Enrollment Update: Current enrollment is 1,196.75, which is up 9.75 from our count. Projected enrollment was 1,187.

Since the last School Board meeting:

- Thank you to Cora Dow for lending her artwork to our Leave Your Print strategic plan challenge!
- Thank you to Melissa Gibson for being a PHS student representative to share reports with the Board!
- Thank you to the City Assembly and City Administration for setting a direction to assist us with the FY21 Budget development process. At a meeting held on December 19, 2019, they stated support for funding to the Instructional CAP ($7,053,254), continue with existing Non-Instructional funding of Community Schools, Blatchley Pool, and SHS Student Activities at the current level, provide $150,000 in reimbursable expenses to support Major Maintenance of school buildings, and continue in kind contributions to support City utilities at the PAC, snow plowing, grounds maintenance, etc. No direction was given regarding the 2-years of Secure Rural Schools. No decisions were final; however, this is the direction that the City Assembly gave to the City Administration when building the FY21 Budget.
- Kudos to the families involved and our community partners for a successful Early Childhood Family Café! Check out the results by accessing the QR Code on a flyer or check out the Latest News Article on our district website.
- Our October student count has been finalized and there was no change from what we submitted – 1,197.56. We are still waiting to hear the final determination regarding the count for students who qualify for intensive services.
- I attended an International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Board Meeting in DC in December. At this meeting we conducted our annual policy review and set our goals for 2020. ISTE is the premier organization supporting educators’ use of technology as a learning tool. ISTE covers all expenses associated with my participation.

Current Happenings:

- School Board member Paul Rioux, parent Geoff Diel, and I presented at the Chamber of Commerce today to introduce our Leave Your Print strategic plan challenge with the local business community.
- Strategic Plan Update: The Leave Your Print strategic plan challenge has begun! We are currently gathering ideas from students, staff, families, and the community. Special thanks to the Cloud for helping to promote our challenge, and to our dedicated Guiding Team of Parent Geoff Diehl, Teacher Jeremy Strong, Family Engagement Coordinator Kari Sagel, Principal Jill Lecrone, and School Board Members Amy Morrison and Paul Rioux! There will be community-wide engagement throughout the process, and we hope many voices will engage to Leave Your Print on Sitka Schools! Challenge Question: What positive ideas can the Sitka School District implement to better serve students and families? The district will use the top idea(s) to create a strategic plan. We will repeat the process every fall.
  - Idea Phase to answer our Challenge Question: January 6-February 2
  - Comment Phase: February 3-9
  - Pairwise Voting Phase: February 10-23
  - Top idea(s) go through a human-centered design process in the spring to prepare for a fall implementation

Things on the Radar:

- ISTE President Bill Bass will be in Sitka for our February 21, 2020 Inservice/Workday. While in Sitka, he will provide a keynote at the PAC in the afternoon, and in the morning he will spend time with Baranof staff and Pacific High School staff – based to schools’ requests, and also meet with our District Technology Committee, Tier I Tech Support Teachers/Staff, and Librarians/Library Staff during lunch. The ISTE President is providing this resource to Sitka Schools at no cost to the district; however, the Professional Learning Committee has granted funds to provide the lunch meeting with the District Technology Committee and interested staff, as well as provide that group with a copy of Bill’s recent book regarding educational technology integration in a library setting. Bill will stop in Sitka en route to present at the Alaska Society for Technology in Education (ASTE) Conference in Anchorage.
- I will be in Juneau for the Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC) Board meeting on January 16-17. By State statute, all school districts in SE Alaska must have a representative on the SERRC Board, and SERRC pays for airfare, hotel, and food per diem for me to participate in the meeting. I currently serve as president of the SERRC Board.