

Upriver Board Report
October 8, 2019

Despite a few snags at the beginning of the school year, things Upriver have improved greatly and our students are doing great things! Overall, some maintenance issues have been taken care of, our SACs are on the way to being formed, and our students are learning and having fun! Our teachers and staff have all been working hard, along with some community members, to make each site a success. All of our sites are completing required mandatory trainings, and fire drills and participation in site-specific professional development opportunities.

Some highlights from each site:

Stony River- Dean has been working very hard to create a learning environment that leads to student success. We still have only the one teacher in Stony, but are working to acquire another soon. Windows on the school building have been replaced, I have ordered new student chairs and some other furniture, and the maintenance department is working diligently to remove waste from the school site. Dean and I are working hard to build strong community ties and always invite parents to visit or volunteer at the school.

Crooked Creek- The school had orientation last Tuesday and 32 community members attended including parents and students. We had a potluck and after that had a discussion with parents about forming a SAC, which was well-received. Other topics discussed were open gym, which is offered once a week, and the parents would like to see other activities offered such as family literacy nights, movie nights, and other cultural community events. Ben had a guest speaker, the trooper pilot, who spoke with the students about safety, bullying, and career planning. Noble has started a student government group, with Michael Pepperling being elected as president. Michael has also been chosen as a UA Scholar and will receive a college scholarship. The entire school went on a field trip/hiking expedition to do some berry-picking and everyone had a great time. The school was visited by Pat McDonald, Emily Vanderpool and Jane Robinson who worked with teachers, staff and students on curriculum. Noble has started a discussion about a chess club and speech club and also volunteered to chaperone the cross-country team. He is also hosting Friday Movie Nights for grades 5-12. The entire staff is working hard on using the SEL curriculum throughout the day, as well as incorporating Mindfulness training for the students.

Sleetmute- Angela, Sheree, Brian and the staff have gotten off to a wonderful start. School pictures have been completed, which will be used in a calendar that will be sold as a fundraiser for the school. Doug Molyneaux has been assisting students to build good science learning and foundations. Attendance has been outstanding! Angela has agreed to be a mentor teacher for the Upriver staff and we really appreciate that! The SAC in Sleetmute is off to a good start having already had a meeting.

Chuathbaluk- The school participated in a community clean-up which was sponsored by the Tribal Council this Thursday. Our older students are involved in the EXCEL career building activities. We are having a community potluck next Monday, which was well-received and it has been discussed that a SAC would like to be formed and some community members are helping to lead that process with me.

We look forward to having elections and working with the new SAC. Marie and Claudia are scheduled to work with Pam this Saturday on Powerschool issues. Thank you to Pam for working with us on a Saturday and my staff for agreeing to travel to Aniak! Claudia chaperoned the students to Kalskag for Rip the Ridge and the Aniak Moose Trot. The students had lots of fun. The Chuathbaluk staff is requesting that the secretary position be made into a full time position, as this will help with office coverage, enrollments and other daily paperwork. Chuathbaluk has a pleasant and positive atmosphere when you walk into the building!

Great big KUDOS to Jeromy and our maintenance staff for helping to improve our learning environments by completing repair issues and helping to clean up our schools! Thanks to Pam and our tech department for helping us with enrollments and Powerschool issues! Thanks to Bernie and the DO staff for their continued help and support! Huge THANKS to all of our Upriver teachers and staff for stepping up and going the extra mile to make the opening of schools successful!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me regarding this report or any other school related topic. Thank you for your continued support of our upriver schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Lemmert
Principal/Counselor

Minutes for Sleetmute, JESS SAC Meeting Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 4:30 PM

1. Welcome - Angela Hayden welcomed everyone at 4:30 PM
2. Call to order/Roll Call

Present: Bertha Yako (Chair), Agnes Sanford (Vice Chair), Neal Sanford (Student Body President), Tamara Stern-Morgan (Student Body Vice President), Angela Hayden, Sheree Smith

Absent: none
3. Minutes—Angela read the minutes from the April 9, 2019 meeting and it was approved as read.
4. Principal and Staff Reports: Angela announced the new Principal/School Counselor Sharon Lemmert. Sheree shared about all the activities that students participated in during the first week of school such as making pickles and salsa, picking high bush cranberries and making jelly with them, beach day, picnic at Blueberry, and picking the fish wheel and cutting fish. Angela shared about the successful cross-country race that took place in Sleetmute the last week of August. Agnes Sanford commented on all the activities and complimented the teachers for creating a fun environment for the students. Discussion followed about possibly having more activities for students.
5. New business
 - a. SAC Board Policy—Angela pointed out the policy that clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the SAC and its members.
 - b. Officers—Chair (Bertha Yako), Vice Chair (Agnes Sanford), Secretary (vacant). Bertha and Agnes agreed to continue holding their current positions for another year. Secretary will be vacant until we get other members who might be willing.
 - c. Gym Nights—Angela reviewed rules (see attached). They will be scheduled to start in October and be held on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30PM.
 - d. STEPP goals—We reviewed our goals specified last year to focus on reading and community involvement. Discussion followed about possible activities and ways to involve other community members. One idea was to move the SAC meetings to be later in the evening to see if it will allow more to attend.
 - e. Community Events/ fundraisers--Discussion followed about the possible upcoming events:
 - i. Basketball Tournament September 27-28. Angela will put together a posting and Agnes will help post around to different villages and will help recruit community members to help host and run the basketball side of things.
 - ii. October—Halloween TO BE DISCUSSED LATER
 - iii. November--Bake Sale TO BE DISCUSSED LATER
 - iv. December—Holiday Bazaar TO BE DISCUSSED LATER
6. Public Participation: non-agenda items NONE
7. Items for next agenda: Family Reading Night, Community Events, Halloween Carnival
8. Next Meeting: October 1st @ 5:00PM
9. Adjourn at 5:00PM

Minutes for Sleetmute SAC Meeting
Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 5:00 PM

1. Angela welcomed everyone at 4:33PM
2. Call to order/Roll Call
Present: Agnes Sanford (Vice Chair), Neal Sanford (Student Body President), Sheree Smith and Angela Hayden
Absent: Bertha Yako (Chair)
3. Minutes— Agnes Sanford made a motion to skip the reading of the minutes and seconded by Sheree Smith.
4. Principal and Staff Reports: Angela Hayden reported about the recent basketball tournament that went well and raised about \$1500. Also Desirae Morgan is working on a 2020 Sleetmute calendar to be used as a fundraiser. Sheree Smith reported that all students recently did hearing and vision screening as well as the PBS challenge some students are doing with Doug Molyneaux.
5. New business
 - a. STEPP goal— *By May 15, 2020, all JESS students in grades 2-8 will show a 1.0 or more growth in grade equivalence as measured on the STAR Reading Assessment from the Fall 2019 assessment.*

Family Reading Nights—Discussion followed on details for beginning this regular event as a means to achieving the STEPP goal. It was decided to do it twice a month on Mondays from 7-8PM starting October 7th & 21st. Letters will be sent to parents and a sign will be posted. Students are encouraged to bring an adult. It is not the intent that this is an hour of tutoring from the teachers, but more a time for parents and adults to get involved and help increase reading abilities.
 - b. Halloween Carnival—Discussion followed about carnival details. It will be held November 1st from 6-8 PM at the school. Discussion followed about games and food options that will be available that night. Angela will post a sign.
 - c. Other Community Events/ fundraisers: November will be the Bake Sale and December will be the Holiday Bazaar. Sheree brought up a short discussion about t-shirt sales during the carnival.
6. Public Participation: non-agenda items NONE
7. Items for next agenda: Review Family Reading Nights, Fundraisers, and possible volleyball tournament.
8. Next Meeting: November 5th @ 5:00 PM
9. Adjourned at 4:55PM