

Pegge Erkeneff

Director of Communications, Community, and Government Relations
907.714.8888 e: Pegge@KPBSD.org
Fax 907.262.5867 Facebook: KPBSD
148 N. Binkley Street Twitter: @KPBSD
Soldotna, Alaska, 99669 www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

KPBSD inspiration: Yolanda Ifflander THE ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHIER GENERATIONS HIGHLIGHTS KPBSD SCHOOL NURSE YOLY

Soldotna, May 14, 2021—School nurses went above and beyond this year. School Nurse Yolanda Ifflander, in Seward, Alaska, said, "Covid-19 has brought the world to its knees. It has been a year of unrelenting challenges for everyone. I never thought I would be able to offer rapid testing in my schools that provide Covid test results in 20 minutes. I am so inspired by the many brilliant minds that have worked to bring us these tools and to be a very, very small part of the solution has been fulfilling in my daily work."

Nurse Yoly as she is affectionately known, was interviewed by The Alliance for Healthier Generations, and said, "I wouldn't trade my upbringing, and I carry on this lifestyle in Alaska today. Simple things such as family and fresh food are core values for me to stay healthy and well." Ifflander grew up on the rural island of Olangapo in the Philippines. In 2015, she and colleagues helped Seward Middle School earn the recognition of one of *America's Healthiest Schools* by the Healthier Generation.



Education is also a high value: "I was born in a rural town in the Philippines," said Nurse Yoly. "We lived off the land and sea and were very poor. My mother wanted a better life for me and education was her answer. I still believe in education as an equalizing factor for people. My education and career as a nurse has allowed me experiences to travel the world and help people in a meaningful way." Inclusivity and equity are high values for her, and opportunities and challenges particularly for young people of color are close to her heart, service, and advocacy.

Read the KPBSD story, and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation article: https://bit.ly/3hmagtc

KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-TWO DIVERSE SCHOOLS

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures.

ANCHOR POINT COOPER LANDING HOMER HOPE KACHEMAK SELO KENAI MOOSE PASS NANWALEK NIKISKI NIKOLAEVSK NINILCHIK PORT GRAHAM RAZDOLNA SELDOVIA SEWARD SOLDOTNA STERLING TUSTUMENA TYONEK VOZNESENKA