OCTOBER 2021

Respecting Educational Alternatives and Choices in Homeschooling

It’s Progress Report Time!

Greetings REACH families,

It is my pleasure to be back working at REACH and assisting you with your homeschooling role. Jamie will be out through January. While I am here, I will be sending a monthly newsletter to keep you on top of needed deadlines and share information that may be of interest to you and your homeschooling job.

It’s officially autumn and at REACH that means the first Progress Report is just around the corner!

I hope this isn’t viewed as a time of stress but rather as an opportunity to showcase your student’s best work and your amazing ingenuity as a homeschool teacher.

As some of you are new to REACH (welcome!), this month’s newsletter features more detailed information about Progress Reports and work samples.

Please visit the REACH office with any questions or if you would like assistance with the Progress Report form. As previously mentioned, we do need scheduled appointments in order to have visitors in the REACH office.

Warm regards,

Connie McCarty
REACH Coordinator (Long Term Sub for Jamie Eells)

DATES TO REMEMBER

♦ October 1st— Inservice Day
♦ October 10th—Pacing Reports sent out for high school students—watch your email.
♦ October 15th—Alaska Development Profile DUE to Connie
♦ October 18th—Alaska Day—Our office will close at NOON
♦ October 19th—Progress Report #1 DUE Be sure to include work samples for each subject on your ILP (see page 3 for details)
♦ October 29th—NO SCHOOL (Teacher work day)

Progress Reports with work samples due each quarter: October 19, December 14, March 8, and May 12 (*Seniors PR4 due May 3)
**ALLOTMENT DISBURSEMENT**

REACH provides a fund account to parents/guardians per full-time enrolled student for the purpose of meeting instructional expenses.

Remember any reimbursement purchases must relate to your child's ILP.

Allotment funds are dispersed as the following conditions are met:

- 1/3 available at the time the ILP is submitted
- 1/3 available upon submission of Progress Report #1 due Oct. 19
- 1/3 available upon submission of Progress Report #2 due Dec. 14

**Did you know?**

Allotment funds may be used for:

- Enrichment activities such as sports fees and music lessons (excludes uniforms/equipment)
- Electronic hardware such as cameras, laptops, and tablets under $499
- Online subscription programs (educational)

Please contact the REACH office with any questions regarding eligibility and fund balances.

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**Internet Allotment Reimbursement forms are available per family with at least one full time student enrolled with REACH. Submit the form along with a detail copy of your internet receipt showing full payment. These may be submitted at the end of each month. Only one internet allotment per family.**

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**BATTLE DATES**

- **3rd/4th Grade**
  - TBA
- **5th/6th Grade**
  - TBA
- **Middle School**
  - TBA
- **High School**
  - TBA

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**BATTLE OF THE BOOKS**

Each year our district schools participate in Battle of the Books, a team competition sponsored by the Alaska Association of School Librarians.

Even if your students doesn’t want to compete, the grade level book lists are helpful for choosing high-interest titles for your readers at home. Copies of grade level titles are available in the REACH Office and online.

State battles are held at the end of February—check the website for specific dates—get reading!

For more information, visit https://sites.google.com/view/akaslbattleofthebooks/home

**Contact individual school librarians to find out how to join a Battle of the Books team.**

If your child wants to form a team to join Battle of the Books, contact a school librarian or email Connie and she can help facilitate.
It's time for 1st Quarter Progress Reports! Progress Reports with work samples are required as part of the SSD REACH Homeschool program. They let us know about your individual approach to learning and how your student is meeting educational standards.

**Progress Report Form**

- **Progress Report forms may be picked up in the REACH office or printed from the REACH website through the Forms link and are also attached to this email.**
  
  Visit www.sitkaschools.org and choose REACH Homeschool in the Schools tab.

**Work Samples**

- **Submit one work sample for each subject indicated on the Individual Learning Plan (ILP)**

  Work samples should demonstrate academic rigor is taking place—i.e. it is clear which standards are being addressed—but please label with the subject.

- **Suggested work samples include:** journal entries, essays, math tests, project/workshop summaries, unit review, art project (photo), or end-of-unit assessment.

- **Work samples for online courses (BYU, APEX) should be a screenshot printout of a completed/graded assignment and/or the gradebook of completed/graded assignments.**

**High School Shared Students**

Required Weekly Check-In

High school students taking one or more courses through REACH are considered Shared Students. This partnership with district high schools allows for greater flexibility to help students reach their educational goals.

Student responsibilities include:

- Checking in weekly with the REACH High School Liaison or Connie during during regular office hours or another agreed-upon time (weekly check ins are required).

Students may also check in via email, phone or on TEAMS.

- Provide evidence of weekly progress (current hours log, grade summary printout, scoresheet, etc.).

**NOTE:**

*Two weeks without contact requires a meeting with the student, parent/guardian, and REACH and/or HS Liaison and will affect student eligibility for extracurricular activities.*
IN OUR COMMUNITY

SITKA WHALEFEST

NOV. 4-7

STUDENT ART SHOW

Will be happening—watch for a follow up email.

This year’s theme is Predators & Prey

Demonstrate your skills and showcase your marine themed artwork at Sitka Whalefest!

For more information, contact:

Sitka Science Center
907.747.8878

*Please register for the symposium talks each day, they are free, but you must register online at the festival website: http://sitkawhalefest.org/

CONTEST

iDida Contest

For students Kindergarten—12th grade

Entries for Movies, Documentaries, Photos, Podcasts, Drone/FPP Videos, Tunes, Books, Apps and Things can be submitted to iDidaContest@aste.org by January 31, 2022

Categories include:
- iDidaMovie
- iDidaPhoto
- iDidaTune
- iDidaPodcast
- iDidaBook
- iDidanApp
- iDidaThing

For more information, visit https://www.aste.org/ididacase-4/