The 21st Century afterschool club is excited to announce that they will be presenting T-shirts to every student identified as a regular attendee. A regular attendee is one who has attended the afterschool club for 30 days or more. The club has 38 regular attendees at this time. Faith and Gabby, pictured, have excellent attendance.
The 21st Century after-school program at June Nelson aims to strengthen the connection between the school and community. An April 6 field trip took students to Maniilaq Health Center. Roberta Gastineau, LCSW, a hospital social worker and patient advocate, welcomed the students.

This was the community adventure field trip the students in SERRC's 21CCLC after school program made on Saturday March 9th. Another Super Saturday is planned for April 6th with more fun activities and books for kids to take home.
Kotzebue kids boost culture, academics after school

BY HANNAH HEIMBUCH
Arctic Sounder

This weekend, students and parents are welcomed to the June Nelson Elementary School in Kotzebue for a Super Saturday event. The special two-hour session is a part of a new afterschool program at JNES that provides literacy support, cultural learning opportunities, physical activity and community involvement.

Those elements cover the four basic goals of the grant-funded program, said Alberta Demantle of Alaska Learning Labs.

"Teachers brainstorm ways to get all those in," Demantle said. "We've been able to hire about eight staff."

The program is fueled by a five-year 21st Century Grant, one awarded to Alaska's non-profit educational resource center SERRC -- Special Education Regional Resource Center.

All in all about 60 of JNES's kindergarten to second grade students have enrolled, Demantle said, since the program got up and running in October.

Community members are able to participate by teaching cultural activities, sharing stories and spending time with kids during specific activities.

"They try to get as many people from the community in to help with storytelling, or whatever talents they may have," Demantle said.

This weekend's Super Saturday will run from 10 a.m. to noon. For the last hour, parents are welcomed in for either a presenta-

PHOTO PROVIDED

Tina Shrader strikes a pose during an afterschool session at June Nelson Elementary School in Kotzebue.

A parent event in April will introduce a variety of literacy strategies for families to use at home, helping prepare kids for a successful school year. The program will also be looking for input and ideas for the program from parents at that time.

"It's going really well," Demantle said. "Kids seem to really enjoy it. The teachers are awesome with their creativity and making afterschool time unique and fun. Kids feel safe, they can learn and have fun."

March 7, 2013
Public Safety Field Trip
AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB ENTERS SECOND YEAR

Students at June Nelson Elementary School in Kotzebue work on a project. The second year of the K-2 After-School Club will get underway next week at June Nelson Elementary School in Kotzebue. To register, contact Alberta Demantle toll-free at (877) 349-0651 or e-mail albertad@serrc.org