

## *Alternative Education Schools - BUSD Board Report*

August 2021

**Palisade Glacier High School**  
**Bishop Independent Study**  
**Keith Bright School**



### AB 104 and AB 130 - Alt Ed Impacts

Assembly Bill 104 requires districts to exempt all pupils who, in the 2020-21 school year, were in their 3rd or 4th year of high school and who are not on track to graduate in 4 years from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the governing body that are **in addition** to the statewide course requirements. This will impact many students in the alternative education programs. The students that meet this requirement will now need to complete 130 credits to earn their diploma (Statewide requirement) instead of the typical 205 credits needed to earn a diploma from PGHS and BIS. This will make a diploma much more accessible for students.

Assembly Bill 130 mandates what the district attempted to do last spring, which resulted in not enough interest from the community to pursue it - independent study for students. BIS will be the program that the high school will use (Like normal) and I expect more enrollment in that program, but not significant numbers. We currently have 13 students enrolled in BIS and I would guess the program grows to 25 or so based on the number of high school aged students that showed interest in the program last spring. This program would be an option for families that are concerned about COVID spread in schools or for families that elect to not have their students wear a mask in school.

### 2021-22 School Year

We are excited to get back to normal as much as possible this coming school year at PGHS. We are planning on offering a wide range of elective offerings such as dog training, gardening, photography, yearbook, Paiute language and culture, Spanish, computer programming, and music. We are proud to offer a wide range of opportunities for our students for being such a small school. Small, but mighty!

We have received 9 student names for enrollment from BUHS, and we will receive more names in the coming days. Currently we have 21 returning students with 1 transferring over to BIS. I imagine we will start the year with enrollment in the 40s. In addition, there are 2 or 3 interested students from Big Pine High School.

All new students to PGHS go through an admission interview where we meet with the student and parent(s) to answer questions and discuss expectations. This year we are going to build into the schedule an advisory period at the beginning of the school day. The advisory period will be an opportunity for the staff to check in with the students, teach some SEL lessons, and also have the students complete their credits contracts (Student's way to keep current on how many credits they have left to go to graduate).

Lastly, we are looking to extend the school day at PGHS so that we can have 4 hour long classes. Currently we have 3 hour long classes and a 45 minute long class. The extension will only be 15 minutes, but it will be 15 more minutes that teaching and learning can take place and 15 more minutes of credit earning for our students.