

# Hoonah Schools Newsletter

March 2017

*Heentaanax Dis: The month when saltwater fish spawn.*

## Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Program Features Music and Drama

Students of all ages took part in the Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Program on February 16th. Preparations began weeks before this event, as various classes learned about the history of the civil rights struggle in Alaska. Starting with the middle school, who served as greeters and ushers, each level had their part to play. The K-1 and pre-elementary classes sang a song about Elizabeth Peratrovich, which ended with the lyrics "Alaska passed a law . . . to end discrimination!" Next up were high school students, who presented a short play entitled: *Alberta Schenck and the Nome Dream Theater*. This play was written by

Vivian Prescott, and dramatizes an event that occurred before the Anti-discrimination Act was passed in 1945.

After that, the students in grades 2 through 6 sang the Elizabeth Peratrovich "rap", written by Daaljini, Mary Folletti. Last on the program was another dramatic presentation by the high schoolers: a reenactment of the hearing on the Anti-Discrimination Bill in the Alaska Territorial Legislature in 1945.

At the conclusion of the program, students did some singing and dancing, then everyone walked in a parade to the HIA Community Building, where Sisterhood Stew was served by the Alaska Native Sisterhood.

Gunalchéesh to everyone who attended this special event, and



*Singing and marching in parade down to the HIA Community Building after the program.*

to all who helped to make it a success. And a big Kúnáx Yak'ei (Good Job!) to the students and staff for your participation.



*K-1 class singing The Elizabeth Peratrovich Song.*



*Kelsey Thein, playing the part of Elizabeth Peratrovich, giving her famous speech.*

Coming Friday, April 28th

27th Annual HCS Heritage Celebration Ku.éex'

*Hosted this year by the Raven Students*

Mark your calendars—everyone is invited! Call Carol Williams, Heather Powell or Daphne Wright at the school (945-3611) if you want to help, either by volunteering, making donations, or both.



**Superintendent’s Message from Dr. PJ Ford Slack**

HOONAH CITY Schools is POWERED BY ORANGE

If you have a 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grader at home or next door, ask them about Being Orange. See if they are wearing their Orange Bracelet. Ask them what they thought of the Orange Frog Project.

During the second week of January, our secondary students went through a full training called the Orange Frog Project. This project which has been done mainly for adult groups around the world, such as: various Canadian Banks, Insurance companies, India’s car manufacturer, Amazon, Zappos, Microsoft and Google. It is focused on Happiness as a life skill advantage.

Do you realize that 80% of our daily thoughts, as adults, are negative? Did you realize that there is data that shows how an unhappy and unengaged workforce cost money? We are learning that choosing to be positive while learning and teaching makes a difference in achievement.

Dr. Shawn Achor (you can google his TED talk) has done the research on how having a positive focus supports business growth and learning. Dr. Achor teaches at the Harvard Business School.

Adam, Tesh, and PJ decided to bring Spark to Hoonah City Schools. Our staff has not looked back since August. However, we all agreed that if the adults did the training, our students needed to do the training as well.

A special comic book was designed especially for

our students. Every student, including the primary grades, has a copy. The comic title is: *SPARK the ORANGE FROG: The Battle of the Thrall*. Our primary students were involved in the process but not the full day training. Our most excellent trainers, Coach Gretsinger and Devin Hughes, were the Wild and Crazy Happiness teachers. The goal of the day was for each student to design a Happiness Plan.



Teachers and high school students during their training.

Hoonah City Schools is one of two schools in the nation that has trained their students. Our kids are known across the United States for being engaged and focusing on Happiness. This spring we are coming your way, Hoonah. Watch for the high fivers on National High Five Day or just a big smile and an Orange wristband coming your way!



Grades 5-8 during their Orange Frog training.



With Spark, the Orange Frog, during the staff training.

*Everyone at Hoonah City Schools extends our warmest Get Well Wishes to Board of Education President Bob Hutton. You are greatly missed, Mr. Hutton!*



## Principal's Message

As the school year winds down, our minds and hearts are filled to the brim. It's been a great year thus far! As I write this message there are only 45 students days remaining. Where did the time go? Together we've learned much. Our return to the homeland experience will long remain with us in the years to come. Thank you to all who made this once in a lifetime experience possible. The strength of our community and the wholehearted passion to make our school a wonderful place of learning for all of us at Hoonah City School is our mission and purpose.

As the year draws to a close this is not the time to slow down. We still have much to do. I encourage all of us to lean in to the experience. It has been a busy year. I know that we are tired. Our seniors can see the end of their high school experience just beyond the horizon. It's scary and exciting all at the same time. Remember the end is not here yet. You have to keep running, pushing, and persevering until you cross the graduation finish line. All of us as a learning community are here to help you.

So that it is not forgotten or deemed as unimportant, I want to extend a sincere thank you to our parents who have contributed in ways small, large, and unimaginable! Thanks for getting your kids to school on time each day and helping them in the learning process; the partnership between home and school is important. Let's see it to the end.

I would like to thank our hard-working and caring staff members who have made a huge difference to our students. Your commitment is outstanding and our kids, their families, and our community are all thankful for you. Thank you for providing rich and engaging, well-rounded experiences for our kids and knowing that education is about joy, wonder and fostering curiosity, along with the development of social skills so needed to succeed. For these, and a million other things, we are truly grateful.

In closing, I would like to say, stay the course. Finish strong. End the year with purposeful intention. You are not alone. We



are not alone. We have each other, our families, our ancestors, and a community of individuals committed to the success of all of our children.

With heartfelt appreciation,

*Ralph Watkins, Principal*

### **Honor Roll**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter/1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

#### **"A" Honor Roll for students with a Grade Point Average of 3.33 – 4.00**

##### **Middle School**

Izaak Jacobsen – Qt/Sem  
Sierra McClement – Qt/Sem  
James Carteeti – Qt/Sem  
Dakota Garrison – Qt/Sem  
Duane Jack – Qt/Sem  
Cooper Ross – Qt/Sem  
Ethan Ruerup – Qt/Sem  
Shayla Thaalesen – Qt/Sem

##### **High School**

Zada Michel – Qt/Sem  
Leticia Skaflestad – Qt/Sem  
Alaska Skaflestad – Qt/Sem

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#### **"B" Honor Roll for students with a Grade Point Average of 3.00 – 3.32**

Gary Glover – Qt/Sem  
Esias Kohler – Qt/Sem  
Xaviery Sharclane – Sem

Tyler Watkins – Sem  
Jeffrey Devlin – Sem  
Brandon Guthrie – Sem  
Jerry White – Qt/Sem  
Kelsey Thein – Qt/Sem  
Randy Roberts – Qt/Sem

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#### **Third Quarter "A" Honor Roll for students with a Grade Point Average of 3.33 – 4.00**

##### **Middle School**

Sierra McClement  
Orion Osborne  
Duane Jack  
Cooper Ross  
Ethan Ruerup

##### **High School**

Zada Michel  
Leticia Skaflestad  
Robert Wilkin  
Jerry White III  
Austin Martuscelli  
Randy Roberts  
Kelsey Thein

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#### **Third Quarter "B" Honor Roll for students with a Grade Point Average of 3.00 – 3.32**

Gary Glover  
Esias Kohler  
Xaviery Sharclane

Aiyanna Williams  
Sophia Henry  
Dylan Johnson  
Tyler Watkins  
Sacajawea Bigelow  
Brandon Guthrie

## Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership News--- PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISING UPDATE

As we creep up on \$40,000.00 raised for Hoonah Elementary School Playground improvements, we're hopeful that some work can be accomplished this summer in time for the 2017-18 school year. Bids are out for the landscape engineer to visit so groundwork can begin.

Profits from the Icy Strait Point "School Store" (\$5300) were designated for the Playground Fund this year. A big THANK YOU to ISP for their support!

Our Playground Fund Coin Drive brought in \$592.00 worth of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters! Many



thanks to all the families who sent in coins with students. Extra special thanks goes to Billy Mills, Ron Roberts, and Daphne



Wright. There are coin collection containers at Colette's Cupboard, Hoonah Liquor Store, and Hoonah Trading for spare change and currency. Every little bit helps!

The playground fund was enriched by \$201, donated by the Hoonah Community Theater. This was their profit after expenses, from their production of *All I Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, presented in January. We also received \$162.02 in donations at the coffee & cookie table during intermission at the three performances. Thank you, generous people of Hoonah, for continued support of our playground fundraising efforts!

Thank you to our staff volunteer workers, Wilma Davis, Marti Lee, Jen Bidiman, Tina Fuller, and Pearl Miller, community volunteers Ben McLuckie and Stephanie Harold, and those 25+ energetic students who raised \$\$\$ at the basketball concession stand. Kali and Kathy Harris made bracelets in our school colors, Janelle and Lorrie Scoles made maroon and gold ribbon barrettes, plus food items were donated for sale by Hoonah Trading Company, Julie Jackson,

Kristi Styers, George Carteeti, Glenda Hutton, Daphne Wright, and Sally Dybdahl. Thanks to Wilma Davis for running 50/50 raffles at the final home basketball games to earn additional funds.

A special thank you to Mary's Restaurant; those good folks donate aluminum cans to benefit the playground fund.

The *Goosú Wa.é?* dance (when money is collected on a blanket) yielded \$361.25 at The Chichagof Classic Tournament. Gunalchéesh to Bill Wilson and the rest of the Gáaxw X'aayí Dance Group.

The next submission date for **BoxTop\$ for Education** is November 1st. Clip and deliver those 10-cent coupons to envelopes at the school or at Colette's Cupboard, Hoonah Trading Company, Hoonah Liquor Store, or at the Hoonah Harbor Building. Thanks for

the help funding our elementary playground; \$38.80 worth of coupons were sent in March 1<sup>st</sup>.



### Kids with Cameras Project Update

Our photo project from last spring has continued through 2017; a selection of 60 of the matted photos were on display at the State

Legislature for the first part of this year. We recently got them back, and have delivered almost all of the pictures that were purchased at the Christmas Bazaar. A big Gunalchéesh to everyone who supported us by purchasing pictures, and another gunalchéesh to those who allowed us to keep theirs for the display. Gunalchéesh also to Bob Hutton for taking photos of the display at the Legislature.

The next step in this project will be to begin using the pictures to help us learn Tlingit language.

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**About this newsletter:** This publication is a project of the Native Education Program at Hoonah City Schools. Its purpose is to inform families and the rest of the community of what is going on at school. We also highlight community events and programs that involve our students. Please contact Daphne Wright at school (945-3611) with questions, comments or suggestions about this project. She can also be reached by email: [wrightd@hoonahschools.org](mailto:wrightd@hoonahschools.org). You can find the online version of this newsletter on the school website [www.hoonahschools.org](http://www.hoonahschools.org).



## Haa Kusteeyí Áyá

### Wooch.een Wednesday--

Building on the success of our first Wooch.een Wednesday in November, we have since held two more such events. In February, we had another great turnout of family and friends. The evening began with a delicious dinner of stew, prepared by the high school students. After dinner, there were different activities to choose from: learning to introduce yourself in Tlingit, playing the game "Spot It!", using Tlingit vocabulary words, watching videos of past cultural celebrations, and doing "Make & Take", which meant you could make your own card game to take home and practice Tlingit with your family.

March 15 was our third Wooch.een Wednesday; a sizable group braved the wintery weather conditions to come and enjoy clam chowder and crackers (again prepared by the



high school students), and then choose one or two different things to do. This time there were two "Make & Take" rooms, one with card games to make, and another, presented by Jamie Erickson of Parents as Teachers, where you could make a Tlingit numbers cube to take home and play with a small child. In another room, Carol Williams taught a traditional song. The fourth choice was to play "Lingo" with the high school Tlingit students.



### Gunálchéesh--

At our February Wooch.een Wednesday event, we were able to enhance our activities with door prize drawings due to the kindness of the following folks: Barb and Ed Phillips- from Icy Straits Lodge fame, donated a \$25 gift certificate; Moises Contreras, Jr. and Laura Hinchman -



from Hoonah Trading, donated a Yahtzee game and a Small Fry Daddy. The lucky winners were Kim Campbell, Nicholas Jacobsen and Tyrell Cromer. Our event was more fun due to the generosity of our strong supporters and for this we are very appreciative.

Also for our February event, we received a generous donation of Guwakaan dleeyí (deermeat) from Paul and Sally Dybdahl. This was used for the stew that we all enjoyed that night. In March, gishoo taayí (bacon) for the chowder was donated by Frank and Daphne Wright. Both donations added to the meals prepared for everyone by the high school students, who are getting to be skilled in various aspects of cooking!



Recently, Larry Sanders brought our Native Education program a bag filled with Tlingit beading ready to be placed on blankets, tunics, and headbands. What a fine and useful gift. The regalia created will be worn by Hoonah's wonderful children. We are very grateful to Mr. Sanders for this thoughtful contribution. Aatlein Gunálchéesh, Mr. Sanders!

We also want to thank Sheryl Ross, for always helping with our special programs in so many ways. Her kindness and energy are boundless; Gunálchéesh Kúnáx!

**Mark your calendars for Friday, April 28th, when we will hold our 27th annual Heritage Celebration Ku.éex', starting at 10 a.m. in the Alumni Gym. Everyone is invited!**



**Picture Highlights from Tlingit Classes and Wooch.een Wednesdays**



High school Tlingit classes took a day in March to help out in the community by shoveling walkways and driveways around town. Their efforts were much appreciated!



Playing Lingo at Wooch.een Wednesday March 15th.



Drum-making with help from Mr. Gordon Greenwald. Gunalchéesh, Kaach.yaas!



Practicing Gaydanaak & Gaykí with Rian, Shrek, Troy & Elmo. ↑&↓



Make & Take



Serving Chowder at Wooch.een Wednesday.



## Writing from the High School English Classes

### What makes a good leader....

What makes a good leader? They have to keep the team in balance and make sure no one gets left out. A good leader never gives up

on their team, even in difficult situations. That's my idea of a good leader. ~Aiyanna

Being a leader to me is someone who stands up and does something no one else is doing-- someone who inspires others to do good things for others who need help. A leader is someone with a strong mind and the willpower to change the world. Being a leader means you have what it takes to accomplish anything you put your mind to.

~Austin

Someone with a humorous personality, people respect him or her, and someone who can share their mind. I'm on student government, a very open person who knows how to share my opinion and thoughts. My biggest achievement would have to be getting my grades up to passing and not dropping out of school. ~Halle

A leader is someone who is brave, compassionate, and loyal to a fault. They are the soul of a team, so they are often the one targeted when the team fails. This means that they should be willing to do what it takes to succeed. That they can withstand stress that comes with the job. Most importantly, they have to be able to handle a situation with grace, thought, and understanding.

~Kelsey

A magnanimous leader is never afraid to take charge in tough situations. ~Leticia

Leadership is a gift, for some. A leader is an individual who has the ability to gain trust/followers from a portrayal of strength, character, and success. Leadership is the ability of an individual to earn respect and to win another's trust/friendship, then to lead. Leading is the ability to make decisions and enforce them with authority from followers.

~Manny

In order to be a good leader you must be able to listen and cooperate with others. The best leaders take others' needs and ideas and apply them to the current situation. If you don't listen to others no one will follow you. ~Wea

A good leader is someone who actually cares about whatever it is that they are leading. The leader should be

a good role model to the upcoming leaders. A good leader should be positive as much as possible ~Mary



### Footprints

Footprints left in the sand  
That people left behind  
Making those who pass wonder  
Wonder who left them  
Those who left them  
Wonder who will see them  
Will they see the beauty in them  
I wonder what kind imprint I will leave?  
Will people see beauty in what I leave behind?  
Will they wonder what kind of person I was?  
I hope I leave a positive impact  
I hope that people will try to accomplish what I have  
That I will be remembered  
Will my footprints wash away with one wave?  
Or will they stay in the  
sand forever?  
I wonder  
I hope  
Wea



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## Mobile Greenhouse Coming to Hoonah

Hoonah is excited to be hosting and benefiting from Moby the Mobile Greenhouse! The greenhouse will be hosted by Hoonah City Schools and is made possible through collaboration with the City of Hoonah and Hoonah Indian Association. Our goal is to demonstrate that a greenhouse can provide food security and economic opportunity to the community. We hope that participation in the greenhouse by students and the community will provide a model and impetus for a permanent greenhouse at the school to serve the community. Moby will arrive in Hoonah on April 17. We are going to try to involve as many students as possible in this project. If anyone wants to help us, we could use donations of pots, soil, and seeds. Just drop them off at the school office. For more information about the greenhouse in Hoonah, please contact Sheryl Ross (rosss@hoonahschools.org) or Ian Johnson (ijohnson@hiatribe.org).





## The North Carolina Kids

March 4-11, 2017

You may have seen a bunch of strangers strolling around the island this week. You may know who we are, or you may not. Well, we are the “the kids from NC State.” Rather than taking a normal college spring break, we challenge the status quo and step out of our comfort zone by taking a different type of break. Our break is called an Alternative Service Break, and is coordinated through a department at our school. We are one of 17 teams traveling around the western hemisphere to participate on a trip with a specific focus, ours being education.

Since our trip’s focus is education, we are spending the week working in Hoonah City Schools and spending after school at the William and Mary Johnson Youth Center (aka Boys and Girls Club). The students are one of the highlights of the trip. From the time we walk into the cafeteria for breakfast until we go home, they energize us and keep us busy. It is heartwarming to see the kids wanting to show us what they are learning and showcasing their art or projects. At the Boys & Girls Club, our team gets pretty competitive when it comes to playing Just Dance on the Wii or playing board games. With that said, the students help create everlasting memories of Hoonah. Every day brings a new adventure!

It has been one of the greatest honors and privileges spending time on this island and being welcomed with open arms. Everyone has been so kind, touched our hearts, and inspired our team. The impact everyone in Hoonah has had on our team is something that will translate into our everyday lives back home. For instance, spending time in the school showed one of our team members that teaching is the right career path for her! We have had the opportunity to learn and see many parts of the island, which displayed Alaska’s beauty from many different vantage points. We are thankful for everyone’s generosity, which has helped make our team feel at home.

In conclusion, I, Rob McCarthy, would like to personally thank everyone of Hoonah, AK. I was here two years ago, and the homecoming I received here was unreal. It is hard to put into words, but you all truly impacted my life for the better, which I am forever grateful. Hoonah holds a very special place in my heart. Even after two years, there is not a day that goes by where I do not think of everyone here. Coming back again has been one of the greatest privileges and I am truly blessed. Thank you for everything you do and continue to do for the North Carolina Kids.

By: Rob McCarthy  
-NCSU 2018

*The team: Advisors: Stan Martin and Adam Culley  
Team Leaders: Brian Conrad and Alexis Foster  
Members: Andrea Antelis, Ashton Daniel, Jasmine Wang, Jenni Shaw, John Medeiros, Kali Fillhart, Kevin Hernandez, Leslie Small, Rob McCarthy, Sam Chan, Shakti Reddy, and Swathi Krothapalli*



*NC State students Rob, Jenni and Andrea pose with Thing 2 and Thing 1 after the Read Across America Sock Hop.*



*Above: NC State students Swathi and Ashton with the K-1 kids: Cecelia, Isaiah, Joseph, Harlee, Kenlee, Olivia and Gabe.  
Below: NC State student Sam with Ava, Riley, Reigna and Kenlee.*





## ***Hello from the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class!***

Spring Break has already come and gone, as our year continues to pass right by my eyes. We got our year off to a bang by getting into our daily routine focusing on stamina to become better readers. We are fine-tuning our fluency; building the bridge to comprehension. Reading for meaning is a blast!

We started the new year with some physical science learning on the states of matter. We even found there is a fourth state of matter, an example being our majestic Northern Lights. We even spent some time exploring the changes of matter by shaking our own bags of ice cream, and then we created a root beer float. Boy, was that fun! This study led us into studying the process of crystallization. We used various household items and made our room sparkle!

We just finished a study on famous Americans. We spent the month of February learning about biographies. We learned about the components of a good biography by reading about some of our famous presidents such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and famous leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Elizabeth Peratrovich and several other famous people. Making history come alive has been a lot of fun. Each student even tried writing a biography of a friend in our class.

We have had some awesome events happen already this year. We hosted our annual Jump Rope for Heart. In just one week, we raised over \$1000 for the American Heart Association. It is so much fun to focus on our most important muscle, our heart, on Valentines Day. That same week, we participated in singing a song to honor Elizabeth Peratrovich. We did a great job with the lead of Mrs. Wright.

Lastly, we had our Read Across America. Wow, where do I begin! This was a day of silly Seuss-ness. We spent the morning rotating through fun Seuss activities and ended the day with an assembly to honor Dr. Seuss's love for teaching children to read through his writing. First, we got to see the Cat in the Hat and his Things in action, then we performed *Gerald McBoing Boing*, the boy who only speaks in sounds, and then we sang some of our favorite Seuss songs, including *We Love You, Hoonah City School*. Last, we had a *Fox in Socks Hop*. If you were there, you had a treat!

Finally, we have had so much fun in our newly-fallen snow. We are just amazed at its beauty. We even took the snowshoes out for a test run. See--- we are all smiles. I hope everyone had a great spring break; maybe we will start to get some sun!

*Mrs. Fuller*



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## **Pre-Elementary Class News**

The Raven And Eagle Learning and Growing Strong Pre-Elementary class started on January 9<sup>th</sup>. There are 8 students enrolled. All will be entering Kindergarten this fall.

In the Pre-Elementary program, the “We Can” curriculum, as well as the Math PreK curriculum is being used. Between the two programs, there are lots of opportunity for learning in the areas of literacy, math, science, social studies and movement.

The program also focuses on the Objectives for Development and Learning from the Teaching Strategies Gold data collection system. This system aligns nicely with the state Early Learning Guidelines.

The students have a Tlingit class with Mrs. Wright. She comes in daily with activities for the



students and is teaching them Tlingit that aligns with our “We Can” curriculum.

We are looking forward to spring and getting outside. The Pre-Elementary class will end on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

## News from the Fourth Grade

This past quarter proved to be a busy one! With our focus on Alaska during Social Studies, we took some time to learn about the history behind the Iditarod. Every student chose a musher. As a class, we tracked where the mushers were along the trail each day. We paid attention to the number of dogs they had, when they came in to each checkpoint, the speed they were traveling, how they were caring for their dogs, when they took their mandatory stops, and watched video clips when they were available. Krista Howland chose Mitch Seavey for her musher and he ended up winning this year's Iditarod, making a new record for the fastest time to Nome! This was not only a wonderful geographical experience for the class, but involved a lot of math as well!

We were lucky enough to have Rob McCarthy, one of the North Carolina college students, join us a few weeks ago. Rob, who was here along with about 13 other college students, joined us each day for a week, helping out where possible, taking part in the learning, and sharing with the class what it's like to be a college student. Rob really inspired the students, and talked to them about setting some long-term goals. The students made lasting friendships. Our North Carolina friends were even able to join us for our Dr. Seuss Day activities. Students were involved in multiple reading activities; the teaching staff took part in a live performance of "The Cat in the Hat," with the day ending in a Fox in Socks Hop! It was a wonderful way to celebrate the love of reading!

For writing, our class has continued to pen pal with another fourth grade class at Auke Bay school. The students are

enjoying the connections they are making! Along with writing pen pal letters, the class has been hard at work, finishing up personal narratives, descriptive paragraphs, and book brochures. *Photo at right: Israel and Johan wearing the hats they made on Dr. Seuss Day.*



I am proud of the progress every student is making!

*Until next time,  
Jen Bidiman*



*The fourth graders spent some time snowshoeing during our snowy month of March!*

## Jump Rope for Heart and Read Across America Day

Hoonah Elementary students raised over \$1200 for the American Heart Association with this year's Jump Rope for Heart event on Valentines Day. Donovan Leinberger (pictured) was the high fundraiser, followed by Nevaeh Campbell and Tyrell Cromer.

Gunalchéesh to all who supported the students' efforts, and another gunalchéesh to everyone who came to cheer them on as they jumped. Lots of fun and heart-pumping exercise was had by all.



This year we celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America Day on March 10th. Elementary students enjoyed a variety of activities in the morning; in the afternoon there was a special assembly featuring *The Cat in the Hat*, *Gerald McBoing Boing*, and a *Green Eggs and Ham* song. Following the program was a very high-energy sock hop.

Gunalchéesh to the students from North Carolina State; your active participation at the sock hop made it even more fun.



*These pictures were taken at both Jump Rope for Heart and on Read Across America Day.*





# Hoonah Braves Varsity Basketball

## Girls Team Season Wrap-Up

The Hoonah Braves Girls had a long, challenging season. With multiple injuries and a young team, they fought hard to improve and to even finish the season.

Heading into the 1A Region V as 5th seed, the Braves faced Skagway first round. After losing that game by only 4 points (an improvement from the conference games against the Panthers), they battled back to face off against Yakutat. With two players fouled out, and one injured on the bench, they played the whole



Back: Zada Michel, Alaska Skaflestad, Monique Glover, Leticia Skaflestad. Front: Cecelia George, Aiyanna Williams, Lliyah Jewell, Halle Budke. Not pictured: Vanessa Contreras



4th quarter with only four girls. After losing their lead, the girls held on and only lost 38-33. I'm proud of these nine young ladies (not pictured: Vanessa Contreras) and their drive to compete. I look forward to seeing where the future lies for Hoonah Girls Basketball.

Awards at Regionals: Alaska Skaflestad made All-Academic Team; Zada Michel and Liyah Jewell made the Good Sport Team. *Coach Jessie Dybdahl*

## Hoonah Braves Boys Basketball

The 2017 basketball season has come to an end. It is hard to believe that it is already over. We fell short of our ultimate goal of qualifying for State, but the guys had an amazing season. Our regular season record was 10-4, and we finished the year with an overall record of 11-6. Manny Budke and Jerry White both received



Back: Jeff Devlin, Jerry White III, Tyler Watkins, Coach Gretsinger; Front: Brandon Guthrie, Manny Budke, Josh Wright, Randy Roberts



the All-Conference award and Josh Wright was the Free Throw champion, making 20 out of 25.

The team played with sportsmanship and represented the community of Hoonah with pride and dignity. I could not be more proud of this group of fine young men. They overcame a lot of adversity throughout the season. Thank you to everyone for coming out and supporting us this year. *Coach Adam Gretsinger*

Thanks to Vanessa Contreras for the action shots on this page.

## Gunalchéesh from HIA



On February 26 to March 1, Xunaa Káawu came together during HIA's Tribal Conference. HIA would like to thank the following people that were involved in the planning of this important event. It does make a difference and it truly strengthens our people and our culture.

Ken Grant	Bill Wilson	Ernie Hillman, Jr.
Paul White	Paul Marks	Dennis Gray
George Bennett	Frank Wright Jr.	Lillian Hillman
Ernie Jack	Julie Williams	Ozzie Sheakley
Ron Williams	Marlene Johnson	Jerry White Jr.
Amelia Wilson	Ian Johnson	Gordon Greenwald
Mary Beth Moss	Jack Lee	

We would also like to thank Huna Totem for use of their boardroom for meetings and HHF for their assistance in Juneau. The next Tribal Conference will be in September; as soon as the dates are confirmed we will let everyone know.

## Eagle/Raven Totem Poles to be Raised

The Eagle and Raven totem poles that are a part of the Tribal House project in Bartlett Cove will be raised on **May 20, 2017**. You may call HIA at 945-3545 to make reservations for the catamaran that will **depart Hoonah at 7:30 a.m.** and depart Bartlett Cove at 4:00 p.m. Space is limited and on a first-come, first-serve basis. FYI, there will also be a catamaran that will depart from Juneau at 6:00 a.m. and go directly to Bartlett Cove. The cost RT is \$65 for either catamaran.

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## Gunalchéesh for Being of Service

Two hard-working community members have been going around helping the elderly and disabled by offering free loads of wood if they cannot afford the regular prices of firewood. Austin Martuscelli and Mike Mills accept donations and also have done snow removal. They do not charge for their services and stay very busy. The wood is free if the people cannot afford it; they do accept donations, so they can continue to go help people. Starting with just a half a gallon of chainsaw fuel and a little bit of bar oil, Austin and Mike have made enough in just donations to keep the cheap wood coming for those who need it. They are happy they can provide these services to those in need in the community. Gunalchéesh to both of them!

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## Library Services Available

Did you know that you check out library books using Interlibrary Loan, even though we do not currently have a public library? You can call Alaska Mail Services at 907-586-5379 or go to the Juneau Public Library Website. On that site, click on the Services tab. You can order up to 20 books at a time, for a two-month check-out period. Alaska Mail Services pays the shipping to Hoonah, and you pay for the return shipping. You will get a Library Card Number for use with online audio books and eBooks. Gunalchéesh to our School Librarian, Marti Lee, for this information.

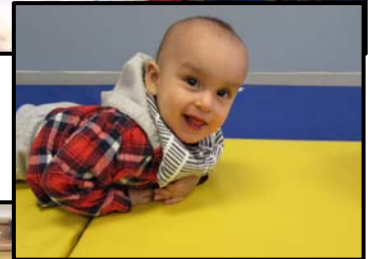


## Parents as Teachers News

Hoonah Parents as Teachers is happening! We have had parent-child play groups, a Tlingit infant-toddler activity at Woocheen Wednesday March 15th, and twice-monthly personal visits with each family.

### How do families benefit from Parents as Teachers?

- Individual personal visits are the heart of the program.
  - We talk about your child's current development and what you can do to encourage the next development.
  - You will learn to make fun learning toys from items around your home.
  - Parenting topics are discussed as well as possible strategies you may want to try.
  - Screenings for development, vision, and hearing will identify your child's strengths and areas you may want to encourage.
  - Group Connections are offered at least monthly for parents to get together with other families with young children.
  - You and your child can participate in fun activities at the PAT classroom playgroup.
  - You will be able to meet with other parents with children the same age as yours to hear presentations and discuss parenting issues and challenges.



- PAT connects families to outside resources in Hoonah and Juneau.



We are currently working to get Imagination Library back

in Hoonah! Funding is being sought, and we will keep you posted!

To enroll your family in Parents as Teachers, please call **Jamie Erickson at (907) 465-7882.**

## Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership NEWS:



Congratulations to the winners of the Grades 2-6 PING PONG TOURNEY sponsored by Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership January 28th: First Place Ian Sharclane, Second Place Krista Howland, Third Place Anthony Johnson.



Congrats to the Grade 7-Age 99 bracket: First Place Dillon Styers, Second Place Ryan Neal, Third Place Ian Johnson.

### Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership's Raven-Eagle Walking Challenge

is over for another February and The RAVENS won! Average for those turning in steps was 44,318 steps/month and Eagles' average was 40,923. Thanks to those who participated and to our



sponsors: Hoonah Liquor Board, Alaska Seaplanes, and SEARHC Healthy Families.

Our awards luncheon was yummy and healthy. These walkers received prizes: Most Steps Eagles, Faith Grant; Most Steps Ravens, Wilma Davis; Most Bonus Steps Eagles, Minnie Dalton; Most Bonus Steps Ravens, Daphne Wright; Most Improved from Week 1 to Week 4 Eagles, Yan Meserve; Most Improved from Week 1 to Week 4 Ravens, Stu Mills.



Students in grades 2-3 and 4 had some snowy fun on the snowshoes that were purchased several years ago by the Fun & Fit Partnership.

NEXT PROJECT? Hoonah Health Fair, Saturday, April 29th. We're hoping for student displays, community participation, ping pong tourney, long rope jumping, SEARHC Dietitian, Nolan the Colon traveling display, HIA Domestic Violence Awareness and Tobacco Cessation, AK Public Health Nurse presentation, etc. Want to help? Please contact Candy Keown at HIA or Sally Dybdahl at BBBS.

**Playground Fund:** Fun & Fit is committed to making major improvements to our school playground. Please see page 4 for our latest fundraising news.



## Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hoonah

Big Brothers Big Sisters' 13th Annual Bowl for Kids' Sake happened on Saturday, April 1st—no foolin'! A big THANK YOU to all who helped with this, our biggest fundraiser of the year. We had many teams of bowlers, lots of pizza and prizes, and just a good time all around. We will have a detailed thank you list in the next newsletter.

The year 2017 has brought us four new one-to-one match friendships so far! Remember, we have plenty of youth waiting on the Ready to be Matched List. Please give the gift of time to a child who needs or wants a BIG!

In January, 10 Bigs, 14 Littles, and 5 Friends of BBBS attended the play *All I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, presented by the Hoonah Community Theater.

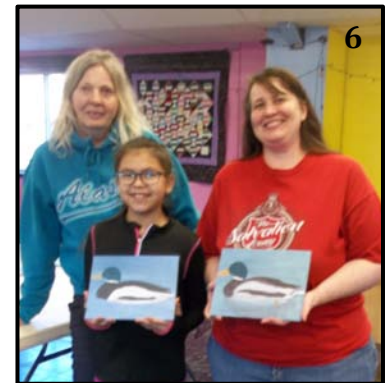
Thank you to the following for cash donations to our program: Janet Taylor--\$250; Ben McLuckie--\$100; Paul Dybdahl--\$50; Diane Bean--\$200 donation from Christmas gifts from her brother and dad.

Robin Hasselquist taught an acrylic painting class for nine program participants; each beginner painter produced a mallard duck masterpiece on canvas. Thank you for sharing your time and talent, Robin!

Watch for signs for **Hoonah Recyclers'** first opening this spring. The first AML Barge may bring our container back as soon as April 6<sup>th</sup>! Proceeds from metals recycling in Hoonah benefit our program and other youth-friendly community projects.

*Pictures this page, five new matches and a couple of BBBS activities: 1) Little Sister Aiyanna and Big Sister Melinda; 2) Little Brother Izaak and Big Brother Ben; 3) Little Sister Sophie and Big Sister Sophia; 4) Little Sister Ava and Big Sister Zada; 5) Big Sister Halle and Little Sister Krista; 6) Robin, Cheyanne and Tina at the painting class; 7) Leif, Alejandro, Treston and Val, making cupcakes.*

**Late Breaking News: BBBS will sponsor a Free Swim on the last pool day, Saturday, May 13th; Open Swim 5 - 7 pm and Lap Swim 7-9 pm. After this date, the pool will be closed for the summer.**



## Boxholder

# Hoonah City Schools Newsletter March 2017

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### *In this issue:*

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Event	1
Superintendent's Message	2
Principal's Message	3
Honor Roll	3
Playground Fundraising Update	4
Kids with Cameras Project	4
Haa Kusteeyí Áyá	5
Tlingit Classes Highlights	6
HS Students' Writing	7
Mobile Greenhouse	7
NC State Students' Visit	8
Second-Third Grade	9
Pre-elementary Class	9
Fourth Grade	10
Jump Rope for Heart	10
Read Across America Day	10
Varsity Basketball	11
HIA News	12
Gunalchéesh to Woodcutters	12
Library Services Available	12
Parents as Teachers	13
Fun & Fit Partnership	14
Big Brothers Big Sisters	15

### **Dates to Remember**

Activities Banquet	April 6
Mobile Greenhouse Arrives	April 17
Keijin Dikee Yagiyee (High Five Day)	April 20
Earth Day City Clean-up 10 to 1	April 22
Elementary Beach Day	April 27
Heritage Celebration <u>Ku.éex'</u>	April 28
Health Fair	April 29
Prom	May 6
Seniors' Last Day of School	May 12
Last Day of Swimming-- Free Swim for all, sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters	May 13
High School Graduation	May 18*
Last Day of School	May 19

Note: Graduation was originally scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th. It has been changed to **Thursday, May 18th.**



***Keijin Dikee Yagiyee is coming!*** April 20th is National High Five Day. Here at Hoonah City Schools, we will Tlingitize it, making it "Keijin Dikee Yagiyee."