Superintendent Report – January 2017

Enrollment: 1, 275.66 is our official count this year - projected enrollment was 1,300. Our enrollment this past month was fairly stable overall even though there had been some movement at various grade levels.

Since the last School Board meeting:

- Congratulations to Cindy Duncan for being selected for the 2017 Minecraft Global Mentor Program!
- Thank you to Cassee and her team in the Business Office for all the work put into the new budget process!
- **ALICE Train-the-Trainers Training:** In partnership with City Police, City of Sitka, Sitka Community Hospital, and Mt. Edgecumbe High School, 15 of our Sitka Schools staff participated in ALICE training in December. ALICE training is designed to provide an appropriate response to a situation where there is a violent intruder within a building. Prior training was not specific to this type of situation and rather was designed for a gunman who was outside of the building; however, the difference in location of an intruder necessitates a difference in our planned and practiced response. Student and staff safety is a primary concern, and training can be done in very developmentally appropriate ways. Participants in the ALICE training will design the training to be conducted with district staff, and the district’s Emergency Plan will be updated accordingly and shared with the Board once completed.
- On December 13th a transformer at SHS stopped working about 7 am, and the subsequent smoke and lack of heat created an environment at the school that was not acceptable for students and staff. Students were released before 10 am, and staff were directed to work from home or another location. Thanks to the responsiveness of City Electric Department, NANA employees, our Maintenance Department, and SHS staff, we were able to avert a possible tragic situation and school was open the next day. Thank you, all! Commissioner Johnson gave his approval to not have to make-up the missed day of school for SHS.
- We have settled the SESPA grievance from last spring.

Current Happenings:

- **Strategic Planning:** Our Strategic Planning stakeholder meeting will be held on Saturday, January 14 from 9 am to 2 pm in the SHS Library. A special THANK YOU to everyone who is volunteering their time for this critical work. We hope to have a revised Mission Statement to present to the School Board in February. A Steering Committee will meet later this spring to develop Action Research questions and projects to help us achieve our 2 School Board Goals. Dr. Sonny Magaña will facilitate the meeting.
- Pacific High School is in their J Session right now, and Blatchley Middle School is preparing for their Discovery Your Potential week in February. Both of these fun and non-traditional learning opportunities for our students require staff to provide over-and-above planning and coordination. Thank you!

Things on the Radar:

- I will be at the SERRC Board meeting and a PASSAGES grant meeting in Juneau January 19th and 20th. SERRC covers the costs to attend board meetings, and the PASSAGES grant is a SERRC grant that we are involved with to help us better incorporate cultural responsive practices in our educator evaluation process.
- I will be at the Governor’s Awards for the Arts and Humanities in Juneau on January 26th, a Preschool grant training in Anchorage on January 27th, and the Multi-Tiered System of Support Conference in Anchorage on January 28th and 29th. The majority of the costs associated with this travel will be covered by grants.