

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

2022-2023 School Annual Reports to the Superintendent

Clayton Holland

Superintendent



School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-23

School Name: Aurora Borealis

Principal: Cody McCanna

Please list the outstanding achievements of students, staff and/or your school for the past year. It is important that you share the following information; grants awarded, districtwide, statewide and national academic awards, regional and state athletic titles, special school-wide projects, etc. It is not necessary to list each member of a team or group unless it is pertinent to an individual award.

Robotics Team

Won the overall competition on the Kenai Peninsula
Placed 1st in the State Competition for overall design

Girls Basketball won the Small Schools tournament

Boys Basketball won the Small Schools tournament

Fourteen students had their art displayed at the Art Center
One student was chosen for "People's Choice Award".

Future Problem Solving

Our Junior team (4 8th graders) won the State Bowl.
They are traveling to Boston to compete in the International FPS competition in June.

AK Star Performance Data

	Aurora Borealis	State of Alaska
Math:	76%	23%
LA:	67%	30%
Science:	90%	48%

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2023-2023

School Name: Chapman School

Principal: Eric D. Hart

Project CHILL had STEM projects after school 2X a week all year long.

Three Book Fairs hosted in the library—Fall, Winter, Spring.

3-D printing lab successfully set up—in science room (used in class and as after school activity).

Halloween Carnival—middle of October—hundreds of community members participated in the carnival; lots of volunteers ran booths. \$7000 dollars raised.

Veteran's Day: Students invited local veterans to the school on Veterans Day. 5th Grade class sang a military medley to the veterans, a slide show was presented for the veterans, and the veterans demonstrated the folding of the American Flag to the student body. The 3rd grade class served the veterans tea and cookies and visited with the veterans.

5th/6th Graders won **Challenger Learning Center of Alaska Teacher Marathon Petroleum Scholarship** and attended the Challenger Learning Center on February 8th and 9th,

The **Trooper Canine Unit** visited several classes at Chapman.

Four teams participated in the **Battle of the Books** (2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8). MS won second place in the district.

25 chapman students competed in the 3rd-8th **Spelling Bee**.

Alex Eberle, Chapman 7th grader, who was the school-wide champion competed in the Scripps Spelling Bee in Anchorage in March receiving **3rd place in the State**.

Christmas Production—open to the public

Winter Fest—open to the public

“Murder Mystery Night” fund raiser hosted by the 8th grade class. Students served a dinner to about 50 adults in the Anchor Point community and played parts to a “murder mystery.” Around \$1000 was raised for the 8th grade class trip.

Candlelight Ski Fundraiser—Around 50 participants cross country went skiing on a course laid out by the cross-country team to raise money for the ski program. Raised \$1000.

Chapman hosted **Phlight Club** for Port Graham and across the water schools.

Artist in Schools—Eddie Wood K-3---65 students served over two weeks, with final production presented to the public.

Alyeska trip learning to ski/snowboard—many students experienced this for the first time. Many parents helped.

Box car Derby in the gym in March with public

Mass Band—all 7/8 participated and 5/6 learned to play instruments (school performance) and district performance.

Drum Making for 5th-8th: Rachel Pioch from KPBSD partnered with Bea Klaich and the entire 5th-8th graders received education about Alaskan indigenous history. The Kenaitze tribe sent three volunteers to Chapman to teach the students the history of native drums. They performed and taught the students how to drum.

Tiglax Field Trip: Science teacher, Trent Herbst, took the 6th grade class on a field trip aboard the research vessel Tiglax.

Trooper Dan Cox teaches 5th-8th students for drug/alcohol awareness.

AWCC (Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center) came to Chapman & taught and gave the PK-8th students hands-on experiences in wildlife conservation.

Masonic Winner: 8th grader, Asa Shafer

VFW Writing Patriots Pen Writing Awards:

1st place: Ben Shafer, 6th grader—*he also won at the State level.*

2nd place: Jaxon Adams

3rd place: Parker Overson

VFW National Anthem Singing Awards:

3rd place: Aurora Anderson, Rox Sha

2nd place: Auramae Allen-Mullis

1st place: Justin Gilliam

VFW Citizen Education Teacher Award—local level *and state level winner*—Bea Klaich, Chapman 5th-8th LA Teacher

First year of Homer OPUS, Eagle Ensemble was formed for K-1 (two public presentations)

Chapman School has Troop 515. It has 17 girls in grades K-8.

Anchor Kings Wrestling—provide wrestling practice to 147 students from the lower Kenai, 5 days a week. One meet took place at Chapman- open to the public. Other sports included VB, BB, Cross County skiing, CC running, track and field.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Connections Homeschool Program

Principal: Doug Hayman

School Recognition and Support grant is the new term for School at Risk. In past years, Connections Homeschool Program made the “School at Risk” list by not reaching the state goal for graduation rate. The Connections 2021-22 school year ended with a graduation rate of 65%. The acceptable rate is 66%. Because of this score, Connections was awarded \$25,000 to be used for school improvement. Admittedly, this is an odd way to get a grant but that is what the money was labeled. The requirements of the grant were to focus on school improvement and the funds were to be used for school improvement. The grant did not specify the funds were to be used directly for increasing the graduation rate but it is understood that if the result was not an, in our case, an improvement in graduation rate, our strategy would be questioned and more specific directions would be applied. Two strategic avenues were pursued with the grant funds. One strategy was providing professional development for secondary advisors focusing on post-high school planning. The second strategy was to build from the bottom, which meant pre-kindergarten opportunities. Both were successful programs in themselves as the result for the professional development strategy was an increase to 84% graduation rate is anticipated. The pre-kindergarten strategy will not be apparent in the short term, but we had a good participation rate and we anticipate increasing participation in our program as well as improvements in academic performance of elementary students in the long term.

Connections became a state-wide program in the fall of 2022 with the intention of continuing service to families that leave our district but remain within the State of Alaska. Our long-term goal is to initiate service for families outside of our district but not until our infrastructure can be established and scaled appropriately. This goal is also dependent on the district’s overall goals.

Our students were members of teams throughout the district that participated in several state level competitions including Football (Homer State Champions), Basketball (Ninilchik State Champions), and our Soldotna baseball team that is on the path to its own state championship. Connections is a part of every success KPBSD experiences or is awarded. We may not have a mascot, but we are important parts of every successful team.

Connections plans to develop vocational opportunities across the district in the coming years. We have been working with Kevin Lyon in the development of containers that house learning centers. Kevin has already developed a container for welding instruction. We hope to partner with him on carpentry and marine mechanics.

Our program will also be working to improve our system for finance and enrollment tracking. We currently use a program called “Coma” but it is outdated and continues to develop errors. We have worked with Eric Soderquist to select products developed by a wide range of companies but still have not found a tool that meets our needs. This will represent a large investment so we will be taking our time to insure the value and effectiveness of any new software or program.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Cooper Landing School
Principal: Cindy McKibben

Cooper Landing was fortunate to have a second teacher employed for the first time in many years. This enabled our longtime aide, Krissy Route, to apply and receive the position. She was a first-year teacher after having just completed her licensure program, but you'd never know that by watching her teach or looking at the instruction and assessments she devises for her students. Krissy is an outstanding addition to the faculty.

We had a family with three students move back into the community after many years being out-of-state. One of the students was a junior that came back with enough credits to graduate early and enroll in AVTEC. The school enjoyed celebrating a new graduate for the first time in a few years. We also graduated five kindergarteners into first grade! Having five kindergarten students in our school brought energy back and kept the staff on their toes daily. It has been a lot of fun watching them grow academically and socially this year.

One of Cooper Landing's Battle of the Books teams placed in the district competition, and Stela Greene has won 3rd place in the George S. and Stella M. Knight essay contest for 2023 for her essay titled "The Importance of the Constitution". She received a \$100 check and a signed certificate.

KMTA has been a part of our students' involvement in the outdoors. We are grateful for the time they invested at our school. It was a learning experience which compliments the PTO funded student field trips to Alyeska as well as safety information for our students in our small rural community. Alyeska Resort is always a highlight for staff, parents and students with continued support with Skiing and snowboarding to keep them actively involved and keep the dark winter months cheerful and exciting. This event brings Cooper Landing students, parent volunteers and staff busy and involved further offering more time for conversations to help keep our students going in the right direction. This and other events this year have been great skill building exercises for teamwork and further offering the opportunity for students to meet new friends from other schools and begin new relationships.

Lastly, Tommy Gossard, our longtime veteran teacher left at the end of the school year. We have a new opportunity to revamp how we and the community see Cooper Landing School moving into the future with a new teacher and future possibilities.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Fireweed Academy

Principal: Kyle Darbonne

Important information and achievements to include:

- grants awarded,
- districtwide, statewide, and national academic awards,
- regional and state athletic titles,
- special school-wide projects, etc.

It is **not** necessary to list each member of a team or group.

- Our first grade teacher, Becky King, was nominated for the state Alaska Reads Ambassador award. Although no awards were given to KPBSD educators, Becky deserves recognition.
- We brought PE back to Fireweed including a community funded purchase and installation of a Gaga Ball pit that has been used by FWA and WHE students.
- 3-5th grade girls participated in Girls on the Run program in Homer in collaboration with South Peninsula Haven House.
- Sue Biggs brought LinkUp music program to Fireweed where Little Fireweed sang songs/played violin, and Big Fireweed sang and played recorders.
- Worked alongside local artist Amy Komar LaPlant and Homer Council of the Arts to create a consistent afterschool program for K-2 students in our community.
- Brought in two 'Artist in the Schools' with the help of Bunnell Arts and Homer Council of the Arts.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Homer Flex

Principal: Christopher Brown

School Wide:

- Alaska Alternative Schools Coalition grant for varying school initiatives:
- Community-based physical education activities
- Substance Misuse and Addiction Prevention Grant
- Donor-advised Homer Foundation Grants (David & Mary Schroer and Homer Incentive Fund)
- Food Security program in partnership with the Homer Food Pantry (food bags)
- Community meals, including weekly pancake breakfasts, culinary classes, and community wide celebrations (Flexgiving, Flex First Friday)
- Annual Flex First Friday celebration
- Adopt a Highway spit cleanup
- Continued focus on positive school climate through PBIS (including affective language), trauma informed care, and restorative practices

Student Achievements:

University of Alaska Scholars Award: Karma Wilcox
Masonic Outstanding Student Award: Audrey Dabney

Jacob Thompson: All-State Choir, State Solo and Ensemble Competition
Wyatt Counts: State Football Champion (Homer High School)
AJ (Aleksei) Allowan: NYO State Championship competition

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Homer High School

Principal: Douglas Waclawski

School Awards

- * US World News & Report 2022
 - 5th Best School in Alaska
 - Top 5% of School's in Nation

ACADEMIC

- * National Yearbook Program of Excellence Award 2023
- * Writer Workshop Scholarship – Ab
- * College Board's AP® Computer Science Female Diversity Award – Jan Spurkland

SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

- * D3 Football State Champions
- * Girls Track & Field – State Runner-Up
- * Boys Track & Field – State Runner-Up
- * Battle of the Books – State Runner-Up

INDIVIDUAL REGION / STATE AWARDS

- * 1st Place State – 3200 M Run – Track & Field – Seamus McDonough
- * 1st Place State – 300 M Hurdles – Track & Field – Gracie Miotke
- * 1st Place State – High Jump – Track & Field – Brightly Thoning
- * 1st Place State – 4 x 400 M Boys Relay – Track & Field
- * 1st Place State – 4 x 400 M Girls Relay – Track & Field
- * 1st Place State – Wrestling 140 lb. – Russel Nyvall
- * 1st Place State – Wrestling 185 lb. – Roane Cook
- * 1st Place State – Wrestling 126 lb. – Saoirse Cook
- * 1st Place State – Swim & Dive 110 Yard Butterfly – Carly Nelson
- * 1st Place State – Swim & Dive 500 Yard Freestyle – Carly Nelson
- * Region 3 – Boys Coach of the Year – Track & Field - Robert Ostrom
- * Region 3 – Girls Athlete of the Year – Track & Field – Eryn Field
- * Region 3 – Boys Athlete of the Year – Track & Field – Seamus McDonough
- * 1st Place – KPBSD Art Show – Self Portrait with Giant Turnips – Leah Dunn

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Homer Middle School

Principal: Meghan Redmond

- Grant: Homer Foundation \$3,000 David & Mary Schroer Grant
- School-wide Project: Revitalizing advisory program
- 8th grade Mock Interview day
- 7th grade Cold Water Survival training
- Award: Beau Miller named HMS Masonic Outstanding Student

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Hope School

Principal: Cindy McKibben

This year has truly added up to a favorable sum. Hope School students, families and staff have enjoyed some wonderful times this school year. Our first semester Title I family engagement activity which involved math games for the family and icecream, provided a window for parents to see how we envisioned the school changing this year. A year-long goal was to bring the community and school back together. Our second semester, end of the year, Title 1 Reading Picnic was indoor this April. We were able to come together with books, students and their families and enjoyed the gift of reading. Our students have a real interest in reading to a point we find exceptional. The parents had time to share with staff and students how proud they were of their achievements this school year.

We have several students with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 – 4.0. Congratulations are in order for Landon Stroh, Shaylee Peterson and Jolee Peterson. These students have worked hard to maintain their cumulative GPA. Our teachers have been there to help each student gain the learning experiences and skills they need to take with them in the furtherance of their individual pursuits of education. With much pride, we share this news and say that our school in its entirety is working together for the goal of all students being successful in their futures to the best of their abilities. Many of our students are reading and performing math above their grade level. They have competed in the District Math Competition and Valor Jabaay, one of our fifth graders, won 3rd place in the competition. He is not in the gifted program. However, he competed against students who were in the gifted program. The student's talent and commitment paid off. Classroom competitions and break out sessions have helped to sharpen their skills. Hope had high achievers with high growth in their iReady math diagnostic all year and most students maintained or grew their NWEA MAP Growth percentiles.

Our school was elated to have Annalea come and explain to parents and students about middle college and CTE Programs available to them. Two students were allowed to receive credits for their programs completed prior, which was an added bonus for them. Students are now looking into the CTE and Middle College Programs for their future studies. The parents commented that this was a much welcomed opportunity not only for their students at this time but also going forward. Increasing CTE opportunities is a long-term goal for Hope School.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent
Page 2

KMTA has been a part of our students' involvement in the outdoors. We are grateful for the time they invested at our school. It was a learning experience which compliments the PTO funded student field trips to Alyeska as well as safety information for our students in our small rural community. Alyeska Resort is always a highlight for Staff, Parents and Students with continued support with Skiing and snowboarding to keep them actively involved and keep the dark winter months cheerful and exciting. This event brings Hope Students, parent volunteers and staff busy and involved further offering more time for conversations to help keep our students going in the right direction. This and other events this year have been great skill building exercises for teamwork and further offering the opportunity for students to meet new friends from other schools and begin new relationships.

Three of our Elementary students, Valor Jabaay, Mason Howard and Nigel Hogan, won in the local art entries for the annual Wagon Run Event held in Hope. Their art was merged into one unique piece of artwork. It reflects our commitment to teamwork and community. This artwork will be printed onto the Wagon Run Competition Shirts which are sold to help support our small community.

This year one of our High School Students, Jolee Peterson was chosen as one of two students chosen to represent small schools in the school board's small schools committee. Having one of our students participate as a leader within the district brought her confidence and honed her leadership skills. We congratulate this student in her choice to seek this position and be selected to serve in the representation of small schools.

We are grateful to the Hope Community. Although Hope has a population of less than 200 year round residents, their heart is large. The community supports the school financially as well as in spirit. These donated funds have sponsored activities such as Van Gogh ticket purchases, Alyeska Ski tickets, purchases for seasonal participation in the ski/snowboarding instruction, and other field trips. We recognize our community for their continued funding used to enhance our students' educational experiences.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Kachemak Selo

Principal: Michael Wojciak

- Project Grad STEAM Team program
- Elementary swimming lessons
- HS Alyeska ski trip
- UA Scholars Award recipient
- Masonic Award recipient
- School Board presentation
- Land's End graduation
- Beach/Community cleanup
- Reading Symposium attendee
- Carrs Safeway Grant recipient
- Overnight Anchorage trip including a visit to the zoo
- Bookmobile opportunity

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science

Principal: Dawn Grimm

Awards and Recognitions

Charlotte Siemers – HEA Participation Awards

Special School Wide Projects/Activities/Events:

Family Engagement Activities

Science Night

Greenhouse Projects

End of Quarter Celebrations

5th Grade Play and Promotion (graduation)

Christmas Drive

Holiday Concert

Candy Cane Lane Activity Night

After Testing Fun Night (3rd, 4th, 5th grade students)

Fundraiser with Believe Kids

Sankofa Dance – 2-week residency

Shala Dobson – 2-week residency

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Salmon Celebration (egg take, ice fishing, dissection, salmon release)

School Annual Report to the Superintendent

2022-2023

School Name: K-Beach Elementary

Principal: Janae Van Slyke

School Awards

- Elizabeth Kvamme was awarded the AAESP 2023 National Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year.
- Heather Baker was selected as the 2023 Alternate Alaska Teacher of the Year.
- K-Beach Elementary's sixth grade Kenai Peninsula Masonic Lodge Outstanding Student is Natalie Bouton.
- Third and fourth grade Battle of the Books team took 3rd in the district competition.
- Kade Coburn placed 2nd in the chess category of the KPBSD Trimathalon.
- Our K-Beach 6th grade team took 3rd place in the KPBSD Trimathalon.
- Madalynn Schwenk in Mrs. Bybee's fourth grade classroom won the Homer Electric Association's (HEA) 2023 Electrical Safety Poster Contest for "Best Safety Message."

School-wide Projects

- K-Beach Elementary had 181 Positive Office Referral for this school year.
- Dr. Caswell, a former K-Beach Caribou and a 2004 graduate of Soldotna High School, now works for NASA as a Spacewalk Operations Engineer. She led a super space science assembly for our students on March 1st.
- K-Beach partnered with Kenaitze to provide instructional support during the school. On May 15th and 16th, we had cultural days where Kenaitze staff led our students in traditional dance as well as some of the games and activities that continue to be an important part of the culture, history, and traditions of the Kenaitze people.

- Battle of the Books- Many 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders participated in intramural Battle of the Books, and teams competed in the district competition.
- On May 5th K-Beach held an art show highlighting student work.
- Mrs. Smreka's sixth grade class organized a recycling program at K-Beach.
- Stream Keepers- All 5th grade students of K-Beach Elementary partnered with the Kenai Watershed Forum to care for the local Slikok Creek. With the help of community members and teachers, students worked to keep the stream healthy.
- Our Caribou Migration fun run raised \$18,063. All students and all staff, along with the participation of many families and community members, participated in this event. This event promoted positive school and community relationships while encouraging healthy lifestyles.
- Brianna Kjostad was the new queen of reading at K-Beach. Breanna read 13,680 minutes last summer. All students and staff read a combined total of 242,822 minutes.
- K-Beach Elementary's student leadership volunteered to help younger students at recess, helped with Kindergarten Round Up, and worked to beautify the school grounds. The leadership team volunteered at the Kenai Senior Center by serving meals at the Veterans Day lunch and knitting scarves for residents. Students also volunteered at the Kenai Pumpkin Festival where they hosted a face-painting booth for the community. These students also organized a pet food drive in the fall and donated the supplies to the City of Kenai Animal Shelter. They held a canned food drive this spring and donated the items to the Food Bank.
- K-Beach Elementary students harvested vegetables from our greenhouse and made soup.
- K-Beach Elementary hosted intramurals in basketball and film club.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Kenai Alternative High School

Principal: Kyle McFall

Grants Awarded

- Alternative Schools of Alaska Grant - \$26,000
- Alaska School Improvement Grant - \$25,000
- Misuse and Prevention Grant - \$8,000

Individual Awards and Recognition:

- 2023 Masonic Outstanding Student of the Year – Isabella Katzenberger
- 2023 ELKS Lodge #2425 Student of the Year – Danielle Thies
 - Student of the Month recipients – Levin Hendrickson, Danielle Thies, Layla Allain, Tyshona Ravenmoon Hyde, Jesse Markham, Shay Smith, Ryan Yeager, Alexandria Koenig, Sonia Montague, and Jaci Bettis
- 2023 UA Scholar – Isabella Katzenberger

School-Wide Projects

KAHS offers a morning breakfast program which is run by various community members including Eileen Bryson, Scott Earsley, Megan Mueller, Mitch Michaud, Ann Shew, Hal and Susie Smalley, and the Halstead Family. This group of people work together to ensure that students are provided a hot breakfast every morning. While a portion of the food and supplies is financed by funding from the Alternative Schools grant, food for Thursday and Friday is donated by Dave Schilling. He then coordinates with Peterkin Distributors to ensure that food is delivered to the school on a weekly basis. This program has been in existence for nearly 30 years, and we are proud that the majority of our volunteer group will be back again next year, ensuring that the Breakfast Program will continue.

Kenai Alternative continues to remain a member of the Alaska Alternative Schools Coalition. This coalition is made up of 12 alternative schools from around the state and holds an annual meeting. This year's meeting was held in December in Anchorage and it provided staff members at these schools time to share success stories and collaborate. The AASC also awards grant money every year to each member school. This year, Kenai Alternative was awarded \$25,000. From this grant, Kenai Alternative funded several programs including the aforementioned Breakfast Program, the Alaska Outdoor Adventure Program, and the Student Leadership Program.

The Alaska Outdoor Adventure Program exposed students to physical activities based in outdoor settings. Trips funded by this program included a hiking trip in Cooper Landing (Burney's Trail), snow shoeing at the Kenai Wildlife Refuge Center, ice skating at the Soldotna Regional Sports Complex, a sight-seeing trip on a Kenai Fjords Tour Cruise, and rafting on the Kenai River. These trips sought to provide students alternatives to exercise while exploring various regions of the Kenai Peninsula. In addition, the program promoted community partnerships and engaged students with community members in a positive and collaborative environment.

The Student Leadership Program focused on developing student self-efficacy and leadership opportunities through SEL curriculum, team-based activities, and community partnerships. Students participated in school-wide morning meetings and leadership classes that incorporated SEL curriculum. In addition, students participated in school-wide activities organized by the KAHS Sources of Strength group. This led to the development of a student leadership group that met weekly at lunch and attended the KPBSD Student Council Conference at Kenai Central High School. Staff and students also organized service and career-based projects that led to the development of community partnerships. These projects included:

- The annual community Thanksgiving dinner
- The Giving Tree Service Project
 - This was a collaborative project between KAHS, the Kenai Elks Lodge, and the Kenai Community Library.
 - Over 90 children in the Kenai community were provided a gift for Christmas.
- Post-secondary mentorship tutoring with Shannon Dodge (Student Lisason at Kenaitze)
- Development of the first Career Prep Week – included certification training and job shadowing opportunities. Community members/businesses involved in this project included:
 - Annaleah Karron and Beth Swaby from the KPBSD CTE and Distance Education programs
 - Kenai Community Library, Kenai Aviation, Kenai Police Department, Kenai Veterinary Hospital, The Best Shop, and Central Emergency Services

For the 2022-23 school year, Kenai Alternative High School had 20 graduates.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Kenai Central High School
Principal: Daniel Beck

ACADEMIC:

UA Scholars (\$12,000) Bridger Beck, Benjamin Boersma, Jayna Boonstra, Andrew Gaethle, Calani Holmes, Brianna Horton, Madison McDonald, Daniel Sheldon, Olivia Somers

ATHLETIC:

KCHS Volleyball:

Region Champions
Region MVP Emma Beck
State Champions – first time in school history
State Tournament Best Hitter Emma Beck
State Tournament Best Setter Jorgi Phillips

KCHS Boys & Girls Swim & Dive:

Region Champion:
100M Backstroke Sam Anderson
200M Freestyle Sam Anderson
Sam Anderson Region Male Swimmer of the Year

KCHS Boys and Girls Nordic Skiing:

State Champions
Boy's Freestyle Jack Laker
Girl's Classic Emily Moss
Girl's Freestyle Emily Moss
Girl's State Champions

Basketball Cheer:

Region Champions
Region MVP Calani Holmes
State Champions – three years in a row
State Academic Award

Fall E-Sports:

State Tournament 2nd place "League of Legends"

Hockey:

Region MVP Logan Mese

Wrestling:

Region Champions
103 lb. Jaxson Young
135 lb. Owen Whicker

152 lbs Andrew Gaethle
State Champions
103 lb. Jaxson Young
135 lb. Owen Whicker
152 lbs Andrew Gaethle
Boy's 2nd place at State Meet

Girls Basketball:

2nd place Region Tournament
Region MVP Emma Beck
4th place State Tournament

Boys Basketball:

2nd place Region Tournament
State Tournament Participant – first time in over 10 years

Track and Field:

Region Champions:

Girl's 800M Emilee Wilson
Girl's 3200M Jayna Boonstra
Girl's 4x100M Sierra Hershberger, Emilee Wilson, Malena Grieme, Sophie Tapley
Girl's 4x200M Sierra Hershberger, Cara Graves, Malena Grieme, Sophie Tapley
Girl's Shot Put Emma Beck
Girls Discus Emma Beck
Girl's Triple Jump Emilee Wilson
Boy's 100M Reagan Graves
Boy's 200M Reagan Graves
Boy's 400 M Gregory Fallon
Boy's 800 M Gregory Fallon
Boy's 4x100M Daniel McRorie, Robert Hayes, Ransom Hays, Reagan Graves
Boy's 4x200M Daniel McRorie, Robert Hayes, Ransom Hays, Reagan Graves

State Champions:

Girl's 4x100M Sierra Hershberger, Emilee Wilson, Malena Grieme, Sophie Tapley
Girl's Team 2nd place at State Meet
Boy's 200M Reagan Graves
Boy's 4x100M Daniel McRorie, Robert Hayes, Ransom Hays, Reagan Graves
Boy's 4x200M Daniel McRorie, Robert Hayes, Ransom Hays, Reagan Graves
State Track Male Athlete of the year Reagan Graves

Boy's Soccer:

Region Champions
State Tournament Participant

Girl's Soccer:

Region Champions
Region MVP Kylee Verkuilen
2nd place State Tournament

Fall E-Sports:

State Tournament 2nd place "Super Smash Brothers"

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Kenai Middle School

Principal: Vaughn Dosko

<u>SPORTS</u>	
Soccer	Girls – First at Boroughs Boys – First at Boroughs
XC Running	Finished in Top 10
Track	Boys – First at Borough Girls – Second at Borough
Basketball	Girls – 2 nd Place Boys – Borough Champs
Volleyball	2 nd at Boroughs
Wrestling	COVID
XC Skiing	Finished in Top 10
<u>ACADEMICS</u>	
Math Counts	Met Weekly
Math Bowl	Held at KMS
FPS (Future Problem Solving)	2nd Place
Spelling Bee	1st Place – Yvonne O'Brien
Battle of the Books	7th & 8th Grade – 2 nd Place
After School Tutorial	November 8 – March 23 (Tuesday's, Wednesday's and Thursday's)
Masonic Award	– 8 th Grade – Isla Crouse
<u>EXTRA-CURRICULAR</u>	
Band Concerts	4 Band Concerts throughout the year
Choir Concerts	4 Choir Concerts throughout the year
<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	
WAK (Welcoming All Kids)	August 11
Open House/BBQ	August 25 and April 27
Spirit Week	September 12-16 April 17-21

Activity Nights	Quarterly
Hay Maze	October 25
Red Ribbon Week	October 24-26
Canned Food Drive	December 12-16
Character Counts	August 19 – May 18
SOM (Students of the Month)	Awarded Monthly in each grade level
Celebrations	End of 2 nd and 3 rd quarter
Ice Fishing	March 15 (7th Grade)
Clubs	January 18 – February 15
Volunteer Celebration	May 5
New Student Visitation	April 24-27
Aluminum Can Drive	April
Mini courses	May 16-17
6th Camp	May 08-10
Farewell Ceremony	May 15
<u>MEETINGS</u>	
Staff Meetings	(monthly – first Wednesday of each month)
<u>DRILLS</u>	
Fire Drills	Monthly
Earthquake Drills	October
ALICE Training	3 times per year
BUILDING USE	Many community users utilizing the building

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Marathon School

Principal: Melissa Linton

The school year was filled with a wide range of special events, enriching workshops, and collaborative partnerships that provided students with valuable learning experience and opportunities for personal and academic growth.

Special Events:

1. Lila Hobbs from Creative Flow Collective: In November/December, Lila conducted a 4-day workshop on black out poetry with the students. It was a creative and engaging experience for everyone involved.
2. Lila's Return and PSA Workshop: Lila returned in early April for a three-day workshop where students learned to create Public Service Announcements (PSAs) using Audacity. They recorded PSAs on important topics such as resiliency, suicide prevention, and preparing for natural disasters. The PSAs were aired on KDLL radio, along with an interview with Lila and Jenny.
3. Cook Inlet Counseling: Students participated in a drug and alcohol awareness program conducted by Cook Inlet Counseling. It aimed to educate students about the risks and consequences of substance abuse.
4. Homer Rec Room: A workshop on human sexuality was conducted by Homer Rec Room to provide students with comprehensive and accurate information on this important topic.
5. Transition Alaska (SERRC) Transition Camp: Students attended a transition camp organized by Transition Alaska (SERRC). It focused on helping students prepare for the transition from school to adulthood.
6. First Aid Training and Certification: Students received first aid training and certification, equipping them with valuable life-saving skills.
7. REAP (Renewable Energy Alaska Project) Workshop: The students participated in a workshop organized by REAP, which aimed to raise awareness about renewable energy and its importance for the environment.

Community Partners:

1. Lee Shore Center: The Lee Shore Center collaborated with the school to provide workshops on resiliency, healthy relationships, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and Sources of Strength. These workshops aimed to support students' emotional well-being and foster healthy relationships.

2. Challenger Center: The Challenger Center conducted monthly science and STEM activities for the students. The star dome and robot activities were particular highlights, captivating the students' interest and curiosity.
3. Kenaitze Indian Tribe (KIT): KIT engaged students in Native Youth Olympics (NYO) activities and talking circles, providing cultural enrichment and promoting a sense of community.
4. Kenai Library: The Kenai Library collaborated with the school, offering contests, bingo cards, and an abundance of books. The highlight included a LEGO building contest, where students participated and showcased their creativity.

On-Site Enrichment Activities:

1. MJ McCown's STEM Activities: MJ McCown conducted weekly STEM activities with the students, providing hands-on experiences and fostering interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. A highlight was the LEGO building activity for which students entered a contest organized by the Kenai Library.
2. Amelia Golia's Cultural Activities: Amelia Golia engaged students in various cultural activities. They enjoyed making Eskimo ice cream, playing with yo-yos, and participating in plant projects such as planting starts for the garden, geranium propagation, and a Lettuce Grow tower (hydroponics tower). Additionally, students had fun tie-dyeing socks and shirts.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: McNeil Canyon Elementary School

Principal: Pete Swanson

Staff Achievements

- Anne Love and Lenore Swanson collaborated with parent volunteer Miriam Linder on 30th consecutive, successful Artist-in-Schools grant that provided the opportunity for all students to work with sculpture art that displayed a student action and then integrated their art with a piece of writing. Artist, Debbie Piper, was our Artist in Residence. Debbie provided an opportunity for all our students to work on developmentally appropriate sculpture projects and collaborated with their teachers on the accompanying writing. McNeil students were very actively involved in this two-week program. This AIS grant program has had a tremendous impact on the entire school and continues to be a very real tradition.

Student Accomplishments

- August Hunter qualified for the State Spelling Bee. Gus is a 5th grade student.

Co-Curricular Accolades

- K-2 and 5-6 Students competed in Battle of the Books.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Moose Pass

Principal: Matt Potter

I am excited to report on the many highlights and strengths of our school community this year. As the principal, I am proud to be a part of the Moose Pass Community. We are grateful for the continued involvement and support of community members who have children in our school, who have had children attend in the past, or who know students currently attending. For example, both the art and lego robotics program that are a favorite of our students were started by community members who had students in the building who continued to volunteer their time once their children moved on. Also, the Moose Pass Sportsman's Club has been a valuable partner in our ski program. Their annual donation has helped us to ensure our students are able to go to Alyeska throughout the winter months. Our school's strengths lie in our commitment to community involvement, individual learning, and student-centered approaches. We prioritize getting to know our students as individuals and connecting with them in meaningful ways. The previously mentioned Lego Robotics program and art initiatives are just a few examples of how we strive to provide students with engaging and personalized learning experiences. We are fortunate to have dedicated and passionate staff who go above and beyond their titles to support our students.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Mountain View Elementary

Principal: Karl Kircher

Ahead of the Game

After having attended or been presented with information from the spring of 2022 Alaska Science of Reading Symposium, Mountain View Elementary administration and staff set out to get ahead of the game on the direction that the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, DEED, would be heading in reading instruction.

This year 10 members of our staff enrolled in LETRS training, many of them are half way through this two-year program. LETRS, which stands for Language Essentials for Teaching Reading and Spelling, is the premier, researched based training program for teachers to increase their knowledge of the reading acquisition process. This program meets the requirements set forth by the Alaska Reads Act for elementary school literacy teachers.

Many of Mountain View's primary teachers piloted the evidenced based UFLI Foundations phonics program this year. UFLI is a systematic approach to decoding instruction for students. A key component of the Science of Reading is decoding and DEED is now providing support to teachers for the implementation of this program.

Over the course of the year, Mountain View has built a large decodable book library. Teachers are able to utilize this library to match students with books that contain the phonics patterns they are currently working on.

Artist in Residence and Some Other Fun Happenings

Mountain View Elementary received an Artist in Residence Grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts to host artist Jason Leslie for a week at our school. Leslie, a professional artist based in Seward, Alaska, makes brightly colored, geometric landscape paintings. During lessons with the artist, students explored creating patterns with various regular, geometric shapes and then used those skills to create designs to be painted.

This year our third grade students were able to have an on-line author's visit with Peter Brown the author of the Wild Robot series. After reading two of his books together as a class, the students were thrilled to meet the author and ask him questions.

Our students learned about the scientific process and had loads of fun when the "Whacky Science" hands on assembly show came to Mountain View in the spring.

Our “One School One Book Program” had all of our families simultaneously read *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* over the course of two weeks this spring. With trivia questions and Facebook activities coinciding with the paced reading, it was great way to have fun with the school/family connection. The concluding activity was a showing of the movie for all of our families at the KCHS auditorium complete with a hot dog dinner beforehand.

Other fun activities included community readers, a visit from the Kenai River Brown Bear Hockey Team, making stretched-hide drums sponsored by the KPBSD Indigenous Education Program, DARE instruction from school resource officer Dan Smith, fire education week by the Kenai Fire Department, and various wildlife lessons from the USFWS.

Some of the fun community service happenings outside the school included three trips to the Kenai senior Center to serve meals or help make crafts, a booth at Industry Appreciation Days and caroling throughout the community during the holidays.

Shout Outs

Our rejuvenated PTO was back in black sponsoring fundraising events and student activities, providing volunteers when needed and providing all students with a student designed, Mountain View tee shirt.

The Masonic Student for 2023 was Alison Leos, the KPBSD district wide trimathalon chess champion was Silas Mullican, and Miguella Blair created the winning design for this year’s PTO tee shirt.

Interesting Post Covid Fact

Approximately 100 students are picked up daily by their parents or another designated person at Mountain View this year, Pre-Covid that number averaged between 30 and 40. The efficient pick up and drop off procedures developed during Covid have been kept in place and more families now choose to transport their students to and from school.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Nanwalek School

Principal: Penny Bearden

Staff:

Gretchen Nelson (2-3 teacher) has started her Master's administration degree program through Grand Canyon University.

Randall Brown has started his Master's in Special Education through University of Alaska Southeast. He currently has 9 credits and has applied for an emergency certification.

Fr. Michael Oleksa was chosen to attend a trip to Siberia for 10 days to further our understanding of Alaska History.

Grants and Partnerships:

We continued our grant with Youth Empowerment Services at Cook Inlet Tribal Council for our Innovation Station. CITC supported the grant through additional supplies, additional training for teachers, and supporting SeaWeek by working with students to complete traditional projects using the FabLab.

Friends of Homer Library gave books for each Nanwalek Student in K-12.

English Bay General store continues to supply snacks for K-12 students.

English Bay Corporation (\$5,000) and Nanwalek IRA (7 roundtrip airfares on Smokey Bay) to support Nanwalek Basketball.

Project GRAD continues to support with SEL lessons for K-3; PHLIGHT clubs, field trips, academic support for 6-12, and additional PD opportunities for staff.

We moved our Title I grant to school-wide. Used funds to support a wide variety of school projects. The most impactful was to hire an additional teacher to create smaller class sizes in the K-5.

North Pacific Rim Housing supports our students and teachers with school supplies and foods for our Sugpiaq Dinner during SeaWeek and for our Thanksgiving Feast.

Chugachmiut helps with resources and supplies for our Native Language program. They also pay an elder who comes in to introduce teachers to the local Native culture and helps teachers with the cultural relevancy of their lessons.

IGAP (Indian General Assistance Program) and AmeriCorp are 'helping hands' that help during open house, Halloween Carnival, SeaWeek, etc.

Academics:

Trinity Huntsman was our UAA Scholar.

Athletics:

HS Boys Basketball

Sean Moonin earned All Tournament and All Conference team during the Region II Peninsula Conference.

HS Girls Basketball

Alison Seville and Trinity Huntsman earned All Tournament and All Conference team during the Region II Peninsula Conference.

Region II Sportmanship award during regional tournament.

School Wide Projects:

School wide morning meetings to support SEL goals.

Positive Office Referrals; shared during morning meetings and positive phone calls on Fridays.

SeaWeek – a week of collaboration around honoring local culture.

Love of Reading / iDidaRead events.

We built an outdoor ‘little library’ for students to continue to read and share books over the summer.

Staff and Community collaborated around the DEED book and video series, *“Transforming Schools: A Framework for Trauma-Engaged Practice in Alaska”*.

Thanksgiving Feast, Winter Music Program, Back to School Picnic, Halloween Carnival, Senior Breakfast, Prom.

Students participate (cook, clean, eat, and listen to stories) during weekly Elder Tea.

Use Character Counts curriculum / monthly celebrations.

Superintendent's Annual Report

2022-2023

School Name Nikiski Middle/High School Principal Shane Bostic

Middle School

NMHS Spelling Bee:

STEM:

Middle School Athletics

Volleyball:

Track & Field:

High School

Fine Arts:

Performing Arts: The Nikiski Middle/High School Drama/Dance/Music department performed Disney's "High School Musical" three times for the community and once for students. The cast also performed a special number, "All in this Together", for the Nikiski Staff. More than 50 student's grades 7-12 were involved in the production. Shows sold out and many community members raved about the quality of performances from our students. Students are looking forward to next year's show already.

Battle of the Books: Maggie Grenier, Emily Durfee, and Shelby Burman. 4th in District

National Honor Society: This year we inducted three new members, Lillian Carstens, Katerina Isabell & Jessica Perry.

High School Athletics

Wrestling:

Track & Field:

Volleyball: Lillian Carstens- 1st Team All-Region

Girls Basketball: Lillian Carstens 1st Team All State and 1st Team All-Conference. Bailey Epperheimer and Kinlee Jefferies 2nd Team All-Conference. Honorable Mention for All-Conference goes to Savannah Stock.

Boys Basketball: Athletes named to 2nd Team All-Conference are Caileb Payne and Drew Handley.

Football: The following athletes were All Peninsula 1st Team, Koleman McCaughey- Running Back, Caileb Payne – Offense & Defense Lineman, Quentin Oskolkoff- Offensive Lineman, and Gavin White- Utility Player. 2nd Team, Charlie Chamberlain- Center, Simon Grenier- Running Back, Dwight Mullins- Linebacker, and Wyatt Stormer- Tight End.

Awards: Congratulations to Dan Carstens on being named Region Principle of the Year!

ANSEP Scholars Scholarship- Brenden Boehme- 4 years full college tuition, housing, books, parking, food, and everything else, plus a \$50,000 scholarship to a graduate school of his choice upon graduation from UAA

Upward Bound:

Caring for the Kenai: Maggie Grenier took 2nd place with Carol the Composting Cow while we also had Giasenna Nicks and Jessica Perry for placing in the top 12.

Giving Back: Nikiski Staff baked 80 pies and 75 loaves of bread for the Nikiski Community Holiday Food Drive.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Nikiski North Star Elementary School

Principal: Jenna Fabian

- Heather Hooper, second grade teacher, nominated by admin, as an Alaska Science of Reading Ambassador for the tremendous lift of reading support within our building
- Sarah Segura, current Third Grade Teacher, is finishing her master's degree.
- Three staff members currently in LETRS cohorts-Several others signing up/on waitlist.
- Before the start of the 2022-2023 school year, NNS participated in the "Family Fun in the Midnight Sun" event with a bubble booth.
- In September, NNS once again had a Kenai River Marathon Relay Team, "Team Nikiski North Star." This year, Nikiski Middle High also had a team.
- NNS Staff-Colby Way and Jenna Fabian were present at the Nikiski Hardware and Supply Car Show. Great opportunity to show up and be present in the community.
- In October, NNS staff and our PTO held a Fall Carnival with a variety of games and attractions that involved a plethora of community support.
- Continued to highlight a "Mystery Staff Member," where we shared a fact each day of the week and classes guessed who it was. Each Friday, the staff member was revealed on social media and revealed to the school on Monday. 35 staff participated and were highlighted each week. This helped our whole school get to know staff members.
- Announcement Themes: Character Trait of Week; "Wacky Wednesday"-kids submit jokes. Student Helpers would help share three jokes that were written by students. Fun Fact Friday: Based on student input, we started to share a variety of fun facts each Friday.
- Teams from Nikiski North Star participated in the KPBSD "Mind-A-Mazes" Meet-Two teams at NNS took two of the five awards: Judges Choice & 2nd Place Overall!
- Two NNS students-part of the cast of *Seussical: The Musical*, which was put on by the Triumvirate Theater. Grades K-5 were able to see this performance at KCHS.
- Bell Ringing: "Every time the bell rings, somebody has met their goal!" 🛎️ Students and staff were able to celebrate in the Principal's Office when they met a reading, math, or behavior goal. Our bell rang over 104 times this year!
- NNS Bell Choir at NMHS Basketball games to perform the National Anthem at Varsity Basketball games.
- 30 students participated in the LinkUp Music Concert. Our students, under the direction of Mrs. Beck and Ms. Biggs, were part of the 150 students that played with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra.
- NNS Teacher, Colby Way, read aloud to kids on Saturday morning, 15+ different times throughout the school year at Nikiski Hardware & Supply. Nikiski Hardware & Supply has partnered with NNS on projects-Big and small. Mr. Way and his 6th grade math students visited Nikiski Hardware and Supply for a hands-on math/business simulation. Students jumped into business roles at the Olde Goat Cafe and calculated discounts/taxes on products within their store.
- NNS participated in One School, One Book-Sponsored by Title I. Our entire school participated in the reading of *Gooseberry Park* by Cynthia Rylant. A culminating activity was a Bingo for Books event, sponsored by the NNS PTO.
- NNS participated in "Love of Reading Month" with a Dr. Seuss Spirit Week and "Drop Everything and Read Fridays." On Friday mornings, for the first 15 minutes, all staff,

students, and visitors enjoyed their favorite books! One of our special reading guests included Kenai Borough Assemblyman Peter Ribbens.

- Stories and Styles: With parent/guardian permission, students had the opportunity to make an appointment to meet in the library, where a staff member or volunteer styled their hair while they read a book! This event occurred each Friday from February-May.
- Our school hosted four events related to Music: Veterans Day Performance, Primary Winter Concert, Intermediate Spring Concert featuring grade levels, Bell Choir, and Band, and the NNS Talent Show.
- NNS has partnered with local bakery-Kivi Creations and local restaurant-Treehouse Restaurant. For their birthday, staff can present their card at Kivi Creations for a free cupcake & students present their birthday card at the Treehouse Restaurant for their very own personal pizza.
- NNS is very thankful for the Nikiski Fire Department. They volunteer at our school often, from Fire Prevention week to cooking food on the last day of school.
- The Kenai River Brown Bears hockey team visited our building on three different occasions. The team was split up into teaching groups and was able to interact with each class.
- Mr. Way, with the help of several other teachers, continued a season of 3-5 grade Cross Country and two sessions of Basketball: 3rd and 4th/5th grade sessions. This year, our Cross-Country team partnered with Tustumena and held Tsalteshi/NMHS Invitationals.
- With the support of NNS PTO and Title I, our school partnered with local Alaskan Native Artist, Bunny Swan. Bunny held two-day workshops for both our intermediate and primary grade students.
- NNS hosted a winter Family Activity Night which supported over 56 diverse families! Families played games, completed art projects and STEM challenges, and enjoyed popcorn!
- NNS hosted a variety of Special Guest Presenters including Challenger Center Staff, Junior Achievement, Nikiski Fire Department, Nikiski High School Athletics, North Peninsula Recreation, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Bunny Swan, Forest Service & Smokey the Bear, Sue Biggs, Triumvirate Theater, Rachel Pioch-Indigenous Education, Ranger Michelle Ostrowski, AK Office of Boating Safety, Kenai Lions Club, Kenai Masonic Lodge,
- NNS Talent Show included 25 acts (Totaling 32 students). Lots of brave students!
- Our PBIS Team supported "Schoolwide Celebrations" when classes reached 25 stars. NNS had 5 celebrations over the school year, which resulted in our school earning 125 stars for Safe, Respectful, Responsible, and Caring behavior.
- Inclusive Environment: SLP read to classes about alternative methods of communication and introduced Core Board Communication. Admin and SLP ordered Core Board for playground and gym. Student used ACC device to help with announcements.
- Our school highlighted "Star Students of the Month" this year. Staff were tasked with identifying students that exhibited Safe, Respectful, Responsible, and Caring behavior. Each Star Student had their nomination read aloud, received a certificate, a commemorative sticker, and a wearable, keepsake button for families. Principal contacted each Star Student's family, which resulted in 120 personal phone calls/e-mails to parents/guardians!

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Nikolaevsk

Principal: Matthew LaHue

Athletics:

- Nikolaevsk fielded a Mixed-Six volleyball team for the first time in four years.
- Nikolaevsk will have a varsity and middle school Cross Country for the 23-24 school year.

Academics

- Student enrollment increased from 6 to 34 during the 22-23 school year.
- Hydroponics Grant:
 - Nikolaevsk was awarded an \$8,000 hydroponics grant for the 22-23 school year. Students K-11 participated in building a lab from the ground up as well as growing and selling plants to continue the program.
- STEAM nights were held throughout the year. Students and families were given the opportunity to build various projects together with staff guidance.
- Students showed growth on iReady, AimsWeb and MAP tests.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Ninilchik

Principal: Matthew LaHue

Important information and achievements to include:

- grants awarded,
- districtwide, statewide, and national academic awards,
- regional and state athletic titles,
- special school-wide projects, etc.

It is **not** necessary to list each member of a team or group.

Athletics:

- Ninilchik Boys Basketball won the 2022 2A State Championship for the second year in a row.
- Ninilchik Boys Basketball are the Interior Conference Champions
- State qualifiers for Track and Field

Academics

- iReady growth
 - Ninilchik's elementary has shown 77% growth in math for the 22-23 school year.
- Accelerated Reader
 - Ninilchik Elementary students have read hundreds of books and hundreds of thousands of words through the accelerated reader program. Pre-K teacher and Interventionist Kelly Witten spearheaded the program with the help of Danita Dodge, Rebecca Acrey and numerous community volunteers. The school now has a significant library of age-appropriate books that are labeled for use in the program.
- STEAM activities have been ongoing throughout the year under the guidance of Project GRAD. More than 30 students participate multiple days a week on various academic projects.
- Ninilchik's seniors earned over \$100,000 in scholarships this year.
- Student of the month started in the second semester as well as student awards assemblies; parents and the community were very excited to see this tradition brought back.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Paul Banks Elementary

Principal: Sean Campbell

- Alaska Teacher of the Year Alternate: Jennifer Reinhart
- Homer Foundation Grant for school library
- Annual Read-a-thon
- Introduced Outdoor Classroom Celebration
- Annual Halloween Parade
- Addition of Family Resource Center
- Annual Art Extravaganza
- Paul Banks Preludes Violin Program with Homer OPUS

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: **Port Graham school**

Principal: **Gregory Melvin**

Highlights

- Heather O'Domin reached 15 years of successful work with Port Graham students!
- Resumed Open Gym activities with adults in community and students
- Tristan Moonin is 2023 UA Scholar (\$12,000 Scholarship) & Plans to attend UAF
- Successful virtual learning via support from iChoice in Fall 2022

Sea Week 2023

- Activities led and supported by the following entities:
 - Alaska Coast Guard
 - Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies
 - Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR)
 - Port Graham Teachers & Support Staff
 - Port Graham Village Council
 - Project GRAD
- Learning activities focused on “sea” themes, including tidepooling, scavenger hunts, subsistence activities with provisions to the elders in the community, Kids Don’t Float program, journaling, “tide” dying t-shirts, fish print and algae processing, “Salmon Olympics,” many art projects, beach cleanup, mini-NYO competition, and the week finished with lunch provided by the Port Graham Village Council.

Project GRAD Activities

- Strong Distance Learning Support
- Battle of the Bots S.T.E.A.M. Family Night
- RISE (K-6) & POWER UP (7-12)
 - Various STEAM, SEL, Zones of Regulations, and Sources of Strength Activities with students at all grade levels
- Kasistna Bay Science Lab (Gr. 4-5) in Seldovia
- Facilitated Number of Sea Week Activities

Kachemak Bay Traditional Games 2023 - Native Youth Olympics

- Sr. Seal Hop – Shane Moonin, 5th Place
- Sr. Wrist Carry – Shane Moonin, 5th Place
- Sr. Eskimo Stick Pull – Tristan Moonin, 2nd Place
- Jr. Alaskan High Kick – Ethan Moonin, 5th Place
- Jr. Arm Pull – Jamie Mosquito II, 2nd Place
- Jr. Indian Stickpull – Jamie Mosquito, 1st Place

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Razdolna School

Principal: Dr. Michael A. Sturm

UA Scholar – Elena Fefelov

Enrolment projected to be up next year.

STEAM Team and Project GRAD Activities / Field Trips

Project based learning is taking hold

Growth in math and reading scores.

Entire Kindergarten is at or above grade level in reading and math

Attendance above 85% average

PBIS program

Parent Involvement in Site Council Meetings

Increased communication between school and community via village leadership meetings inclusion of Dr. Sturm.

Collaborative & Positive Staff Culture

Staff BBQ

Migrant Ed/ title 1 winter wonderland Day, Remote Learning Kits, Life jackets, Marine Classes

Harvest Fair, winter wonderland, Seminar week

Fritz Creek Post Office Art Work – Ms. Aurand's Grade 2-3 Classroom

Afterschool trapping program

Afterschool Ski club

Afterschool knitting/crafts

Daily after school tutoring- Tier 2 and Tier 3.

Afterschool Gymnastics

School wide adoption of SOR, reading intervention strategies for all classrooms and intervention models.

Numerous small donations of materials and equipment from local businesses and community members to get our welding program off the ground.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Redoubt Elementary School

Principal: William Withrow

Staff Achievements:

Redoubt continues to have success with our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support system (PBIS).

Retiring this year is Mr. Withrow, Mrs. Roed, Mrs. Arthur, and Mrs. Utecht with 106 years of dedication between them.

Student Accomplishments:

The Spelling Bee winner this year was Fabio Rodriguez.

Our 4th, 5th and 6th grades participated in Forensics.

Redoubt's third grade students joined KPBSD students in a collaboration between district students and professionals in "The Orchestra Swings".

Redoubt's 3rd and 4th grade students came in first place in Battle of the Books.

The Masonic student of the year was Sienna Smith.

Our summer reading program was a big success with participants earning a reading t-shirt and pizza party.

School Programs and Activities:

Redoubt held three successful Scholastics Book Fairs this year.

Our new art teacher held an outstanding art show open to the public with student collections from the school year.

Family game night was a big success with students, parents and staff coming to play all sorts of board games and open gym activities.

Our PTA held their annual Carnival in the fall with games, drinks, food and door prizes.

Redoubt's annual fundraiser was a huge success with more than \$10,000 being raised for our school.

October was Walk Your Child to School month. Redoubt had approximately 100 students, parents and staff participate in this activity. Our PTA then supplied hot cocoa and donut holes to everyone.

Redoubt's 4th grade class held a movie night fundraiser that was a huge success. Students watched "the Bad Guys" in various rooms with snacks and popcorn available.

With a Title 1 grant, Redoubt's K-2 grades participated in an eight-week music program then celebrated with a concert in our gym for all students, staff and parents. Redoubt students ended the year with their annual awards ceremony, picnic and field day.

Community Support:

Holiday Kindness this year supported 25 students with community donations. Fred Meyers rewards programs continues to be an invaluable support to our school. We held our annual Food Bank Can-struction and delivered 1,235 lbs. to the food bank.

Dr. Suess birthday was celebrated with Cat in the Hat wear along with SPD and Fire Department coming to our classrooms to read Dr. Suess books.

SPD assisted with ALICE Drills.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: River City Academy

Principal: Shea Nash

This was my first year as principal and I loved all the aspects of guiding a school and supporting teachers and staff. River City Academy is a small school with a mission of giving students the tools to achieve academic success through their own self-directed effort. Therefore, most of our important information and achievements are very personalized to each student finding success and growth. I asked my staff to highlight those achievements and what I received is the following:

I got to come back and work at RCA on a regular basis, and had waaaay less responsibility than I had previously. We had a successful (at least I'll call it that) backpacking trip to Tonsina Point in Seward. The kids were great and we had fun regardless of the unstoppable rain. Every single 8th grader finished their ELA level. All but one 7th grader finished their ELA level (The student who didn't was chronically absent).

It was a great time!

TAD (ELA teacher)

As part of our exploration classes students met community and history standards with a trip to Fort McGilvray. Additionally, our Middle School students had an increase of standards completion over the last two year!

Highlights from the year: Hans Hess was hired as an Instructional Aide using ESSER funds, and helped support kids to finish credits. He was an amazing addition to our school. The movies produced by my videography class were so well done that we did a film premiere and invited Superintendent Holland. The school bond was passed so we will have our own building soon! Explorations gave kids opportunities to visit beaches in Kenai and Seward. It was such a great year. You did amazing. If you need more highlights let me know and I can come up with more.

Sincerely, Michelle Gist - River City Academy, special education

Physics successfully built and explained the physics behind Water Balloon Launchers as part of our project based learning. The Environmental Sciences class had a tour of the Marathon facility that included talks from the Marathon Environmental Scientists. I saw a shift during the year in some students from just being here to becoming engaged in the class and their success. One student made a drastic change and worked hard the last semester to graduate when before they had yet to take responsibility for their work. They became an inspiring individual.

Suzanne Phillips – Science teacher

One highlight of the year that jumps out to me is watching a student that is usually quite unmotivated, and often sleeps during class, get extremely excited about making lava cakes in class. He wanted to take lava cakes to all the teachers and his mom. It is amazing what can spark motivation and excitement in students, and I love how RCA works to find that factor.

I have a mentee that started out the year as mostly nonverbal. He kept to himself and was very limited in his interactions with the other mentor students. Slowly through the year, I watched him become a part of "the group." He began to smile. He began to LAUGH. He began to talk to the other students (a little bit). It is so amazing to watch student growth like that, and I am thankful for a set-up that fosters those relationships.

Kayli Wiseman – Math teacher

Other initiatives that were of note this year where that we developed a time during the week for students to hear from the community and establish ways to complete standards through community involvement. We had Jim Knight from KPC present about the process tech program, Ashley Blatchford from the LeeShore center in Kenai presented on Sources of Strength and Healthy Relationships, Sarah Erickson (a local business owner) presented on building Alaskan businesses, Christine Ermold presented on End of Life Care. We are looking to maintain these partnerships and expand to more connections in the community for the future. We saw students involve themselves in the community through river cleanup projects, the creation of a story trail walk on Tsalteshi trails for families with small children, an internship at Twin City Veterinary, and 362 lbs of food donated to the Kenai Peninsula Foodbank.

Our partnership with the Summit Learning Program continues to be a success in supporting student success. Summit flew myself and our two new teachers down to a conference in New Orleans to train on standards-based evaluations and project-based learning. These new teachers were excellent additions to the staff. Students at RCA saw increases of growth over the last two years. 92% of students were above 85% on assessed cognitive skills (roughly translated to traditional grading: 92% complete projects at a B or higher level). 56% of students finished every single checkpoint and assessment for the entire year with 18% only off track in 1 class and 12% off track in only 2 classes. This is an incredible amount of high quality work completion that we hope to build upon next year!

Thank you for the opportunity to share about our year!

Shea Nash – River City Academy Principal

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Seward High School

Principal: Henry Burns

2022-23 Iron Mountain FFA Report

National Awards: Ag Issues Team participated in Indianapolis, IN, in October, 2022, placing 17th out of 34 teams nationally.

District Awards: 1st & 2nd place Employability Skills, 1st place Prepared Public Speaking, 1st & 2nd place Extemporaneous Public Speaking, 2nd place Creed Speaking

State Awards: State FFA 2022-2023 State President, 1st & 2nd place Employability Skills, 2nd place Extemp. Public Speaking, 2nd place Prepared Public Speaking, 2nd & 3rd place Individual Environmental & Natural Resources (ENR) event, 1st place Team ENR, 1st place Individual Floriculture, 1st place Outdoor Recreation Placement Proficiency, 1 State Degree, and the \$1500 Bill Stoltze Scholarship recipient.

NextGen Power Mechanics and Technology scholarship recipient - attending June, 2023 in NC.

Grant Awarded: \$10,000 GEER Grant for Agricultural Advancement, April 2023.

Caring for the Kenai

Lucy Bamford - 5th place in Caring for the Kenai

- 34 entries from Seward High School (a total of 86 students participated in groups)

Jennifer Fernandez - 3rd place in 2023 Educators Rising Leadership Conference - Childrens Literature Competition

SeeBird Project (The Seebird Project is a citizen science project done in collaboration between Seward High School and the Alaska Sealife Center. In the project, high school students

participate in seabird surveys along the waterfront and then choose a question to research by analyzing the data collected.)

Athletics

Girls cross country team won state (first time since 2007) putting 3 in the top 15 for individual recognition

Wrestling team had a top 10 finish at state (first time since 2004)

Wrestling also had 2 individuals win state (one for the second year running)

Boys Swim team won their first ever region title

Boys Swim team also had a relay win state

Boys Swimming also had 3 school records broken by that relay team

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Seward Middle School

Principal: Matt Potter

I am pleased to report on some of the exciting events and accomplishments that have taken place at our school throughout the year. As the principal, I am proud to share with you the following highlights:

Kids 2 Slopes Skiing: This program was a great success and provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to engage in outdoor recreation. With the help of our dedicated staff, we were able to take all of students to Alyeska to go skiing on two separate occasions. The students had a blast and learned valuable skills in the process. Special Thanks to the PTA for applying for and managing the grants to help pay for the trip.

Hunters Ed and Hunters Ed Field Day: Our school was fortunate enough to partner with the local Fish and Wildlife Department to offer Hunters Ed classes and a field day through our survival exploratory. Our students had the opportunity to learn about wildlife conservation, hunting safety, and ethics. The field day was a great way to put their newfound knowledge into practice.

\$5,000 Grant from Safeway: We were thrilled to receive a generous grant from Safeway to purchase first aid materials and certify all of our 8th graders in first aid. This will not only prepare them for emergencies but also provide them with valuable skills that they can use for the rest of their lives.

Grant to Purchase New Volleyball Nets: We were also fortunate enough to receive a grant to help us purchase new volleyball nets for our school. This will improve the quality of our physical education program and allow our students to participate in more volleyball games and tournaments.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Skyview

Principal: Mrs. Shonia Werner

Important information and achievements:

- **Grants Awarded**

Skyview Middle School was happy to receive a \$1500 grant from Hill Corp. We are looking forward to perusing our grant options to augment our 2023-2034 budget to bring greater opportunities to our students and bolster the Skyview learning experience.

- **National Academic Awards:**

The recognized American School Counselor Association Model Program (RAMP) recognizes schools committed to delivering school counseling programs aligned with the ASCA National Model framework. The RAMP designation demonstrates to administrators, school boards, families, and the community at large that the school is committed to supporting the mission of the school and district. To date, approximately 1,300 schools have earned the RAMP designation nationally. Skyview is proud to be one of only two Alaska schools to have earned **RAMP designation**.

- **Districtwide, Statewide Academic Awards:**

Skyview participated in a variety of Academic and Co-curricular activities in 2022-2023 ranging from Battle of the Books to mass Band and Choir with great success. These activities and competitions accentuate the school experience for many of our students. Distinguished members of this group of students are as follows.

Perfect Attendance

Charlie Wang

Presidential Gold Recipients (4.0 for 4 quarters)

Dwight Brown
Cassidy Braze
Kate Cox
Lilly Dawley
Katie DeBardelaben
Mia Hannevold
Teagan Kobylarz

Valarie McAnelly
Rebekah Pieh
Ryan Queen
Genevieve Sheldon
Araunah Stitt
Naomi Zichko
Shiloh Zichko

Spirit of Youth Award

Carissa Heitstaman
Kayla Wood

Cassidy Kruse

District Art Show (Every Student entered won an award out of 65 district wide entries!)

Kate Cox- Grade 8, 1st place Ceramics & Sculpture
Ryan Queen- Grade 8, 2nd place Ceramics
Katie DeBardelaben- Grade 8, 3rd place Ceramics
Neolia Lastinger- Grade 7, 1st place Drawing
Mikaila Walgenbach- Grade 8, 1st place Open
Audrey Hobart Anderson- Grade 8, Teacher's Choice, Open
Sam Qualy- Grade 7, 1st place Painting

McKade Moore- Grade 8, 3rd place Painting
Emerie Mallard- Grade 8, Honorable Mention Painting
Paige McMurray- Grade 7, 2nd place Sculpture
Ollie Fischer- Grade 8, Honorable Mention Sculpture
Lilith Rogers- Grade 7, Honorable Mention Sculpture
Eva Abel- Grade 7, Best in Show for Middle School

Mathathon

Charlie Wang, Mathathon Champion

Veterans of Foreign Wars Patriots Pen

Lilly Dawley, 2nd Place

- **Regional and State Athletic Titles:**

The athletic programs at Skyview are well established. An entrenched work ethic and emphasis on inclusion and sportsmanship foster programs that are successful far beyond the titles and accolades.

Girls Sports

Boroughs results-

Team Championships: Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball and Track

Individual Champions:

Katie DeBardelaben- Cross Country

Kara Veihdeffer- Nordic Skiing

Hayden Kumfer- Wrestling

Natalee Strouse- Wrestling

Valery McAnelly- Wrestling

Rowen Peck- Wrestling

Tristan Byrd- Wrestling

Infinity—Ann Asiata-Higa- Wrestling

State results-

Team Championships: Wrestling

Individual Champions:

Hayden Kumfer- Wrestling

Valerie McAnelly- Wrestling

Rowan Peck- Wrestling

Carrisssa Heitstuman- Wrestling

Infinity-Ann Asiata-Higa- Wrestling

Boys Sports

Boroughs Results-

Team Championships: 2nd Place- Basketball 3rd Place- Soccer, Track

Individual Champions:

Carson Cobb-Wrestling

Zach Kemp- Wrestling

Titus Watts- Wrestling

Cody Coonrod- Wrestling

Anthony Payne- Wrestling

Koda Lepula- Wrestling

State Results-

Team Championships: Wrestling 2nd place

Individual Champions:

Carson Cobb- Wrestling

Titus Watts- Wrestling

Anthony Payne- Wrestling

Zack Kemp- Wrestling

- **Special School-Wide Projects:**

Skyview Middle School has set goals within and supporting our School Improvement Plan. These projects were chosen because of their direct impact on Skyview's academic and social emotional climate.

Failure Prevention

Weekly grade reports

iTeam Student Intervention

Before School Tutoring

After School Tutoring

Social Emotional Development

Panther Celebration

Sources of Strength

Student Council / Leadership

Schoolwide dances

Intramural Sports

Summer Camp

Calming Strategies classroom lessons

6th Grade Visitation

Problem Solving Flow Chart group lessons

Think Sheet Problem Solving group lessons

Anger Management Chart group lessons

Bullying, Peer Mediation group lessons

Coping strategies Group

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Soldotna Elementary School

Principal: Austin Stvenson

Soldotna Elementary School is a title school with an annually increasing level of poverty as measured by free and reduced lunch applications and yet, students have made major academic gains again this year. Students made percentile increases in every grade level measured on made in every subject area. Students at SoEl substantially out grow their peers across the country.

Median percentile ranks (total students) Fall to Spring measured by MAP:

Math

3rd 23-32

4th 46-54

5th 44-67

6th 48-51

Reading

3rd 28-34

4th 44-49

5th 56-60

6th 54-60

No students in 6th grade tested below the 20th percentile in reading.

As measured by I-ready Math, Soldotna Elementary students made more growth than any other k-5 or k-6 school in the school district.

Soldotna Elementary Students checked out more books than any other school in the district by far for a total of 14,149. Four thousand more than the next highest school.

SoEl currently has 8 students identified as gifted which is more than any other school in the Central Pen. In the 2023-2024 school year 7 students will be taking middle school math.

Key programs that contributed to student success and achievement this year included advancing specific students 1 grade level in math across the school and increasing our tutoring hours from 0 in previous years to 100 per week in FY23.

We used title and other funds to add considerably more clubs this year as well. We offered yearbook, leadership, battle of the books, coding, gymnastics, volleyball, and basketball.

Superintendent's Annual Report 2022-2023

Soldotna High School

Submitted by: Sargeant Truesdell, Principal,
and Tabitha Blades and Tracy Smith, Assistant Principals

Soldotna High School is a comprehensive high school in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District serving 723 students in grades 9-12, both full and part-time. Over the past school year, SOHI has continued to provide students with a wide array of core course offerings as well as elective courses in fields such as music, foreign language, and Career and Technical Education.

Staff Accomplishments and Focus:

This was Mr. Truesdell's second year as a high school principal and his 25th year in education. This was Mrs. Blades's third year as Assistant Principal at SOHI but her 20th overall year. This year, we added a second Assistant Principal, Mrs. Tracy Smith, whose expertise in Intervention has added great capacity to our leadership. This is Mrs. Smith's first year as an administrator and her 17th year overall. It was a year of administrative accolades, with Mrs. Blades being named Region 3 Assistant Principal of the Year and Mr. Truesdell being named Region 3 Principal of the Year. Stars sweep!

The full faculty focused efforts this year on SOHI's School Development Goal of getting the community involved in school again post-pandemic and expanding our CTE course offerings. Along with the input from our faculty, we also sought and received approval from our Site Based Council to set lofty goals of community expert time with students, and we were able to meet and exceed them. Over the course of this school year, our students have been exposed to over 240 hours of community member expertise on topics ranging from engineering to cosmetology, aviation to world government, and beyond. Having these guests in our classrooms has enriched our students' educational experience and has lent relevance to their coursework from a real-world perspective.

Onward and Upward:

Once again, SOHI students shined like the STARS they are in all areas of student life.

Activities and Academics:

- The graduating class of 2023 collected a whopping \$505,000 in scholarships.
- Our faculty and staff were happy to recognize four students as Chamber Students of the Quarter: Ashley Dahlman, Jared Williams, Trenton Towarak, and Michael Dickinson.
- SOHI's Drama department stormed the stage producing a musical in the fall with *Something Rotten* and a one act play in the spring with *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*.
- SOHI's Battle of the Books Club took 3rd place in district competition with our team of Emma Knowles, Junior; Leihla Harrison, Freshman; Lyndzi Gaucin, Freshman; and (alternate) Sophomore Aidan Bon.
- Student Council took on the daunting task of continuing old traditions as well as creating new ones this year. As in the past, StuCo planned assemblies for the entire student body, but this year, they took special care to use this time to spotlight other student groups. Our band, choir, DDF, and cheerleaders were able to showcase their talents for their peers, and the students thoroughly enjoyed this new format. Additionally, StuCo continued the newer tradition of our community tailgate for Homecoming. This event began as a result of COVID-related dance shutdowns and was so popular, students voted to keep it in place this year. We hosted hundreds of current students and alumni for yard games, food trucks, and live music all in the

name of SOHI Pride! Our newest tradition this year was also spearheaded by StuCo. The Little Sweetheart Dance was held in February and was a community dance hosted at SOHI for the students at each of our six elementary feeder schools and their families. We sold over 300 tickets and danced the night away! It was a huge success and we received tremendous support from our community. We anticipate an even bigger turnout next year.

- Four Soldotna High freshmen were selected as finalists in the 2023 Caring for the Kenai competition. These students' proposals were selected as one of 12 finalists, selected out of almost 300 entries from across the Kenai Peninsula. Emerson Kapp placed 2nd overall following the final oral presentations. Sophia Jedliski, Nova Paulk, and Kiernan Lapp all earned runner up status.
- Soldotna High School's Art program flourished this year with thirteen District Art Show Winners! Chloe Jacko, Dawson Lockwood, Molly Macmillan, Millie Day, Miah Mead, Jazzalyn McDonald, Emma Hunter, Emily Parker, Dean Harbough, Trinity Donovan, Journey Bruner, and Krysten Yeager. Additionally, Tanner Inman, Sophie Micciche, Chloe Jacko, Emily Parker, and Olivia Hayes showed work in the Superintendent's Heart for Art Show. Chloe Jacko wrote and illustrated a book in English and Dena'ina after she participated in the Alaska Native Education Program Grant "CTC-NL" Project. The purpose of this program was to link students with fluent speakers to help revitalize Alaska Native Languages.
- Our ever-growing music program shined bright this year as well with Evelyn Brown, Josiah Burton, Ashley Dahlman, Clare Henry, and Nicholas Lopez making All-State Choir. Madelyn Ross and Abriella Werner made All-State Band. Emma Hunter, Moriah Stitt, Abigail Sorrell, Aidan Bon, Brenden Jones, Levi Mickelson, Madelyn Ross, Andrew Pieh, Kobe Curry, and Abriella Werner were selected for KPBSD Honor Band. Evelyn Brown, Nicholas Lopez, Clare Henry, JLee Webster, Abriella Werner, Levi Mickelson, and Brenden Jones received Superior Ratings at the District Solo/Ensemble and qualified for State Competition. Clare Henry and JLee Webster both received a Superior rating at State Solo/Ensemble.
- Our newest extracurricular group, Drama, Debate, and Forensics (DDF), had a wonderful first season of competition. Our team had a solid showing for their first ever state tournament where 22 other schools were present. Their Reader's Theater was ranked 8th out of 21 highly competitive teams with other great performances in the FX, XComm, and Original Oration categories.
- Savannah Hawkins, SOHI freshman, was chosen as the Kenai Peninsula Youth of the Year for Boys & Girls Club. She finished as state runner up.
- Soldotna High School hosted its third annual Rising Stars Day which allowed incoming freshmen from Skyview Middle, IDEA, Connections, and Aurora Borealis Charter to come together to meet faculty and staff, form some bonds, and get questions about starting high school answered.

Sports:

- SOHI Football continued its strong tradition with both C Team and JV going undefeated this year. Varsity went 9-1 this season winning their 17th straight conference title and finishing as State Runners Up.
- Volleyball placed 19th out of 60 in the state and fourth in the Northern Lights Conference. Katelyn Morrison and Nicole Dickinson were on the All-Conference for the NLC Tournament, and Clare Henry received a Good Sport Award for the tournament.

- XC Running had a phenomenal season with two outstanding girls' team showings at state by freshman Sophia Jedlicki who finished 2nd place and fellow freshman Tania Boonstra who finished 5th. Jacob Strausbaugh also finished in the top 10 at state for the boys' team.
- The SOHI boys wrestling team placed 2nd in the large school state meet, a few points behind South Anchorage, winning all 5 finals matches. Individual Champions included: Jacob Strausbaugh 112#, Ezekiel Miller 125#, Issac Chavarria 152#, Hunter Richardson 189# (undefeated 33-0 season and 2X State Champion), and Liam Babitt 215# (undefeated 20-0 season and a 3X State Champion). Seven additional wrestlers placed in the top 6.
- The SOHI girls wrestling team placed 3rd at State. Six of them placed in the top 6, led by Trinity Donovan's win at 145#, (undefeated 30-0 season) making her only the 3rd female wrestler in AK history to win 4 State Wrestling titles.
- SOHI Hockey had a phenomenal season bringing home the DII State Championship trophy!
- Swim and Dive teams - The following students qualified to compete at the state meet: Zoe Burns, Tirzah Frederickson, Derrick Jones, Heidi Snyder, Nikita Monyahan, Max Reese, Charisma Watkins, and Abriella Werner. Abriella finished the dive season as the fifth place diver in the state of Alaska, and Charisma finished in eighth place in the 100 butterfly. Additionally, Abriella broke a 17-year-old, six-dive, SOHI record with a score of 234.5 at the SOHI Invite as well as a Homer High School dive record at the Homer Invite, and Derrick Jones broke the Homer High School boys diving record at the same meet.
- Boys Basketball had a complete change in leadership in C-Team, JV, and Varsity and moved forward with a successful season focused on building the program and a return to fundamentals.
- Girls Basketball finished fourth in the Northern Lights Conference. Josie Sheridan was chosen for the All-Tournament team for the conference and played in the Senior All Star game.
- SOHI's Cheerleading team has grown exponentially this year. This great group of athletes worked hard through football and basketball seasons. Starting as a small group of only three and finishing with over 18 cheerleaders, the team continually improved and grew to set goals for the program, one of which was realized when they competed at the 2023 state competition.
- The Nordic Ski team had some impressive performances this year at the state meet. In the 5K classic ski races, Tania Boonstra finished 16th with a time of 21 minutes and 17.9 seconds and Ariana Cannava placed 25th with a time of 22 minutes and 7 seconds. Both girls also went on to place in the 7.5K freestyle race with Tania Boonstra finishing 15th overall at 21: 26.6 and Ariana Cannava finishing 19th at 21:42.7.
- Boys Track and Field finished fourth place overall in the state. Individual performances included Wyatt Faircloth as the state runner-up in the 300M hurdles and sixth in the 100M hurdles as well as Kevin Steger as the state runner-up in shot put and eighth in the discus. Luke Miller finished third in the shot put, Ala Tuisaula ninth in shot put, Will Klein fifth in the 110M hurdles, Elijah Jedlicki sixth in the 800M, James Innes sixth in the 400 M, Leigh Tacey seventh in the 400M, and Andon Wolverton eighth in the 100M. All boys relay teams finished on the medals stand.
- Girls Track and Field finished fourth place overall in the state as well. Individual performances included Anaulie Sedivy as the 300M hurdle state champ, and Katelyn Morrison as the state champ in the high jump. Juliet Innes finished seventh in the state in discus, Emma Glassmaker fourth in the 100M dash, Annie Burns fifth in the 400M, and all girls relay teams finishing on the medals stand.

- Baseball is attending the State DII Tournament to defend their current state championship. Andrew Pieh, Trenton Ohnemus, and Derrick Jones were chosen as first team All-Conference, and Levi Mickelson was chosen as second team All-Conference with Sage Cruz chosen on the Good Sport team for the Southcentral Conference Tournament.
- Softball recently competed in the Northern Lights Conference Tournament. Brook Fischer and Alyssa McDonald were chosen as first team All-Conference, Kiara Forkner was chosen as second team All-Conference, and Kasey Cunningham was selected on the Good Sport team.
- Girls Soccer won the DII state championship for the first time in the school's history defeating their peninsula rivals, Kenai! Sunny Miller, Bay Bloom, and Kendra Rose were chosen as All-Tournament.
- Boys Soccer finished up second in the state, after qualifying for the title game for only the second time. Zack Buckbee and Simon Willets were chosen as All-Tournament.
- SOHI's Outstanding Senior Athletes for 2022-2023 were Isaac Chavarria and Trinity Donovan.

Overall, 423 students at SOHI participated in athletics this year, meaning that 58.5% of the total student population belongs to at least one team on campus.

Looking into the Future:

Soldotna High School faculty and administration have spent the greater part of the 2022-2023 school year planning for new ways to lend relevance to student learning and to staying abreast of national CTE trends as well as to prepare students for higher education. Staff have fully committed to maximizing student engagement and participating in Professional Learning Communities that keep the students' best interests at heart while advancing the school as a whole. The future of SOHI Stars looks bright!

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Soldotna Montessori Charter School

Principal: John DeVolld

Achievements:

Terri Carter is retiring from teaching this year after a long, distinguished career as an educator in the KPBSD.

April Dixon has completed year one of a two year Montessori Certification program.

Rachael DeRaeve was approved to begin her Montessori Certification program by our APC.

All support staff completed Montessori Instructional Aide Training from Montessori In The Public Sector training program. This is the first time we have ever had Montessori trained instructional aides.

100% of our 3rd and 6th graders were proficient on the Spring MAPS/STAR Reading Assessment.

Successful Grants

The school received a \$5,000 grant from the Kenai Peninsula Community Foundation for use to support school needs. We use a portion of the funds to support students in need for field trip scholarships, and supported our 6th grade students community outreach project by buying books to provide Books For Babies to increase literacy awareness for families with newborns. The grant is for a full year, and we will use the remaining funds at the outset of the next school year to support food pantry purchases, and to purchase additional books for our Books For Babies community outreach efforts.

School Activities:

International Day of Peace Night, Potato Harvest and Farmers Market, Craft Night, Winter Program Concert, Concert Band & Choir Concert, Community Service Outreach: 4th Grade Positive Community Messages, 5th Grade Visits to the Food Bank, 6th Grade Books for Babies Community Literacy Project, Food Pantry, Lego Robotics, Battle of the

Books, Scripps Spelling Bee, KPBSD Forensics Competition, Modern Band Concert, School Family Field Day/Picnic

The school held its annual International Day of Peace night, which provided an opportunity for students, together with their parents, to create messages for peace, which were hung at the school.

The school participated in Lego Robotics. Approximately 25 students attended after school. SCMS had 3 teams compete at the Kenai Qualifier. One SMCS team qualified for and participated at the State competition in Anchorage.

The SMCS Grade 3 & 4 Battle of the Books team finished 6th in the district competition.

The SCMS Grade 5 & 6 Battle of the Books team won the District competition and finished 10th in the State competition.

William Miller won his 4th consecutive school spelling bee. William also qualified in the regional qualifier to attend the State Bee in person. Unfortunately, he was unable to represent our school due to family schedule conflicts.

SMCS had 13 students place in the KPBSD Forensics competition: students were place winners at the competition: 1st: Steven DeBardelaben, Sofie DeRaeve, Adara Germain, Avi Bloom, Isobel Brantley, Cheyenne Gillham; 2nd: Reese Ross, Torah Sorhus, Allyson Evans, Skyla Jo Thomas, and Nathan Nelson; 3rd: Taryn Lewis; 4th: Lukas Schlegel.

SMCS Intermediate students carried out their annual 3rd quarter community outreach efforts. This year the 4th grade students continued with positive/encouraging messages in the community by decorating and sharing positive messages on insulated coffee sleeves that were supplied to area coffee vendors, presenting positive message banners to the Soldotna Police department and KPB EMS Department, and sharing positive message and sign twirling for motorist on Binkley St. The 5th grade students visited and volunteered at the Food Bank in support for lunch service or stocking food. The 6th grade students continued a new Community literacy project to deliver a book to every baby born in the Central Peninsula General Hospital. Students opted to prepare 25 bags, produced last year and filled them with books and information about the importance of reading during the month of February. They presented the books at a small ceremony at the Central Peninsula General Hospital. They also researched possible grant funding options for carrying the project forward by future students.

The SMCS food pantry continues to operate, and is filled daily by SMCS students. The students have placed 1002.7 lbs. of food in the food pantry to feed community members in need this school year.

SMCS students shared information about our school to the KPBSD Board of Education. They highlighted our community outreach projects and the use of Montessori materials for working math problems.

Two student stores were developed and run by SMCS upper elementary students. One store raised \$440.00 for the Kenai Animal Shelter, the other raised 248.21 for the Nikiski Shelter of Hope.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Sterling Elementary School

Principal: Denise Kelly

- We hired a new special education intensive needs teacher. He has been an immensely positive influence on our students this year.
- We also were provided the opportunity to hire two instructional aides which were pivotal in helping to provide intervention and support to our students K-6 in reading, writing and math.
- We also hired a new head custodian, swing shift custodian, and library aide as well as two special education aides.
- In coordination with the Friends of Sterling Elementary PTO, we held a free Halloween Trick or Treat activity for our community.
- We held a One School One Book activity which provided all families with a copy of the book *The BFG*, which culminated in a showing of the movie at the Orca Theater (which actually didn't work, but the students got to watch the movie back at the school).
- We hosted an experiment with the Alaska BADGER team from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to track earthquakes. This will last through the winter of 2024.
- We continue to have an afterschool Native Youth Olympics team that competes locally and statewide. Our team is for any Sterling student or former Sterling student. Coach Chythlook puts her heart into this team for our students. We participated in Healthy Futures program.
- Sterling participated in the American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge this year with eight students completing Finn's Mission to learn hands only CPR and the signs of a stroke. Our fundraising goal was \$2,000. The total amount earned for the fundraiser by our students was \$2,395.53!
- We had a 3rd/4th grade and 5th/6th grade team participate in the Battle of the Books and participated in the district's forensics competition.
- For the first time, students participated in the KPBSD Tri-Mathalon.
- Students also participated in the KPBSD Film Festival and the Mind-a-Mazes competition sponsored by Quest.
- We shared our school and students with the Board of Education on October 3.
- Our classroom teachers implemented the district's new math curriculum, Ready Math/iReady. We also piloted the Amplify mClass diagnostic reading assessment.
- Even though we do not have a music teacher, our Coach Chythlook teaches our students music, art and PE. This winter, she put together a concert for our families.
- 4th, 5th and 6th graders participated in a Link Up! concert with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra and played recorders and sang.

- Our students participated in a Great Kindness Challenge and completed acts of kindness that spread to the school and community, such as decorating coffee cup sleeves for our local drive-through coffee shop.
- We continue to work towards zero waste and have new recycling bins for our school. We continue to provide our cafeteria waste to local hobby farmers and bear baiters.
- One of our K/1 teachers hosted a student teacher this year.
- This year, our PTO brought back Falcon Fun Nights for our students! Students stay afterschool until 5 pm to enjoy games and other activities just for the fun of it! We held two this year!
- Our Artist in Residence was with J Leslie this year. He taught art classes for a week in April to our students in grades K – 6 as well as a special session with our staff.
- Our 6th grade students went to Mars! In collaboration with the SES Space and Defense, who gifted our school 40 “spacesuits” and did a presentation for our send-off, our 6th graders ran through a nearly two day simulation of a mission to Mars.
- Our 5th and 6th graders volunteered to help teach students and community members, running 14 booths at the 22nd annual Salmon Celebration. Our school is the only school that has been fulfilling this leadership role for over a decade.
- Our kindergarten round up was a success! We had about 10 families bring their soon to be Sterling falcons to our school for a visit to the classroom and our teacher.
- We promoted 21 sixth graders to 7th grade on our last day of school along with having a family picnic and Sterling Student Variety Talent Show.

The following individual students were recognized this school year:

- Aliyah Adams earned our school’s Masonic Outstanding Student of Year award.
- The joint artwork of two students, Katie Young and Scarlett Martinez Sandstrom, were selected to represent Sterling Elementary on next year’s school calendar magnet.

Grants and donations:

- A Hilcorp employee and parent of a student donated \$25,000 for sports and outdoor equipment. Our students voted on a Zipline for the playground!
- Our campus beautification committee successfully gathered more supplies for our Nature Trail including a wheelbarrow, shovels and picnic benches.
- SES Space and Defense donated their time and spacesuits for our students to use on their aerospace mission to Mars.
- Several teachers secured supplies through Donors Choose: science activities, model kits, counseling games, benches for our lobby, and more!

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Susan B. English School

Principal: Scott Jonsson

During 2022-23, Room/Building Use Agreements and Memorandum of Agreements were utilized with the following organizations to bring additional school activities to students.

Seldovia Village Tribe

- Open Gym/Open Pool on Friday nights
- Carry the Cure presentation
- Volleyball night on Tuesday nights
- Spring Carnival
- Spring Break Basketball Camp

Seldovia Arts Council

- Rachel Nesvig participatory Norwegian dance/concert
- Summer Music Festival
- Seldovia Theatre Arts Camp

Sea Otter Community Cener

- Student & Adult After-school Ceramics Studio in the Shop

Seldovia Can Grow

- Hydroponics Grow Lab for 3rd -5th graders, donating food to elders at Seldovia House

Middle/High School students were provided with an expanded opportunity to take face-to-face elective courses, which included Robotics/Computer Science, Yearbook/Photography, Spanish I, and Fine Art.

Susan B. English School partnered with two, local artists to create a 4' X 12' mural to be installed between the new generator and the school. Every child attending Susan B. English School contributed to the mural.

After a six-year hiatus, a burgeoning middle school athletic program emerges, with students finding opportunities to compete with other schools.

- Co-ed middle school basketball
- Girls' middle school volleyball
- Middle School Track & Field, with one high school participant.
- (Two students transfer to Homer Middle, during quarter 3, to wrestle.)

The upshot of this progress is that during 2023-2024, two high school teams are likely to emerge: Boys' high school basketball & Girls' high school volleyball.

After two years without a school-wide community celebration for Winter Holidays, students, staff, and parents brought back the Winter Holiday Performance, featuring all K-12 students on stage, in separate acts, to entertain a full-house of community members, one week before Winter Break. Additionally, students and staff brought back the tradition of hosting a Family Breakfast for their parents the day before Winter Break.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Tebughna School K-12

Principal: Christy Gomez

Cook Inlet Tribal Council Innovation Station/ Fab Lab Grant: All students K-12 were engaged in all things STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) of culturally themed units and reflective of the Alaska State Standards and SCOPES. This year we had numerous visit on site with instructors leading culturally themed units from resin fish pours to traditional sewing kits, to Native Youth Olympics to wooden duck floats and calls! Likewise, we were the first school site to visit the new fabrication lab 'Qech'henu' Building as classrooms to tour, learn, and engage with the staff.

Code.org/ CS Leaders Prize: Tebughna School is one of two Alaskan schools to win the CS Leaders Prize of \$10,000 to help establish computer science education for our K-12 students. We are using Lego Education SPIKE Essential and SPIKE Prime in supporting their CS journeys, in continuation with the Code.org curriculum of CS Fundamentals, CS Discoveries, and CS Principles next year.

Tebughna Foundation: We continued our Dena'ina Language studies via Zoom with our instructors Vide Kroto, Edna Standifer, and Julie Bismark. Likewise, TF was kind to donate school day snacks for our students, sponsor our purchase of Tebughna school supply needs, and our book purchase of the Battle of the Books for our teams this year. The team brought the Dena'ina Qenaga Language Gathering with special guests from Kenaitze Tribe, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District, traditional foods and share, with the unveiling of the Athabascan Values poster to community.

Battle of the Books: Our 3 /4 team the "Tebughna Reader Leaders" tied for 3rd place among the elementary schools in the KPBSD. Our participants were: Bethany Moon, Evalina Ollice, Jayden Bismark, Pedro Goozmer, Stephanie Stephan, and Janaya Atene. Our 5/6 team the "Tebughna Book-eteers" placed 6th out of 24 KPBSD teams. Our participants were: Ariel Atene, Selina Stephan, Andres Moon, Cage Standifer, and Benny Villalpando.

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District: TTCD expanded our TYCS- Tyonek Youth Conservation Science- program with their winning submission to Fiskars in Project Green Thumb. Farmer Nick came to teach the students about sustainability at the Tyonek Garden, and bring our new hydroponics system with Lettuce Grow! With support, we planted, grew, and harvested produce for classroom snacks, and community! We continued with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and welcomed back our Salmon in the Classroom Fish Cycle with great success. From all stages, students gathered data, maintained the tank habitat, and said farewell to our Fry. TTCD staff also led virtual lessons on conservation and ecological science throughout the year, K-12. Finally, we had our annual spring seed starts to help kick-start our Tyonek Garden summer growing season. Students and community were invited to our annual garden blessing for a good harvest this year. The TTCD is also

hosting Tebughna youth with internships this summer to maintain the Tyonek Garden from seed to harvest.

Senner Bird Lab/ University Of South Carolina: Our K-5 classroom participated in 3 virtual collectives with Dr. Nathan Senner and his team of dedicated, and engaging, graduate students on ecology and environment of the local shorebird, the Hudsonian Godwit. Our kiddos also had the opportunity to meet with the team, explore our learning, do feather identification and illustrate. Likewise, David Goldenberg from the Youtube channel, Minute Earth, gathered footage for the bird curriculum featuring our students is now available as MinuteEarth Explains: Birds.

Southcentral Foundation/ Indian Creek Health Department: Our local health tribal leadership was so supportive of our school's health education needs and supports. We were able to participate in healthy choice activities, health fairs, and confers to promote indigenous ways of knowing in wellness as an Alaskan Native village.

Project GRAD: Our partnership with PGKP provided support for our students on social emotional learning curriculum, academic coaching, student/ family support, and postsecondary support in conjunction with the US Department of Education and the Alaska Native Education Program.

KPBSD Title VI/ Indigenous Education Department activities from cultural curriculum like winter art and traditional drum kits, STEM kits, virtual movie submission of participation in the Indigenous Language Film Festival, and the invitation to zoom with the committee, too.

Achieved our SEL goal of collecting 240+ feathers of the "Be a Good Chief" initiative, and celebrated our students success in making positive, resilient, and mindful choices as a student body.

Monthly Parent and Family Engagement Activity nights: Book Walk, Books for Bingo, Family Skate Night, Family Movie Night, Camp Read- A- Lot, Project GRAD STEM Nights, Spelling Bee, Interactive Science Fair, Senator Lisa Murkowski visit to Tyonek, Dena'ina Language classes invite to community sessions, Tutoring, and theme weeks.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Tustumena Elementary 45

Principal: Devin Way

- The Challenger Center along with Title I provided the school with their Star Lab for a family engagement evening.
- Our PTO hosted the Halloween Carnival in full for the first time in several years and it was a huge success.
- The PTO also hosts a Turkey Bingo in November and a Ham Bingo in April
- We were extremely fortunate to get Jerry Pallotta in for an Author visit in May. He writes the Who Would Win? series which is a fan favorite at Tustumena and happens to be my friends uncle.
- We continue to have a strong partnership with B&G.
- We continued the Cross Country Skiing program in the winter beginning in January.
- We introduced a Cross Country Running program where we even competed against Nikiski North star at the Tsalteshi Trails and again at the NMHS trails for a Color Run event.
- Our P.E. teacher continued the Archery program with the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders and had one of the largest turn outs ever.
- Hosted the district Forensics meet in person for the first time in a few years.
- We had a 3rd/4th grade and 5th/6th grade team participate in the Battle of the Books.
- We shared our school and students with the Board of Education on **October 3**.
- Our classroom teachers implemented the district's new math curriculum, Ready Math/iReady.
- Our 3/4 class and the 1st graders became Book Buddies throughout the year.
- We hosted a Scholastic Book Fair for the first time in a few years.
- Our classroom teachers implemented the district's new math curriculum, Ready Math/iReady.
- Our kindergarten round up was a success! We had about 12 families bring their soon-to-be Tustumena Kinder Lynx to our school for a visit to the classroom and their teacher.
- We promoted 19 sixth graders to 7th grade.
- We recognized students in each class for various achievements at our mid and end of the year awards ceremonies.
- Lily Woods earned our school's Masonic Outstanding Student of Year award.
- Ivy Hanson's class was chosen to showcase their art at the capitol building in Juneau.
- Our school participated with the Coast Guard in the Kids Don't Float program.
- Our entire school participated in Dental Awareness with a local dental agency.
- We hired a new special education intensive needs teacher. She has been an immensely positive influence on our students this year.

- We also were provided the opportunity to hire two instructional aides which were pivotal in helping to provide intervention and support to our students K-6 in reading, writing, and math.

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: Voznesenka School

Principal: Michael Wojciak

- Migrant after-school tutoring
- Migrant driving academy
- Project Grad STEAM Team program
- Project Grad CHILL program
- Project Grad Kasitsna Bay trip
- NASP Archery program
- HHS girls' soccer team participants
- Elementary swimming lessons
- HS Alyeska ski trip
- UA Scholars Award recipient
- Elks Scholarship recipient
- LFS Scholarship recipient
- Shoot for the Stars Scholarship recipient
- KPAA Scholarship recipient
- Alaska Performance Scholarship recipient
- Masonic Award recipient
- School Board presentation
- Land's End Graduation
- Student Rep to Small Schools Committee
- PBIS school
- Cougar Code celebration days
- East End Road Garbage Day Cleanup
- mCLASS pilot school
- Reading Symposium attendees
- Construction class
- Bookmobile visit
- Newly organized Voznesenka PTA

School Annual Report to the Superintendent 2022-2023

School Name: West Homer Elementary School

Principal: Eric Waltenbaugh

Student Celebrations

- Jonathon Williams – State Spelling Bee
- Battle of the Books – over 30 students participated in the KPBSD 5th/6th grade and 3rd/4th grade
- TriMathalon – 10 student participated, many placing

Teacher Recognition

- Amy Russell – state paraeducator of the year
- Katie Bynagle – moved to assistant principal HHS

Grants Received

- The Homer Foundation - \$3,000
- Elks – grant 7,500 to upgrade audio visual equipment in the gym

Activities

- Cross Country - ORCA Fun Run
- Soccer
- Chess – year long club
- Basketball – scheduled games with McNeil
- Volleyball
- Japanese – year long club
- Drama Club
- Mileage Club – first time since 2019!

Events

- March 2023 First Friday Gallery Walk
- Deeland Anderson – Artist in Schools
- Talent Show
- Cardboard Carnival
- Orca Standing Ovarions Celebration of Achievement Assemblies 1x Quarter Goal setting and reflection
- May 16, 2023 –6th grade Promotion
 - HHS Grads visit WHE
- May 17, 2022 –Field Day
- May 18th, 2022 Campus Beatification Day