



## JNES 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool Program



# NEWSLETTER (fall 2013)

### First Week Highlights

The June Nelson's afterschool program started off the year with a gathering of parents and students on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The parents were given an overview of the program and the program goals. There are 106 scheduled sessions, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and some Saturdays. Starting September 10<sup>th</sup> and ending May 1<sup>st</sup>. A hotdog dinner was served and door prizes were drawn. Students were given books to take home to enjoy. You are encouraged to come and spend time with your child on a fun filled Saturday or any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday you can. Saturday sessions will be announced with a note sent home with your child. Saturday sessions are three hours long. There will also be parent events planned throughout the year.

### Health and Nutrition

A component of the program is healthy living. The students in the after school program had a lesson on lice. Students learned the scientific name for lice, how to avoid spreading lice and how to prevent lice in your home. They even named their own louse.

### Physical Activity

Students get to run off steam before jumping into academics with physical activity and a healthy snack each day.

The cultural component offers Inupiaq dance. Students learned the Bunny dance and the Polar Bear dance.

### First Super Saturday

The theme *Tundra* was used for the first Super "Chilly" Saturday held on September 21. The class took a field trip out to the tundra to pick berries. The goal was to pick enough berries to make jam for next month's Super Saturday. More berries ended up in their tummies than in their buckets.



Nonetheless everyone had a "berry" good time. The little pickers were treated to hot cocoa and cookies, cheese and crackers.



JNE staff and students ready to hit the Tundra!

## Literacy Highlights

Ms. Tolman has learning happening...afterschool style! One amazing thing the students are learning is the American Sign Language Alphabet. She also has literacy centers where students can create small books. Ms. Tolman continues to help students correct spelling with the Rainbow writing process. She says having a lot of fun afterschool is important.

Ms. Sollis's students are on another adventure in learning. They are learning about the Aurora Borealis through poetry. The students made their own colorful Northern Lights using construction paper, pastel colors and ripped up white paper for snow. "The kids loved their pictures and they looked good," says Ms. Sollis. Hurray Ms. Sollis!

## Culture

Mrs. Hadley has her students up and dancing. They are learning the Rabbit Dance, the Kayak Dance and the Polar Bear Dance. "We have been focusing on making the movements meaningful and purposeful so that those watching are able to understand the stories clearly. Some of the groups have shown they are ready to perform the dances independently while others are still practicing to gain more confidence in their movements," she explains. What a wonderful opportunity!

## Attendance

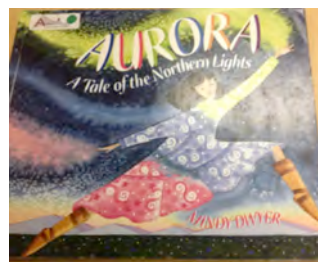
Congratulations to Gabby Adams and Tennille Toshavik!! They had perfect attendance for the first quarter.

A big high five goes out to them! The 21<sup>st</sup> Century program is a state funded program. The state recognizes students as regular attendees every 30, 60 and 90 days. So far we have seventeen students that have reached the 30-day mark. Way to go!

## Super Saturday

A pajama party for the afterschool gang happened on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The party began with French toast, sausages, fruit and orange juice. Students listened to a story called Aurora, A Tale of the Northern Lights, by Mindy Dwyer. Following that they watch the movie Balto. Students then played a game called *Going on a Bear Hunt* with clues leading them to a bear cave. Another game played in the gym was *Freeze, drop and go*, using tundra animals. Parents were invited at 3:00 to read with their child. A snack was served. The final activity was watching a You Tube video of "Going on a Bear Hunt!" Everyone participated in the song. It was an AWESOME trip up North! The party was a fun filled event. GOOD JOB TO ALL INVOLVED!

**Research says...** The brain loves rhythm, rhyme and music. Additionally, early literacy research emphasizes the significant role songs and chants play in helping children develop language and reading skills.



# JNES 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool Program PARENT NEWSLETTER February 2014



## Super Saturdays are Fun for the Whole Family

On January 25th, students enjoyed another Super Saturday. Students read books, played dodge ball, ate great snacks, and made valentines for their families.



The children especially loved that some parents came and read books with them.

## Super Saturday Field Trips Rock

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, we took an awesome Super Saturday with a fieldtrip to the Heritage Center! Ranger Darren met students for a personalized tour. **Ask your kids what they know about camouflage!** Ranger Darren did a lesson on camouflage and why it is important for animals. Ranger Darren also showed students rocks and sediment from the earth. What a great way to spend a Saturday!



## Help Your Child Earn a Cool T-Shirt

Students who attend the 21<sup>st</sup> Century afterschool program for 30 days will be rewarded with a club t-shirt.

**You can help your child earn a t-shirt by encouraging him or her to regularly attend.**



We already have 45 students who got a t-shirt for attending 30 or more days of tutoring. Two students have attended 60 days. Way to go!

## Join Our Next Super Saturday on March 8<sup>th</sup>

Come wearing your club t-shirt and you will be entered in a drawing for prizes. **Will you come? Look for a flier from your child about this event.**

## Jump Around with Your Child!

Research shows that movement stimulates the brain. Running, jumping, marching skipping, twirling, galloping, and swinging all exercise the brain.

**You can get moving with your children!**

Can you pretend to be an animal? Dance to music together? You'll probably make your children giggle too!

