

# Principal's Report

September 21, 2023

By Branden Strauch and Cameron Vincent-Lang



## **Students:**

467 Students.

The school year is off to a great start. Enrollment projects were very close for most classes, however, we do still have some openings in kindergarten. We will continue to advertise to fill up all open kindergarten seats.

Beginning of the school year testing ran from September 5th - 15th. This data will inform instruction and respond to students' academic needs. We will be starting a data-informed Intervention program next week.

## **Staff:**

45 Staff Members.

All positions are full. Frau Leach has started at Rilke as a Gen Ed Para and is currently working with our existing Gen Ed Paras to understand our ELA Intervention Program.

## **Curriculum and Instruction:**

The Kindergarten through 3rd grade English teachers, and a few other staff members, have been working on unpacking and utilizing the CKLA Curriculum for English Language Arts. This is the new curriculum that aligns instruction with the requirements of the Alaska Reads Act. These staff members have been continuously participating in professional development that builds understanding of the CKLA curriculum, targeted interventions, and the details of the AK Reads Act. We want to thank these professionals for taking these challenges on as a team and note their dedication to

building foundational literacy skills in all of our students is incredible work that does not go unnoticed.

1. AK Reads Act Trainings
2. MClass Benchmark Testing Training
3. MClass Targeted Intervention Training
4. Review of the CKLA curriculum
5. Review of the Daily Instructional Guides for CKLA
6. Unpacking data, data tracking, and making data-informed decisions

Implementing the AK Reads Act and all of its many components is a huge undertaking and requires a lot of extra time from our teachers and staff. They are working extremely hard to accomplish the goals of the law.

### **Facility:**

Frau Reimer and Herr VL are exploring options to get lines painted on the pavement by the playground.

1. Lineup Lines
2. Four Square
3. Lines to section off games for students

We are also working with the Warehouse to secure durable tall cones to help with dismissal traffic and boundary setting for recess time.

HVAC system continues to be a problem as we are unable to regulate the temperature.

### **Community:**

Rilke hosted German exchange students from Frankfurt from September 7th - 21st. Big thank you to all of our members of the Travel Team for helping put this event together.

We were able to show several great aspects of Alaska and Rilke with our guests including:

1. Overnight trip to Birchwood
2. Bike tour of Anchorage
3. Arctic Valley
4. Alaska Native Heritage Center

We will have Spirit Week from 10/10-13. Thank you to the Student Council, Schülerrat, for putting this event together.

Tuesday- Oldies

Wednesday- Sports Day

Thursday- Dress Like a Staff Member Day

Friday- Book Character Day

We had a great turnout at the D.C. parent meeting last week and had 19 students sign up for the trip at the end of this school year. The students have submitted a mission statement essay stating why they want to travel and what assets they could bring. We have also been collecting teacher recommendations from their 5th, 6<sup>th</sup> and specialist teachers. From that data, we will be deciding which 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be traveling and will notify those students this Friday.

**Requests:**

Through staff collaboration, we have been able to meet the German curriculum needs at this time. We are no longer requesting extra funding for a German curriculum developer to support the staff.