



October Superintendent's Report  
October 2017

**Staffing:**

A letter of intent was sent out on September 26 for the open position in Stony River, and was returned as accepted on September 28. Edith is sending out a contract.

**Superintendent Travel (In - District):**

★ **October 9 - 13 - Kalskag Visit (Will attend Board meeting from Kalskag)**

**Superintendent Travel (Out of District):**

I attended the ASA Fall Superintendent conference September 19-23 in Seward, Alaska. The highlights of the meeting were a tour of the AVTEC facility, presentations in regards to Personalized Learning, update on Bona Fide Separation and Retire/Rehire Policy, and the Educator Rising Program through UAF.

***Personalized Learning + Technology Platform/Tools + Whole School Design = High Engagement and Sustainable Success***

Through personalized learning, students receive the instruction and direction they need, when they need it. Personalized learning means that students' needs are known to the teacher. It means that students' learning styles, skills, and even personal issues affecting their learning ability are known as well. Through personalized learning, teachers can "catch" students before they get stuck, plateau, give up, and disengage.

***Technology*** - Carefully chosen and relevant platforms and materials to allow more time for personal, in-depth interaction with students.

***Whole School Design*** - Integrating technology, relevant instruction, and facilitating deeper learning and personal connections happens through creative and effective classroom design (layout, instructional model used, timing of lectures, group projects and independent work.)

AVTEC - Culinary Arts Program, Maritime Academy, Applied Technology, which includes diesel/heavy technologies, pipe and structural welding, energy and building technology such as construction technology, plumbing and heating, refrigeration, etc. AVTEC also offers coursework in information technology, networking, business and office technology.



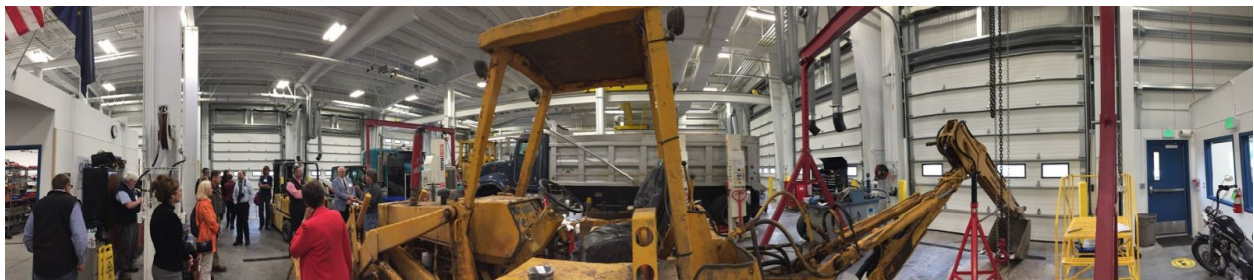
Automotive and engine repair - Students disassemble and rebuild engines.



Welding Facility



Teaching MS students fire fighting techniques



Heavy Duty Mechanics

#### On the Radar:

- ★ Update of Classified Handbook
- ★ Review and update of Parent/Student Handbook

- ★ IPP's (Indian Policies and Procedures) - Martha, Edith, Elaine, and I will review current policies and procedures for our Impact Aid application, and make necessary edits to be in compliance with new regulations for submission of our application in January 2018.

### **AASB Resolutions:**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! AASB 64th Annual Conference (Tentative Agenda included in Board packet.

The AASB Board of Directors asks each school board to review the existing resolutions, consider amendments and to possibly submit new resolutions. Responses by districts are due to the AASB office by October 11, 2017. The Annual Conference is Nov. 9-12 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel.

### **Resolution on the Dangers of Tobacco Use and Secondhand Smoke**

With the recent legalization of marijuana for personal use, AASB encourages the Alaska Legislature to provide adult education awareness funding for publications and educational awareness opportunities on the danger of secondhand smoke in regards to marijuana use.

#### **Rationale:**

In a recent study performed by the University of California San Francisco, the conclusion was drawn that one minute of exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) from marijuana diminishes blood vessel function to the same extent as tobacco, but the harmful cardiovascular effects last three times longer.

The researchers (July 27, 2016, issue of the *Journal of the American Heart Association*,) found that rats exposed to marijuana SHS experienced a more than 50 percent reduction in FMD (flow-mediated dilation,) similar to the reduction in artery function seen in both rats and humans exposed to tobacco smoke in previous studies. As with tobacco, the reduction occurred after just one minute of exposure to SHS from marijuana. However, while rats exposed for one minute to tobacco SHS recover within 30 minutes – an observation that was reproduced in the new study – one minute of exposure to marijuana SHS (Secondhand Smoke) still significantly affected FMD 90 minutes after the initial exposure.

Studies have also demonstrated that exposure to tobacco smoke in childhood is associated with negative health consequences in childhood (including an increased risk

for viral infection, asthma, cognitive deficits, and behavioral issues) and also with an increased risk of disease in adulthood.

#### **Research Links:**

<https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2016/07/403721/one-minute-second-hand-marijuana-smoke-impairs-cardiovascular-function>

<https://drugabuse.com/lets-clear-the-air-about-secondhand-marijuana-smoke/>

<http://jaha.ahajournals.org/content/5/8/e004004>

Current Resolution provided by Lon Garrison at AASB:

#### **3.6 INHALANT, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, E-CIGARETTES, METHAMPHETAMINES, MARIJUANA, DESIGNER DRUGS AND ANY ILLICIT SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

AASB calls upon the Legislature of the State of Alaska to support local communities in their strength-based education, prevention and treatment efforts to combat inhalant, alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, methamphetamines, marijuana, designer drugs and other illicit substances and to provide effective law enforcement to ensure laws pertaining to controlled substances are enforced. AASB also requests the State of Alaska make adequate funds available for community-based and residential efforts to address effective substance use and abuse treatment programs for children, young people and their families.

Additionally, AASB supports regulations or modifications to the marijuana statute to counter potential negative impacts on Alaska youth, i.e. restricted marketing, prohibition of lookalike products that appeal to youth regardless of packaging, denial of youth access to business where marijuana and its derivatives are sold or used, clear and simple process for a community to be “dry”, and an appropriate allocation of the tax revenue from marijuana sales, production and businesses to support drug use and abuse education prevention (including after-school and school dropout programs) and treatment.

**Rationale:** Drug-related problems, including inhalant, alcohol, tobacco, methamphetamines and other drug abuse, are a major debilitating influence on the lives of the youth of Alaska. They have been proven to be the primary contributing factor in the alarming number of dropouts and youth suicides in the State of Alaska. Community-based prevention and intervention efforts are proving effective in combating drug-related problems. The treatment of children and young people is very different from the treatment of adults for substance abuse. Communities need adequate funds for effective substance abuse prevention and treatment programs. *Adopted 1997 Amended 1998, 1999, 2001, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2013, 2014 (Sunset Nov. 2017)*

#### **AASB Meeting Dates:**

November 9 - 12 - Annual Conference

December 8 - 9 - Winter Boardsmanship

Leadership/Legislative Fly-In - February 10 -13

**Sleetmute Visit:**

My visit to Sleetmute was also very pleasant, relaxed and welcomed. I had the opportunity to walk around the village with Zac Smith and meet with a few parents. As I have experienced here in Aniak, the community was very welcoming and appreciated my visit. While there I had the opportunity to work specifically with a very enthusiastic third grade student in Science. I also had a chance to speak with Susan Hubbard.

**Classroom Visits:**

I strongly encourage all Board members to make frequent visits to classrooms if you have not done so in the past. By having a presence in our schools will show students, parents, and staff that the Board is serious about what takes place in our schools. I have included current Board Policy in regards to classroom visits.

**VISITS TO THE SCHOOLS BP 1260**

The School Board encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to visit the schools and view the educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall invite parents/guardians and the community to open house activities and other special events. (cf. 1110 – Media Relations)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to facilitate visits during regular school days and register all visitors at the school office when entering school grounds. (cf. 0411 – Service Animals)

The Board recognizes the staff time and commitment required by school visits and encourages the staff to accommodate as many requests for visits as possible. To ensure minimum interruption of the instructional program, visits during school hours should be first arranged with the teacher and principal or designee. If a conference is desired, an appointment should be set with the teacher during non-instructional time.