

Superintendent's District Report to the Board of Education  
Nome Public Schools  
December 8, 2009

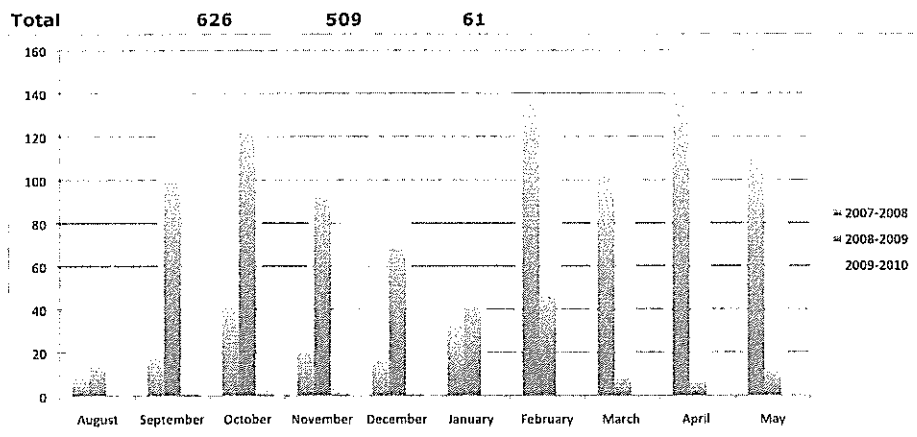
*We committed to a full reorganizational effort for our Alaska Native Education Program at Nome Public Schools last July. Mr. Berkeley has brought this process forward in part by developing the draft job description for Alaska Native Education Coordinator. This position is intended to be posted in-house this month. Our goal is to provide professional and focused program oversight and direct service labor to this vital part of our instructional program. The strategic planning meeting forum has heard input on this matter with a common theme of the need for embedded culturally responsive standards in the general curriculum. Equally important is the assessed need for increased and improved course offering relevant to cultural values and how they support today's diverse community of Nome. We are going slowly to ensure a quality effort. We are presently reviewing grant opportunities and FY11 plans with our tribal agency partners. I am very pleased with the service Mr. Berkeley, Mrs. Saclamana, Mrs. Alvanna-Stimpfle, and Mrs. Soudekova presently provide. Mr. Wehde*

**Student Safety, Conduct, and Health** – A standard saying in educational leadership that a correctly managed change process on any topic takes 5 years to bear fruit. In some cases this is true but Mr. Boyer has posted two data displays that track and compare the number of student referrals from last at this time to this year. Clearly while our students have made changes for the most part with their behavior choices improving in a dramatic way. I credit this in part to quality and consistent staff at all levels along with the overall effect of programs that reach all students like Mentor Monday's, Club Day, and Rachel's Challenge. I credit this in part to responsive students and informed parents who take responsibility for making our schools great places to be. Misbehavior at NPS is the exception and not the norm. Strong academics take a Safe school, splendid Conduct, and attention to emotional and physical Health. They are the foundation blocks of academic success.

S – C – H, the first three letters of **SCH**ool. Check out the table and graph!

### YEAR-TO-YEAR REFERRALS

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
August	9	14	1			
September	18	99	18			
October	42	122	19			
November	21	92	19			
December	16	68	4			
January	33	41				
February	136	46				
March	102	8				
April	139	7				
May	110	12				



**Facilities – capital projects** – The Beltz roof project is presently on schedule. Our NPS Roof Project Manager will be in Nome to present to the City Council on Monday, December 14, 2009.

The City manager has her department working on the design bid for the NES boiler project.

We are going forward in a joint project with NJUS to convert the NPS streetlights on campus to LED units.

**Curriculum and Assessment** – The school improvement team has begun formal preparation for the curriculum map project for NPS. A curriculum map is a comprehensive document that provides a specialized plan that forms the basis for accountability in instruction. The timeline for this project is two years. It will be a foundation task for the school improvement team. The school improvement team is Mr. Berkeley, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Johnson, Ms. Biscotti, and myself.

**NPS Personnel & Professional Development** – The candidate search for a District Operations Foreman will begin this month.

Salary negotiations with the NEA are tentatively set to re-open this January.

Nome Public Schools will provide notification of intent to negotiate to the NEA this month.

We welcome Glennette Christian as our Special Education Administrative Assistant.

We welcome Cynthia Jessup to the position of library media aide.

We welcome Margret Thomas to the position of Title I reading aide.

We welcome Mr. Don Stiles to the position of Assistant Girl's BB coach. NPS put this position out to the public when no applicants from the NPS staff were received. One other applicant from the public was also interviewed during the selection process.

We welcome Mr. Dan Sullivan to the position of Assistant Boy's BB coach. Mr. Sullivan was the only applicant from the staff and was selected by the activities interview committee.

**Travel** – The EED's Winter Conference is set for mid-January. This year Jon Berkeley, Jenny Martens, and myself will attend. This is a time where state Federal coordinators meet with us to review our NCLB status and how it impacts the FY11 budget preparation process. Commissioner Larry Ledoux and staff host this event and also provide a wide-ranging schedule of professional development for district office and administrative personnel.

**Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp – UA Army Commentary:** Presently I have before our Nome business community a formal letter from the District that invites their donations to the Nome JROTC via participation in a State of Alaska tax incentive program for secondary vocational education. House Bill 61, 2008, State of Alaska, provides a provision for tax dollars owed by for-profit entities to be allocated as a local donation. Each business is advised to consult their tax specialists to see what options HB 61 may present that could benefit Beltz JROTC. I will be devoting a significant amount of time working with our local Nome business to ensure they understand what HB 61 means for their tax profile and to see if they can commit support to JROTC accordingly. This year the JROTC program is open at Nome-Beltz this year under the auspices of a major local corporation that generously provided \$100,000.00 under HB 61 last summer. In addition I will work with the budget process of both the City and the Board to see what allocations may be available for FY11 from them. I remain committed to the principle that no student at Nome Public Schools shall be asked to fund raise for their teacher's salaries. The JROTC funding need for FY11 from the local match to federal funding we get will be about \$150,000.00. NPS is not flush with options to provide multiple vocational classes. JROTC fills a big need for the students seeking to go at life with education plans that target goals below the college bachelor's degree. I am hopeful that this extraordinary funding structure I am deploying for the Board will stabilize and continue to support high school JROTC for the immediate and long-range future.