Kalskag Board Report November 2019 Severin Gardner

Eliminate Bullying

The staff at the elementary is using the Second Step program to address social and emotional learning. At the high school Mr. Wolford is doing a unit on bullying and how to identify and prevent this in our school and outside of school. Anyone suspecting bullying is encouraged to report it right away to a teacher or another staff member. The staff is really good at seeing most things that go on at the school, but the things that happen outside of school are the issues the staff is educating the kids to be mindful.

Increase Regional Partnerships

Had the initial conference with Chuck Herman from Calista and the grant program we are a part of. The Tengluni Program will target our 11th graders for Career and technical education. They will be in Kalskag in December to work with our 9-12 graders.

I have also contacted Stephanie Bishop to travel to Kalskag to work on Fire Prevention education. The details are still being worked on at this time.

Increase Academic Performance

This month we had in-service in Aniak. All teachers traveled to Aniak to attend. Carol Thompson returned to Kalskag after the in-service and did a Progress Monitoring and RTI date session with our teachers. JOGES and ZLES both improved on their state composite score from 2018. This measures overall improvement in sub groups and overall English and math prophecies. While not many of our kids were proficient a good portion of them showed more than a years growth on the state test or the WiDa test.

Increase Community and Parent Involvement

Emily and I are in the process of writing a large grant that would include family literacy nights. These nights would be themed and help parents learn how to use materials at home to help their kids with reading skills. Even if the grant is not accepted Kalskag will be working on other ways to fund this for Kalskag. Initial testing for the Kindergarten students this year showed that most of them were not where they need to be to start learning Kindergarten material. The more we can target reading skills at home and before school age students get to school, the more prepared they will be.

Integrate Alaska Native Culture

The ZLES and JOGES staff has been holding a beading night on Fridays at the lower school. This is funded by the Excel community grant. Previously they were only giving one grant to Kalskag, but this year they split it between upper and lower. Mr. Reich at the high school is saving his funds for a skin sewing night.

One of our Elder Mentors recently got hired and placed with the Rural Cap elders mentor program. Rita Savage had been working with our youth at ZLES. Rita was a long time instructional aide at ZLES and JOGES.