

Hoonah Schools Newsletter

May 2019

Kayaaní Dísi: the month when grass starts to sprout



Congratulations, 2019 Graduates!

The Hoonah High School Class of 2019 walked across the stage to receive their high school diplomas May 10th. Speakers included class co-Salutatorians Tyler Watkins and Josh Wright, as well as class Valedictorian Ethan Gray. The students had invited Jessie Dybdahl, Hoonah High School Class of 2005 and their volleyball coach, to be their commencement speaker. See page four to find out their plans for after high school. The graduates, pictured above, left to right: Ethan Gray, Tyler Watkins, Josh Wright, Sophia Henry and Dylan Johnson.

School Ku.éex' in 29th Year

We had a full house at our 29th annual Heritage Celebration Ku.éex' on May 3rd. Students from Pre-school & Headstart all the way up to high school took part. We had special guests from Auke Bay Elementary School who came over from Juneau on a catamaran for the event. Gunalchéesh to all the family and friends who showed your support by joining us. See pages five and six for more about this year's event and for a long list of people to whom we want to say a BIG Gunalchéesh!



Ian Johnson photo

Superintendent's Message



First, I would like to take this time to say thank you and congratulations to our graduating class of 2019. You have filled our hearts and school with joy and amazement. We wish you well in your future endeavors. We hope that you take all you have learned here at Hoonah Schools and use it as a

foundation to build the life you want. You will always have our love and support.

The joy of seeing our graduates take their next step to college, military, or the workplace is so fulfilling for parents and educators alike because of the memories and experiences created over the years. I personally shared one of those 'goose bump' experiences that teachers are fortunate to experience often.

It's hard to believe that another school year has come and gone. The last day of school is always eventful for staff and students alike. It seems as if it were only yesterday that we were welcoming students back to school, students whose minds and hearts were open to all the possibilities that awaited them. But alas, it is not the first week of school, we are at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. There were so many great things to celebrate this year.

- We implemented our variable term schedule which provided more access to career courses and certifications to our students.
- Our sports teams had amazing competitive seasons.
- Student assessment scores have continued to show growth.

Thank you to the students, staff, parents, and community partners for another wonderful and productive school year. On behalf of the Hoonah City School District, I can't thank everyone enough for your endless hours of volunteering, chaperoning, reading, organizing, donating and doing whatever was necessary to support our students—both at home and at school. So many of you went above and beyond the call of duty to provide whatever was necessary to add to our students' already rich school experience.

For the upcoming school year, literacy and math will continue to be main areas of focus in the Early Childhood grades, providing

our youngest students with a strong, solid foundation. We will again offer our variable term schedule with more exciting elective opportunities for our students. At Hoonah City School, we are committed to providing a quality education for every student every day.

We take seriously our mission to prepare kids for college and the workplace. But, it is the relationships built along the way that create enduring positive memories. This is the Hoonah experience! I am proud to be a small part of this experience in partnership with staff and community.

My encouragement to the community as we enter summer is -- relationships matter. The time you spend with your own child matters. If you will invest your time into any child, the return on your investment will be priceless.

Ralph Watkins
Superintendent/Principal
Hoonah City Schools

Greetings from your School Board!

By the time you receive this newsletter, construction work on Phase 1 of our school playground will hopefully have begun. Thanks again to everyone in town for contributing to this effort, through voluntary donations and/or through the 1% sales tax dedicated to school activities!

The school board has scheduled its annual retreat on June 14 and 15. It is during this time that the board will complete a self-evaluation for the past school year. We will also set goals for our self-improvement for the 2019-2020 school year, as well as goals for the district as a whole. Timi Tullis, Associate Executive Director of the Alaska Association of School Boards will be our facilitator.

The board looks forward to doing all it can to support the continuing improvement of instruction in our school.

As always, I encourage anyone with concerns about the school to email me at huttonr@hoonahschools.org or call or text me on my cell phone (907-209-0996). Gunalchéesh!

Bob Hutton
School Board President

This newsletter is a program component of the Hoonah Schools Cultural Education Program. Since 1988, we have used it as a means of involving parents and the community by letting them know what is happening at school. We hope that our readers have found it to be informative. Thank you to everyone who has contributed news and photos this year. A special gunalchéesh to Sally Dybdahl and Karen TG Mills, our ever-faithful proofreaders, AKA "Punctuation Police." Another thank you to Sally, who acts as our unofficial Circulation Manager.

Daphne Wright, Newsletter Editor



Spotlight on: Ladonna and Wilma

As the school year came to an end, there were plenty of good-byes to say. Two staff members were honored at a retirement dinner May 5th. Ladonna Dybdahl, our school secretary, has been working at Hoonah Schools for 33 years. Wilma Davis has worked as an aide in our school for eleven years, and also worked as a parent educator for Parents as Teachers. Both were recognized and presented with gifts at the school *ku.éex'* as well.

Commenting on Ladonna's retirement, Principal/Superintendent Ralph Watkins said, *"It has been a privilege to work with such a caring, kind, helpful professional. Ladonna has been the best mentor a new administrator could ask for. I know the school community will miss her, but I personally will miss her too."*

Wilma was thanked by Special Education Director Sheryl Ross for her kindness, generosity, boundless energy, and her caring nature. Wilma and her family have recently left Hoonah for their new home in northern California; Ladonna will remain here in Hoonah. Both will be greatly missed in the halls of Hoonah City Schools.



Goodbye and Gunalchéesh

We also say goodbye and gunalchéesh to other staff members, who will be moving on after this school year:



Sheryl Ross has spent three years here at HCS. Besides her official role as Director of Special Education, she has been involved in many aspects of school life, from decorating for graduation, working with pre-schoolers, subbing in the third grade, baking huge batches of cobbler to take out to culture camp, and even playing the part of Mrs. Claus at the Christmas Bazaar. Sheryl and her husband **Dave Hay** were thanked at the school *Ku.éex'* for their many contributions to our school and our cultural program. Sheryl and Dave will be heading to Dillingham for the next school year.



Rita Crouch, during her two years in Hoonah, has worked first, as the High School language arts teacher, and this year, as the school Counselor. She and her husband, **David Crouch**, will be moving back home to Texas. David has taught vocational classes this year.



Patricia Gardner & Mandi Eubanks

John Vlaun has been here two years, working in the high school and middle school as the science teacher.

Patricia Gardner has taught second grade this year. She and her family will be moving back home to Craig.

Mandi Eubanks was the teacher in the third grade class this year. She will be taking a teaching position in Dillingham for the next school year.

In the fourth-fifth combination class, the teacher has been **Val Buffa**. She also will be teaching in Dillingham next year.

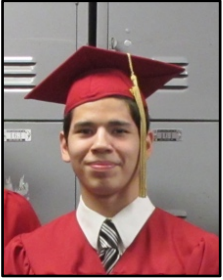


Clark Brown has worked this year as Special Education teacher as well as the instructor in the Culinary Arts Elective.

We thank all of these educators for their contributions to our school during their time here. We wish them well in the next chapter in their lives.

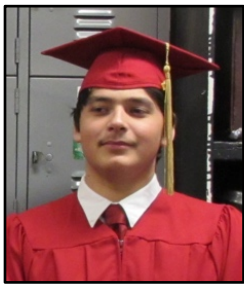
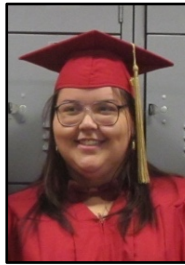
Hoonah High School Graduates Make Plans For Their Futures

The five seniors were asked the day before graduation about what they plan to do after high school. Here are their answers:



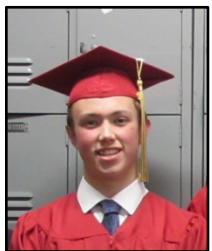
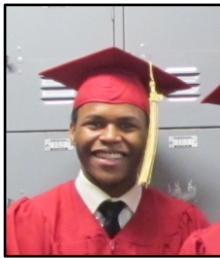
Josh Wright plans to attend Pierce College in Lakewood, Washington, where he will major in construction management.

Sophia Henry said that she will work for awhile, and possibly go for more training in the health field, to build on her EMT training that she received this year.



Dylan Johnson will work in Hoonah for a few years, and go to AVTEC in Seward for training in heavy equipment operation sometime in the future.

Tyler Watkins will enroll at the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau and study marine biology.



Ethan Gray said that he will attend Bellevue College for two years, with plans to transfer to a larger school after that. He wants to pursue a degree in computer science.

We are proud of all our graduates and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!



Ethan Gray was recognized as the School Board Student Representative at the May Board meeting. Pictured above with Ethan are Board members Grace Villarreal, Dillon Styers, Heidi Jewell and Harold Houston. Thanks to Kelli Gretsinger for the photo.



The eighth grade promotion ceremony was held May 15th. A crowd of students, staff, family and friends gathered to honor the twelve students who received their certificates of promotion from middle school to high school. Pictured above, left to right: Ian Sharclane, Cheyanne Jack, Anthony Johnson, Teresa Lewis, Kelly St. Clair, Abigail Stevenson, Theodore Elliott, Susan Bradford, and Alona Howland. Not pictured are Kaida Irvin, Alejandro Contreras, and Nakima Budke.

Mark Your Calendars for
Wednesday, August 14th

The First Day of School for the
2019-2020 School Year!



Heritage Celebration Ku.éex' 2019

The Hoonah City Schools Heritage Celebration Ku.éex' took place May 3rd. This was the 29th year that our school has held this event, which showcases our students and what they are learning of the Tlingit culture and language. Seventh grader Koox.wuduyaa, Leah Moss, T'akdeintaan,



Lisa Worl photo

welcomed everyone on behalf of all the Ravens. Sixth grader Deit Xoon, RJ Didrickson, Chookaneidí, responded for the Eagles, and thanked the Raven hosts. The large crowd of community members and visitors were an appreciative audience as the students made speeches and entertained with singing, dancing, and a skit by the third grade.



Deit Xoon speaks for the Eagles.
Ian Johnson photo

This year, we had guests who traveled by catamaran from Juneau to attend our celebration. Students from Auke Bay Elementary School took part in the day's events, and had a turn on the stage to entertain the audience. Among the adults who came along were a group of adult learners of Tlingit who are taking language classes at the University of Alaska Southeast.

Fifth grade students presented their personal introductions in Tlingit and English, explaining their clan membership and lineage. Fifth grader Carlos Sandoval spoke in Spanish also. One fourth grader, Isaac Hill, who now attends Auke Bay School in Juneau, gave his speech as well.



Raven speaker Koox.wuduyaa welcomes the guests to the Ku.éex'. Ian Johnson photo



"A_x shaan yanéekw," ("My head hurts")
James tells Dr. Jenna. Terry Fiske photo

The 4-5 class performed the *Haa Léelku Has Yoo X'atángi* (Our Grandparents' Language) Chant, first explaining to the audience the meaning of each phrase in the chant. They also sang *Yaa At Wooné Daa Sheeyí* (The Song About Respect.) The preschool class did several songs and chants, including *Wooch.een Yéi Jigaxtoonéi* (We Will Work Together), The Glacier Bay Entrance Song, *Tléix' K'únts'*, *Deix' K'únts'* (One Potato, Two Potato), *Wáa Sá Kuwatee?* (How's the Weather?), and The Hook Song. Students in grades K-2 did several traditional songs and dances, including the Raven Peace Song and Jei Wei Kaa.

Goosá Wé Yanéekw? (Where Does it Hurt?) was the skit presented by the third grade class. Doctors Nevaeh and Jenna, along with nurses Reigna and CeCe, tended to various patients (Olivia, Isaiah, Harlee, Makia and James) and their different ailments. Neta and Ms. Mandi took care of the reception desk, while Riley translated the Tlingit lines into English for the audience. Isaiah carried out the signs with the skit title and the ending phrase "Hooch' á!"

Gunalchéesh Haa Éet Yeeydasheeyí (Thank you all for helping us!)

To the many people who helped in various ways to make our 29th annual Heritage Celebration ƙu.éex' a success, we send out a heartfelt Gunalchéesh!

To Ms. Angie Wright and the students of Auke Bay School: gunalchéesh haat yee.aadí! Thank you all for coming to our ƙu.éex'. Your active participation in our program and your gifts, all made our day even more memorable.



To our photographers, Ian Johnson and Terry Fiske, gunalchéesh for sharing your wonderful photography skills; you captured hundreds of images to help us remember the event. Many of those images will be printed and made into photoboards to be posted around the school.

To Bob Hutton: gunalchéesh for taking care of stage lighting and the sound system, during our actual program, and during practices leading up to the day of the ƙu.éex'. Gunalchéesh also to you and Bill Hutton, for taking charge of the doorway decoration set-up and take-down.

To Wilma Davis: gunalchéesh for arranging for us to have frybread at this, your last ƙu.éex', and for helping with the trail mix work party. Gunalchéesh to Marti Lee and Val Buffa, for helping with that work party as well.

To Marilyn Wolfe, Sally Dybdahl, Karen Mills, Glenda Hutton, Arely Wright: gunalchéesh for helping with preparations in the days leading up to the ƙu.éex'. Gunalchéesh to our Juneau shoppers: Phyllis Grant and Frank Wright, Jr.

Gunalchéesh to the workers who helped to get the gym ready for our guests: Sally Dybdahl, Karen Mills, Adrien Lee, Marti Lee, Sophie Didrickson, Wilma Davis, Pearl Miller, Terri Rae Mills

Gunalchéesh to Mary Beth Moss for coming early on the day of the ƙu.éex' to finish with set-up and for helping organize the food serving.

Others who volunteered in various capacities were: Jenny Miller, Sheryl Ross, Judy Bitz, Rita Crouch, Tesh Gray, Bamby James, Gayle Henry, Phyllis Grant

Gunalchéesh to Vernon Hill for bringing gáax'w (herring eggs) from Sitka for the whole community, and to Bob Hughes, who brought some of it to the school for the ƙu.éex'.

A very special gunalchéesh to the kitchen crew: Kathy Harris, Jackson Combs and volunteer Sheryl Ross. We heard many positive comments about the delicious lunch. Ƙúnaƙ wuk'éí!

Gunalchéesh to the People Who Made Donations:

Wilma Davis	Sally & Paul Dybdahl	Bob Hughes
Karen S. Mills	Aaron St. Clair	Patricia Gardner
Carol Williams	Melvin Williams	Sarah Lampe
Vernon Hill	Sam & Arely Wright	Pearl Miller
Marti Lee	John & Nicki Shelton	Terri Mills
Genevieve Cook	Anasia Neal	Courtney Family
Marlene Duvall	ANS Camp 12	Phyllis Grant
Barb & Ed Phillips		Elleana & Paul Elliot
Mary Beth Moss & Owen James		Sheryl Ross & Dave Hay
Elleana & Howard Diamond		Reigna & Silas Sharclane
Veronica & Richard Dalton		Frank & Daphne Wright

Gunalchéesh for Tlingit Language support: Sealaska Heritage Institute. Goldbelt Heritage Foundation
Genevieve Cook Ruth Demmert Hans Chester
Roby Littlefield Lance Twitchell

Gunalchéesh to:

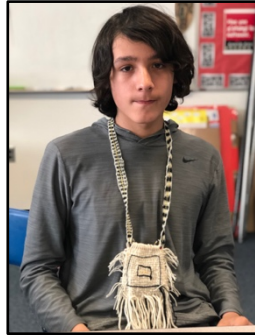
All the HCS staff: administration, teaching and support staff
Maintenance staff: Jeremiah Byers & Corbin Harris
City of Hoonah Youth Center, for the loan of tables

We sincerely apologize (Ch'a aadei yéi haa nay.oo) if we have omitted any names from this list.



Tlingit Language and Culture Class

This class was for both middle school and high school. Students finished their Ravens Tail weaving projects that included a 5 inch- side bag, as well as necklaces to gift to special people in their lives. Gunalchéesh to Huna Heritage Foundation and Amelia Wilson for assisting in providing some of the materials for this class.



In addition to weaving, the year wrapped up with a Néechdéi Day (Beach) exploring the low tide and life below;



as our ancestors said, “when the tide is out, our table is set.” Students were able to harvest many important pieces of knowledge, as well as a yummy selection of foods, which included: yein (sea cucumber)- battered and fried, sooooo yummy! They also harvested kayaaní tlein (deer heart), used as greens for salad; shaaw (gumboots) which we pickled and jarred; s’áxt’ (devil’s club) buds for tempura; kanat’á kayaaní (blueberry leaves) for tea, k’wálx (fiddlehead ferns) for sauté in our gourmet meal--fit to feed our 2019 Senior Class! What a way to celebrate!

Gunalchéesh Tlein to our wonderful volunteers for being a part of our journeys! Gunalchéesh to Ian Johnson for



his amazing photography skills, as well as bear protection and knowledge of harvesting. Gunalchéesh also to Jennifer Nu and Arienna Lapke from HIA and Southeast Sustainable Partnership for being with us to help harvest, process and



share, and to Levi Mills for helping with bear protection and harvesting skills.

In addition to harvesting, we also participated in a UAS Dual Credit Tlingit Language class with instructor Marsha Hotch. High school students Olivia Morrison and Jermaine Johnson received both High School and College Credit for Tlingit Language 105.

Photos of harvesting trips by Ian Johnson

Haa Too Yéi Yatee Culture Camp 2019

We will hold our third annual Haa Too Yéi Yatee Culture Camp at the Freshwater Bay Kennel Creek cabin July 14-16. This camp is for ages 10 to 18. Applications are available at the Youth Center.



Photos above and left: grinding seaweed, and working on Raven’s Tail weaving projects at last year’s camp.

ANSEP Academy Reports

Team Hoonah spent two weeks at the University of Alaska, Anchorage for the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program. The six Hoonah middle schoolers joined 31 other students from schools in the North Slope Borough. They stayed in the dorms at UAA and got a taste of college life. Thanks to Huna Totem Corp. and Huna Heritage for committing funds for our students to attend this amazing program where native students are introduced to science, math, and engineering disciplines in a university setting. Thanks to Renee Gray for coordinating the trip and Adrien Lee for chaperoning. The students and chaperone wrote about their experiences when they got back home.

ANSEP Computer Build

This year I was accepted into the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program in Anchorage. We did a lot of activities throughout the camp; my favorite was the



Computer Build. First, the YPMs (Youth Peer Mentors) handed out cardboard boxes with computer towers inside. Second, we started to plug in the wires to

the motherboard.

Then, we got most of the hardware pieces and started to assemble them in place. Some of the pieces you just had to push into place and some of the pieces you had to disassemble and screw into place. Sometimes the pieces wouldn't go in right, so you had to troubleshoot.

The hardest part of the Computer Build was probably piecing it together because some of the pieces did not fit in right. My favorite part was probably using it at the end; it was really cool to see something you built work and do something productive. *-RJ Didrickson*

Earthquake Engineering

During the ANSEP Middle School Academy, we did an earthquake engineering project. We broke into teams of 2-3 and had the task of building a tower out of K'nex kits. The tower had to be a minimum of 64 inches and the base was to be maximum of 13 by 13 inches. We had to work as a team to build a tower that would make it through an earthquake; it had to look nice.

After building our tower, we put them on a shake table which was supposed to simulate an earthquake. We had to give a presentation on how much the building would cost to rent, our team name and building name, the purpose

of the building and how long we thought it would last on the shake table.

They waited to tell us who won until the closing ceremony; the team that won, broke a minute and had a good design.

-Nakima Budke

Computer Build

Part of ANSEP was building a computer from scratch. During the computer build we first got our tower box and started building. All the while we were building we got one part at a time and had fun together. We weren't allowed to touch any gold parts and we had to ground ourselves before touching any metal. When we were done building, we had to test multiple times and when it was officially finished you could play games and much more on it. Overall the computer build was an amazing, fun and difficult experience. *By: Kali Harris, 6th Grade*



Dorm Options-

At the end of each day, after our nightly activity, we had dorm options. Dorm options were basically activities of our choice. Towards the boys' hall, there was the main lounge, which had an X-box, couches, games, and a Nintendo Switch, brought by one of the YPM's (Youth Peer Mentor). In the girls' hall, there was an art lounge and a Wii lounge. Occasionally there would be a game outside called Everybody is It. So, in dorm options we could chill in our dorms, go to the lounges, or if available, go outside.

-Teresa Lewis, 8th Grade

The Alaska Sea Life Center in Seward

On our ANSEP trip, we got the opportunity to go to the Sea Life Center in Seward, a small town near Anchorage. The students, chaperones, and YPM's participating in ANSEP all loaded onto a big bus and were on our way. This was the



one time that we were allowed to have our electronic devices all day.

On the way to Seward the view was beautiful. The bus driver told us stories about the people who came and skied, the mud slides, and some tragedies that took

place on the ski slope. A lot of people took pictures of the mountains and trees; I learned that where the other

students were from, there were no trees. All the students were from the North Slope, besides us.

After eating our packed lunches and more driving, we finally arrived. Each of the teams split into groups and



observed the animals, bought things from the gift shop, and touched animals in the touch tank. There was also a bird aviary and the birds weren't really scared

of human interaction, so the workers would feed the birds right out of their hands.

After a while it was time to go to a class where we dissected squid. We also looked for fish eardrums in dried and baked sea lion feces. We learned how you could tell which feces were from which sea lion. They would put different color glitters in the fish's gills that they were feeding to the sea lions and it would show up later.

After we had one last chance to get something from the gift shop, we left. We went and got a bunch of pizza for everyone. On the way back to the academy we watched a movie on little tvs on the bus, used our electronics, or interacted with our friends. The trip took all day, so by the time we got back it was around like 8:00 pm. It was a pretty fun trip.
By: Kaida Irvin

The Planetarium

Last month 6 middle school students were selected to go to Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) in Anchorage for two weeks. During these two weeks we got to go on some field trips to different places around the college campus, around Anchorage and even in Seward. One of my favorite field trips was to the Planetarium. Inside the Planetarium, there is a large dome-shaped roof above your head. After the lights go down, the dome lights up and you can see thousands of stars.

The dome is also used to show documentary films. There are many film options to choose from, including a few about planets, some about culture, and even some about the ocean. We watched one film about the northern lights and one about space and how there might be new "planets" forming. My favorite part of the Planetarium was looking up at the dome and how realistic the videos were. I also loved how the sound filled the room and how the video covered the whole ceiling.

-Leah Moss

Balsa Wood Bridge Build

Another activity we participated in was the Balsa Wood Bridge Build. During this activity we were put into different groups and given a limited supply of wood. We had to measure and cut our own wood. It took us all about two days to finish our bridge. When we were finished building we had to test how much weight it could hold. Our

team bridge held up around 50-65. The highest weight amount was above 100 lbs.

I had an amazing time learning new things and creating new friendships here at this camp and hope to go to another one like it. *-Leah Moss*



Back: RJ Didrickson with baby brother Matthew, Teresa Lewis, Nakima Budke, Kaida Irvin, Chaperone Adrien Lee. Front: Kali Harris, Leah Moss.

Chaperone's Report

ANSEP Academy started off with many icebreakers; we spent the first few days getting to know each other through playing games. We also spent time touring the college campus. Students had evening chores; there were daily schedules on how chores would be shared.

Each chaperone was assigned a team of students from each school, with only one of our own students. The chaperones were there to help get their teams to the Academy, cafeteria and other campus buildings. Chaperones also helped their teams work together to finish their tasks. The team names were: Inspiration, Effort, Guidance, Acceleration, Determination, Succeed, and Motivation. At the closing ceremony, the team names were made into a poem.

Healthy eating habits were encouraged; there was a strict policy of no sugary foods or drinks. There was a point system on the ClassDojo app, where students could earn points during the day – for being respectful, being helpful, being kind, staying on task, and participating in activities. Their points bought them juice in the morning, or one soda a day, or other options like fidget toys and ChapSticks etc.

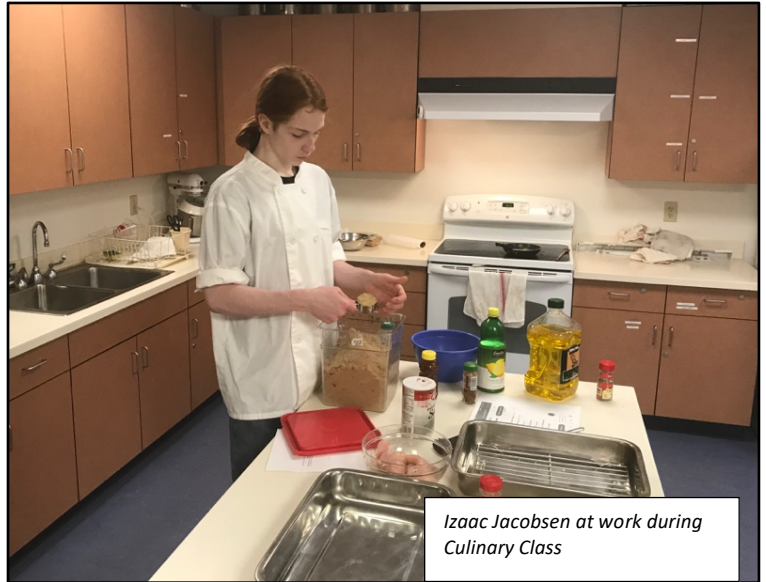
In the beginning of the Academy, we were all feeling the climate change, a little culture shock since we were the only Southeast school there. After we broke the ice, we felt more like family. I hope to see Hoonah continue sending our students to the ANSEP program; it definitely gave our kids a great experience. I was extremely proud of our students. It was so amazing to see them rise to their abilities, to go the distance and to succeed. I was happy to get to witness our kids take interest in their education, to get out of their elements and comfort zone, and to invest time and energy into their futures. It was truly a great two weeks. *-Adrien Lee, Chaperone*

Culinary Class Offered for Hoonah Secondary Students

Hoonah students had the opportunity this year to sign up for a Culinary class as an elective. The first semester there were two classes of six students each. The next semester there was one class of four students. The second semester class was a more advanced class, so only students who previously took the class were eligible. The instructor was Clark Brown.

The overall objective of the class was to introduce Classical Culinary cooking, which is based on French classic cooking. The student objectives were:

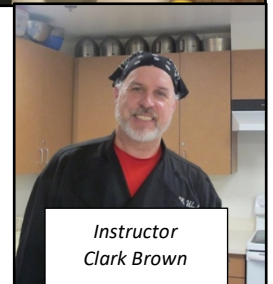
- Learn knife safety and skills; learn the 5 basic cuts used in a kitchen.
- Produce at least three of the five Mother Sauces in classical cooking.
- Learn and practice various cooking methods: Baking, Immersion, Broiling, Sautéing, Dutch Oven style, etc.
- Learn types of dough techniques: Cream, Rubbed, Laminated, etc.
- Become aware of food-borne illnesses and how to prevent these from happening.
- Create and produce a menu within a certain budget.
- Operate a small limited-seating cafe at school for the community – The Hoonah Cafe: We did a Holiday Dinner for the Forest Service, a Community Valentines Evening dinner and a French Crepe dinner that was run exclusively by one of the students - Izaak Jacobsen



Izaak Jacobsen at work during Culinary Class



Culinary student Olivia Morrison



Instructor Clark Brown



Nicki Shelton, former Hoonah High School Home Ec teacher, was one of the diners at the French Crepe dinner. She commented, *"Izaak prepared a delicious dinner that was presented in a very professional manner. The orange pecan salad was so tasty, I could have eaten an entire dinner of just that dish! I thoroughly enjoyed the seafood crepes as the entrée. The dessert course was a very large serving of black forest crepes which were a perfect blend of chocolate, cherry and cream. The coffee served with dessert was amazing: it was a French coffee that included coriander and was so wonderful. The entire meal was excellent, and we enjoyed it very much. Thanks, Izaak!"*

Photo: Izaak serves dessert crepes to Nicki Shelton. Thanks to Sally Dybdahl for the photo.

Preschool News

The end of the year is upon us and I would like to report that these amazing preschool students have learned a lot and had fun while they were doing it. They are good at being kind and considerate. They can run faster, jump higher and balance better than at the beginning of the year. They are good thinkers and they enjoyed hearing stories and reading books on their own. They can count higher than before and know some, if not many, ABCs. The students had fun with art projects and played make-believe in many centers. They experimented with many things such as colors, planting seeds and building ramps. We experienced so much in preschool this year and the learning increased with each passing day.



The success of our students was dependent on the active adults in our program. Thank you, Christina Carrick, for your advice and gentle guidance of the Preschool program. Thank you Adrien Lee for co-teaching with me. Thank you, Anne Marie Sharclane and Jenny Johnson, for your consistent help in the classroom too.



I would like to congratulate our preschool students for doing a great job while performing at our Ku.éex'. You spoke, sang and danced as you were taught and I know your families and the community enjoyed your performance. Thank you Daphne Wright, Adrien Lee and Carol Williams for teaching our students Tlingit this year. *(Gunalchéesh to Ian Johnson for the Ku.éex' photos on this page.)*



I would like to thank the Head Start teachers for all of your hard work with our preschoolers. You are amazing and a positive influence in their lives and education.



I also want to thank the parents of our preschool students for allowing us the privilege of teaching your child and for partnering with us on this journey. I know the learning will continue this summer as you continue to play, talk, dance, explore, sing, read and create with your child.



If you would like your child to play some on-line learning games this summer, here are some free sites you could try: Abcya.com, Starfall.com, pbskids.org. Enjoy!



I hope you all have a great summer.
Mrs. Lee



Kindergarten-First Grade End of the Year News



Ian Johnson photo

The end of the school year brought a lot of activity and learning in the K-1 classroom. In science we grew tomato plants and learned about how plants grow. We also got two tadpoles for our classroom pets and learned about the lifecycle of a frog. On May 3rd, we had the annual Ku.éex' and the kids did a great job. They did a good job with their songs and with how they participated in the festivities.



Classroom Pets



Field Day – Ball Toss

Also in May, the students had a great time going to the beach for their annual Beach Day. They explored the beaches near the cannery and found all kinds of sea creatures.



Beach Day



Pool Noodle Run

During the last week of school, students took part in Field Day and had fun doing all kinds of team activities in the morning and then swimming in the afternoon. All of them went home worn out after all of the activity. The last day of school brought the end of year picnic. It was probably the best picnic I have ever been part of. The kids enjoyed playing on the playground, eating, and just being out in the sun on a beautiful day.

Thank you, everyone, for your help in making this a great year. Thank you to everyone who donated snacks and cleaning supplies to keep our students healthy. Thank you, Glenda Hutton, for helping students work on their reading. The year went so smoothly because of all of your help. Thank you also to Marti Lee and Judy Bitz for all of the work you did in the K-1 classroom this year.

Mrs. Carrick

Third Graders Interview the Kitchen Staff: Kathy (Kaz) Harris, Jackson Combs and Casey Bitz

We are so lucky to have **Miss Kaz** as our school cook. She is always ready to serve us a hot meal, with a smile! Kaz says this is her best job so far, except when the kids bang their silverware or play rap or heavy metal music. She finds this behavior extremely annoying. Things have changed a lot since she graduated from school here in 1987. For instance, when she graduated, there were over 250 students!



Kaz has a lot of hobbies. Who knew she enjoyed making stained glass suncatchers and painting? She also enjoys hunting deer and fishing when she isn't working part-time at Hoonah Trading Co.



Gunalchéesh, Kaz, for all of your hard work and for keeping our kids healthy and well fed. - *Third Grade*

Jackson likes his job a lot. He enjoys the kids in school. He is from Oregon, but his favorite states are Alaska and



Oregon. Blue is his favorite color. He knows a person that ran for president. He lives on a boat during fishing season. He has no kids.

This summer has a lot of exciting adventures for her. Outside of Canada, she will break away from the great US of A and travel to England to visit her husband. She hopes to visit several castles.

-Riley

Jackson is awesome. He

doesn't come back till later in the school year. Jackson is an amazing person. THE END - *James*

Casey Bitz is 28 years old. His birthday is May 20th. His nickname is Sponge Bob Square Pants. He has been working at the school for 11 years. He washes our trays. He also works at Colette's.



He puts the pop in coolers. He likes beach glass, stacks wood at home, and collects Play Mobile. He would like to go see his sister, Bonnie. His favorite movie is "Lion King". Casey really likes cheeseburgers and Diet Pepsi. For exercise, Casey takes walks, swings, and enjoys listening to music and dancing. He owns a business called *Bitz of the Beach*. Casey is a great person.

-Olivia and Miss Pearl



A Good-bye Message from Miss Mandi:

Dear Hoonah,

Thank you for this precious year. Thank you for trusting me with your children. They have blessed me in so many ways. They are our greatest resource, our most prized possession. Their questions, their curiosities, their love of life have energized me. I will miss you, each and every one.

Love and shalom,

--Mandi Eubanks--

Second Grade News

As we come to the end of this academic year, it is with great pride that I can look back at the many achievements of the children. They have worked so hard, especially with the new demands made on them by a new and challenging reading curriculum. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff I worked with for a very successful year. I would also like to thank all parents and the community of Hoonah for welcoming my family. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in the future.

Patricia Gardner

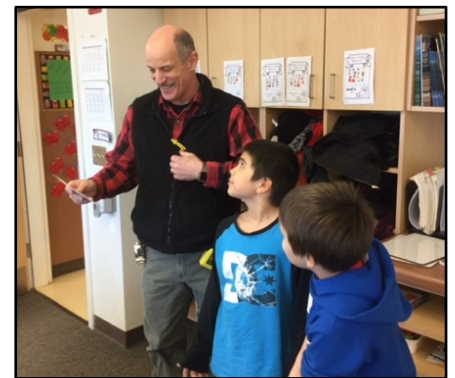


Third Grade News, continued from page 13



Our Scavenger Hunt

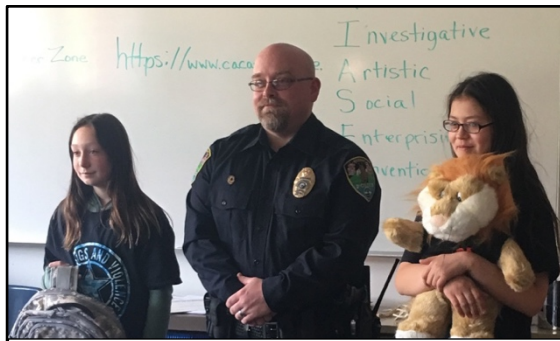
The third graders got to do a scavenger hunt with Mr. Crouch in the Woodshop. They went to the shop and made tape measures, then they had to do all kinds of measuring. Mr. Crouch said that, for the scavenger hunt, they measured over 235 yards, almost the length of 2 ½ football fields, and 3 LeConte ferries lined up end-to-end. He awarded the class a treasure chest at the end, in the hopes that they will share it with other classes that need to learn how to measure and figure out riddles. The third graders want to say a big GUNALCHÉESH to Mr. Crouch!



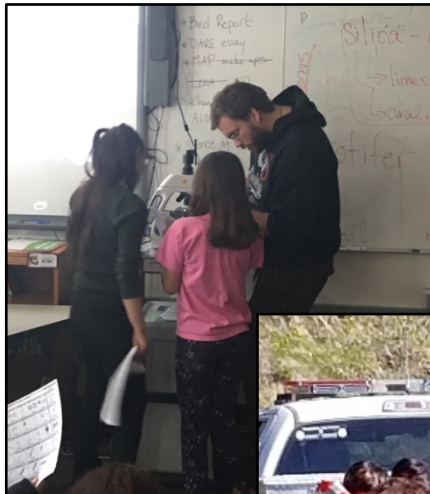
Fourth-Fifth Grade End-of-Year News and Pictures



D.A.R.E. instructor Josh Huskey presented a series of ten lessons to the 4-5 class. D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) teaches students how to resist peer pressure and make good decisions that will allow them to live drug and violence-free lives.



D.A.R.E. essay winners Jora Savland and Cayenne Boe with instructor Josh.



Above: the 4-5 class got to try out the new Obstacle Course at ISP. Right: on the same day, they took part in the Ground Blessing Ceremony for the new dock.



Alaska State Trooper Andy Savland taught the 4th/5th graders the importance of personal flotation devices when boating.

↑ The students collected water samples & learned to identify plankton through the microscope with Ian Johnson from HIA Environmental.



Parents as Teachers Program News

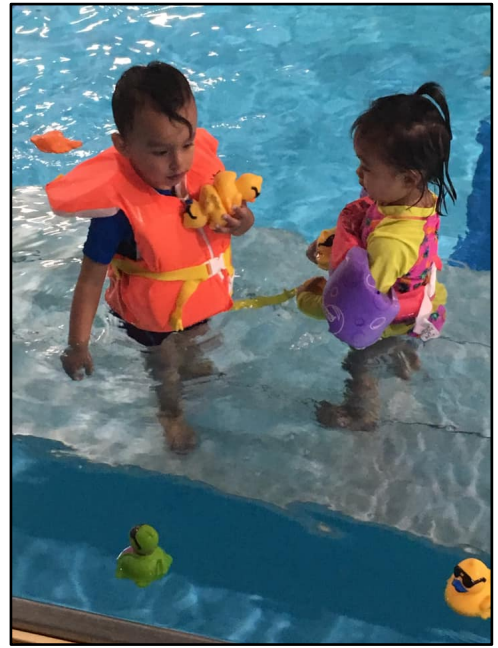
Dear P.A.T. families,

P.A.T. has a competition starting, with the drawing to be held on the 30th of June. For every group attended and visit completed, you will get a chance to enter the drawing. To date, we have a donation from Hoonah Treasures-

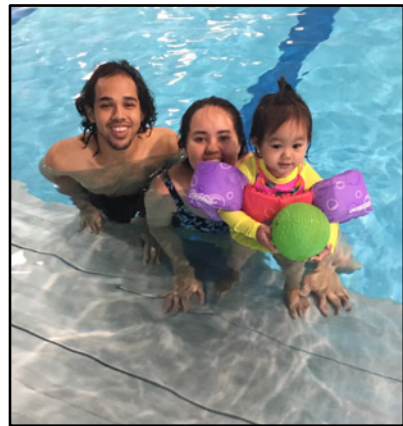


Mug & T-shirt, Icy Strait Lodge- Pizza, Colette's Cupboard- Choice of 1 pack of diapers/wipes, and more prizes in the works, so be sure to get those visits in and come to playgroups!

Some decisions have to be made as a group to make the most out of the program; keep an eye out for flyers or letters with updates. Playgroups are a lot of fun and we all enjoy them; however, we must keep in mind that the core of the program are the visits with individual families. It is a busy time of year and life happens, which is completely



understandable. Please take time to look at your schedule and pick at least two days out of the month that your family can be available for visits. This will make planning for playgroups smoother and allow for enough notice for all families to plan.



The City of Hoonah Parks and Recreation Department has graciously offered P.A.T gym time. Please take some time to think about what days and times would best suit your child. Care providers can bring your child when needed.

P.A.T would also like to thank the City of Hoonah Parks and Recreation for providing free swims to our P.A.T families. Also, thank you to Cody Anderson for donating his time to teach swimming to the kiddos. Thank you also to Mrs. Wilma Davis for your help as well. Families, P.A.T. is here because of your participation, so let's keep that

going and hopefully we can build our program up! Research shows that participating in early childhood development programs increases school success. Thank you to all participating families.

What is P.A.T.? Parents as Teachers! This program is a fun, early childhood development program that focuses on the four main domains of development: Motor, Language, Cognitive, and Social-emotional. We bring fun activities that help your child and family to enhance these areas of development which can help your child lay a foundation for school readiness. PAT is not just about the child in the program, it's about helping the family in any way possible. PAT aims to help families connect to needed resources whenever possible.

Not enrolled in the program? Have questions? No problem, call PAT at 907-723-4576 and let's get you in the schedule.



The last session of **Baby Raven Reads** was held May 24th; we will start up again in September.



Huna Heritage Foundation in the School

Supporting Students' Higher Education Goals

Huna Heritage Foundation has been awarding scholarships for continuing education for almost thirty years. We are happy to announce that Josh Wright and Ethan Gray, two graduating seniors of Hoonah City Schools, were among thirty-one recent scholarship recipients for the 2019/2020 academic year. Huna Heritage wishes these students and all those pursuing advanced education the best on their journey. If you, a friend or family member are interested in financial support for college, vocational or cultural training, contact Huna Heritage Foundation for assistance with funding.

Investing in Our Children's Education Today for Our Future

Education of current and future generations is a top priority for Huna Totem and Huna Heritage Foundation. In late 2018, Huna Totem and Huna Heritage committed \$39,000 to bring the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) to Hoonah, in partnership with Sealaska and Hoonah City Schools. ANSEP is a program that was established in Anchorage, Alaska with a mission to, "effect systematic change in hiring patterns of Alaska Natives in science and engineering by placing our students on a career path to leadership." Both Huna Totem and Huna Heritage are invested in fostering opportunities for our youth to take on leadership roles in all career fields, including science, math and engineering.

ANSEP engages students beginning in middle school, through its middle school academy, through high school, through its acceleration academies, and on through college through its university success components. ANSEP ultimately allows Alaska Natives to enter the University setting academically prepared for degree programs leading to careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. We were excited to help bring this program to Hoonah. Hoonah students, our future leaders, attended the ANSEP Middle School Academy this April. We look forward to continuing to create opportunities to build up and support our youth in attaining leadership positions throughout their

educational and professional career paths. *See pages 8 and 9 for pictures and stories by the Hoonah students and chaperone who attended ANSEP Academy this year.*



Gaawt'ak.aan Enjoys Time Aboard Cruise Ship

As the cruise ship *Norwegian Joy* nudged up to the dock at Icy Strait Point for the first time on May 15th, Huna Heritage, in collaboration with Icy Strait Point, extended the shore-to-the ship with our local school. Over 40 students, wearing their Haa Kusteeyí Áyá school shirts and Tlingit headbands with drums in hand, danced and sang their welcome for the first-ever guests of the *Joy*. In recognition of the Gaawt'ak.aan students performing at the Icy Strait Point – NCL Ground Blessing ceremony, Norwegian welcomed the students onboard for a taste of ship life, complete with a full ship tour, food, gaming and go-kart racing. By honoring our culture, these joint collaborations between Huna Heritage, Icy Strait Point and our community create fun opportunities for our young people to share, experience more, learn and grow.

Digital Media Job Opportunity

Calling all youth or adult creatives: Huna Heritage Foundation supports career development opportunities whenever we can and seek to facilitate opportunities with our sister organization Icy Strait Point (ISP). ISP wants to tell its story in a new way through digital media. Mickey Richardson, Director of Marketing, is looking for help creating and capturing photos, videos and digital graphics. If you're interested in learning more about this opportunity to help tell digital stories, contact Huna Heritage.

Hoonah Recyclers News



Earth Day Clean Up Report

Thank you to all the folks, big and small, who turned out for Earth Day Clean Up on April 20th. We had 78 citizens who signed in and then hit the streets and trails for some major trash busting! A total of 79 bags were hauled off to the dump, and 20 bags of aluminum were turned in for recycling.



Thanks to the following for their donations of food and prizes: Hoonah Indian Association, Ed Williams & Hoonah Russian Orthodox Church, Hoonah Recyclers, Nicki & John Shelton, Karen the Great, Daphne & Frank Wright, Jr., Glenda & Bob Hutton, Paul & Sally Dybdahl, Diane Bean & Rod Morrison, Julia See & Lorenzo Florendo, Icy Strait Lodge, Christine Williams, Basia Trout, Jessie Dybdahl & Jeremy Martin, ANS Grand President Paulette Moreno.

Thanks to City of Hoonah William and Mary Johnson Youth Center for being the Clean-up Headquarters and the venue for our pizza lunch afterwards.

We welcome the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 12 as our new partner.

Thanks for donations of recyclables:

- Jeff & Phyllis Tischer
- Bob & Glenda Hutton
- Marjorie & Floyd Peterson
- Diane & Rod Morrison
- Nicki & John Shelton
- Mike Mills, Sr.
- Daphne & Frank Wright
- Jessie Dybdahl & Jeremy Martin



- Paul & Sally Dybdahl
- Austin Martuscelli

Thanks for assistance:

Ryan Neal, Kenny Worrell, and Paul Dybdahl

Thank you to Alaska Marine Lines for transporting our van to and from Seattle.

We recently used \$200 of our profits to donate to the annual Fishing Derby.

Our recycling van should be back soon; watch Facebook and local bulletin boards for our next open day.



Thursday Troopers will be doing weekly litter patrols beginning May 23. We will pick up litter every Thursday from 1:00-2:00 p.m. We meet at the Youth Center and scour the streets and byways of Hoonah to keep it looking good. After each litter patrol, we will have a snack, and for each time you take part in Troopers, you will get a free swim pass when the pool re-opens at the end of summer.

We will have a big, fun end-of-season picnic at the Lions Club Picnic Area on the final Thursday, August 8th. Everyone who attends at least 3

Trooper Thursdays will be invited to the picnic. Questions? Please contact Sally @ (907)209-9326. This effort is supported by a grant from ALPAR—Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling. **Everyone** is welcome to help!
Photo at left, May 23rd Troopers; others on this page were taken during Earth Day Clean up April 20.

City of Hoonah Parks & Rec



Bike Rodeo--
The Parks & Rec Department put on a Bike Rodeo April 27th. We had a great turnout of 42 kids. They went through a number of activity stations: Bike Check up, Helmet Fit, Bike Fit, Safety Info, Mount & Dismount, Start & Stop, Straight Line, Ride with

Traffic, ZigZag, Snail's Pace, Deliver the Newspaper, and Hand Signals.



Thanks to all the volunteers:
Sally Dybdahl, Josh Huskey, Mike Ivie, Dillon Styers, Kristi Styers, Nathan Carrick,

Tammy Groshong, Keira Budke, Casey Budke, Christina Carrick. Thank you to Tammy Groshong for the pictures on this page.

Summer Ball Games at the Park

We hope to have summer t-ball and softball, starting in early June. Chief of Police Rick and Tammy Groshong will be helping to get this activity organized. Volunteers are needed. Parents and friends, contact Kris if you want this to become a reality, and are willing to help.

The swimming pool is now closed for the summer, and will reopen in September.

If you have noticed a **big red and blue van** down at the Park, this is a work in progress, with the goal being to use it as a Concession stand once it is finished. Kris hopes it will be ready in July. It would be nice to have it going when there are summer ball games.

The city bought some **covered picnic tables**, which will be coming soon to the Park or to other areas around town.

Sewing Night has been switched from Tuesday to Thursday, from 7 to 9 pm, and will continue through the summer. Kris said that she can help with projects when needed. You can even bring your sewing machine if you need help fixing it or operating it.



Free Open Gym for kids Wed. & Sat 1-3 pm, starting May 22nd. This is an addition of Wednesday; during the school year, we have had Open Gym every Saturday.

William & Mary Johnson Youth Center Summer Hours:
Closed Sun. & Mon. (we will be open on Mondays starting in the fall)

Tues.Wed.Thurs. --1:00 to 9:00 pm.

Fri. -- 1:00 to 11:00

Sat. -- 3:15 to 11:00 (Open Gym 1 to 3)

Little ones (11 and under) always go home at 7:00 p.m.--- unless there's a dance-- then they leave at 9:30.

The **Hoonah Liquor Board** gave money for the 4th of July celebration, and for exercise equipment at the gym.

Thank you to folks who donated to the **Fishing Derby:** Safeway/Carrs, IPEC, Jensen Yorba Lott, AK Seaplanes, Fishbone Gifts, Hoonah Hideout, Silver Hoarde, Big Creek Fisheries, Hoonah Recyclers, Coutlee & Sons Construction, Huna Propane, Tina's Lodging, M & F Peterson, Alaska Marine Lines, F.O. of AK State Troopers, Hoonah Trading Co.

See Kris at the Youth Center to volunteer for **the 4th of July celebration**. You can also call her at 907-321-1323 to find out how to help.



Boxholder

Hoonah City Schools Newsletter May 2019

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Dates to Remember

Haa Too Yéi Yatee Culture Camp	July 14-16
First Day of School	Aug. 14
Thanksgiving Vacation	Nov. 28-29
Christmas Vacation	Dec. 23-Jan. 3, 2020
Spring Break	Mar. 23-27, 2020
Last Day of School	May 14, 2020

