

Home of the Eagles



# Nanwalek Elementary/High School

Nanwalek Site Council Minutes  
December 28, 2015

## **Opening –**

Pauline Demas

## **Roll Call –**

SBC Present: Chairman Pauline Demas; Principal Nancy Kleine; Support Representative Kevin Seville; Parent Representatives Priscilla Evans, Eloise Huntsman, Michelle Ash, Thomas Evans; Student Representative Larry Ukatish

SBC Absent: Kara Fraser, Glen Fraser

Public Present: Penny Bearden

## **Reading of the School Mission & Vision & ConnectEd Vision**

Michelle Ash read

## **Approval of Minutes from November 23, 2015**

Motion to approve by Tommy Evans, seconded by Eloise Huntsman.

Comments: Priscilla Evans could not gain entrance at last meeting, doors locked.

## **Student Report - Larry Ukatish**

Larry reported that students have been learning about flowers in science, culminating in a 3-D poster. In language arts, they are reading Beowulf. Middle school and high school students are enjoying learning some dances for the Christmas program. In Sugt'stun, they are working on wreaths. When asked about how ConnectED is going from a student perspective, Larry said the iPads keep students more attentive on their work.

## **Coach Report – Kevin Seville**

Coach Seville reported that the first trip for the boys basketball team will be 1/26 – 1/31. They will travel to Anchorage, then play on the peninsula, and end up in Seldovia. The boys are splitting wood for elders as part of their practices while the gym is set up for the Christmas program. They are also utilizing the community fitness gym at the clinic. They may schedule one more game with Nikolaevsk. They haven't pursued the Borough Landfill fundraiser for a while, but with next year's middle school and possible girls' team, we will need three times the funding as this year. Coach Seville discussed the possibility of a "Go fund me" account, and talked about how some schools gain sponsorship from businesses by hanging banners (if a business donates funds, the school hangs their business banner at games). However, Nanwalek cannot host home games due to the size of the gym. Coach Seville will be setting up

the basket shooting showcase. He inquired about the schools 501c3 status, and Principal Kleine said she would consult the Director of Finance with the question.

A discussion ensued about Coach Seville's prior request that Principal Kleine gain information from district office about how the amount for each school's pupil activity fund is determined. Mrs. Kleine read this email response from Director Laurie Olson:

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There is a formula for determining how the General Fund student travel funds are allocated to the various schools.

The total amount provided to all schools in the district is \$200,000. When this started up again in FY11, \$170,000 went to high schools and K-12 schools on the road system, \$27,000 went to middle schools and \$3,000 went to small K-12 across-the-water schools.

Since Skyview High School closed and became a middle school, the allocation has also changed.

In FY16, the high school share is \$160,000 for high schools is divided among 115 teams, which averages just under \$1,400 per team.

The middle school amount of \$32,000 is divided among 78 programs, which averages about \$410 per program.

The remaining \$8,000 is divided between Port Graham, Nanwalek and Tebughna, with Nanwalek receiving \$4,000.

The split among high schools is weighted, with schools in Homer getting more of a share per program than schools in Kenai and Soldotna because of additional travel distance.

When you hear the \$200,000 amount, it's a big number, but we have to share it amongst 22 schools with extra-curricular programs, so the amount to each team or program is just a help, not expected to pay for the entire travel budget. Another \$50,000 is available to help teams that make it to state competitions with travel costs, but that is split amongst the teams who qualify for state in their category, so there is no way to tell from year to year who might be getting what amount.

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Coach Seville then inquired about the schools 501c3 status, and Principal Kleine said she would consult the Director of Finance with the question. Mr. Seville also asked if Mrs. Kleine could ask about the outlook for funds for next year, considering the budget crisis.

### **Principal's Report**

- Service Project Exercise – Culminating Document: Principal Kleine provided a summary document from the pros/cons exercise done previously. Will work on this more at future meetings.
- School board presentation – Responses: Principal Kleine read Sunni Hilt's email to the SBC, in which she thanked Nanwalek for the song of farewell at the end of Nanwalek's ConnectED board Presentation. Email read:

Thank you so much for the presentation last week. I was so proud that Nanwalek was one of "my" schools. Working together, you all have changed the course of your schools. It is inspiring to see.

And thank you so much for my gifts. The card is very special and will remind me of the joy I have always had going to your school, visiting your teachers, checking in with your classes, and proudly watching your graduates and community celebrate their success. And thank you, Nancy, students, teachers, and all, more than I can express, for the song. It was so beautiful and so unique. And it represented such a journey, proudly sharing your culture and doing it so beautifully.

Thank you so very much! You gave me some wonderful memories.

Sunni

- Calendar 2016-17  
Principal Kleine provided the finalized calendar for next year. There was factual discussion about Spring Break being during holy week.
- Attendance: Principal Kleine said only one person responded to her request to formulate an attendance committee, and that person is not an employee and doesn't live in Nanwalek. Mrs. Kleine said that families are taking their students out for a week or more at a time to take them to Anchorage, and that in general the strong attendance that we saw at the beginning of the year was slipping. Would like to have community help with attendance, and continue to search for ideas to improve attendance. The school currently recognizes:
  - Weekly perfect attendance on the intercom,
  - Monthly perfect attendance with donated doughnuts from Safeway,
  - All students who have missed 8 days or less (Award)
  - Students who have missed 1 – 8 days per quarter (Entry into drawing)
  - Those with perfect attendance for the quarter (Prize)
  - Eagle Days in each class (all students in class on time no matter what)
 Teachers give recognition for students with perfect attendance in various ways as well. The school needs parent and community help.
- School Events:
  - Christmas program is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 30 @ 4:00;
  - Christmas Caroling and Awards will be on Dec. 31.
  - Benchmarks happen right after Christmas break, January 19 – 30; teachers will likely give kids a few days to settle in to school before testing, please get the word out that it's important for the students to be rested and in attendance.

#### Miscellaneous –

- Principal Kleine is trying to get the mask-making artist Drew Michael to come to Nanwalek during Sea Week. Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies is likely coming. There will be more planning after break.
- Principal Kleine has been in touch with Director of Finance Laurie Olson in regard to the sale of the whale beak, walrus skulls, and ivory. Request from Ms. Olson was for people to try to remember how these items came into the school. Site council suggested various names, which Principal Kleine took and will follow up on.
- ConnectED documentary is supposed to take place the first week of February.

#### Teacher Reports

- Tommy Evans spoke about enjoying his participation in the Dreambox math program training. He said it was “awesome” and allows for mental math.
- Penny Bearden said she was impressed with her students' focus during the 3-D flowering plant project. Math is moving forward well. She is focusing on geometry during this isolated four day block.

#### Project Grad

- Eric Knudtson was not here today. Nancy shared that Bonnie was planning a function for students on Russian New Year. Council members spoke up, saying that is when students are allowed to mask. Nancy said she would make sure Bonnie/Jane knew this so they could plan accordingly.

#### Public Comments & Storytelling

Adjournment @ 5:16

\*There will be a comment/question period after each segment of the agenda