

Department of Education
& Early Development

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THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

MEMORANDUM

To:	State Board of Education & Early Development	Date:	February 7, 2025
Thru:	Deena M. Bishop, Ed.D. Commissioner	Telephone:	(907) 269-4583
From:	Suzzuk Huntington, Superintendent/Director Mt. Edgecumbe High School	Subject:	Agenda 19D Mt. Edgecumbe High School Standing Report

Program Highlights

- New courses for semester 2: Intro to Emergency Services & Health Careers; Child Development; Native Youth Olympics; Reading Intervention; American Sign Language 1, 2, 3; Volleyball
- Dual credit (both semesters): 84 students - Welding, 6 - Certified Nursing Assistant program, 12- Child Development, 12 - Intro to Early Childhood Education, 29- Intro to Emergency Services & Health Careers; 12- Introduction to Psychology, 16 - Emergency Trauma Technician, 15 - Ground School. Not dual credit: 18 - Lifeguard Training
- Wellness: INDEPTH Tobacco Cessation program has new cohort groups, Commitment to Clean voluntary substance abuse support system, Recovery groups utilizes Stages of Change as a model for changing behavior
- Wrestling: MEHS Boys Wrestling took home 1st State Championship!, Elden Andrew (New Stuyahok) was awarded Most Outstanding Wrestler, Coach Courtney Howard received Head Coach of the Year Award, Coach Aaron Routon received Assistant Coach of the Year, and Coach DeeDee Creed was elected to the Alaska Wrestling Association board.
- Music: Eva Nay (Wasilla), Kate Plaisance (Sitka), and Brooklyn Roland-Dewitt (Sitka) qualified for honor choir at the All-Northwest Music Conference, (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana). Pep Band is growing and building their playlist at games.
- Interventions: Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), team meets weekly to analyze NC (no credit) data and works with teachers, school counselors, tutor coordinator to support students at

risk. Tutorials scheduled in the STAR Center are based on content rather than grade level this year, which has been working well.

Current Enrollment

Student retention was strong at the beginning of the year, even with the lack of internet and cell phone service. There is a surge in the number of students not returning after winter break. I would attribute it to the move back to a semester schedule. Students persevered to the end of the grading period before making the final decision to return home to be with their families.

Dismissal rates peaked at 24 for the 2022-2023 school year, many of which were related to substance use. The Commitment to Clean and tobacco cessation programs have been very effective in reducing the use of nicotine and substances. This year only 3 students have been dismissed to date.

Capacity- 412 Beds (17 day students from Sitka)

Monthly Withdrawal Count									
Fall:	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No show, Deferred or WD before					27	16	0	3	0
Aug	2	1	0	0	6	5	0	2	2
Sep	4	6	3	3	12	13	4	4	4
Oct	2	6	8	4	8	4	6	6	11
Nov	3	3	0	8	7	21	16	5	7
Dec	2	0	3	1	2	2	5	1	1
Break	14	22	28	30	8	14	8	20	28
Jan	3	5	2	5	5	3	7	4	2
Feb	2	2	7	6	9	9	13	5	
Mar	6	2	5	-	7	3	7	5	
Apr	1		2	-	2	1	1	2	
May	0		2	-	1		2	0	
Total	39	47	60	57	67	75	69	57	*54

*so far this school year

Student Withdrawal Rate at the End of October									
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
# by Oct	8	13	11	7	26	22	10	16	17
%Oct	1.8	3.0	2.5	1.6	12.6	8.7	2.4	3.9	3.95
# by May	39	47	60	57	67	75	69	57	
%May	8.9	10.8	13.6	12.9	17.0	17.9	16.7	13.9	

Enrollment Total by Month									
Fall:	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No show, deferred or WD before									
Beginning	439	436	441	434	420	435	412	410	430
No show, deferred or WD before					393	419	412	407	0
Aug	437	435	441	434	387	414	412	405	428
Sep	433	429	438	432	375	401	408	401	424
Oct	431	423	430	427	367	397	402	395	413
Nov	428	420	430	419	360	376	386	390	406
Dec	426	420	427	418	358	374	381	386	403
Christmas	412	398	399	388	350	360	373	370	378
Sem 2+	412	398	399	(+2) 390	345	360	373	370	376
Jan	409	393	397	385	345	357	366	366	
Feb	407	391	390	379	336	348	353	353	
Mar	401	389	385	-	329	345	346	346	
Apr	400	389	383	-	327	344	345	345	
May	400	389	381	-	326	344	343	343	
retention%	91.1	89.2	86.4	87.3	77.6	82.1	83.3	83.7	*87

Student Dismissals									
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
# stud	4	8	11	5	10	14	24	10	3*
% all	0.91	1.83	2.49	1.15	2.54	3.34	5.83	2.4	0.01*
% WD	10.3	17.0	18.3	8.8	14.9	18.7	34.8	17.5	5.56*

*so far this school year

A Few Student Highlights



Physics students study force by making Tlingit drums.

Behind the scenes: Cutting Edge News



Educators Rising students were featured in the Sitka Daily Sentinel for their volunteer work with Babies for Books



MEHS Choir, Sitka's December Grind dance groups, musicians, DDF teams.

Thanksgiving performances included



Unangax and Yup'ik dance groups helped with St. Michael's Day at the ANB Hall. Performances for elders in November.



Cultural activities include butchering, cooking, and eating various subsistence foods as well as fish skin tanning.



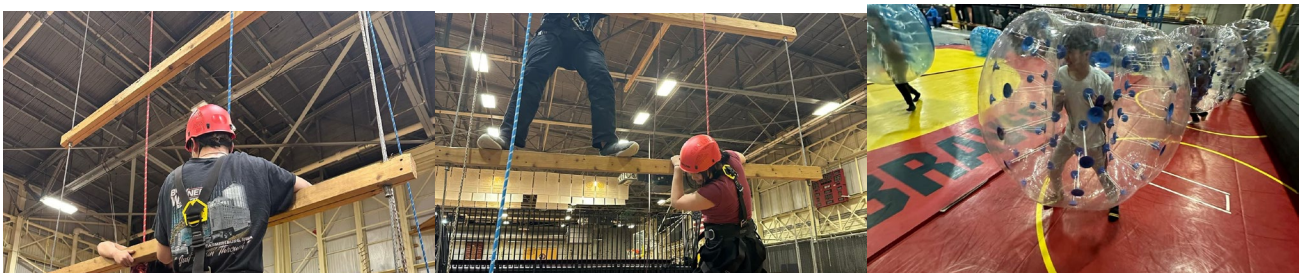
Cultural activities also include a variety of sewing, beading, cooking, baking, eating together. Open every day.



Drama, Debate, and Forensics (DDF) demonstrated their skills at Thanksgiving dinner.



Holiday winter games and Thanksgiving carnival provide fun and excitement near and during the holidays.



Holiday winter games was a great success - students had a blast. We plan to make this an annual tradition - right before break.



Recreation activities include some camping trips to Samsing Cabin - boating, hiking, cabins, sleeping bags, fun times!

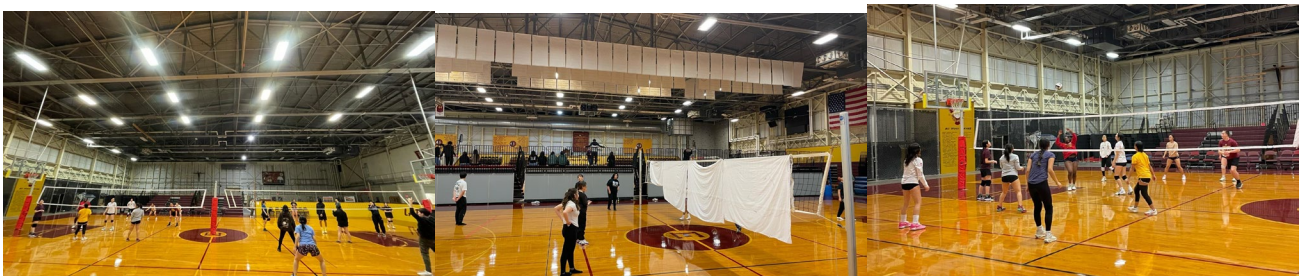


Holiday activities help to get students through the last few weeks, to relieve the intensity of the last few weeks and finals.



State Wrestling Champions!

Bethel sponsored our basketball teams, trip highlights included a visit to the University of Alaska Kuskokwim Campus and a family welcome dinner!



Open gym themed events include volleyball (and Native Youth Olympics), thoroughly enjoyed, with strong participation.



Late January, early February brought snow to Sitka. Recreation activities include getting students out while it lasts.