

Hello my name is Noah Standifer, and I'm a Sophomore at Tebughna School. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this KPBSD Small Schools Committee. I enjoy NYO, commercial fishing, hunting, and Fab Lab in school. I aspire to find a good job like my dad who does heavy equipment machinery. Thank you 😊

What are the strengths of your small school?

Tebughna School has many strengths for being an off the road system school. We have an amazing amount of land that our Tebughna people can hunt and fish from. We rely on our subsistence way of life to keep our lives, but also our traditional values too. My family commercial fishes every summer, and it has been our way of my family for generations. In the winter we go out moose hunting, and we share the kill with our families, and elders, so we bring our way of knowing into our small school, too. At Tebughna we have Dena'ina classes through Zoom two times a week, with Edna Standifer and supported through Tebughna Foundation and Vide Kroto. Tyonek Tribal Conservation district is our corporations non profit that supports our environmental curriculum with our Salmon in the Classroom, Lettuce Grow Hydroponics, and seed starts and yield from our Tyonek Garden that also allows students to intern if you're 14 years or older. We have the privilege of being a Code.org school too with Fundamentals, Discoveries, and next year Principles of coding class for high school students. CITC Fab Lab has opened the world of STEM and hands on science to us with 3D printing, laser printing, resin pour projects, and physical science labs like crane making, and hazardous weather models like a tornado. We also did rocket simulations in class on the beach last fall. Our sport highlight is the Native Youth Olympics. I've been competing since grade school, and was a Junior coach this year, and competing at state this year in Anchorage in the events of one foot, two foot high kick, scissor broad jump, seal hop, indian stick pull and eskimo stick pull. Despite being a small school, we're a proud school, and a pretty cool place to learn.

What are areas that need assistance, or could be better?

A few things we would like to see at Tebughna is more options for fresh produce in our lunch program. I remember as an elementary kid, we had fresh fruits through a program. Even though we have the vegetales that we grow hydroponically, we would like more fresh options to be sent to us. Also, we need more CTE options like construction academies, welding courses, and wood working classes, too. A long time ago we had these options, but our school enrollment was a lot bigger (like in the 80s 90s), so now can we have the option through the district to come over and collaborate with some of the big schools. This would mean a lot to our small sites, since we have in interest in these field after graduation.

What community partnerships do you have?

Native Village of Tyonek

Southcentral Foundation

Indian Creek Health Department

Tyonek Native Corporation

Cook Inlet Tribal Council

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District

Tebughna Foundation

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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