



Board of Education Meeting
February 15, 2020
Superintendent Report

Superintendent Remarks

Dear School Board Members,

February marks another busy month for all schools. Celebrations, academic work, athletic events and preparing for the next steps in a school life continue to be the focus for all teachers, students and staff. The week of February 3-7, 2020, concluded with two exciting events that showcased the hard work of our elementary students. District Spelling Bee Winner for the second year in a row is Thierry Oyedeji, a fourth grader at Houghtaling Elementary School. The annual Battle of the Books District Champions also crowned the same week were Ian Merrill, Jesse Taylor, and Bryant Marquez Morales , 6th graders, from Fawn Mountain Elementary.

Each school has also been busy preparing for Elizabeth Peratovich Day and celebrating her life and achievements. I have included a schedule of schools that will be holding an all school assembly. Please understand that some schools are still in the process of confirming details of an all school assembly or have grade by grade lessons and celebrations.

FME: February 12 @ 9:15 Elizabeth Peratrovich presentation from the Discovery Center Staff regarding Civil Rights in Alaska.

PHE: February 10th, the Discovery Center will be presenting an assembly about Elizabeth Peratrovich and civil rights issues at 10:00 am to our staff and students.

TSAS: February 14th at 1:40 pm at the Tongass School of Arts and Sciences in our gymnasium. Our classes will honor Elizabeth Peratrovich by performing a variety of songs, artwork, dance, and speeches.

KCS: February 17th, 2020 Elizabeth Peratrovich Day ; 10:15 a.m. K-8th Grade School assembly

Kayhi: February 16th the SE Alaska Discovery Center will be presenting to the entire student body on Civil Rights in Alaska.



District Spelling Bee Winner

Thierry Oyedeji



Battle of the Books: District Champions!

**CONGRATULATIONS to Fawn Mountain Elementary
"The Moonkeys"
Ian Merrill,
Jesse Taylor, and
Bryant Marquez Morales**

This past week I was notified by our District Nurse and the Department of Education and Early Childhood that due to the Novel Coronavirus the need to provide staff, students and parents with an update and some basic resources was warranted.

Here is what your schools need to know about novel coronavirus:

Currently the risk to the general US public is considered low. At this time, there are no known cases in Alaska and only a small number of individual cases in the United States. Risk is based on exposure. As you know, we are in the middle of flu and respiratory disease season. Most of the population is at much greater risk of contracting seasonal influenza than novel coronavirus.

Alaskans who have traveled to China in the past 14 days or have had direct exposure to someone with novel coronavirus are most at risk. If you have any questions, please call the DHSS Section of Epidemiology hotline at (907) 269-8000 or after hours (800) 478-0084. If you are at risk and do have symptoms, call the hotline, and call ahead before visiting a health care provider.

Symptoms of novel coronavirus are most similar to lower respiratory infections with patients experiencing fever, cough, and shortness of breath. While in some cases illness can be severe and require hospitalization, many individuals infected with 2019-nCoV recover by resting, drinking plenty of liquids and taking pain, and fever-reducing medications.

It should be noted that coronaviruses are a family of viruses and there are different coronavirus strains within that family, much like there are different types of influenza viruses. Coronaviruses in general are not new, they are quite common and a frequent cause of respiratory illnesses such as the common cold. Most people get infected with these viruses at some point in their lives. The type of coronavirus that has recently emerged in China is a new type of coronavirus and is infecting people for the first time.

Finally, the novel coronavirus serves as an important reminder of the importance of including infectious disease epidemics in district crisis response plans. In reviewing our district crisis response plan I have attached our current plan for an influenza outbreak and a policy that in 2009 during the bird flu pandemic AASB, DEED and DHSS developed the attached optional policy (See Attached BP 6114.4). With the coronavirus getting so much attention it seems appropriate and timely to review this policy during the February 26, 2020, School Board Meeting.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

Influenza is a highly contagious viral disease. Pandemic influenza differs from both seasonal influenza (flu) and avian influenza in the following aspects:

It is a rare global outbreak which can affect populations around the world.

It is caused by a new influenza virus to which people do not have immunity.

Depending upon the specific virus, it can cause more severe illness than regular flu and can affect young healthy people more so than older, sick people.

The Department of Health and Human Services will take the lead in mobilizing a local response to pandemic influenza. Public health alerts will be reported to schools and the community. Individual schools may be closed temporarily to contain spread of the virus.

PRINCIPAL/SITE ADMINISTRATOR ACTIONS:

- Activate heightened surveillance of illness within school site. Gather data on symptoms of students and staff who are sick at home.
- Insure that students and staff members who are ill stay home.
- Send sick students and staff home from school immediately.
- Provide fact sheets and guidelines for school families to make them aware of symptoms and remind them of respiratory hygiene etiquette
- Monitor bulletins and alerts from the Department of Health and Human Services.
- Keep staff informed of developing issues.
- Assist the Department of Health and Human Services in monitoring outbreaks.
- Respond to media inquiries regarding school attendance status.
- Implement online education, if necessary, so that students can stay home.
- Maintain surveillance after the initial epidemic in the event a second wave passes through the community.

Respiratory Hygiene Etiquette

Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue

Wash hands with soap and water or a waterless hand hygiene product

Place used tissues into a sealed bag

STAFF and STUDENT ACTIONS:

- Stay home when ill with cough or other flu-like symptoms (chills, fever, muscle aches, sore throat).
- Practice “respiratory hygiene etiquette”.
- Disinfect surfaces contaminated with infected respiratory secretions with a diluted bleach solution (1 part bleach to 100 parts water).
- Implement online homework assignments so that students can stay home.

As we move into March I had the pleasure of meeting Barb Miranda and learning about the 2020 United States Census starting in March 2020. Barb provided our district with an activity booklet for the elementary students, pamphlets for parents and asked for our assistance in reminding parents to respond to the online census using our message systems. It is KGBSD's goal to assist in this important process that not only makes a difference in 2020 but for years to come for our students. The numbers per household gathered provides funds for programs across the state.

On March 14, 2020, three KGBSD Staff Members will once again attend a Child Find table from 11:00-2:00 at the Ketchikan Annual Children's Health Fair. This health fair is an informational fair for parents in supporting children's health. It is a great partnership with all community agencies in working together to promote healthy, safe and educated children across Ketchikan.

Lastly, I want to provide you with a timeline of budget presentations to the school board as the draft budget is developed and presented on March 31, 2020. It is important to view and understand the process of informing the public and gathering their input, holding conversations with our staff about needs and changes and building a budget that is built an informed decision making process. Below is a timeline of school board and public presentations, comment times and surveys:

- February 12th School Board Meeting - District Funding & Historical Spending Presentation, Current Year Financial Status & Spending Target Analysis
- February 17th - Release of District Budget Survey
- February 26th School Board Meeting - Historical Budget & School/Department Level Budget Presentation
- March 7th Public Budget Meeting (Kayhi Library 2pm) - Present on District Historical Spending, Current Budget Allocations, & Results of Public Survey
- March 31st Completion of FY21 Draft Budget
- April 8th School Board Meeting - First Public Hearing on FY21 Budget
- April 22nd School Board Meeting - Second Public Hearing on FY21 Budget

Beth Lougee, Superintendent

Reports

- Ketchikan High School Annual Report
- District Funding & Historical Spending Presentation, Current Year Financial Status & Spending Target Analysis Overview
- Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Overview
- Special Education Overview
- Technology Overview

Student Report: Brandon Roof

BP 6114.4 PANDEMIC/EPIDEMIC EMERGENCIES

Note: This optional policy may be revised or deleted.

The School Board recognizes that a pandemic/epidemic outbreak is a serious threat that stands to affect students, staff, and the community as a whole. With this consideration in mind, the School Board establishes this policy in the event the town/municipality and/or school district is affected by a pandemic/epidemic outbreak. At all times the health, safety and welfare of the students shall be the first priority.

Planning and Coordination

The Superintendent or designee shall designate one or more staff members to serve as a liaison between the school district and local and state health officials. This designee is responsible for connecting with health officials to identify local hazards, determine what crisis plans exist in the school district and community, and to establish procedures to account for student well-being and safety during such a crisis. The designee shall work with local health officials to coordinate their pandemic/epidemic plans with that of the school district.

With fiscal concerns in mind, the district may purchase and store supplies necessary for an epidemic/pandemic outbreak, including but not limited to disinfectant products, face masks, water, examination gloves, and other supplies as recommended by health officials.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures and plans for the transportation of students in the event of an evacuation. Such procedures shall include provisions for students who cannot be transported to home at the time of the evacuation.

Response

In the event anyone within the school is discovered or suspected to have a communicable disease that may result in an epidemic/pandemic, that person may be quarantined pending further medical examination. Parents/guardians and local and state health officials shall be notified immediately.

In conjunction with local and state health officials, the Superintendent or designee shall ascertain whether an evacuation, lockdown, or shelter-in-place needs to be established. As soon as such a decision has been made, the school district shall attempt to notify the parents of all students.

In the event of an evacuation, the Superintendent or designee is charged with determining when the school shall re-open. In the event of a lockdown or shelter-in-place, the Superintendent or designee shall notify all proper authorities and relief agencies to seek their assistance for the duration of the lockdown or shelter-in-place.

Infection Control

Any student or staff member found to be infected with a communicable disease that bears risk of pandemic/epidemic will not be allowed to attend school until medical clearance is provided by that individual's primary care physician or other medical personnel indicating that that person does not bear the risk of transmitting the communicable disease.

Continuance of Education

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a plan of alternate means of educating students in the event of prolonged school closings and/or extended absences. Such a plan may include providing students with assignments via mail, local access cable television, or the school district's website.

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

(cf. 5141.23 - Infectious Disease Prevention)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion)

(cf. 6114 - Crisis Response Plan)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

[14.03.02](#) School Year

[14.30.045](#) (4) Grounds for suspension or denial of admission

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

[4 AAC 05.090](#)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), [20 U.S.C. 1232g](#), [45 C.F.R. 99](#)

Added 2/2010

9/92

AASB Policy Reference Manual
