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Subject: November 2017 Energy Education Newsletter
Date: November 20, 2017 at 1:08 PM
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Colleen --

I hope the start of your winter is going well! While Energy Awareness Month has passed, there are still a lot of energy activities to think about in and out of the classroom, especially with colder temperatures and the holiday season upon us. In addition to the announcement of the Power Pledge Challenge winners, I have included some resources and opportunities for energy literacy education this winter.

Power Pledge Challenge Winners!

More than 3,600 students from 131 classrooms in 27 middle and elementary schools around the state participated in the 2017 [Power Pledge Challenge](#), an initiative aimed at helping Alaska youth better understand energy use. This year's campaign covered the largest geographic area of the initiative to date with students competing for regional and statewide prizes. **Johanna Tennant's 6th period science class at Palmer Junior Middle School is the 2017 statewide winner – congratulations!**

The four regional winners are:

- **Anchorage Regional Winner:** Mitra Shanhazarian's 6th period class from Mears Middle School
- **Juneau Regional Winner:** Kevin Hamrick's 1st period class from Floyd Dryden Middle School
- **Kenai Peninsula Regional Winner:** Joanna Greene's 1st period class from McNeil Canyon Elementary School
- **Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Eagle River Regional Winner:** Brad Kirr's 3rd period class from Gruening Middle School



Some of the classes have already received their prizes – Mrs. Tennant’s class toured the Eklutna Generation Station on November 15th and received three kits from [NEED](#) (National Energy Education Development) worth \$1200.



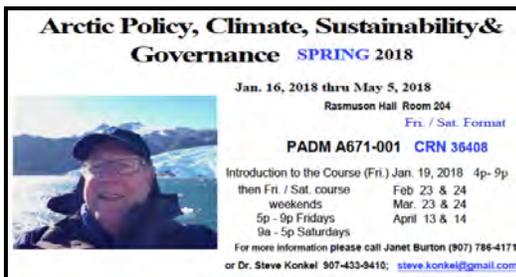
Also on November 15th, Mrs. Shanhazarian’s class toured the Southcentral Power Plant (above), and Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz congratulated the class on their win (left). Thank you to everyone who participated and supported us!

Cost of Thanksgiving

National Energy Education Development (NEED) has updated their Cost of Thanksgiving activity guide with even more explorations of the traditional Thanksgiving meal. The free NEED download guides students through: the cost of buying the food, appliance energy use, the cost to use appliances for cooking, the impact on the environment in CO₂ and even how far it takes to drive to the store. Use part or all of the investigation [here](#).



Arctic Policy Class



Do you want to learn more about the policy in northern and northwestern Alaska? Dr. Steve Konkel is teaching a course on Arctic Policy, Climate, Sustainability & Governance during the Spring 2018 semester through UAA. The class meets one weekend each month from January through April. From the course description:

“Arctic policies affect the health of Circumpolar

North residents. Impacts on Northwest Arctic Borough communities include accelerated coastal and riverine erosion, melting permafrost, extent of multi-year sea ice/sea levels, black carbon deposition, ocean acidification, changes in subsistence patterns (which in turn impacts food insecurity), and more severe and frequent devastation from winter storms. We evaluate the 8-nation Arctic Council's environmental stewardship, economic, and sustainable development initiatives.”

Click [here](#) to view the flyer and learn more.

Call for Student Presenters

Call for *Youth Track* presentations for the 2018 Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE), February 12-16th, 2018 in Anchorage. The *Youth Track* showcase sessions will take place on February 12th and 13th. The AFE Youth Track committee is seeking presentations that target high school and college-age youth, or adults who want to include youth in their community environmental programs. Have you developed a successful environmental program in your community? Have you started an environmental club? Do you have tips you'd like to share on how to use social media to get the word out? Then consider submitting a presentation proposal! Funding may be available to help off-set travel costs. Presentation lengths can vary from 20 to 60 minutes. Submission deadline: November 30th. For more information or to submit a proposal, contact Kendra Calhoun by email [here](#).



Save the Date - ASD teachers



On March 31st, 2018, REAP will be holding a regional [KidWind Challenge](#) as part of the Alaska Wind for Schools program. The exact location is still TBD, but will be held in Anchorage primarily for 4th - 12th Anchorage School District students. In this competition, teams design a model wind turbine in class or at an afterschool club and bring their turbine to test in a wind tunnel. A teacher training will be held ahead of time, likely on January 20th. Learn more about KidWind, the rules for participation, and more [here](#). Learn more about Alaska Wind for Schools [here](#). If you are interested in participating, please [email me](#) and I will keep you updated on this opportunity.

Annual Appeal

Please consider giving to REAP this holiday season. We welcome online [donations](#), and if you'd like to make a gift in the honor of someone, REAP will send a card to the recipient of your gift in their name.



Amazon will also donate a portion of sales to a charity of your choice through Amazon Smile - just select REAP as the charity to benefit. It syncs with your Amazon account information and it's super easy to use. [Click here](#) to assign REAP as your charity of choice and Amazon will donate a portion of proceeds to advance clean energy in Alaska.

Similarly, if you shop at Fred Meyer, you can enroll in the community rewards program and link to Renewable Energy Alaska Project so that a portion of every purchase benefits REAP programs. [Click here](#) to learn more and sign up.

In addition to our education programs, the money goes towards clean energy [advocacy](#) and great collaboration projects like with the [Islanded Grid Resource Center](#), [Sustainable Southeast Partnership](#) and the Alaska Wind Working Group. REAP is a 501(c)3 non-profit and all donations are tax-deductible. If you want to learn more about any of these programs or how you can contribute to REAP, please contact our Member Director Jodi Fischer by email [here](#).

Trivia

Q: What is hydrokinetic energy?

A: Hydrokinetic energy uses the kinetic motion of waves or tides to produce electricity, and so is different than typical hydroelectric projects which use dams or lake tap systems.

Source: Learn more about hydrokinetic energy in Alaska and watch a video with REAP's executive director Chris Rose discussing the potential in Cook Inlet [here](#).



Happy Thanksgiving,

Colleen R. Fisk

Energy Education Director
[Renewable Energy Alaska Project](#)

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