

Auntie Mary Nicoli Elementary School School Board Report

Prepared By Emily Vanderpool, Lead Teacher
February, 2017



AMNES student, Scott Sakar, with his mushing idols Jason and Patrick Mackey

Christmas Program

The elementary staff and students worked hard to put on an entertaining Christmas program in December! We were fortunate to have so many businesses and organizations in town willing to donate goodies for our Santa bags. The program was a definite success!

Back to School

The elementary recently hired a new custodian, Mr. William Morgan, and he is doing a fantastic job in our school. We are very happy to have him as part of our staff. Students were back to school on January 12th, and even though some were a little sleepy from celebrating Slaviq that didn't stop them from being excited and ready to learn. We have had an excellent start to the new year!

K300

The K300 is an excellent opportunity for place-based learning. The first full week back to school teachers built excitement for the K300 dogsled race by doing reading and writing activities related to the race. Students wrote biographies about mushers, read about the history of the race, made cards for mushers and designed posters to be hung at the community hall. Staff and students volunteered at the race checkpoint even though it was -40 throughout the day!

Reading Challenges

The elementary teachers are really focused on improving student's reading skills. To help motivate students to read in and out of school we hold two reading challenges. The first is a "mini-challenge" called the KuskoRead 300. During this challenge students have one week to read 300 minutes at home. Those who completed the 300 minutes were able to attend a special ice-cream party at school. Our second challenge, the IditaRead, began on January 30th, and is a 5 week challenge where students must read 1100 minutes (representing the 1100 miles of the Iditarod trail) at home. Students who complete the challenge will be awarded prizes and get to attend a special evening dinner party in March.

Science Forum on the Environment

6th grade AMNES student, Jena Boelens, will travel to Anchorage with another student from AJSHS and a chaperone to attend a special science forum on the environment. Jena will be presenting about a simulation conducted in Ms. Fischer's class that replicated the data collection and research done on the math/science raft trip this past fall. We are all proud of Jena and excited for her to represent our school.