

Aniak Schools
September Board Report
Todd Boynton

The Aniak Schools are very pleased to have our new teachers our new teachers off to a great start to the school year. I'm particularly happy with how the high school staff, even being all new teachers, have come together as a team and are holding our students to high expectations. These teachers have also shown flexibility and resiliency during a difficult start to the school year. During this time students began class work in reading and math, but also had the opportunity to participate in fishing, art projects, and work on a community Veteran's Day project.

After having not offered any courses focused on Yup'ik culture for a number of years, thanks to Mrs. Long we'll again offer a Yup'ik studies course. Mrs. Long is reaching out to local community members for help with the class. The other teachers are also stepping out of their content areas to offer electives such as shop, art, physical education, and technology. We're continuing to partner with the A.C., District Office, City of Aniak, and hopefully YKHC to offer On the Job Training.

At the Elementary, we're proud to announce that AMNES took 3rd Place in Tier 3, Healthy Futures Challenge last year. For the Healthy Futures Challenge, students who are active for at least 60 minutes a day, 15 days a month, and record their activity on the Healthy Futures Activity Log are awarded fun incentives when their school representative submits the information to Healthy Futures via the online app. Students also participated in a Fall Harvest Field Trip. While on the field trip, students learned about fish and fish cutting from Megan Leary. They learned about gardening from Judy Hager in her garden. Students made their own fishing poles. They learned about chickens from Julia Boynton's hens, rooster, and baby chicks. Finally, students learned about wilderness survival skills from Emerie Fairbanks.

Unfortunately, AMNES has not found a full-time 2nd-grade teacher yet. The school year has started well with Jane Pajot as a substitute teacher. Jane is a retired teacher who spent 40 years in education. I'd also like to recognize Emerie Fairbanks for teaching both kindergarten and 1st grade while Okie Morgan has been out.

Our students 4th through 12th grade have been enjoying the opportunities provided through cross-country and elementary and junior high basketball. We continue to look forward to the opportunities for travel with back hauls and our school plane. This type of travel helps students to stay motivated in the classroom.