

W I N T E R 2 0 1 8

the Chevak School

Chevak School Newsletter Vol.7 Issue 3

Nov./Dec. 2018

Red Ribbon Week

RED RIBBON WEEK is scheduled for November 6- 9. This year's theme is "Strong Together Against Bullying and Drugs". There will be a general assembly in the gym on November 6 to award the following:

- BEST DOOR AWARD- Grades School Wing, Secondary Wing, and Cup'ik Wing. The winning classes will get a **prize** for each student including the teachers.
- Poster Making Contest- Pre- K to 5th grade
 - 1st- \$20 + t- shirt
 - 2nd- \$15 + t- shirt
 - 3rd- \$10 + t- shirt
- Essay Writing Contest- 6th- 12th
 - 1st- \$50 gas money+ t-shirt
 - 2nd- \$30 gas money + t- shirt
 - 3rd- \$20 gas money + t- shirt

Prizes will be given to the classes that will prepare and present a cheering during the assembly. **Ten prizes** will be drawn during the assembly. Everybody can join the raffle drawing, including the guests/ parents.

Prizes will also be drawn everyday of the week during the announcement.



Save the Date!

Christmas Program

12/19/2018 6:30p

The Chevak School Christmas program will be on Dec. 19th

@ 6:30pm

Vacation starts!

12/20/2018

Dismissal after lunch until January 7th, 2019.

Merry Christmas!

Staff Party

12/14/2018

Staff party and gift giving at the Cafeteria. Bring a dish or so...



Cup'ik Values by Chevak School students

By James Ayuluk, Cup'ik Department

This Cup'ik value was read to 7th graders at the old school, before moving to new school and were asked to write down what they thought the value meant.

“Always respect the land around you, It will provide you plenty with your needs”

Everytime you take care of the land, the land will give you food, like the birds, berries, and game animals. Before you leave your campsite, pick-up all the trash, and the land will give you a special gift.

7th grader – Uyungulria

If you take care of the land and pick-up trash, it will take care of us by growing plants & foods of all kind. If you are going hunting, pick-up your trash and you will get foods for your family. When you travel, stay on one trail so that the land will not be ruined.

7th grader- Auguayaq





Rural Cap Elder Program

Elder Mentors have been improving children's success in Head Start, classroom and other community settings across Alaska for more than 30 years. By providing one-on-one help with school work, modeling social and cultural values, and offering emotional support to children with special needs, Elder Mentors offer the inter-generational relationships so important to healthy child development. Alaska's Elder Mentors serve through the national Senior Corps Program.

Program goals include increasing school readiness for pre-school children, increasing school success for K-12 students – and for all children, reinforcing social skills, cultural values and resilience. The Elder Mentor program is an investment in Alaska's past, present and future, with powerful results. This program directly impacts three special groups:

- **Children** who are economically, socially, or developmentally disadvantaged increase their school success through individualized tutoring.
- Low income **Elders** stay active in their community while sharing their skills, and receive a small, tax exempt stipend and support for meals and transportation.
- **Education Professionals** benefit by having a supportive role model for the classroom and a mentor who can work with children needing extra help. Teachers often report that students are more engaged in learning when an Elder is present.

RurAL CAP does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring, firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, clients, volunteers, and subcontractors. Program Participants have the right to file a grievance if (s)he is not satisfied with the response to a complaint.

Contact Information

RurAL CAP's Elder Mentor Program Phone: (907) 865-7354 Toll-free: (800) 478-7227
eldermentors@ruralcap.com



Elder Mentor Monika Ayulik works with Chevak Head Start child, Ryder Night, to learn new and important skills for kindergarten readiness. Photo by Charlie Eno.

DID YOU KNOW?

During the 2017-2018 School Year:

- Alaska Elder Mentors served over **61,200 hours!**
- Our program supported over **90 active volunteers**
- Our Elder Mentor volunteers were placed in **20 different communities** serving a total of **34 schools**
- As a result of having Elder Mentors in the classroom, **92% of K-12 teachers** report that their students are more academically engaged
- As a result of having Elder Mentors in preschool centers, **94% of pre-K teachers** report that children have improved in their overall Kindergarten readiness



Red Ribbon Contests at Chevak

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POSTER MAKING CONTEST- Pre- K to 5th grade

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ESSAY WRITING CONTEST- 6th- 12th

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Ten prizes will be drawn during the assembly. Everybody can join the raffle drawing, including the guests/ parents.

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"Let's get going and be strong together against BULLYING and DRUGS."



RurAL CAP Elder Department

About the Elder Mentor Program Benefits

- Elder Mentor volunteers receive a small hourly stipend that can average about \$200/month. In addition, they receive leave and holiday benefits. Transportation and meals (if not provided by the program or school) are reimbursed based on guidelines. Stipends are tax exempt and do not affect other financial aid or benefits that an Elder may be receiving.
- Elders receive training, a Senior Corps vest and annual recognition.

Time Commitment

- Elder Mentors are expected to spend approximately 15-20 hours per week with students during the school year. Participation in organized summer programs is encouraged, but not mandatory.
- Training time includes an extensive orientation and workshops on topics that address child development, current education strategies, and also subjects of interest to seniors.

Eligibility

- Lower income seniors, age 55 or older. Maximum household income levels are \$30,360 for one person or \$41,160 for two. Information for other household sizes is available.
- Seniors must pass and maintain status in the Alaska State Background Check System, which includes having finger prints taken.
- Seniors must complete an annual health assessment. RurAL CAP will pay for this if it is not covered by insurance or IHS.

Volunteer Service

- Elder Mentors are expected to work

directly with children. The goal for pre-school children is to increase readiness to enter kindergarten. The goal for older students is to increase engagement in school activities and learning.

- Elder Mentors bring compassion, social support, and cultural values to the students both individually, and classroom-wide. Activities include: talking, reading, playing games, helping with assignments, modeling appropriate behavior, participating in crafts, telling stories, teaching cultural skills and language.

School, Head Start or Community Setting and Supervision

- Supervising staff assign students to the Elders based on special needs and goals - about 4 students per Elder. A simple work plan is written to guide the Elder in the activities and goals for each student. The student's progress is also noted on this form and reported.
- Each month, the Elder completes an activity sheet that is reviewed and approved by their supervisor.
- Supervisors will occasionally receive short surveys to assess program success.
- The school/supervisors will provide documentation of the Elder's on-going training.
- The service site helps provide annual community recognition for Elder.



Profile: Shelly Sinclair-Science Teacher High School

This is Ms. Sinclair's 4th year in Chevak. She teaches high school Science and sometimes middle school Science. Her classroom is a fun to place to visit for small children, parents, visiting teams, and middle school students because there are mice, snakes, mealworms, goldfish, and even a big tarantula spider in the room. Ms. Sinclair loves to teach interesting science topics such as astronomy, the environment, ecology, earthquakes, volcanoes, pollution, comparative anatomy, kitchen chemistry, the human body, plant science, and science in the cinema.



She loves to travel, host guests in her home, cook gourmet meals, and mush dogs. She's been to the Tahitian islands twice, the Hawaiian Islands, Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Israel and Jordan. Tahiti, Israel, Guatemala and Jordan are her favorite places, so far. Tahiti has awesome fresh food, nice people, and beautiful coral reefs to snorkel in. Israel has awesome fresh food, lots of history, lots of culture, and some super fun shopping in the open-air market of Old City Jerusalem. Guatemala has five active volcanos, jungles, monkeys, tarantulas, ancient Mayan cities, interesting culture, hot springs, and even a hot waterfall! Jordan has great food, great hospitality, the Bedouins, camels, Petra (the city carved in stone that once housed 25,000 people), and Wadi Rum (Red Valley); where the movies "Lawrence of Arabia", "The Transformers", and "The Martian" were all filmed.

Ms. Sinclair has taught Science at Rubidoux Middle School, Palm Springs High School, Redmond High School and Arlicaq High School in Akiak, Alaska. While living in Akiak, she became friends with Mike Williams, Sr. and his family. The Williams have a large Iditarod dog team with over 50 dogs. Both Mike Williams, Sr., and Mike Williams, Jr. have raced their dog teams in the Iditarod and the Kuskokwim 300 races several times. At the end of her first year in Akiak, Ms. Sinclair was working in the Williams' dog yard and had been given one retired lead Iditarod dog. She was then allowed to breed that older female dog with some of the best male dogs in the team. She got two good sled dog pups out of that breeding. When she returned to school in August for her second year of teaching, the Williams gave her two more batches of sled dog puppies. Soon, she had a team of ten dogs led by her first lead Iditarod dog, McKenzie.

To feed her dogs, she learned how to snare rabbits and collected beaver, moose, and salmon scraps from community members. She was given a large wooden freight sled to train with and was given one piece of mushing advice: "Whatever you do, never let go of the sled!" That was good advice! Once, Mike Williams, Jr. told her she had a "drug problem," to which she promptly replied, "I don't do drugs!" Then, Mike Jr. said, "Shelly, you've been drug down Main street, you've been drug down the Kuskokwim River, and you've been drug across the tundra by those dogs!" Well, that's because she never lets go of her sled!

Currently, Ms. Sinclair is working on putting together a small sled dog team in Chevak. She is doing this with the help of Apala (James Ayuluk), Nate Wassalie, Mike Williams Sr., and Ulric's Welding class. Ms. Sinclair and Apala feel strongly about making sure our youth know how to mush dogs. For one, we never know when we may run out of red gas. Also, dog mushing is a great way to get exercise and spend more time outdoors. With a functioning dog sled team, we can check black fish traps, go to Scammon Bay and Hooper Bay, and go manaq. So, if you see Ms. Sinclair zipping through Chevak this winter with one dog and a small sled, remind her to never let go of the sled!

Profile: Flora Ayuluk, 1st Grade Cup'ik Immersion Teacher



Waq'aa,

Wii atqa Naqucin. Cevarmiununga. Aipaqa Atsaruaq, panikaa-lлу Atsaq/Tuntungiaraq.

Skuulamallruunga maani Cevami, K-12th grade, tauga-lлу University of Alaska, Fairbanks-aami College-arlua. Skuulartengurtellruunga 1995, Maani-lлу ayagnirlua elicartengulua. Wanigga maani elicartengulqa cuinaq citaman alrakuneng. Ak'a tamani 6th grade-aullemneng ayaglua skuulartenguyuglu pillruunga.

Ayaginillemni cassatun elcaritullruunga, taugall Cugtun elicariyaurlua 2005/6- ami. Wii man'aa Cev'aq nunakngamku maanecullruunga.

Cugtat neqkat assikanka cali piciatun ayagayunqegtua maanii awatemteni. Cuilquq cali wii nunanikluku.

Qaku tayima taqcigelqa nalluaqa. Taqkuma cuilkumun ayaumayugtua.

My name is Flora Ayuluk. I'm from Chevak. My husband, Steve Whiteshield and my daughter Neva Whiteshield.

I attended Chevak school from Kindergarten to 12th grade, then went to college at University of Alaska, Fairbanks, graduated from college, December of 1995. I was hired by Kashunamiut School District as soon as I graduated from College. Started working 1996/97. I wanted to become a teacher, inspired by couple of my teachers in grade school.

I first taught 7th and 8th grade and continued teaching in Elementary. I started teaching Immersion 2005/6. I enjoy all kinds of Cup'ik Food and the subsistence lifestyle. I think of the land as a peaceful place to be. I like the wind and the tundra.

At this time, I'm planning on teaching until someone replaces me in the Immersion Wing. I would like to spend time subsisting and exploring the surround area.





Counselor's Corner: Frances Weiss

November has been a month that's full of activities for the students. We thank the students, administrators, school staff and all the parents for all the support to these activities.

Ninth grader, Dove Boy Scout went to the LeadOn Training in Anchorage on November 2-4. The rest of the group were weathered in so Dove and her chaperone, Mrs. Weiss represented the Chevak School. During the work sessions, Dove recommended to have a youth group that will take the lead in bringing out the best of Chevak community. Raina Bell (11th), Antilleon Atcherian (10th), Daisy Tall (10th) and Beulah Boy Scout (12th) volunteered to help out. The youth group will be named "BE BEST- CHEVAK!" "BE BEST CHEVAK! As a youth group hopes to take the lead in the discussion of the problems such as alcoholism, etc.

The following seniors went to University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) on November 9-11 for the UAF Inside- Out: James Tall, Mikelle Chayalkun, Hazel Martins, Frances Napoleon, Mary Angaiak, Steven Matchian, Lily Pingayak with Gavin Atchak and Michelle Night as chaperones. These seniors were also invited to the ANSEP MS Family Night on Nov. 10.

KSD sent 12 kids to ANSEP- MS in Anchorage on Nov. 6-17 with Bethany Mabry and Lisa Unin as chaperones. Keanu Tangiegak (7th), Laney Green (6th), Dirk Night (6th), Haven Ulroan (7th), Zachariah Hockema (6th), Chloe Wassilie (6th), Kali Hill (6th), Brandy Jones (6th), Abigail Tunutmoak (7th), Franz Fermoyle (7th), Justin Atchak (6th) and Mariah Nash (6th) had a blast especially after they built their own computers, which were also sent home with them. The Counselor, Frances Weiss and the Regional Board members Iggy Chayalkun and Dana Nash joined the parents and the ANSEP students during the Family Night.

The Superintendent, Dr. Corey Weiss, the Counselor, Frances Weiss and RSB Member, Iggy Chayalkun had the privilege to be invited to the EXCEL Banquet on Nov. 9. During the said banquet, the EXCEL staff mentioned how they love the Chevak kids and how our kids work hard during the programs they were able to join.

EXCEL 9- Ninth graders Dove Boy Scout, Casey Slats, Richard Wassillie and Joseph Johnson went to EXCEL 9 on November 26- December 1. It was a great week and the students accomplished a great deal. The EXCEL 9 was designed to introduce the students to various career pathways through interactive field trips and job tours. The students practiced valuable employability skills such as time-management, teamwork, consensus building and problem solving. Additionally, the students started their Personal Learning & Career Plan on AKCIS. Students completed a resume, cover letter, and job application as part of a mini- icareer workshop and took a look into their work-values and the importance of finding a career that fits them. Below are some highlights of what the students completed.

- * Completed Drug and Alcohol Prevention Training
- * Completed a healthy lifestyles lesson about the importance of drinking water
- *Completed training on social media use
- * Went on job tours at The Alaska Zoo and The Anchorage Museum
- *Completed a service learning project where they made beaded bracelets for elders at the South Central Foundation
- *Opened and created AKCIS profiles
- * Learned how to fill out and complete a Job Application, and Resume, and Cover letter
- * Learned personal social skill such as: Hand shakes, eye contact when speaking, and active listening.

The following 11th graders- Raina Bell, Cedric Imgalea, Logan Matchian and Savanna Smart, and Joseph Tunutmoak (12th) went to AVTEC for EXCEL Mini- Bridging on Dec. 3-8.

The Mini-Bridging Sessions are designed to give students a taste of what college is like by having the students immersed in campus life. Below is a list of everything the students completed while in AVTEC.

- *Met with admissions and completed AVTEC application
- *AVTEC main campus tour
- *Met with Financial Aide and started filling out their FAFSA's
 - * Started filling out scholarships
 - *Learned about scholarship opportunities