
- Keep books by the bed
- Have a set time for your child to read quietly to themselves
- Play reading games—hangman, Brain Quest, etc.
- Read while you wait at a restaurant or doctor's office
- Listen to stories online Try Storyline Online!
- Read activity books, such as cookbooks for kids or Klutz books



Denaakkenaage’/ Denakenaga’ ‘Our Language’

Susan Paskvan

At Yukon-Koyukuk School District, students are learning to speak in full conversational sentences. Students are learning to answer yes/no and “or” questions about names, family, feelings, weather, and animals.

196 students across the district and 19 students in Tanana are learning Denaakk’e and Benhti Kokht’ana Kenaga’. With the support from the AN ELDER grant, the district is in the process of writing a teacher and student workbook. A draft workbook was sent to all the students. The language is going more in depth than previous years so students will be confident in asking and answering questions.

Students in the program are given a language assessment using the VoiceThread program. This program is able to record student’s voices and mark ups.

Language Assistant, Ophelia Moses, has been a tremendous support in the language program. She helps design language materials, the workbooks, and the assessment. In addition, volunteer Ted Jones of Koyukuk, donated over 80 hours in preparing language materials for our schools.



Teacher, Kristany Bellamy, leads a s'more making activity as part of Hughes Literacy Night. Kudos for Sara Dayton in leading the night. Almost everyone in Hughes attended the event.



Kaltag students, Avery P., Allen G., and Aiden S., mash donald-loy (high-bush cranberries) as part of the cultural week activities. Students picked the berries and made 1.5 cases of low-sugar jam.



Student Sophie S. of Allakaket, reviews her family members in the Denaakk'e student workbook.





Technology Corner

Luke Meinert

Alaska's First High School eSports Season is Starting Soon



Alaska is now the second state to join the Electronic Gaming Federation High School (EGFH), a national high school eSports league. The Yukon-Koyukuk School District is making this happen, and we've partnered with EGFH to roll this out to secondary students all over Alaska. Teams throughout the state will be competing in League of Legends, Overwatch, and Rocket League; many matches will be live streamed on at <https://www.twitch.tv/officiallegf>. Andrew K Demoski, Jimmy Huntington, and Raven Homeschool will all have teams competing in this inaugural season. We hope to add additional YKSD teams for the spring season that will kick off in February.



School Messenger

We're in the process of rolling out a new communication tool that will help our principals send timely notifications to parents. School Messenger can send school notifications via voice, text, email, social media, web, and push notifications - and do so quickly and easily from a simple interface.

EdTech Coaches

YKSD has four EdTech coaches that will help our educators design lessons and utilize technological tools in their classrooms. These coaches are full time teachers themselves and have taken on this role as an extra duty. We're very excited to be able to provide this service to our colleagues!

1. Coach & mentor teachers on best practices for leveraging technological tools to support transformational change throughout the instructional environment
2. Work with teachers to identify lesson or unit outcomes and assist with technological utilization if needed
3. Provide at least one training opportunity a month for YKSD educators
4. Assist in planning, developing, and deploying new technologies
5. Assist with troubleshooting issues affecting teaching and learning



Technology Corner continued

Luke Meinert

AK Grad

Our AK Grad program, formerly AIDE, has been making incredible improvements over the summer. The biggest change has been adding a new instructor, Christina Hum, to the program to oversee our math and science courses. Christina comes to us from the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District with close to twenty years of experience. Christina says, "I am a passionate technology teacher and believer in games and fun as part of our learning process, whether online or in a blended environment. But my true-life passion is helping students find their interests and their own passions so they can succeed. I believe in the potential of every learner, regardless of disabilities, age, race, or other socioeconomic factors. I believe that the learning environment is a team experience that can spur and encourage high-quality experiences for one another."

**Changes in AKGrad for 2018/2019

- Credit Recovery courses are now in Canvas: <http://yksd.instructure.com>
- Original Credit courses are now in Buzz: <https://akgradonline.agilixbuzz.com/>
- New Registration form for Raven: [online registration form](#)
- Changes to the Website: <http://akgrad.com>
- Changes to Credit Recovery Courses (Updating with more recent content, providing methods for turning in labs etc)
- Credit Recovery courses can also be taken through Buzz, alternative to AGS materials
- Original Alaska-based Courses are being built



YKSD Art Program

I have the distinct pleasure of overseeing our YKSD Art Program for the 2018-2019 school year. Rocky Near comes to YKSD with a desire to bring art instruction to students of all ages. This year there will be primary school art instruction on VTC four days a week, daily secondary art classes for credit, focusing this semester on drawing skills and preparation for advanced art. On Fridays there will be classes at the District Office for Raven students. Rocky is a professional wildlife artist, trained in the traditional Masters style, and uses similar instructional methods and skill-based lessons to help students become proficient artists, with the ability to use art as a tool for communication and pleasure.

Rocky will be working with elementary students from Nulato, Minto, Manley, Ruby, and Rampart during the first semester. He will also be holding weekly sessions for Raven Homeschool students on Fridays and a high school credit course open to students throughout the district. Elementary students in Huslia, Allakaket, Hughes, Kaltag, and Koyukuk will participate second semester.



Assessment Department News

Patty White

This fall has been a busy time for District Assessments. We began the year with all students, grades 2-11, taking the Northwest Education Association Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP) assessments, in September. We have completed these assessments 3 times per year for grades 3 – 12 for the past seven years. We use AimsWeb Benchmark testing for the Primary (grades K-1). First grade students will begin taking the MAP this year in the Winter Benchmark. All MAP testing is completed on the computer and scored immediately, which provides teachers with needed information right away. 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 2019. PEAKS results from Spring 2018 were mailed to parents in early September. If you have questions on your child's scores, please talk to your teacher or principal or call the district office.



Upcoming assessments include: MAP and AimsWeb mid-year testing January 7-25; ACCESS test for student with Limited English Proficiency in February and March; the annual State of Alaska test, PEAKS – March 25- April 26 ; and MAP end of year testing April 22–May 8.

Please feel free to contact Andrea Durny at adurny@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 Boarding & Leadership News

By Andrea Durny

YKSD Home Away Program:

YKSD accepted applications for students in grades 8-12 for families who met eligibility requirements. This reimbursement program is intended to assist families with the cost of housing a student who may need additional tangible supports in reaching their academic goals and doesn't want to leave the cultural/family setting. Applications are reviewed by a commit-

tee for approval. The application process for FY19 YKSD Home Away Program is now closed.

For more information please contact Andrea Durny, adurny@yksd.com, 907-374-9424



AASB Youth Leadership Institute Nov. 7-11, 2018

For the past several years YKSD has sponsored 3 students from the AWSC to attend the Alaska Association of School Board Conference in Anchorage the first weekend in November at the Hilton. This year's keynote speakers, for the 65th Annual Conference, are Nick Hanson, the "Eskimo Ninja", from Unalakleet, and Transforma-

tional Leadership facilitator Bentham Ohia from New Zealand.

For more information please contact Andrea Durny, adurny@yksd.com, 907-374-9424



Area Wide Student Council (AWSC)

Andrea Durny

We are entering our 10th year with the district wide student council which is comprised of two student representatives from each site. Site representatives are either nominated or elected at their location. This is a great leadership opportunity for our students; the officers meet once a month over VTC to give their site reports. The first AWSC meeting took place October 2nd where they reorganize their board and determine their new President. The president serves as the Student School Board Representative and presents the AWSC report at the YKSD Board Meetings.

FY19 AWSC Members

Allakaket- Rhea Lilus

Hughes- Lewis Williams

Husila- Talia Henry

Kaltag- Clayton Neglaska

Koyukuk- Dazlyn Dayton, Morgan Malamute

Manley- Chris Gomez, David Gomez

Minto- Isaiah Alexander

Nulato- Charles Pitka

Ruby- Misty Frank, Charles Ambrose

Rampart- Liyana Newman-Woods

Positions:

President: Charles Pitka, Nulato

Vice President: Liyana Newman-Woods, Rampart

Secretary: Rhea Linus, Allakaket

Treasurer: Talia Henry, Huslia



If you have any items that you need to be recognized, please contact your site representative.

Phlight Club

Andrea Durny

Phlight Club was held at Camp Bingle located at Harding Lake on August 8-10. This opportunity was open to any students from YKSD and the Fairbanks area. Travel was paid for by the Resolve Grant and Derek Peterson was the main presenter. While at camp the students focused on making connections with adult anchors to build their webs of support and resiliency. They also enjoyed outdoor games, swimming, student leadership and many other fun activities. This was such a beautiful weekend to spend at camp; the staff was great, we had access to the lake boats, bunk cabins, running water, fire pit and the food was marvelous. It is great to see the student's leadership continue to grow while learning to build webs of support for themselves and connecting with adults in their villages.



9th Annual Fun Run

A total of 231 runners district wide participate in this year's Fun Run. Each student who registered received a free t-shirt. Thank you to the teachers and parents for working with the students to fill in their Healthy Lifestyles Activity Logs as we work together with our communities to promote health and wellness within our schools. Trophies will be mailed to the top three runners in each category. Thank you to all of our staff at each site for your participation and coordination efforts in making this

event happen for our students. A complete list of runners' times is available in each school office.



Manley



Huslia



Koyukuk



Minto



Rampart

Top Run-

Grades K-1, 1/2 mile

1. Tayla Baker, Minto. 4:28
2. Owen, Hughes. 4:36
3. Yvonne, Hughes. 4:40

Grades 3-7, 1 mile

1. Candence Madros, Kaltag. 7:40
2. Calvin McGinty, Kaltag. 7:43
3. Alec Malemute, Koyukuk. 7:58

Grades 8-12, 3.1 miles

1. Sheldon Albert, Ruby. 18:42
2. Charles Pitka, Nulato. 19:35
3. Vernon Albert, Ruby. 21:38



Nulato

Andrea Durny

2018 YKSD Basketball Shoot Out

Andrea Durny

The 2018 YKSD Basketball Shoot Out (formerly known as the Jamboree) will be taking place in Huslia, Alaska, November 30 to December 1, 2018. In addition to team play, Team Hollywood will be holding a skills and drill clinic as well as a 3 on 3 draft tournament. This is the 4th year YKSD has held this event and everyone is sure to have a good time. Our goal is to promote basketball in schools that have not had a basketball program in a few years. Also, to encourage YKSD players to co-op with other YKSD teams. So far we have been in Nulato, Allakaket, Ruby and Kaltag.

- ♦ Open to students in grades 8-12.
- ♦ Must have above a 2.0 GPA, good behavior and attendance in school for the semester.
- ♦ Must be on a team or looking to co-op on a team from another YKSD village.
- ♦ Must have at least 5 practices in the form of open gym with conditioned running.



Peter Adams & Clay Johnson Visit YKSD

Andrea Durny

On October 6th Peter Adams with Team Hollywood and former NBA Champion Clay Johnson who played with Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul Jabbar, came by the office to speak with the students across YKSD. He shared some Inspirational words with the students.



Have you ever held an NBA ring? The ring was heavy. Clay encouraged the students to find something they love and follow it. Basketball is an avenue to discipline oneself. It requires lots of practice and encouragement from coaches. The students asked many questions and really enjoyed themselves.



A-CHILL Grant

Kathy Turco

A-CHILL was fast out of the chute with great enthusiasm from YKSD students, teachers, and community members. In partnership with Alaska Gateway School District (AGSD), participating YKSD schools are embracing A-CHILL and matching the dream of the late George Attla, to encourage students to thrive and school staff to work in close collaboration with their communities. George Attla was the founder of Huslia's Frank Attla Youth & Sled Dog Care-Mushing Program.



In this 2018-2019 school year, A-CHILL offers 6-12th grade students in YKSD and AGSD a total of 8 classes. Last summer, teachers from both districts teamed up to write the middle and high school curriculum for the **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing** class, and the **Local History Documentary** class with help from Media Instructor, Ira Hardy. YKSD teacher, Peggy Bruno wrote the curriculum for the middle school **Animal Science** class and three class levels of high school **Veterinary Science** that earn students UAF credits.



The **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing** and **Local History Documentary** classes allow time for Local Culture Experts (LCE) to teach. LCEs design community-endorsed lesson plans and they work closely with A-CHILL teachers. For the **Local History Documentary** class, students invite LCEs to be interviewed and to consult on their media programs. A-CHILL will continue to support Amanda Attla to teach **Native Youth Olympics**.

A-CHILL welcomes Mari Hoe-Raitto as a traveling itinerant teacher offering on-site and distance education to YKSD schoolteachers and dog musher teachers, and also facilitating community involvement in A-CHILL classes. Mari offers A-CHILL extensive professional experience as a Pre-K-12th grade certified physical education and language (*German*) teacher with master's degree in cross-subject class integration. She is a canicross and skijor instructor, skijor book co-author, dog musher, open class sprint racer, and dog-boarding kennel owner. Based in YKSD, Mari will also travel to AGSD schools to teach.



A-CHILL Highlights

Kathy Turco

ALLAKAKET: The **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing** middle school students are enjoying In-Kennel classes taught twice a week by dog musher teachers with hands-on learning with sled dogs & puppies. In-Kennel classes are in sync with the CANVAS platform curriculum.

RUBY: With community help, **Ruby** middle and high school students aim to expand what they learned last semester in their pilot media class. A-CHILL's Media Instructor has traveled to teach more skills to students enrolled in the **Local History Documentary** class. Other students start In-Kennel classes; part of the **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing** class.

NULATO: The A-Chill teacher has jumped into teaching a middle school **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing** class. Students visit a kennel weekly and are taking the lead on dog care. Students built doghouses and, in the classroom, are learning about the rich sled dog history of the region. Community involvement has included volunteers.

A-CHILL Highlights continued

Kathy Turco

HUGHES: The A-CHILL teacher took the plunge to teach **Animal Science**, dedicating one class a week to hands-on A-CHILL and Culture-related learning. The Dog musher teacher and LCEs help students learn about their village's extensive sled dog history and culture.

HUSLIA: Huslia's experienced youth and sled dog program teachers, dog musher teachers, and community members continue to break trail for A-CHILL. Middle and high school students are engaged in **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing**, **Local History Documentary**, and **Veterinary Science** classes. In-School and In-Kennel classes are in full swing.

MANLEY: Dedicated to observing and incorporating student interests into curriculum, the Manley School staff sees enthusiasm in middle school students enrolled in the **Local History Documentary** class. The A-CHILL's Media Instructor has traveled to Manley to teach students and the students are eager to produce at least one program this semester to share with their community.

MINTO: Middle and high school students are enrolled in **Local History Documentary** and **Alaska Culture-Dog Mushing** classes. A dynamic A-CHILL teacher team promises unmatched student hands-on learning using sled dogs with the help of LCEs.



Alaska Federation of Nations—Anchorage October 18th



Noolaagh Doh dancers . They've been learning the traditional songs for a couple of years. Kudos to all for the strong singing and dancing. Photo by Andrea Nield

Rampart dancers; This year will be the first time in over 100 years Rampart participated in dancing! Congratulations, you did a great job! Photo by Kerry Boyd



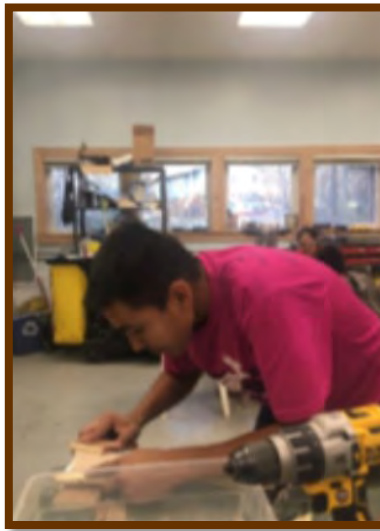
Merrelaine A. Kangas School

Paul Gilbert

The Wood Shop is open in Ruby. The students are combining wood shop and A-Chill projects that will show the evolution of the influence of technology on subsistence hunting. The students, under the guidance of Master Gun Smith Chris Ahrens from Boston, NY, are building flintlock and percussion cap .50 caliber muzzle loading rifles. The next project will be long bows, followed by cargo sleds, toboggans and snow shoes. They will then recreate a subsistence hunting documentary as part of their A-Chill class.

M.A.K. School is also conducting around the world dinners. August was Indian Tacos, September was China (egg rolls, Orange Chicken, Fried Rice and Egg Drop Soup.) October is going to be Germany (Bratwurst, Spaetzle, Sauerkraut and Strudel.) Dinners are \$10 per plate.

We will be partnering with Huslia for basketball. A special thank you to Casey Weter for her assistance.



Rampart School

Written by Students: Vanessa, Chase, Liyana and Natalie

Warrior Times ~ Making Local Jellies and Syrup



Collecting & Identifying

Before setting off to collect local berries and fruit, we had to decide what we were picking and how to identify those berries. Once decided, we also had to determine where to find them.

To do this, our class read online research articles from the *University of Fairbanks, Alaska* on the different berries and different recipes to pick out what we wanted to create with our pickings.

Once we choose what berries to pick, we went out to look for the different berries for our project. We decided to collect rosehips, highbush cranberry, and chokecherries. The class picked two quarts of each type of berry quickly before class was out and put them in the fridge overnight.

With the help of the visiting art teacher, Rocky, we collected leaves and made a rub of the plant leaf using crayons. We used the rubs to better understand the venation of the plants and use that for identification.

Processing

After we collected the berries around town we brought the different berries back to the school to be processed.

For the chokecherries, we picked the stems off of the fruit using forks because the stem is toxic. After the stems were off, the chokecherries were cleaned by gently rubbing the fruit against a paper towel. Then we simmered them in water for ten minutes. After the berries were heated, we used a cheesecloth to extract the juice from the heated berries. The next day we boiled the chokecherry juice with orange juice, lemon juice, and sugar for a few minutes. After it was boiling, we added liquid pectin to be boiled for a few more minutes. Finally, we had chokecherry jelly.

For the highbush cranberry jelly, we filled 3 quart Ziploc bags of highbush cranberries. The next day, we cleaned the berries by gently rubbing the fruit against a paper towel, then left the cleaned berries to sit overnight. After the berries sat overnight, we boiled them and used a cheese cloth to extract the juice. The next day we boiled the juice with sugar for a while then added liquid pectin. *Voilà*, we had highbush cranberry jelly.

Last but not least, there are rosehips. For these, we filled about four-quart size bags full of rosehips. Then, we boiled them with about one cup of water stirring them constantly. Once done, we let it sit to cool and put them in a cheesecloth to strain all the seeds and stems. After we strained the rosehips, we put the liquid in a jar, and then let it sit overnight. After the berries sat overnight, we boiled them with sugar and liquid pectin. We didn't quite get the consistency we wanted so the outcome was a rosehip syrup, which was just as good.

Tasting

After the berries were processed and cooked, we tasted our delicious formulations. One of the favorites was highbush cranberry jelly. It was a hot, bright red color and the aroma was sour and ripe. It tasted amazing! The jelly was sweet and sour like Chinese food. The second creation was chokecherry jelly. The color of this jelly was a deep maroon and blue, and the taste was zingy and sweet with a hint of sour. Last was the rosehip syrup. We all enjoyed the deliciousness. It was sweet and rich.

Then, we shared samples with the Rampart Village Council. They loved the jellies and syrups just as much as we did. We presented our jellies and syrups, and explained how they were made. After we processed our jellies and shared them with the Rampart Village Council, we made a proposal with our cook, Forest Johnson. We asked him to make pumpkin pancakes with our home-made jellies. The entire school sampled and chose favorites between all three; everyone's favorite was the rosehip syrup.

We truly had fun doing this project! We would love for you to try our recipes and tell us how your jelly making project turns out. Recipes on page 26.



Ella B. Verneti School

Mike Day



Students have been working diligently in all their classes this first quarter and have learned a great deal as demonstrated on their MAP testing. Students showed great improvement in Reading and Math on the Fall MAP assessment given in September! We had some special guests come to our school in September; they were from Russia and were walking across the country. They started in Moscow, walked to the Bering Sea, made a 16-foot raft, sailed across to Unalakleet, then up the Yukon.

Cultural Week:

We're just finished our cultural week and had a great time. The students picked high bush cranberries for jam making, we went on a walk to the top of Koyukuk Mountain and picked Lavender Tea. The students are having a great time making various art projects and we have started our wood carving projects. We were so excited with the grant that the district received last year, the students are learning about 3-D printing, flying a drone, and all about rockets.

Fun Run:

We just held our Fun Run with the help of our community members. Alec Malemute, one of our 5th grade students, finish in 3rd place in the grades 3-7th category. All of the students had a great time

The Student's Inspiration:

Each day the students return to school with enthusiasm and motivation to continue on their path to success. It is going to be a fantastic year.



Johnny Oldman School

Patty White



We have started strong at Johnny Oldman School! We welcomed a new teacher, Mrs. Kristina Bellamy, and her family, Andrew, Ethan, and Owen. We started a Pre-K classroom with Kylee Beetus as the Associate Teacher. Students completed the Aimsweb and MAP benchmark assessments in September. The students made great growth from last fall!



Camping, books, and community... created a wonderful evening full of memories. Many attended the festivities at Johnny Oldman's literacy night on September 26. The event included a light dinner, a new book for each child, and four literacy stations. The stations included: a rhyming fishing game, puppet creations, a word sort, and everyone's favorite- s'mores! Students used their senses to describe the s'mores as they made their delicious treat. Children to adults participated and many enjoyed reading to one another. We closed the night with a gift card giveaway and our school's Conscious Discipline chant. With antlers and books in hand, we said goodnight and look forward to our next one. Thank you to Sara Henderson for organizing and assisting with the event!





Andrew K. Demoski School

Shaine Nixon

We are off to a wonderful beginning! The school year began with a completely new staff. I would like to personally thank the community, for making all of us feel welcome.

There are so many great things happening at our school that we can't possibly list them all. Our high school students have been participating in the Excel Program with many of our juniors and seniors traveling to technology and trade camps in Anchorage. The district has incorporated an art program for students in grades K-5. While other students are participating in programs such as astronomy and the ACHILL program. In the near future, I hope to have the shop up and running as well as an archery program.

One of the highlights so far was the opportunity to process moose meat donated by Justin Deacon. Many people assisted and participated with helping the students process and bag the meat. A heart felt "thank you" to all who made that day possible and a day of learning.

Each day I learn something new, and that is my goal for our students. To work hard, play hard, be respectful, and be successful, both culturally and academically.



Gladys Dart School

Joe Krause



We enjoyed our hike up Rampart Hill.



Manley Elementary students found the fungi!



Exploration through Manley.



The Fun Run was a success!





Minto School

Vicky Charlie

ICE CREAM SOCIAL - We started the school year off with an Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, August 21st which was very well attended by parents, staff and students. We went over our school goals, stressing the importance of attendance and that we are striving to reach a goal of 95% attendance for students and staff. To reach that goal students cannot miss more than 9 days the entire school year.



SCHOOL-WIDE READING INCENTIVE PROGRAM - In September we began a school-wide reading incentive program. Students must read at home for a minimum of 20 minutes each night. They track their progress on a reading log that is signed off by their parents and turned in each Monday. After turning in their reading log, they earn Book Bucks which can be redeemed at the Student Store for a variety of prizes, including pencils, erasers, food items and gift cards. The students are doing a great job and we are hopeful that this will help with our school reading goal!



CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING - Adrianna "Avu" Charlie, who is in 10th grade, is a committed cross-country runner. Avu traveled to Australia this past summer to compete in Down Under Sports with other American students. She came in 3rd place at Regionals, which qualified her to compete in the state meet in Anchorage at the end of September where she placed 65th. We are very proud of Avu's commitment! Her parents brought a cake to school to celebrate with the students and staff.

CARPENTRY CAMP - We had two students successfully complete Excel Alaska's Carpentry Camp in Palmer. Javon Phillips and Kaiyuh Jimmie become NCCER Core certified in this 12-day camp. They learned industry-specific knowledge and techniques. They also gained experience in reading blueprints, how to measure accurately, and use tools safely. Students also learned how to put in a floor, walls, ceiling and roof, framing and window installation. Students have the opportunity to earn the NCCER Core certification and earn .5 high school credit.



TOLOVANA RIVER CAMPING TRIP - Our middle school students, two high school students and a few teachers traveled to the mouth of the Tolovana River in early October to learn the skills of setting a fish net. The goal was to catch some fish for the dogs that are being used for the ACHILL Dog Mushing Program. We are sad to report that they didn't catch many fish but gained useful skills on setting up a camp and cooking among other things.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL - Our middle school teams began their season on September 24th. We have 11 boys playing and they are being coached by Joseph Alexander. Our girls team consists of 3 players from Minto and 2 players from Maudrey J. Sommer School in Tanana. We are hopeful that a couple more girls will join us from Rampart School later in the season. Kaylena Charlie and Kia Wiehl are coaching the girls. The teams traveled to Healy for their first season games. The boys took 1st place at the tournament with an exciting championship game against Northway. Three of our students were named to the All-Tournament Team: Isaiah Alexander, Robbie David and Jewel Alexander. Our teams will be traveling to Tok and completing their season with a home tournament in November.





Kaltag School

Charles Burns

Kaltag School hosted a meeting with representatives from First Alaskans Institute, Association for Alaska School Boards, and YKSD District Office on August 30th. Konrad Frank (AASB), Ayyu Qassataq (First Alaskans), and Fargo Kesey (YKSD) led the community conversation over “Ensuring Our Cultural Knowledge Thrives to Support the Success of our Youth: a conversation about co-creating culturally responsible schools.” Dinner was provided and there were productive conversations well into the evening.

On Thursday, September 13th Kaltag held its first Literacy Night. Turnout was not large due to many families being busy with subsistence activities.

Susan Paskvan took students berry picking on September 19th and the 20th they made jam to share with community members and staff.

On September 24-28 Tristan Madros worked with our students during Culture Week. The students learned many things ranging from cutting up a fish head to tanning a beaver pelt. A community potlatch was held on Friday during lunch where the students demonstrated their Native dancing skills.

We held our first Paint Night of the year on September 25th! The participants had a very enjoyable evening exploring their creative side.

During the afternoons of October 2-5, Kaltag students grade 6-11th worked with Rhonda Mooney. Rhonda is a cosmetologist sent by YKSD. The students worked with her from 2:00-3:30 in the afternoons. Five students were so interested in the program they stayed voluntarily until after 5:00 each day! Rhonda provided free hair services to community members each day from 9:00-12:00 pm. One student's mother volunteered to let her son and two other students perm her hair. Rhonda's visit was well received by the community.

Our new teacher, David Filby, arrived on Tuesday, October 3rd! He was introduced at a community potlatch held in the Community Hall Thursday night. The school brought spaghetti, peas, and garlic bread.



Allakaket School Renovation

Kathy Christy



In July the YKSD was awarded a \$9.38 million grant to renew the Allakaket School. The construction budget for the project is \$7.5 million. It is the District's goal to have the majority of the work complete summer 2019. To meet this goal the Board and District will be requesting Department of Education approval to request proposals from contractors based on 60% complete design plans. The District wants to advertise the project by the end of November and select a contractor in early January. The successful proposer could start work as soon as school is out in May.

Community members with resources or skills that could be used for the project may forward that information to Gale Bourne at gbourne@yksd.com. Ruby Marine is planning an early barge to Allakaket right after breakup. Community members interested in shipping personal items on this barge should contact Ruby Marine.

Designs for the renovation were reviewed with the staff and community. Based on the input received modifications were made to further improve the use of available space. The grant is for major maintenance work and normally no changes to the footprint of the building are allowed. An exception was made for Allakaket as the current floor plan does not allow for improved circulation. The District at its own expense can add a new enclosed front entry to eliminate the traffic through the gym.

The project creates a new commercial kitchen; a commons area for dining, group learning and community gatherings; a resource room; new flexible classroom; a principal's office; and reclaims oversize restroom space to provide small group rooms and support space. All finishes in both classroom buildings will be renewed. All building systems in main building will be replaced and additional insulation and new siding added. The gym will be renewed with new flooring and additional bleachers.

Refinements will continue until the RFP is advertised. A follow-up community meeting will be held after Thanksgiving.

The project includes at \$37,000 budget for artwork. The selection of artwork is a community decision. Anyone interested in serving on the Art Selection Committee should contact Larry Parker.

Allakaket MAP Testing Party

Allakaket students were excited about finishing Fall Benchmark MAP testing. Mr. Parker offered McDonald's as a reward for students who completed all tests.



Allakaket students enjoying McDonald's reward after MAP testing.



Allakaket advertising McDonald's reward.



Raven Homeschool

Maegan Mascagno

Things are starting to pick up and getting busier and busier in each of our Raven offices! Several new staff members joined the Raven Homeschool team over the summer. Some are familiar faces coming to us from other YKSD schools and some are brand new to our district. Every office has been active scheduling enrollment meetings, hosting informative workshops for families, organizing fun events for students and planning exciting field trips. Our number of enrolled students is steadily growing and we look forward to what 2018-2019 will bring!



Raven Homeschool—Anchorage



The Anchorage office has settled into their office space and they love it! There's plenty of room for workshops and activities for everyone to enjoy. Together with the Eagle River office, Anchorage celebrated the start of the school year with a joint Back-to-School party at the Roadrunner Amusement Park. The entire park was rented exclusively for Raven Homeschool families. Everyone enjoyed playing putt-putt golf, bumper boats and even go-karts. They also hosted a "Dive into Homeschooling" workshop for families that are new to our program. Science teacher Deb Fancher is back and she's already taught exciting workshops on Alaska Marine Science, Carbon Dioxide and scuba diving. Advisory Teacher Terri Thurston has been teaching STEM based workshops on great topics such as video game coding; while counselor Randi Shridder has been working with high school students and hosting informative workshops. There have also been enjoyable field trips to places such as the Campbell Creek Science Center, Alaska Botanical Gardens and Alaska Wild Berry Products.



Raven Homeschool—Delta Junction

The Delta office celebrated the start of a new school year with a party! They hosted an ice cream social with fun door prizes, delicious treats and a demonstration from the Civil Air Patrol. Their two Lego robotics teams, Kevin Robotics & Innovation Creation Kids Station (I.C.K.S.) are up and running. The Delta office is thankful for the parent volunteers who are helping to run those teams! Ryan Tilbury, academic counselor, has visited the office a few times to hold meetings with the class of 2019 seniors. They have already started making plans for their graduation ceremony at the end of the school year. Some students participated in a field trip to Rika's Roadhouse where they fed chickens and learned how Rika used her garden, barn and small kitchen to provide food to travelers from 1913 to 1947. Students also enjoyed an interesting tour of the Delta Fire Station and the Delta office week-long book fair.



Raven Homeschool—Eagle River



Steve Duby comes to Raven from our YKSD Schools in Minto and Nulato. He joined the Eagle River office as an Advisory Teacher in July and has been learning everything he can about Raven Homeschool! The Eagle River staff and families participated in the Bear Paw Grand Parade on a float that matched the “Amelia Bearhart” theme perfectly. They celebrated the start of the school year with not only one, but two different parties! The first one was an ice cream social on a sunny July day in a local park and the second was with the Anchorage office at Roadrunner Amusement Park. Science teacher Deb Fancher has been teaching fun science workshops about Carbon Dioxide & Alaska Marine Science. Jolie, their family liaison, has been working hard to schedule field trips for the office; to date they have been to the Wildlife Conservation Center, Alaska Botanical Gardens, Campbell Creek Science Center and they toured Fire Station #11. Randi Shrider has hosted workshops in the Eagle River office which included a Parent Orientation Workshop, a Reading Reasons Workshop, and an Employability Scavenger Hunt.



Raven Homeschool—Fairbanks



The Fairbanks office welcomed two new Advisory Teachers to their staff. Chuck Backe from the YKSD Nulato school and Natasha Anderson moved to Alaska from Georgia; both teachers are settling in well and enjoying their new positions. Everyone in the office, along with about 50 families, celebrated the start of the new school year with a Back to Homeschool Picnic. Everyone was able to enjoy nice weather. The picnic included a bouncy house, fried fish tacos and lots of games. They also hosted an ice cream social for new families to stop by and learn more about the program. Rockwell Near has joined YKSD as an Art Instructor and has taught lessons to some of the Raven Homeschool students, which they really enjoyed. One of the highlights of the new year has been a field trip to the Poker Flat Research Range. About 25 students and parents attended guided tour of the rocket launching facilities.



Raven Homeschool—Juneau

The Juneau office is always a blur of activities, workshops, meetings, field trips, and the start of this school year was no different! They celebrated the start of this school year with an Enchanted Forest Open House full of fun games, activities, crafts and snacks. Several families participated and loved how the office was transformed into a magical enchanted forest. Their JrFLL teams have already kicked off their seasons and are actively working on the Moon Mission challenge. Some middle and high school students worked together to create a time capsule that they buried behind the Raven office and they will dig it up at the end of the school year. Their chess club has been meeting monthly and the students are enjoying learning the game. Ryan Tilbury, academic counselor, was in Juneau for a site visit and met with students face-to-face. He also hosted a senior meeting and an Introduction to High School Workshop. Theresa and Joan have been working hard on their Building Blocks of Reading Workshops to help parents with practical strategies for teaching their children how to read. They wrapped September up with a Fall Picnic at Sandy Beach. Several families participated and enjoyed a barbeque, yard games and even the weather cooperated for them!



Raven Homeschool—Wasilla



The Wasilla office had two new Advisory Teachers join their office, Cynthia Kemp and Ruth Ross. Their office is now bursting at the seams with teachers! The office hosted their first Culinary Cook-Off of the year and cookies were on the menu. They had three military members who happily volunteered to judge and taste everyone's delicious treats. The winning cookie was a tasty chocolate chip-orange infused cookie. Ron Bergey has been teaching a variety of science lessons in the Wasilla office. Students were able to learn all about dry ice and bees and honey. Randi Shrider has also been hosting workshops in their office. So far she's hosted a Freshman Orientation and a Welcome to High School workshop. The office also worked together to host a Homeschooling 101 workshop for families to learn more about the program and helpful tips to make this school year a success. Some students went to a Paintastic Party at Paintastic Paints and made some really cool looking Ravens! The local Civil Air Patrol chapter came in and shared about opportunities high school students and families have within their organization. Did you know that with a membership, you can receive free STEM kits? Their Family Liaison, Daphne, has coordinated some great field trips for the students. So far they've been to a historical Valley farm, dug potatoes and fed cows at a second farm, and picked organic vegetables at a third farm in Palmer; they have also been to a local fire station, and seen the inside workings of a hair salon with the bonus of getting a free children's haircut!



Phlight Club at the District Office



Recipes

Submitted by: Vanessa, Chase, Liyana and Natalie ~ Rampart School

Rosehip Jelly

4 cups rosehip juice
6 cups sugar
3 oz liquid pectin

Sterilize pint canning jars and prepare lids. Combine rosehip juice and sugar into a saucepan. Stirring constantly, bring to a full rolling boil that cannot be stirred down. Add the liquid pectin and heat again to a full rolling boil. Boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Skim off foam, immediately pour hot jelly into hot canning jars, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ inch headspace. Wipe jar rims and cover with prepared two-piece lids. Process the filled jars for 5 minutes in a boiling water bath.

Chokecherry Syrup

2 cups chokecherry juice
1 cup apple juice (or orange juice)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup bottled lemon juice
 $6\frac{1}{2}$ cups of sugar
3 oz liquid pectin

Sterilize pint canning jars and prepare lids. Combine chokecherry juice, apple/orange juice, lemon juice, and sugar into a saucepan. Stirring constantly, bring to a full rolling boil that cannot be stirred down. Add the liquid pectin and heat again to a full rolling boil. Boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Skim off foam, immediately pour hot jelly into hot canning jars, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ inch headspace. Wipe jar rims and cover with prepared two-piece lids. Process the filled jars for 5 minutes in a boiling water bath.

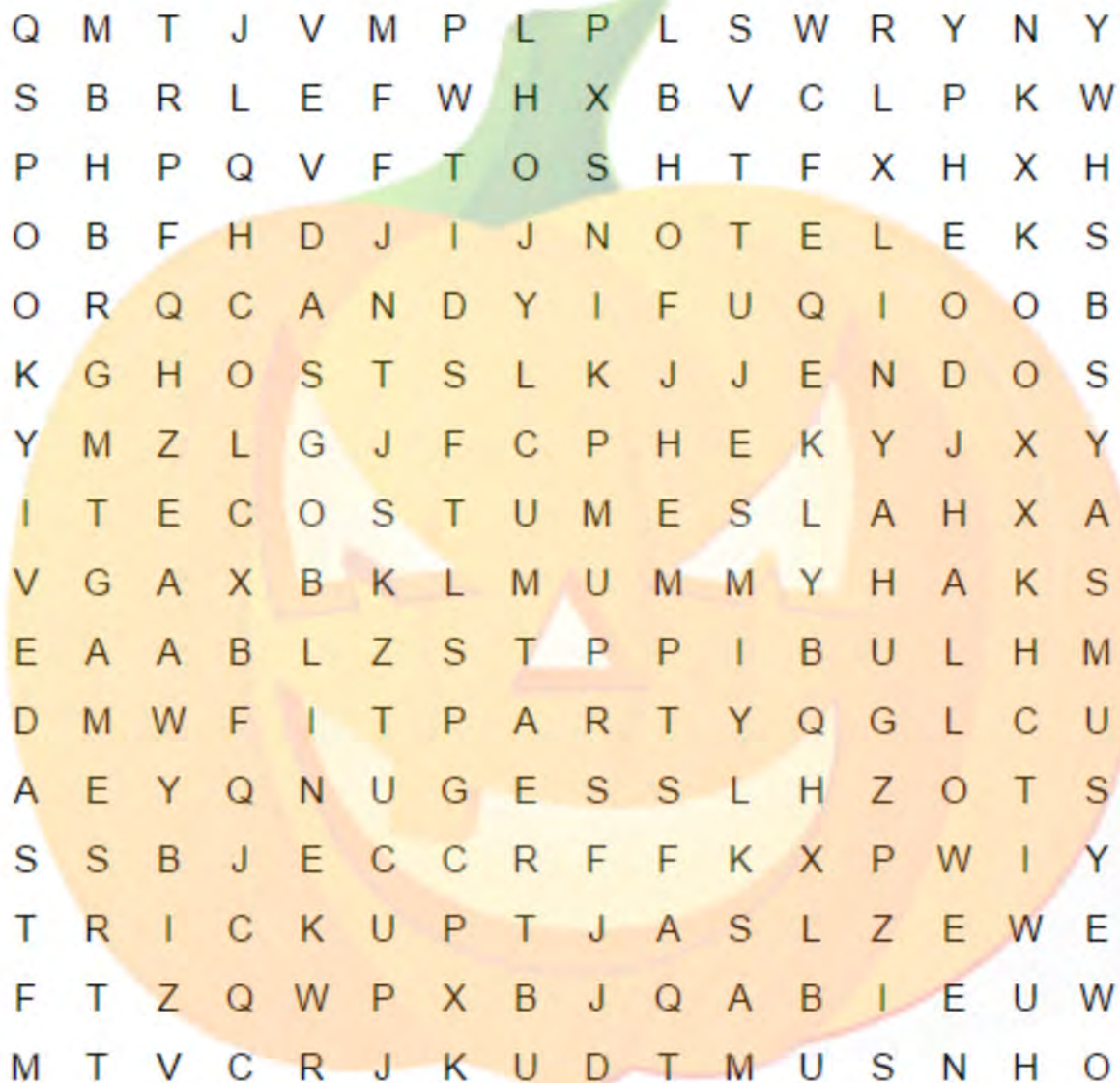
Highbush Cranberry Jelly

5 cups highbush cranberry juice
7 cups sugar
3 oz liquid pectin

Sterilize pint canning jars and prepare lids. Combine highbush juice and sugar into a saucepan. Stirring constantly, bring to a full rolling boil that cannot be stirred down. Add the liquid pectin and heat again to a full rolling boil. Boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Skim off foam, immediately pour hot jelly into hot canning jars, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ inch headspace. Wipe jar rims and cover with prepared two-piece lids. Process the filled jars for 5 minutes in a boiling water bath.



Halloween Word Search



BOO
GAMES
HALLOWEEN
PARTY
SPOOKY
WITCH

CANDY
GHOSTS
MASK
PUMPKINS
TRICK

COSTUMES
GOBLIN
MUMMY
SKELETON
TREAT

www.thetypicalmom.com

2018-2019 YKSD School Calendar

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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September						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

2018

AUGUST
 6-8 Principals at District Office
 9-10 Principals on-site
 9-10 New Teachers at District Office
 13-14 Teacher Workday at site
 15-17 In-service at site
 20 First Day of School

SEPTEMBER
 3 Labor Day Holiday
 8 Principal Workday
 14 Mid-term Progress Reports
 21 In-service at site

OCTOBER
 19 End of 1st Quarter/Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards
 20 Principal Workday
 29 Parent Teacher Conferences/Early Dismissal for Students

NOVEMBER
 9 Mid-term Progress Reports
 21 Early Dismissal for Students & Staff
 22-23 Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER
 2 Principal Workday
 15 End of Semester/Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards
 18-29 Holiday Break-No School

2019

JANUARY
 1 Holiday Break - No School
 2 Teacher Workday - No School
 3 Students back to school
 14 Martin Luther King Jr. Day-No School
 19 Principal Workday

FEBRUARY
 1 In-service at site
 8 Mid-term Progress Reports
 23 Principal Workday

MARCH
 8 End of Quarter/Early Dismissal for Students/Report Cards
 11-15 Spring Break (varies by school)
 25 Parent Teacher Conferences/Early Dismissal for Students

APRIL
 6 Principal Workday
 19 Mid-term Progress Reports

MAY
 22 Last Day of School for Students/Report Cards
 23 Teacher Workday
 27 Memorial Holiday
 28-31 Principal Workdays (through June 2)

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

January						
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June						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



REVISED 7/31/2018