

Principal's Report

February 15th, 2024

By Branden Strauch



Students:

468 Students.

Parent - Teacher Conferences are next week. This is a great opportunity for families and teachers to discuss academic progress and goals for the rest of the school year.

Students have several assessments coming up:

- NAEP for 4th grade in February and 8th grade in March. This is the national exam that was used in the charter school study out of Harvard that recognized Alaska charter schools at the forefront of academic achievement.
- STAMP for 2nd - 8th grade students. This is the district / national exam used to measure German language proficiency.
- AK STAR/ MAP for 3rd - 8th grade students in March / April. This is the state exam that measures academic progress and whether state benchmarks have been met.
- A1/ A2/ B1 German exams for 3rd, 6th, and 8th grade students. This exam measures German language proficiency and if benchmarks have been met.

The 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8 Battle of the Books teams took first place at the district competition. This is the first time Rilke has had three teams advance. They will compete at the end of February in the state competition.

The Rilke Schule Declamation Contest will be held on Tuesday, March 5th. Most if not all students have received their poems in order to prepare for this competition. Additionally, many former Rilke students participated and placed in the ASD High School Declamation Contest at the beginning of February.

Staff:

45 Staff Members.

The leadership team has been analyzing enrollment projections and staffing placement in preparation for next school year.

A group of ten staff members are participating in a weekly book study, "Conscience Discipline," to professionally grow.

The Kindergarten team, teachers and paraeducators, were recognized by ASD for the outstanding student literacy growth that occurred between the beginning of the year assessment and the winter assessment. Over 80% of kindergarten students had literacy growth at or above national averages.

Curriculum and Instruction:

Herr Strauch and Herr Vincent-Lang have met with teachers to discuss the adoption of 4th and 5th grade CKLA and a German Literacy Curriculum called 'Niko' for next school year. [Please click on this link to read more about the proposal.](#)

Facility:

Last week, Rilke had a fuse blow on some outlets in the first floor teacher work room. The electrician indicated that this might be the issue with the HVAC system as well and why it keeps malfunctioning. Rilke is following up with the issue to see if it can be resolved.

Budget:

Nothing additional to report.

Community:

The Rilke community has been active with the creation of the Rilke Grants Committee and Rilke School Business Partnership Committee since winter break. While the both groups are in their infancy, we hope to create new opportunities for the Rilke Schule students, staff, and community through this work.

Marketing:

The ASD Lottery Application opened at the beginning of February, and we currently have 102 applications for 72 open kindergarten spots. We are holding school tours every Wednesday morning at 8:30 in January, February, and March for interested

families to learn more about Rilke Schule, which have been well attended. Additionally, we attended two school fairs in February and have one more at the end of the month. Our social media marketing campaign has been relatively successful. Below is some data from our first video launch in January. The reach is the number of different accounts the advertisement appeared on Facebook, along with cost and number of clicks.

