

# PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

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## Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members,

We're pleased to start sharing monthly newsletters from not only myself, but for each of your student's classroom teachers!

Newsletters can be printed upon request, but will primarily be shared via electronic means (i.e., Facebook, website, etc.).

If there's anything specifically that you would like to see, don't hesitate to reach out to us. Have a great day!



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## *Newsletter Poll*

Which school resource would you like to receive the most?

Class Schedules & Course Offerings


Current Extracurricular Programs

Ways to Volunteer / Support the School

How to Support My Child - Reading

Loading...

How to Support My Child - Math

 Voting ends in 16 days

 Votes are anonymous but results are public



## Nikolaevsk School

Principal - Gregory Melvin

Email: [gmelvin@kpbsd.k12.ak.us](mailto:gmelvin@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)

Website: <https://kpbsd.org/schools/nikolaevsk/>

Location: [65524 Nikolaevsk Rd, Anchor Point, AK, USA](#)

Phone: [907-235-8972](tel:907-235-8972)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NikolaevskSchool/>

*Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself*  
- John Dewey



## Nikolaevsk School Events & Lunch Menu



Sun Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time (Fall Back 1 hour)

Tues Nov 7<sup>th</sup> Site Council Meeting 3pm

Thu Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 1:10pm Early Release

Thu Nov 9<sup>th</sup> VB Niko @ CIA Round Robin Tournament

Fri Nov 17<sup>th</sup> VB Denali Conference @ Fort Yukon

Thu Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> No School



Fri Nov 24<sup>th</sup> No School

Wed Nov 29<sup>th</sup> High School & Elem Basketball Starts

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# NOVEMBER

## Small Schools

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

 <p><b>2023/2024</b> Reduced Pay Full Pay Full Pay</p>	<p><b>School Year Meal Prices for Lunch:</b> Student Meal: \$0.40 Student Meal K-6th Grade: \$3.50 Student Meal 7th-12th Grade: \$4.00</p>		<p><b>1</b> Tangerine Chicken Fried Rice Glazed Carrots Mandarin Orange Cup Fruit/Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>2</b> Breaded Cheese Sticks w/Marinara Romaine Salad &amp; Ranch Strawberry Cup Apple Juice</p>	<p><b>3</b> Macaroni &amp; Cheese (w/Roll - HS Only) Green Beans &amp; Celery Sticks Fresh Apple Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>
<p><b>6</b> Grilled Cheese Sandwich Green Beans Strawberry Cup Pears Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>7</b> Pizza Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Orange Cup Mixed Fruit Cup Gold Rush Drink (HS Only)</p>	<p><b>8</b> Burrito/Taco Snack Cheesy Refried Beans Corn Mixed Berry Cup Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>9</b> Popcorn Chicken w/Roll Mashed Potatoes &amp; Gravy Winter Mix Vegetables Fresh Apple Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>10</b> <b>NO SCHOOL-NIKOLAEVSK</b> Cheeseburger Tater Tots Carrots w/Ranch Applesauce Cup Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	
<p><b>13</b> Corn Pups Crinkle Cut Fries Chilled Peaches Mixed Berry Cup Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>14</b> Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Chilled Pears Orange Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>15</b> Tangerine Chicken Fried Rice Baby Carrots w/Ranch Mandarin Orange Cup Gold Rush Drink Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>16</b> Breaded Cheese Sticks w/Marinara Romaine Salad &amp; Ranch Strawberry Cup Banana</p>	<p><b>17</b> Macaroni &amp; Cheese w/Roll Green Beans &amp; Celery Sticks Apple Juice Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	
<p><b>20</b> Grilled Cheese Sandwich Green Beans Strawberry Cup Pears Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>21</b> Pizza Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Orange &amp; Mixed Fruit Cups Gold Rush Drink (HS Only) Fruit/Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>22</b> Enchilada Empanada Cheesy Refried Beans Corn Mixed Berry Cup Fruit Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>23</b> <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b>  <b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>		<p><b>24</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>
<p><b>27</b> Hot Dog Cookie or Bunny Grahams Crinkle Cut Fries Chilled Peaches Mixed Berry Cup Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>28</b> Chicken Sandwich Baked Beans Chilled Pears Orange Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>29</b> Tangerine Chicken Fried Rice Glazed Carrots Mandarin Orange Cup Fruit/Vegetable Tray (Mdl/HS)</p>	<p><b>30</b> Breaded Cheese Sticks w/Marinara Romaine Salad &amp; Ranch Strawberry Cup Apple Juice</p>	<p>Go to <a href="http://mealapp.kpsd.org">http://mealapp.kpsd.org</a> to apply for Free/Reduced meal benefits, or for more information please contact your local school or Student Nutrition Office at 907-714-8963</p>	

1% White & Nonfat Chocolate Milk offered daily ---- Due to product availability, menu items are subject to change

### Behind-the-Scenes Activities (Nikolaevsk)

- Updating Vending Machine
- Install Elkay EZH2O Water Fountain Near Gym
- Mix-6 Volleyball Practices Ongoing - See Event Calendar
- Exploring New Sports Activity for Next Year - Wrestling
- Planning Addt'l Open Gym / Weight Room Use for Adults & PreK



### Title I Corner: Nurturing Literacy & Creativity

In the dynamic world of education at our school, our Title I program continues to excel in enhancing students' literacy skills and fostering their creativity and joy of learning. In this edition of "Title I Corner," we're thrilled to share the latest highlights from our Title I students' journeys.

#### Unlocking the Magic of Reading through Syllables

In our small groups, students work to develop a deeper understanding of language. Their recent focus has been on uncovering the natural word pauses, known as syllables. This knowledge is a

cornerstone for improved reading fluency and comprehension.

Recognizing syllables empowers our students to grasp the rhythm and flow of language, bolstering their ability to read with precision and confidence. This practice not only enhances reading skills but also deepens their appreciation for the beauty of language.

### **Exploring Word Blends for Deeper Comprehension**

Another exciting part of our literacy exploration involves word blends. Students can now identify consonant blends like [bl], recognizing them on sight.

This newfound grasp of blends enriches their reading comprehension, enabling them to decode intricate words and understand their context in sentences and stories.

### **Speed and Accuracy: The 1-Minute Reads Success**

One group of students have diligently practiced their 1-minute reads. Each student is exhibiting significant improvements in both reading speed and accuracy. These focused reading exercises are proving to be invaluable tools for enhancing overall reading proficiency.

### **A Theatrical Triumph: "A New Plan"**

Adding a creative twist to their journey, the same group of students who honed their reading skills through 1-minute reads put their newfound fluency to the test by performing a Reader's Theater Script titled "A New Plan." The script features a group of friends who aspired to form a band but encountered a flood that ruined their instruments on the day they planned to practice.

The play, "A New Plan," was a success, displaying the students' talent and the hard work they have put into their literacy skills.

In closing, our Title I program continues to be a place of growth, creativity, and learning. We look forward to sharing more of our students' remarkable achievements in future editions of "Title I Corner." Together, we are nurturing well-rounded individuals who are not only proficient readers but also enthusiastic learners, ready to face the ever-evolving challenges of the world with confidence and creativity.





"As the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) works to implement the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) and the Reads Act, we want to be sure to get it right, understand the intersections, and align our systems with what the scores tell us about student performance and areas for improvement in Alaska. Knowing that we are in a period of growth

and transition, our timeline and procedures for assessment cut scores have shifted slightly this year. Because this is a new system accompanied by robust and customized professional learning, the usual timeline has been extended. If we must choose between doing it quickly or doing it correctly, we are unwaveringly going to choose doing it correctly. Next year, we will return to the usual timeline for the release of assessment results."

- AK DEED Commissioner's Office

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## Sharing Building Space - Nikolaevsk Homeschool Co-Op

*The purpose* of Active Recess is to increase physical activity to improve students health, to support academic success, and to improve playground climate.



### Outcomes

1. Increase physical activity and movement during recess
2. Create space for student voice and choice during recess
3. Reduce transition time for students reentering the building
4. Reduce ODR's
5. Increase student engagement and learning after recess

*Program and implementation* details will be sent to staff soon. We are gathering feedback from ESP teachers and adjusting some of our original ideas based on their insights and experience at recess. We may need to meet with grade levels again to explicitly teach the games and expectations as we move towards implementation of the Active Recess model. If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas please see Joe or Nick.

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## *How to Support Students (Nikolaevsk)*

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**SUBSTITUTES ARE ALSO NEEDED!**

We are looking for passionate, dedicated volunteers to help grow our students into a successful life.

*Please Contact Us For More Information*

 907-235-8972



## How to Substitute and/or Volunteer

**Why?** Our school cannot function without your continuing support. We're very grateful for the community support that has been given, and will keep an open door to anyone interesting in substituting or volunteering at our school. If you're unsure on what you can do, give us a call! There are many fun ways you can support students in their education.

**Substitute:** <https://kpbsd.org/departments/assistant-superintendent/instructional-services/hr/substitute-information/>

**Volunteer:** <https://kpbsd.org/departments/assistant-superintendent/instructional-services/hr/volunteer/>

Thank you for your service and support towards student learning!

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*Box Tops - Nikolaevsk School*

**THE BOX TOPS APP  
MAKES FALL GIVING**

**EASY** 



**BUY**



**SCAN**



**EARN**



**PORT**  
SCHOOL  
**GRAHAM**

**Port Graham School**

Principal - Gregory Melvin

Email: [gmelvin@kpbsd.k12.ak.us](mailto:gmelvin@kpbsd.k12.ak.us)

Website: <https://kpbsd.org/schools/port-graham/>

Location: [63693 Graham Rd, Homer, AK, USA](#)

Phone: [907-284-2210](tel:907-284-2210)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PortGrahamSchool>

*Seward Field Trip*





## *Port Graham School Events*

- **Sunday, November 5th** - Daylight Savings Time (fall back 1hr)
  - **Thursday, November 9th** - Early Release (2:30pm)
  - **Thursday, November 16th** - Site Based Council Meeting (3:00pm)
  - **Thursday, November 23rd** - Thanksgiving Break (no school)
  - **Friday, November 23rd** - Thanksgiving Break (no school)
  - **Wednesday, November 29th** - High School Basketball Practice Starts
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### **Behind-the-Scenes Activities (Port Graham)**

- Updating Gym Sound System
- Student Project - Archiving School History
- High School Basketball Practices & Games
- Exploring Funding Options for New Playground Equipment



## *Title VI Corner*

Cama'i!

I am Ephimia "Apamia" Moonin-Wilson. I have recently been hired as the Title VI Tutor/Aide for Port Graham School. I am assisting in the classrooms with the students and also helping with Cultural Studies within the Social Studies and AK History classes.

For Elementary Studies, recently, we have been learning about goals and dreams through the book "Harry Okpik: Determined Musher." We are reading the biography in class about how Harry Okpik overcame many obstacles to achieve his dream of becoming a musher. The students have shared their future goals and dreams on a star which has been placed in the hallway next to the kitchen.

For Middle School/High School Alaska Studies, we have been studying the history of Alaska from when explorers first discovered Alaska to fairly recent events. We have also started on a Culture Studies project in which the students are making presentations based on research for each Cultural Region in Alaska. Once their presentation projects are completed, they are going to choose one culture to make a physical example for the subject of study. Group subjects include: Traditional Clothing, Cultural Food, Traditional Boats, Traditional Housing, and Fishing/Hunting. If you have any ideas or donations to make any miniature items for us to use for those projects, please feel free to contact me.

Quyanaa! Apamia

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### *Echoes from the Past - Port Graham (1944-45)*

In late September 2023, Port Graham School was contacted by a past Port Graham school teacher who had taught in 1944-45. The teacher's name is James Sileo, and it was his son who brought to our attention the original student journals that students had typed during his time in the village. Port Graham School now has the original student journals, and many contain references to past villagers who attended school at that time. The journals contain many tidbits of information, from snippets about what's happening in World War II, to the daily weather, to holiday activities.

Port Graham students in Middle / High School will be undertaking an archivist project through the Chugachmiut Heritage Preservation Center to archive, preserve, and digitize the student journals. The project will also entail interview with local elders. The project will entail three phases, which can be seen below:

#### **1. Student Archivist Virtual Classes**

- Virtual classes that teach the basics of indigenous archiving

#### **2. Class research project**

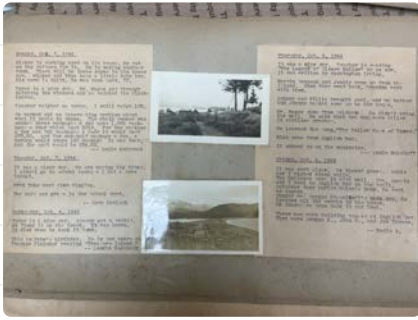
- Students will conduct a research project connected to the journals (either as a class, individually, or in groups)

- First stage will be students doing research in books and with online resources

#### **3. In person session (Possibly in December)**

- Second stage of the Virtual Classes: Chugachmiut will bring archival materials and teach students how to preserve the items, digitize them, and create online records.

- Second stage of the research project: Students will interview elders and collect oral history connected to the journals.



## Career Opportunities

Join the Zoom meeting  
**Tuesday  
November 7th  
10:00 AM**

**MARITIME 101  
CAREER ORIENTATION**

**VIRTUAL ORIENTATION**

This is an introduction to careers on or near the water (maritime) in Alaska. It will highlight the different sectors you can work in, how much they pay, and what training or credentials are necessary for you to work in maritime.

We will talk about the advantages and limitations of these careers so your eyes will be wide open to the possibilities. There will be a particular emphasis on the sea-going career opportunities called "mariners".

QUESTIONS? (907) 569-4727

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### Able Body Seaman Training

This USCG-approved 40-hour course is for those that can show appropriate sea time and would like to obtain the ABLE SEAMAN Merchant Mariner Credential. Complete this course, pass the exam and you will receive a course completion certificate in lieu of Coast Guard examination.

Fisherfolk are welcome. Topics include Navigation, Rules of the Road, Safety, Marlinespike Seamanship, etc. You may have more qualifying sea time than you think.

Please know that completing this course is one of the US Coast Guard requirements to achieve an Able Seaman certification. The list can be found here -

[https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/checklists/mcp\\_fm\\_nmc5\\_53\\_web.pdf](https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/checklists/mcp_fm_nmc5_53_web.pdf)

Call (907) 235-1674 with questions.



Training takes place through Kenai Peninsula College, and a scholarship for the course is available through the Homer Marine Trades Association:

<https://homermarinetrades.com/community/scholarships/>

Click the picture to the right to register, or visit the link below:



### University of Alaska Anchorage

[continuingstudies.alaska.edu](https://continuingstudies.alaska.edu)

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### AVTEC Young Mariners Class

**SPRING REGISTRATION OPENS OCT 1, 2023**

**Spring Registration Deadline January 5, 2024**

**Official Title:** High School Introduction to Nautical Skills

Calling all high school students!

**Are you ready to begin your voyage into a high paying maritime career?**

**Spring course starts January 16 and ends February 27, 2024**



**Bi-weekly live webinar via Zoom Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

The Alaska Maritime Training Center at AVTEC's Nautical Skills course introduces high school students to the exciting and lucrative maritime industry and assists them in developing the basic skills essential to their success and safety as a mariner. This six-week course will focus on maritime career awareness, chart navigation, the safety of life at sea, time/speed/distance problems, nautical courtesy, basic rules of the road and knot tying. Information about maritime careers, apprenticeships and additional training opportunities will also be shared. Live webinar training sessions with a United States Coast Guard (USCG) licensed maritime training instructors will be delivered, online twice a week via Zoom and a wide range of activities, assignments, tutorials and assessments will be delivered online via AVTEC Online. A total of twelve topics will be introduced that will equate to about sixty hours of school work

Upon successful **completion of the Nautical Skills class**, high school students are **eligible to apply for grant funding to help pay for a portion of tuition, room and board** to assist them with the completion of a wide range of USCG approved courses at AVTEC. Many Alaskan students have become fully licensed, highly employable professional merchant mariners while still in high school.

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## *AK State Testing*



### **AK Science Assessment Results**

In the FY23 school year, the Alaska Science Assessment was administered to students in grades five, eight, and ten. It provided students the opportunity to show their understanding of Alaska's science standards, which were adopted in 2019.

Alaska's standards are designed to prepare students for jobs in our state or to be ready for the path of their choosing after receiving a diploma such as entering a trade school, going to college, or joining the military. By assessing their understanding of Alaska's standards, these summative assessments are a measure of Alaska's students' preparation to meet the demands of tomorrow's world.

Statewide summative assessments are important because they help to inform the public about how Alaska's schools and districts are performing. They also provide valuable data to help identify schools in the most need of school improvement efforts. Finally, they help ensure there is educational equity for all students. The results from these statewide assessments should be viewed as one of many indicators of student learning and school performance.

The Alaska Science Assessment is not a high-stakes assessment. Results do not affect classroom grades, grade advancement, or graduation.

The student results from these tests are now available and can be found on [PowerSchool](#).

Teachers at your school can help you understand the report if you have questions. In addition, the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) has published a Family Guide for each assessment for your use. The guides can be found on [DEED's assessment webpage \(education.alaska.gov/assessments\)](#).

At our school we will be directing parents to PowerSchool to access their child's reports. A physical copy can be requested to the school secretary or principal. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns in regards to your child's report, please reach out to our school.

### **AK STAR Assessment Results**

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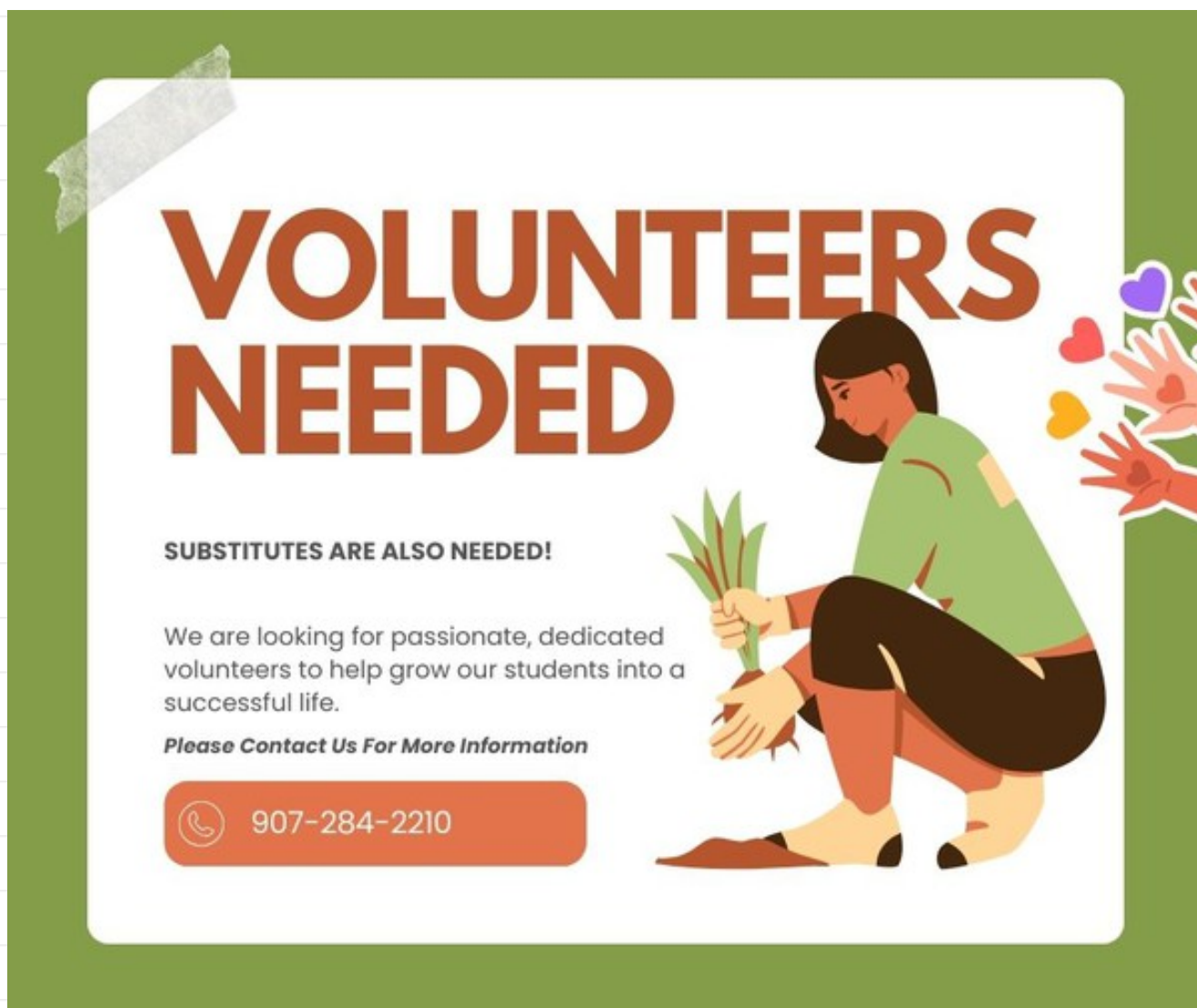
what the scores tell us about student performance and areas for improvement in Alaska. Knowing that we are in a period of growth and transition, our timeline and procedures for assessment cut scores have shifted slightly this year. Because this is a new system accompanied by robust and customized professional learning, the usual timeline has been extended. If we must choose



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**Thank you for your service and support towards student learning!**



**Gregory Melvin**

Gregory is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters