

# Superintendent's Report

**To:** Unalaska City School District Board of Education

**From:** Darrell J. Sanborn, Superintendent

**Date:** June 21, 2001

Summer school is up and running, and for the most part; I am pleased with the numbers we have enrolled, 67 students. We are very close to making our numbers for our High Intensity Reading grant, but I am disappointed in the numbers of fifth and sixth grade students who are participating. I know it is tough to make the decisions for children to attend summer school, yet it is a good opportunity for remediation. Before we know it, 2004 will be here and the requirements of the Exit Exam will be in effect. As we move towards this date, we will need to make some tough decisions, not only the Faculty & Staff and the Board, but also parents and students. This is for real and we all know the importance of a high school diploma.

We will face many different issues this next year. I see some of the bigger issues for next year include pre-school issues and the transition to the new school just to name a few. I know that moving our preschool students to the foundation funding formula has created some concerns from some parents who do not feel that their students should attend for up to three hours and five days per week. Then there are some who feel that with our changes in student population, this amount of time would be of assistance in our educational programs. The move to the new school will create some stress for all involved as it will never go as planned, as all of us who have moved before know!! The weather may be an issue, as it always can be out here, and the logistics of getting all of the supplies and equipment we need in at the appropriate time may also be a concern. We have no place to store the different equipment and stuffs until the building is through its final check-off lists. If we didn't have such a terrific maintenance & custodial department and competent and flexible staff, I might be worried. I am also hoping that we will be able to continue our work on our Language Arts & Math curriculum to improve our assessment pieces. The faculty will provide a great deal of assistance with this. I also would hope that we would be able to complete Science, Social Studies, and one other curriculum. I would also hope we start to address the report cards and lesson plans to reflect our standards-based curriculums.

Also, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Dave from Pen Air. Pen Air has a Metro liner that they have donated to the DECA club. This process has been in the works since last fall and we are working with the Qawalangin Tribe to move these materials out to be recycled.

WOW!!! Where did this past year go? I can't believe that it has slipped away so very quickly! It seems like just yesterday we were starting the year, and now we have had the Graduation Ceremony. I would hope that we all, the Board, Parents, Students, Faculty & Staff, Community folks & groups, all take a moment to reflect on the success of our students this past year. I have had fun, and I hope that others did also! But we know that soon, there will be more tough questions, and tough decisions to make in the near future. Even with these tough issues ahead of us, I am confident in problem solving abilities, creativity, and mutual respect that we have on the Staff, the Board, parents, students, and community, we will continue to do what is best for students and the educational program at Unalaska City School District.