



Yukon Koyukuk School District  
Administrative & Support Offices  
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To the Students, Parents and Guardians of the Yukon Koyukuk School District:

Welcome back! The beginning of a new school year starts August 18th. We have made great progress in reaching our goals this past year and have much to celebrate. I am extremely optimistic about exciting news and opportunities for our students.

This summer Commissioner Hanley from the Department of Education and Early Development, officially exited Yukon Koyukuk School District from intervention status! The Department of Education is very pleased with the progress the students are making and acknowledges the professionalism of our administration and teaching staff. The dedicated efforts of the YKSD staff, support from our regional school board and communities, support from the Alaska Department of Education, and the resiliency of our students have helped us reach this goal.

Although we are officially released from intervention status, we still have a lot of hard work ahead of us to continue to make gains with student achievement. The district will continue its efforts with professional development and will support the needs of our students and staff. In addition, the Alaska State System of Support will continue to provide support and has selected the sites below to receive services for the 2011-2012 school year. Sites were chosen primarily based on 2011 SBA scores and geographical restrictions. Math: Kaltag, Nulato, Huslia, Hughes / Literacy: Kaltag, Nulato, Allakaket, Huslia

For enrichment, the Department of Education will support the implementation of both visual and theatre arts in Allakaket, Nulato and Kaltag. The technical coaches will make three one-week visits to these schools to support teachers who attended the Arts Institute this past summer.

In alignment with the district initiatives, Raven Correspondence School has been awarded a highly competitive School Improvement Grant (SIG). Raven is one of four schools in the state of Alaska and first correspondence school in the country to be granted such an award. The primary goals of the grant are to improve the overall graduation rate of Raven students and to improve the academic achievement of Language Arts and Math. This grant provides a great opportunity to make positive changes to the program so that RCS can be known as one of the best correspondence programs in the country.

Another major accomplishment for the district is the receipt of the Alaska Native Education Grant, *Bridge Project*. This project will serve Alaska Native students in grades 7-12 by expanding the capacity of our CTE programs to better engage our students by offering two Health Sciences academies annually and increasing our current course offerings.

In active partnership with our communities, our teachers and support staff continue to strive toward excellence for all students. We are focused on quality education and making our students career and college ready. This year the district will be supporting initiatives to include a consistent homework policy, a solid literacy program for pre-kindergarten through third grade, and working with our past graduates on post secondary success.

We are looking forward to another successful year and our joint efforts to increase parent involvement. We hope to see you visiting our schools, supporting our teachers and working with our students to reach their goals and participate in all our district has to offer. Thank you for your support of your children's education.

Kerry Boyd, Superintendent

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