



**Regular Meeting  
AGENDA<sup>1</sup>  
ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**District Board Room November 22, 2021**

Work session at 5:30

Work session 5:30 -FY22 Audit Report Work-session

**REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6pm**

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE**

**SEATING of BOARD MEMBERS as Certified by the State of Alaska**

**ELECTION of EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**ROLL CALL**

**HEARING OF VISITORS ON AGENDA ITEMS<sup>2</sup>**

**RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

**ACTION ITEMS - ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. Approval of Agenda\*

2. Approval of 10.18.2021 RSB Meeting Minutes\*

**ACTION ITEMS - OLD BUSINESS**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Financial Impact**

**ACTION ITEMS - NEW BUSINESS**

3. Dot Lake School Closure

4. Personnel Actions

5. Out of State Travel Approval – Dot Lake

6. Out of State Travel Approval – Tok School Spanish Club

7. Accept FY22 Financial Audit

8. Approve Certified Contracts for FY23

9. Accept Grants and Gifts

10. Ratify Poll Vote – Temporary MOA for Tetlin housing project

11. Leave Without Pay Request

**REPORTS/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

- Superintendent's Report
- Financial Report
- \*Board questions regarding reports
- \*Principal's Reports and ASB Meeting Minutes\*

**DISCUSSION ITEMS, COMMENTS, QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD**

- Correspondence/Miscellaneous

**HEARING OF VISITORS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS<sup>2</sup>**

**FUTURE MEETING DATES and AGENDA ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Altman Rogers

President

Secretary-Treasurer

President

President

President

President

President

President

President

Superintendent

Chief Financial Officer

Directors/Coordinators

President

President

President

President

\* Consent Agenda Items are considered approved upon approval of the Agenda. Any board member may hold any report or action for discussion, for any reason.

<sup>1</sup> Members of the public who would like to comment on matters during Hearing of Visitors on Agenda Items or Hearing of Visitors on Non-Agenda Items, are asked to sign-in with the Board Secretary before the meeting starts.

Note: Board may amend its published agenda before or during the meeting, or consider items out of order without amending the agenda

Regional School Board Meeting  
October 18th, 2021  
AGSD Boardroom  
Tok, Alaska

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

Roll Call: Peter Talus, Jeff Wells, Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, and Ann Esmailka. Absent and excused was Daisy Northway.

Pledge of Allegiance

Hearing of Visitors on Agenda Items

Receiving of Delegations & Presentations

**Action Items – Routine Matters.**

**1. Approval of Agenda.**

Anne Esmailka moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Seconded by Jeff Wells.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**2. Approval of 9.20.21 RSB Meeting Minutes.**

Anne Esmailka moved to approve the RSB meeting Minutes of 9.20.2021.

Seconded by Steve Robbins.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Action Items – New Business.**

**3. Personnel Actions.**

Lorraine Titus moved to approve the personnel actions as presented.

Seconded by Anne Esmailka.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**4. Impact Aid Resolution.**

Anne Esmailka moved to approve the Impact Aid Resolution.

Seconded by Frank Cook.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**5. Read for Robert Program.**

Jeff Wells moved to approve the Read for Robert Program.

Seconded by Steve Robbins.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**6. Close Up Trip.**

Anne Esmailka moved to approve the Close Up Trip.  
Seconded by Lorraine Titus.

Anne Esmailka moved to amend the motion requiring a certified staff chaperone on the Close Up Trip.

Seconded by Lorraine Titus.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Ann Esmailka, Frank Cook, and Peter Talus/No – Steve Robbins, Jeff Wells.

Motion Passed.

**7. Bus Purchase.**

Anne Esmailka moved to approve the purchase of a bus.

Seconded by Lorraine Titus.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**Reports/Information/Discussion**

**Administrative Reports**

- Superintendent's Report
- Financial Report
- Directors' & Principals' Reports
- Correspondence/Miscellaneous

Hearing of Visitors on Non-Agenda Items: Matthew Thompson spoke on the status of the Dot Lake School.

Discussion, Comments, Questions by the Board

Future Meeting Date: November 15th, 2021 at District Boardroom – Work session at 5:00.

Suggested Meeting Agenda Items: Dot Lake School

Anne Esmailka moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. Seconded by Jeff Wells.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Lorraine Titus, Steve Robbins, Frank Cook, Anne Esmailka, Jeff Wells and Peter Talus.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Minutes prepared by Debbie Sparks, Board Secretary.

I hereby submit that these minutes have been approved by the District Board of Education sitting in regular session as the official minutes of the October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting.

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Secretary/Treasurer

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 3**

**Issue: Dot Lake School Closure Status**

**Background Information** – Keeping Dot Lake School open has taken extraordinary effort over the years, and enrollment been touch and go for over a decade. The school has in the past relied on a close working partnership between the Dot Lake village leadership and those living in the area who also use the school. This year Dot Lake School did not meet the minimum required enrollment of 10 students (they had 8) needed in order to receive state funding support. This week the district administration has been meeting with state finance and facilities personnel regarding process and options. What happens in this case, is that the state rolls the Dot Lake student numbers into the next closest school, which is Tanacross, and then runs the state funding calculations having made that adjustment.

Losing foundation funding for a school is no small matter. The AGSD proposed budget for FY22 included Dot Lake with projected a projected enrolment of 11 student, which would have resulted in revenues of \$291, 622. The current Dot Lake budget(s) for FY22, that are inclusive of instruction, maintenance, basic food-service, and itinerant support, (some of whom are grant funded), and is not inclusive of District Office administrative and human resources costs, (payroll, purchasing, etc), is \$322,311. Forty-five percent of expenses will be incurred by the end of the first semester, leaving approximately 65% in remaining expenses (\$200K).

This will impact the overall budget negatively, regardless of how the Board chooses to approach the issue. If the Board decides to keep the school open, it will require moving funds from our limited undesignated reserve account. If we close the school, a Closure Plan must be submitted to the Department, for approval by the Commissioner. A closure may be temporary or permanent. Issues to be addressed, include:

- **Finance/funding**
  - Basic funding: The district is going lose all state support for Dot Lake School
  - School Activities funds: These are funds provided to schools by the district based on a student population formula. These funds would migrate to Tanacross with their student count (+8).
- **Staffing**
  - Certified staff with contracts could be laid-off, or transferred. We currently have an opening that has been advertised for, and which the teacher is qualified for, in Tetlin. There may also be other options, such as sabbaticals or long term LWOP, which we are investigating.
- **Facilities**
  - These facilities belong to the State.
  - They must be kept in good order, for a period of a year, including heat and power.
  - The district may maintain them indefinitely, or use in other ways, or return stewardship to the state.
- **Equipment and materials** in the building belongs to the district, and could be removed.
- **Process of Closure (if that is the direction taken)**
  - The process of closing a school is outlined in the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) and Alaska Statute (AS). It will take at least until the end of this semester to accomplish all the steps involved.

**Scenarios for Board consideration, being prepared:**

- A. Costs to initiate closing Dot Lake school (permanently or temporarily) for savings
- B. Costs to leave Dot Lake as is (Status-quo)
- C. Costs to close or remain open, reconsidering school enrollment for FY23

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Begin the process of closing Dot Lake school to be effective January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, for the remainder of this year, and transfer staff (as possible) to other schools, which will recoup approximately 55% of projected expenses.

**School Size Formula****10/11/2021**

10-19.99	39.60
20-29.99	39.60 + [1.62*(ADM-20)]
30-74.99	55.80 + [1.49*(ADM-30)]
75-149.99	122.85 + [1.27*(ADM-75)]

	<b>K-6</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>Total ADM</b>	<b>Intensive</b>	<b>Corres</b>	<b>Sch Size Adj</b>	<b>predictec diff</b>	
Dot Lake	6.00	2.00	8.00	0.00		0.00	13	-5.00
Eagle	6.00	6.00	12.00	1.00	0	39.60	11	1.00
Mentasta Lake	16.00	14.00	30.00	1.00		55.80	32	-2.00
Walter Northway	28.00	24.00	52.00	6.00		88.58	52	0.00
Tanacross	14.00	3.00	17.00	2.00		39.60	14	3.00
Tetlin	27.20	17.00	44.20	2.00		76.96	35	9.20
Tok Elementary	82.30	0.00	82.30	3.00		132.12	82	0.30
Tok HS		85.15	85.15	4.00		135.74	81	4.15
ADM w/o Correspondence	179.50	151.15	330.65	0.00		568.40		
Correspondence		61.55	61.55	5.00	61.55		60	1.55
ADM w/ Correspondence		0.00	392.20				380	12.20
	179.50	212.70	392.20	24.00	61.55			

ADM Adj. for School Size

568.3995

District Cost Factor x 1.594

906.0288

Special Need Factor x 1.20

1087.2346

CTE Career &amp; Technical x 1.015

1103.5431

Intensive Service Count 24x 13.00 = 312.00

1415.5431

Correspondence Count 61 \* 90% 55.12

1470.6631

District Adjusted ADM

**1470.6631**

Base Allocation 1,470.66 x 5930

8,721,032

Deductible Impact Aid 437,991 -0.90

-394,192

Quality School Grant 16 x Adj. ADM

23,531

One time grant

0

Projected FY21 State Aid

**8,350,371****E-Rate 832,782****Interest/Local/Other 75,000****Education Lottery 2,378****State (5930) 8,350,371****On-behalf TRS 507,237****On-behalf PERS 159,111****Impact Aid 437,991****Projected FY22 Revenue 10,364,870****FY22 Budget 10,404,120****-39,250**

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 4**

**Issue: Personnel Actions**

**Background Information**

- We have been actively searching for staff, and interviewing for our open positions as qualified candidates come available.

**Current Open Positions**

- Certified Special Education Teacher - Tok
- Certified Elementary Teacher - Tetlin
- Classified Teacher's Aide - Northway

**Certified Hires**

- None

**Transfers**

- None

**Resignations**

- Liz Fabian (effective end of the school year)
- Rob Fabian (effective end of the school year)

**Classified Hires**

- Shelly Fortier – Tok School Cook I

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Confirm the above personnel actions

## FY22 DISTRICT DIRECTORY

**DISTRICTWIDE - 883-5151/Fax 883-5154**

Scott MacManus, Superintendent (Ext 101)	Deb Sparks, Administrative Secretary /HR (Ext 101)	Tad Dunning, Districtwide K-8 Counselor (883-4347)
LeAnn Young, Special Projects Director. (Ext 115)	Patti Bayless, Accountant II (Ext 105)	Jeff Deeter, HS Guidance Counselor
Eston Jennings, Dir. Curriculum and Instruction (Ext 113)	Danielle Weisz, Accountant I (Ext 107)	Blair Seawell, CTE Counselor/Coordinator
Robbie MacManus, Chief Financial Officer (Ext 109)	Candy Thurneau, Power School Specialist (Ext 103)	Tamra Tuggle, Mental Health Counselor
Stephanie Fain., Special Education Coord. (883-4427)	Jane Teague, Classroom Tech Support Technician (Ext 102)	Mari Hoe-Rattio, Itinerant Sped
Brenda Overcast, Technology Director (883-4437)	Karla Champagne, Migrant Education Coordinator	Tony Lee, BioMass Project Coordinator (505-0038)
Kay Huxford, State & Federal Prog. Coordinator	Pam Gingue, Program Coordinator	Gary Deeter, Lead Maintenance Tech
Suzanne Bell, Instructional Coach	Tracy Hulett, Child Nutrition Coordinator (Ext 105)	Matt Basye, Biomass Maintenance Tech
Lillian Wise, Itinerant Reading Interventionist	Michele Flagen, Greenhouse Manager	Nicholas Sawyer, Maintenance Tech
Conan Steele, STEM	Wade Boney, Maintenance Director (Ext 114)	Annaliese Thurneau, Testing Coordinator/Resource

**DOT LAKE - 882-2663/Fax 882-2112**

Karen Deeter, Principal/Teacher	Leola Masters, Cook	Eric Masters, Teacher's Aide
	Matthew Thompson, Custodian	Rebecca Thompson, Sec

**EAGLE SCHOOL 547-2210/Fax 547-2302**

Kristy Jones-Robbins, Principal/Teacher	Ryan Becker, Custodian	Meg Helmer, Teacher's Aide
Zach Sanders, Teacher	Michelle Ashley, Secretary/Teacher's Aide	Patricia Nix, Teacher's Aide

**MENTASTA LAKE KATIE JOHN SCHOOL 291-2327/Fax 291-2327**

Kaitlyn Moeller, Teacher	Marvin Sanford, Custodian	Robert John Jr., Teacher's Aide
Jamie Harris, Teacher	John Baker II, Cook	Emmanuel Baker, Teacher's Aide
Alex Mikinaak, Teacher	Shirley Craig, Teacher's Aide/GAP	Andrea David, Teacher's Aide
		Virginia John, Teacher's Aide
		Shawna Sam, Teacher's Aide

**NORTHWAY SCHOOL 778-2287/Fax 778-2221**

Joseph Krause, Principal	Sherri Demit, Teacher's Aide	Jamey Titus, Teacher's Aide
Tina Sakurada, Sped/Secondary Teacher	Carolyn Dillard, Cook	June Paul, Teacher's Aide
Christine Krause, Teacher	Gerald Albert, Maintenance Tech/Custodian	(Vacant), Teacher's Aide
Susan Beitia, Teacher	Avery Dillard, Custodian	Dena Paul, Teacher's Aide/Secretary
Marci Woern, Teacher		Leslie Sam, Teacher's Aide
Brian Celce, Teacher		

**TANACROSS SCHOOL 883-4391/Fax 883-4390**

Brooke Fenley, Principal/Teacher	Liz Webb, Secretary/Teacher's Aide	Marlene Griffith, Teacher's Aide
	Davis Paul, Custodian	Marrin Peet, Teacher's Aide
		Kia Thomas, Teacher's Aide
	Dinashay Easton, Cook	Jaycee Peet, PreSchool Teacher's Aide

**TETLIN SCHOOL 324-2104/Fax 324-2120**

Letitia Rhodes, Principal/Teacher	Amanda Hokkanen, Secretary/Aide	Natalie Sam, Teacher's Aide
Philip Nesse, Math/Science Teacher	Ashley Nyswaner, Cook	Eva Thomas-Churchwell, Teacher's Aide
Samone Frazier-Drath, Teacher	Gerald Joe, Custodian	Shanna Joe, Teacher's Aide/GAP
		Ralph Bohn, Teacher's Aide

**TOK SCHOOL 883-5161/Fax 883-5165**

Drew Larrabee, Principal	Diana Ervin, Secretary	Megan Schmidt, Teacher's Aide
Alicia Lovelace, Asst. Principal	Michi Robinson, Secretary	Diane Titus, Teacher's Aide
Deb Alsup, Kindergarten	Tim Hulett, Cook II	Laurie Ebben, Teacher's Aide
Sara Talus, Grade 1	Shelly Fortier, Cook I	Juliet Stoessel, Teacher's Aide
Cathy O'Neil, Grade 2	Kelly Goneau, Maintenance Tech/Custodian	Sonya Bitz, Teacher's Aide - Pathways
Bonnie Dompierre, Grade 3	Tony Peet, Custodian	Kelsea Deeter, Teacher's Aide
Molly Nelson, Grade 4	Nicole Wells, Librarian	Jason Wilkinson, Teacher's Aide
Joyce Dunning, Grade 5	Gayle Hamner, PreSchool Teacher's Aide/GAP	Ashley Smith, Teacher's Aide
Erica Burnham, Social Studies	Matthew Nelson, PreSchool Teacher's Aide	Jessie Fix-Nelson, Teacher's Aide
Shania Fifarek, Language Arts	Jocelyn Espinosa, Teacher's Aide	Rebecca Warren, Teacher's Aide
Shane Schoeneberg, Social Studies		Seth Roberts, Migrant Ed Tutor/Teacher's Aide
Lacy Schoeneberg, English/STEAM		Cheryl Silas, Teacher's Aide
Liz Fabian, Math		Cynthia Neumann, Teacher's Aide
Robert Kelso, Pathways Alternative		Candy Pete, Teacher's Aide - Indian Ed
Rex Hamner, CTE	Marian Hazelton, Sped Teacher	(Vacant) Teacher's Aide
Lindsay Brush, Science		

**Alaska REACH Academy 883-2591/Fax 883-5777**

Rob Fabian, Teacher	Joey Edmunds, Secretary	John Williams, Teacher's Aide
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**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 5**

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**Issue: Student Travel – Dot Lake School Trip to Florida**

**Background Information**

Please review the enclosed information, as submitted by the site administrator.

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Table out of state travel request, pending determination of site status.

## **Student Out-of-State Travel Request**

School: Dot Lake School

Destination: Panama City Beach, Florida

Travel Dates: Last week of January/First week of February

### **Travel Summary**

The Dot Lake School students and chaperones plan to visit ZooWorld Zoological Conservatory, Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum, and St. Andrews State Park/Shell Island . This will give our students the opportunity to experience a different climate and culture and broaden their background knowledge for further learning.

### **Education Plan**

Science: Local flora and fauna, zoo, beach exploration

Social Studies: (still in planning—several museums in the area)

### **Participating Students**

Elijah Ison

Brandy Hendren-Rice

John Thompson

Jadelyn Thompson

Elijah Steere

Haily Hendren-Rice

A'siah Lillie

Karlie Apger

### **Chaperones**

Head Chaperone: Karen Deeter

Jeff Deeter (Parent) (Self-pay)

Eric Masters (Teacher)

Leola Masters (Grandparent) (Self-pay)

Rebecca Thompson (Parent)

Matthew Thompson (Parent) (Self-pay)

Julian Lillie (Parent) (Self-pay)

Contact Information: 907-750-8272

### Travel Itinerary

In the process of working with Alaska Airlines to update tickets itinerary. Will submit an up-to-date plan for the January Board meeting.

**Budget:**

Airline Tickets	\$4,575.60
Lodging	2,800.00
Rental Vehicle(s)	2,100.00
Activities	2,000.00
Meals & Incidentals	2,500.00

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\$13,975.60

These expenses will be covered out of the Dot Lake School Student Activity Fund.

### Site Administrator's Approval:

I certify that all travel requirements as indicated in BP5160, BP5162, and BP8820 have been followed, and that the site Advisory School Board or Community School Advisory Committee have approved this travel request.

LeAnn Young

Printed Name

*LeAnn Young*

Signature

11.16.2021

Date

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 6**

**Issue: Student Travel – Tok School Spanish Club trip to the Galapagos Islands**

**Background Information**

In fall of 2019 the Tok School Spanish Club worked, saved for, and planned a trip to the Galapagos Islands. The School Board approved their travel that year for May 2020. But then the COVID-19 Pandemic came along, and this once in a lifetime trip was derailed. Now, 2 years later, with things somewhat more under control around the globe, and the situation with COVID-19 more of a known, this opportunity is once again in the works. So long as the COVID-19 Pandemic remains a factor, it is understood that there is always the possibility that the trip could cancel, depending on the status of the virus at the time prior to travel. The district administration does not feel that it can be overstated how much of an opportunity it is for students to visit this unique world treasure, and very much encourages it's approval.

There are two tour companies involved, and one will hand our students off the other without intermission. There are ample adults who are fluent in the language and experienced in travel in the part of the world.

The Tok ASB has tabled the issue until their next meeting when it will be addressed. Tok School Administration has approved the trip.

Please review the enclosed information, which comports with per BP5160 and BP5261

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Approve the Spanish Club Travel to the Galapagos Islands as presented

## Peru/Galapagos Island Spanish Trip 2022

May 22-June 7

Note:

This trip is in two parts:

7 days based in Cusco, Peru, with the company Amazonas Explorer.

8 days based in the Galapagos Islands with the company Neotropic Expeditions

A cancellation over 3 months out is a full refund minus 20% and \$40 per person.

Neo Tropics Cancellation policy:

- 89 to 60 days prior to departure. 20% of the full price will be forfeited.
- 59 to 45 days prior to departure. 50% of the full price will be forfeited.
- 44 to 30 days prior to departure. 75% of the full price will be forfeited.
- 29 days or fewer prior to departure. full payment will be forfeited.

"of course will be flexible in case of any last minute inconvenience due to COVID. We are conscious about this matter so you can count with us for the success of this trip." - Monica Chavez 10/19/20

Amazonas Explorer cancellation policy:

Our booking conditions are:

a: a 20% non refundable deposit to secure your booking - This you have already paid

b: Final payment is due 45 day prior to trip departure

c: Trips cancelled 45 days prior to the travel date will incur a loss of the deposit

d: Trips cancelled 44 - 16 days prior to the travel date will incur a fee of 50% of the trip total

e: Trips cancelled with 15 days of departure date are non-refundable

Should you need to cancel due to Covid, up to 15 days prior to trip departure, we are happy to transfer your booking to a future date. Or we can hold the monies paid towards a future, the price of which will be recalculated at time of rebooking.

Day 0 - Leave Fairbanks Sunday May 22

Day 1: Monday 23-May-2022, Cusco:: **On arrival in Cusco airport please proceed to the baggage hall. At the exit to the building your guide will be waiting for you with a sign at the barrier outside the arrivals gate. They will escort you to the hotel for the night. As in all Peruvian hotels, reception will take a copy of your passport when you are checking in.**

**Highlights of Cusco city tour: Plaza de Armas, Qoricancha temple, markets, San Cristobal church.**

**At a convenient time your guide will arrange a full briefing for the days ahead.**

**Included: Airport Transfer, Lunch at Museo del Cafe, Cathedral and Qorikancha entrance**

**Lodging: Mama Simona Hostal Cusco : Private rooms**

**Mamá Simona Cusco**

**+51 84 260408 / +51 984532887**

**Calle Ceniza 364, San Pedro quarter, Cuscocusco@mamasimona.com**

***Included: transport , English-speaking guide , lunch , entrance fees , , room & breakfast next day.***

Day 2: Tuesday 24-May-2022, Cusco

## **AM: Visit Chicuchas Wasi girl's school - half day**

**PM: Cusco Outlying ruins - half day tour including entrances : Sacsayhuaman.** Huge stone ramparts surround a beautiful grass amphitheatre. Once the scene of fierce battles it now hosts the recreation of traditional Inca ceremonies such as Inti Raymi and Warachikuy.

Next is the Inca water temple of Tambo Machay lying at 3700m (12,000 feet). With its intricately carved water channels this is thought to have been used both for ritual cleansing as well as the worship of water.

From here you carry on down to Cusco, stopping at the Temple of the Moon and other historical sites along the way.

**General ruins entrance ticket - valid 10 days :**

**Included:**

**Mama Simona Hostal Cusco :**

*Included: English-speaking guide , transport , lunch , snacks & water , entrance fees , room & breakfast next day*

## **General ruins entrance ticket - valid 10 days :**

*Included: transport , entrance fees , lunch , snacks & water , English-speaking guide , room & breakfast next day*

Day 3: Wednesday 25-May-2022, Pisac- Urubambay

## **Biking in the Sacred Valley of the Incas :**

Day 4: Thursday 26-May-2022, Cusco

**Pachamanca and Paddleboards : A day of variety awaits you on the shores of Lake Huaypo.** Set amongst fields of corn with fantastic views across to the snow capped Urubamba mountains, this really is a special place.

You will help prepare a Pachamanca, a very traditional Peruvian meal where meat and vegetables are cooked on hot stones in a hole in the ground. Please advise for vegetarian options. Once the food is cooking, you can enjoy some fun on the water with the world's highest fleet of stand up paddleboards.

**We will then make our way back to your hotel in either the Sacred Valley**

### **Night at Hostal Amaru Valle**

- **Included: room & breakfast next day**
- **☎: ++51 (0)84 205051**
- **Prolongation Jiron Grau No4, Urubamba, Peru**

*Included: lunch , breakfast , Swift Water Rescue trained english speaking guide , transport , all white-water & safety equipment , room & breakfast next day*

**Day 5:Friday 27-May-2022, Ollantaytambo- KM 104 Machu Picchu - Cusco**

**Royal Inca Trail (km104) to Machu Picchu :** We start early in the morning and transfer to the train station for the beautiful journey towards Machu Picchu. At km104 we alight, pass through the control and start our walk past the interesting ruins at Chachabamba. Following ancient Inca trail, we ascend through tropical cloud forest and climb high above the roaring Urubamba River. Whilst walking all you need to carry is a daypack.

An initially challenging ascent is replaced by satisfaction as we reach Wiñay Wayna, a beautiful Inca ruin full of swallows and orchids. We enjoy a picnic lunch and, time-permitting, visit these impressive ruins before joining what is generally considered to be the most spectacular part of the Inca Trail. The contour path through the fascinating cloud forest leads to Inti Puncu, ‘the gateway of the Sun’ and our first glimpse of Machu Picchu.

**Included: Box Lunch , Transport Sacred Valley to Cusco**

### **Mama Simona Hostal Cusco**

*Included: porter support , English-speaking guide , train ticket , km 104 permit , entrance fees , bus ticket, transport , room & breakfast next day..*

Day 6: Saturday 28-May-2022, Cusco

### OPTION 1:

**AM Legend in Process Colonial Ceramic Glass workshop- private : Legend in Process- Private Class**

**Duration: 3 hours**

**Included: all materials**

**You take home: 2 Pucará bulls, or 2 Pucará horses, or one of each**

**PM Cooking class :**

**Market tour and cooking class**

### OPTION 2: Urubamba White-Water Rafting

**Mama Simona Hostal Cusco :**

*Included: excursion , transport , English-speaking guide , Swift Water Rescue trained english speaking guide , , transport , lunch , all white-water & safety equipment , room & breakfast next day*

Day 7: Sunday 29-May-2022,

Free day in Cusco, to hike Rainbow Mountain (add'l \$104 per person) or go to shops, etc.

Day 8: Monday 30-May-2022, Cusco Airport- Cusco

### Transfer to Cusco Airport

Fly to Quito for second part of the trip.

**We transfer you to Cusco airport in time for your onward flight.**

*Included: transport.*

**Hotels**



## **Hostal Mama Simona Cusco**

- **Mama Simona Hostal Cusco - Category: Orientation walk 2\***
- **Included: room & breakfast next day**
- **☎: +(5184) 260408**
- **Calle Ceniza 364, Barrio de San Pedro, Cusco, Peru**



## **Hotel Amaru Valley**

### **Sacred Valley**

- **Hostal Amaru Valle - Category: Orientation walk 2\***
- **Included: room & breakfast next day**
- **☎: ++51 (0)84 205051**
- **Prolongation Jiron Grau No4, Urubamba, Peru**

## **ECUADOR CONTINENTAL + GALAPAGOS MULTISPORT ADVENTURE- 8 DAYS PROGRAM**

*Hotels: To be reserved after the deposit is made. The hotels in Galapagos are limited in rooms, they are not so big so we cannot guarantee any name if we are not sure we will get them.*

*However, the usual properties that we work with are:*

*Hotel Casa Opuntia in San Cristobal Island*

*Hotel Volcano in Isabela Island*

*Both are part of our Opuntia Hotels/ [www.opuntiahotels.com](http://www.opuntiahotels.com)*

### **SUGGESTED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY**

#### **Day 01 / Quito May 30**

*Transfer from airport to hotel in Quito*

*Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in Quito (double/triple accommodation with daily breakfast)*

*Meals included: none*

#### **Day 02/Quito & the Middle of the World May 31**

*Colonial city tour plus visit and visit the Middle of the World including colonial church and Equatorial Monument complex.*

*Cooking class sesión during lunch at local restaurant*

*Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in Quito (double/triple accommodation with daily breakfast)*

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch (fixed menú- no drinks)*

#### **Day 03/Quito – San Cristobal Island June 1**

*Transfer from hotel to the airport in Quito to take domestic flight to the Galapagos Islands*

#### **INTERPRETATION CENTER, HIKE AND SNORKEL TIJERETAS**

*Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND (double/triple/quad rooms with daily breakfast) (Hotel Casa Opuntia in San Cristobal Island)*

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner (fixed menú- no drinks)*

#### **Day 04/San Cristobal Island June 2**

##### **KAYAK AND SNORKEL IN SAN CRISTOBAL'S NORTHERN COAST**

*Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND (double/triple/quad rooms with daily breakfast)*

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner (fixed menú- no drinks)*

#### **Day 05/San Cristobal Island- Isabela Island June 3**

##### **BIKE THE COASTLINE, EXPLORE TINTORERAS ISLETS**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The Weight restriction per person for the Inner Island flight from San Cristobal to Isabela is 25 pounds in one piece of luggage.

Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in ISABELA ISLAND (double/triple/quad rooms with daily breakfast)

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner (fixed menú- no drinks)

**Day 06/ Isabela Island June 4**

**AT LEISURE**

Free day in Isabela Island for personal activities or simply enjoy the beautiful Beach of the island.

Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in ISABELA ISLAND (double/triple/quad rooms with daily breakfast) (Hotel possibility: Hotel Volcano in Isabela Island)

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner (fixed menú- no drinks)

**Day 07/Isabela Island- Santa Cruz Island- Baltra June 5**

**CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH STATION**

Early wake up with the sea breeze as we travel by speedboat or internal flight to Santa Cruz Island, keeping an eye out for whales and dolphins along the way. Transfer to Charles Darwin Research Station for visit and transfer to airport in Baltra to take domestic flight back to the continent, via Guayaquil

Arrival in Quito, assistance and transfer from airport to hotel.

Accommodation and overnight at tourist class hotel in Quito (double/triple accommodation with daily breakfast)

Meals included: box breakfast

**Day 08/Quito June 6**

Transfer from hotel to airport in Quito to take international departure flight

Meals included: none

June 7, arrive in Fairbanks.

## Spanish Club Trip to Peru and the Galapagos Islands

Dates: May 22 - June 7, 2022

Students: Hannah Beeman, Ande Berg, Creede Berg, Claire Talus, Colten Bitz, Jeffry Alsup, Shea Gunter

Chaperones: Deb Alsup, Jonathan Alsup, Bobby Kelso

Tour Companies: Amazonas Explorer and Neotropic Expeditions

### Vaccinations:

- **Confirm primary courses and boosters are up to date as recommended** - including for example, seasonal flu vaccine (if indicated), MMR, vaccines required for occupational risk of exposure, lifestyle risks and underlying medical conditions.
- **Courses or boosters usually advised: Hep A and Tetanus if not already vaccinated.**
- **Other vaccines to consider:** Diphtheria; Hepatitis B; Rabies; Typhoid; Yellow Fever.
- **Selectively advised vaccines - only for those individuals at highest risk:** none.
- **No yellow fever vaccination certificate required** for this country

### Finances:

Currently have:\$38,541.22

Total needed:

Galapagos - Neotropic Total \$22,055. Paid \$4411 Owe: **\$17,644**

Peru - Amazonas Explorer - Total \$13792. Paid \$2758.40 Owe: **\$11,033.60**

We owe total: \$28,677 plus plane fare

Estimated plane tickets:  $\$1800 \times 9 = \$16,200$

Plus \$2000 extra for incidentals =  $\$18,200 = \$8336$  still needed

**\$8336 TOTAL NEEDED**

**\$2412 per student - new kids**

**Fundraising Ideas:** Xmas Bazaar, silent auction, Half time at sports events: cake walk, freethrow contest, 50/50, Bake sales, Car Washes, Lock -ins, Raffle off donated electronics,

**SYTA grant applied for \$5000, closes Nov. 12.**



**If our mission is truly to inspire curiosity, engagement, and leadership in the next generation of human beings, we need to provide them with transformative, place-based educational experiences.**

1. Proposal for Spanish Club trip May 22-June 7, 2022

2. Destination and purpose of the trip (Travel Summary)

The trip will go to two major destinations:

- Cusco, Peru, to experience the culture and history of the Mayan Indians at Machu Picchu and other ruins, as well as the eclectic Peruvian culture today. We will have a school exchange with Chicuchas Wasi Girls' School and bring them school and craft supplies we have collected.
- The Galapagos Islands, to experience the extremely unique and endangered biological diversity there and learn about why it is endangered and what we can do as a global society to protect such diversity and world treasures.

3. Education Plan:

Goals of the trip and alignment to educational travel requirements

The goals of the trip are

- To expose the students to other cultures and the process of international travel in a manner that they feel more capable of accomplishing such travel independently in the future. (Handling foreign money, checking into hotels, tipping appropriately, purchasing items, navigating airports and other transportation, etc.)
- To enrich the Spanish language class through direct experiences with Latin American culture and history, and well as language practice.
- To allow students the opportunity to serve and interact with other students in Peru and become educated on the issues confronting them.
- To become acquainted with and learn about issues surrounding the unique wildlife and biological diversity in one of the most endangered and unique ecosystems in the world: The Galapagos Islands.

How this trip fits within the District's strategic plan:

1. Actively engage in service and volunteer opportunities in the community.
2. Implement inquiry-based learning across all grade levels.
3. Implement global cross-curricular activities identified by stakeholder interest.
4. Develop and implement an adaptable pathway program that addresses student individual interests

#### 4. Pre-trip requirements

Students must meet the academic eligibility policy, and be approved by the principal and chaperones. All students must have had or be enrolled in one semester of spanish, online or in person. Students must be in Middle School or High School.

#### 5. Number and ages of participants involved (students, teachers, chaperones)

7 students, 3 chaperones.

Chaperone: Debbie Berg - old

Chaperone: Bobby Kelso - almost old

Chaperone: Jonathan Alsup - really old

Ande Berg - 17

Hannah Beeman - 17

Creede Berg - 13

Shea Gunter - 17

Claire Talus - 12

Colten Bitz - 12

Jeffry Alsup - 14

#### 6. Names/ages of any other travelers who will be joining the trip who are not a part of the student group, and specifics regarding their role with the group.

None

#### 7. itinerary of trip, highlighting the educational aspects of the travel

See attached presentation and itinerary.

Educational aspects include:

- Explorations of biological diversity on the Galapagos Islands with expert guides
- Visit to the Darwin Resdearch Station in the Galapagos
- Educational tours of Mayan Ruins including Machu Picchu
- Cooking classes in Cusco, Peru and Quito, Ecuador
- Art and culture classes in Cusco, Peru
- Ample opportunities to practice Spanish in local markets and with guides.
- A highlight will be our visit to the Chicuchas Wasi Girls' School

## Visit Chicuchas Wasi girl's school

We will spend a day with this school and bring collected supplies to leave with them as our service project for this trip.

The Chicuchas Wasi Alternative School for Girls was set up over twenty-five years ago here in Cusco. Originally they worked with both boys and girls, and one of Amazonas Explorers top guides was actually helped by this project when he was a child. He is now on the board of directors.

They have worked for more than twenty-five years to educate the families, and the Andean community, regarding the value of their girl children and the many abilities they will develop if given the opportunity for a future out of poverty and economic dependence. They strive to prepare these girls with skills that will enable them to defend themselves economically when they become adults. Through the experience from their years of education, their girls will instill in their own future children the knowledge that there are choices other than poverty and dependency on a father, brother or husband for survival. We hope to stem the flow of unwanted children who are often abandoned when their fathers leave their mothers with no income, no food, no social resources. Without formal education, and left to survive as a mother alone, women are forced to seek security with another man who often will not accept the women's children by another man – and child abandonment is often the result.

8. Start and end dates of the trip, and total school days missed ed (not to exceed five)

May 22 - June 7 - 4 school days missed

9. General provisions for the safety of the students while on tour (e.g., emergency contact info, contingency plans, the number of chaperones, their responsibilities)

Both chaperones will have international ability to call on cell phones.

3 chaperones, two male, one female. Students will be with or in reasonable proximity of a chaperone or tour leader at all times. Emergency contacts for each student as well as power of medical decision making given to chaperones will be carried with the chaperones.

We have carefully chosen two tour companies, in order to have local expertise for the two parts of our trip:

We will be with a tour guide from Amazonas Explorers from the time we step off the plane in Cusco until we board the plane again to Quito. This company has been guiding in Peru for over 30 years and comes very highly recommended and has been well researched. We will meet our other tour company, Neotropic Expeditions, in Quito, and will stay with them for the Quito and Galapagos portion of the trip until we board the plane home. Neotropic Expeditions comes also very highly recommended and has been awarded National Geographic's Best Adventure Travel Companies in the World award.

Our tour company in Peru, Amazonas Explorers is well equipped to deal with altitude sickness at Machu Picchu. They have built in several acclimatization days before our visit there, but should sickness occur, there is always an extra guide waiting with a van to take the person down to a lower altitude and stay with them until the return of the group.

Students will be required to take a typhoid vaccination 2-4 weeks before departure, and be up to date on all other regular childhood vaccines, including MMR, dTAP, Tetanus, Hep A, and Polio. Yellow fever and malaria are NOT necessary for this trip. Covid vaccines are recommended but not required for this trip as of 11/21.

10. Estimated cost for the tour

\$54,047

11. Estimated cost per student/teacher/chaperone

Chaperones: \$4400

Students: \$6070

12. Deadlines for payments

Deposit of \$500 due Oct. 19

Final payment due to tour companies 45 days prior to the trip.

No Go date: 15 days before the trip, or May 7, 2022. If trip is cancelled again due to covid the companies have a policy to reschedule with no loss of deposit.

**Finances:**

Currently have: \$38,541.22

Total needed:

Galapagos - Neotropic Total \$22,055. Paid \$4411 Owe: **\$17,644**

Peru - Amazonas Explorer - Total \$13792. Paid \$2758.40 Owe: **\$11,033.60**

**We owe total: \$28,677 plus plane fare**

Estimated plane tickets:  $\$1800 \times 9 = \$16,200$

Plus \$2000 extra for incidentals =  $\$18,200 = \$8336$  still needed

**\$8336 TOTAL NEEDED**

### 13. Fundraising plans

Grant Student Youth Travel Association: \$5000

Raffle of Smart TV and other electronics \$3000

Car washes (2) \$2000

Lock Ins(2) \$2000

Cake Walks and Concessions at school events: \$500

Silent Auction: \$1000

Total: \$13,500

(If the SYTA Grant comes through, we will not do some of the other fundraisers.)

How this trip fits within the District's strategic plan:

5. Actively engage in service and volunteer opportunities in the community.
6. Implement inquiry-based learning across all grade levels.
7. Implement global cross-curricular activities identified by stakeholder interest.
8. Develop and implement an adaptable pathway program that addresses student individual interests

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 7**

**Issue:** Accept FY21 Financial Audit

**Background Information:**

The FY21 Fiscal Year ended on June 31, 2020. The Board members will have each received their copy of the FY21 Annual Audit, as prepared by our auditing firm, Altman Rogers this week, for review. In August Board President Peter Talus participated in an exit interview with the on-site auditing team, to review the audit and ask questions. A representative from the firm will go through the audit with the Board on the 16<sup>th</sup>, now that the Board has had time to review the prepared material, and to ask any questions regarding the audit. The Auditors will be available to respond any questions. I am pleased to report to Board that this was an excellent audit and that there were no findings or deficiencies. Congratulations to all the business office staff.

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Accept the FY21 Annual Audit as presented by Altman-Rogers.

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 8**

**Issue: FY23 Certified Teacher Contracts**

**Background Information**

The teachers listed below have earned tenure with AGSD, or hold important positions that are hard to fill, such as Administration or Special Education Teachers. As we have done in the past, the district will be proposing two initial rounds of early contract offers, to ensure that we have the maximum amount of time to seek quality staffing as early in the year as possible for FY23. This will be the first round of contract offers. The district has had a practice of offering an "Early Intent Incentive", (\$250) to encourage staff to return their contracts (or to resign) the same week they are offered. Offering this incentive has resulted in a high return rate. Alaska Statute gives certified staff 30 days to sign an offered contracts, or the contract is considered declined, so we will know by February 2<sup>nd</sup> which positions we have to fill.

A second round of contracts will be offered to non-tenured teachers who have positive evaluations following approval by the Board at the January Meeting. This means that we will know very quickly what our staffing needs will be for next year.

**Certified FY23 Teacher or Principal/Teacher Contracts to be offered January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021:**

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Sara Talus       | • Brooke Fenley*       |
| • Bonnie Dompierre | • Rex Hamner           |
| • Cathy O'Neil     | • Robert Kelso         |
| • Joyce Dunning    | • Thomas (Tad) Dunning |
| • Erica Burnham    | • Mari Ho-Raitto*      |
| • Lindsay Brush    | • Zack Sanders         |
| • Deb Alsup        | • Marion Hazelton*     |
| • Kristy Robbins*  | • Tina Sakaruda*       |
| • Karen Deeter*    | • Suzanne Bell         |

**Certified FY23 Administrative Contracts proposed to be offered January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021:**

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • LeAnn Young**   | • Eston Jennings*  |
| • Letitia Rhodes* | • Stephanie Fain*  |
| • Joe Krause*     | • Kay Huxford*     |
| • Drew Larrabee*  | • Alicia Lovelace* |

\* Special Education or Admin

\*\* Eligible for retirement incentive

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Approve the listed certified staff for contracts for School Year 2020-21, with an Early Intent Incentive of \$250

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 9**

**Issue: Acceptance of Grants and Gifts**

**Background Information:**

BP 3226 is intended to assure that gifts or grants support the school's mission, and be accepted by the Board, and cites the stipulations that may be imposed on gifts. BP3452 requires that gifts that exceed \$1000 be brought before the Board for acceptance. The following awards grants have been made to the district this year, and require acceptance from the Board:

**VETUS** – Has provided support of the Tok School Wrestling team with a gift of \$2500

**Commissioners Grant** – In support of the Keith Irons Youth Center and the AGSD Pathways Alternative Program, the State Department of Education and Early, at the direction of the Commissioner, is giving AGSD a direct grant of \$150,000. This will go to create long term sustainability.

**Carl Perkins Professional Development Grant**- This is a \$24,748 grant award from Alaska DEED, via a State Perkins competition that allows Alaska Gateway School District to offer a week of professional development for ten Alaskan teachers including some of our own faculty after the school year has finished. The professional development opportunity will focus on additive technology such as three-dimensional printing, digital manufacturing such as screen printing, vinyl cutting, and laser engraving and cutting. The third component will be exploring entrepreneurship models that allow schools to implement business opportunities for students. The professional development opportunity will be taught by Alaska Gateway staff who have expertise in this area. The opportunity allows Alaska Gateway to strengthen our relationship with Perkins, and show our strengths as an innovative district working with cutting-edge technologies for the benefit of our students. Congratulations to Jane Teague and Kay Huxford for putting this successful application together.

**Alaska Energy Authority Grant** – \$650,000 to build the Walter Northway School Wood Chip Heating System that will off-set 80% of heating fuel for Northway School, using Wood Chips. This project will displace 23,000+ gallons of heating fuel, create local wood harvesting jobs, and help to mitigate regional wildfires.

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Accept the above listed grants and gifts, for the purposes indicated.

# Alaska Energy Authority Grant Agreement



Grant Agreement Number 7013006		CFDA Number	Amount of Funds: \$ 650,000	AEA use only Managed <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-thru <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Project Code(s) 407115	Proposal Number: RE13006		Period of Performance: From: 07/01/2021 To: 12/31/2022		
Project Title: Walter Northway School Wood Chip Heating System					
<b>Grantee</b>			<b>Grantor</b>		
Name Alaska Gateway School District			Alaska Energy Authority		
Street/PO Box P.O. Box 226			Street/PO Box 813 W. Northern Lights Blvd		
City/State/Zip Tok, AK 99780			City/State/Zip Anchorage, AK 99503		
Contact Person Marion MacManus			Contact Person Taylor Asher, Project Manager		
Phone: 907-883-5151	Fax: 907-883-5154	E-mail: superintendent@agsd.us	Phone: 907-771-3903	Fax: 907-771-3044	E-mail: tasher@akenergyauthority.org

## AGREEMENT

The Alaska Energy Authority (hereinafter 'Authority') and Alaska Gateway School District (hereinafter 'Grantee'), agree as set forth herein.

**Section I.** The Authority shall grant funds to pay for expenses incurred by the Grantee under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$ 650,000, unless the grant amount is amended as provided herein.

**Section II.** The Grantee shall apply the grant funds to the Project and perform all of the work and other obligations required by this Agreement.

**Section III.** Performance under this agreement begins 07/01/2021 and shall be completed no later than 12/31/2022.

**Section IV.** The agreement consists of this page and the following:

### Appendices

- Appendix A: General Provisions
- Appendix B: Standard Provisions
- Appendix C: Grantee Proposal/Scope of Work
- Appendix D: Project Management & Reporting Requirements
- Appendix E: Project Budget & Reimbursement Provisions

**AMENDMENTS:** Any amendments to this Agreement must be signed by authorized representatives of Grantee and the Authority and should be listed here.

### Attachments/Forms

- Attachment 1: Financial Report/Request for Reimbursement Form
- Attachment 2: Progress Report Form
- Attachment 3: Notice of Project Closeout
- Attachment 4: Grantee Certification
- Attachment 5: Advance Request Form
- Attachment 6: O&M Reporting

Grantee		Authority Project Manager		AEA Director	
Signature	Date	Signature	Date	Signature	Date
Scott MacManus, Superintendent		Taylor Asher, Project Manager		Kirk Warren, AEA Director	
<b>Executive Director or Designee</b>		Signature		Date	
				Curtis Thayer, AEA Executive Director	

# Renewable Energy Fund Round 13 Grant Application – Heat Form



ALASKA  
ENERGY  
AUTHORITY

## SECTION 2 – PROJECT SUMMARY

### 2.1 Project Title

Provide a 4 to 7 word title for your project. Type in the space below.

Walter Northway School Wood Chip Heating System

### 2.2 Project Location

#### 2.2.1 Location of Project – Latitude and longitude (preferred), street address, or community name.

Latitude and longitude coordinates may be obtained from [Google Maps](https://www.google.com/maps) by finding your project's location on the map and then right clicking with the mouse and selecting "What is here? The coordinates will be displayed in the Google search window above the map in a format as follows: 61.195676.-149.898663. If you would like assistance obtaining this information, please contact AEA at (907) 771-3081.

Latitude	62°58'00"N	Longitude	141°53'11"W
----------	------------	-----------	-------------

Walter Northway School is located in the Native Village of Northway (population 102) approximately 50 miles southeast of Tok. Northway is an Alaska Native Village located on the east bank of Nabesna Slough. It is 42 miles from the Canadian border in the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge. It lies off the Alaska Highway on a 9-mile spur road, adjacent to the Northway airport. Northway is located in the continental climate zone, with long, cold winters and relatively warm summers. Temperature extremes range from -57 to 93 °F. Average annual snowfall is 69 inches, with a total of 16 inches of precipitation per year.

#### 2.2.2 Community benefiting – Name(s) of the community or communities that will be the beneficiaries of the project.

The primary beneficiary of the project is the Native Village of Northway and the Alaska Gateway School District. All buildings to be connected to the proposed heat loop are located in Northway. There are six (6) other communities that are part of the Alaska Gateway School District that will also benefit from the reduced operating costs at the Northway Campus; this includes Dot Lake, Eagle, Tetlin, Tanacross, Mentasta Lake, and Tok. The project will also benefit communities in the region who have the need for wood harvest to protect their community from wildfire and to develop wood harvest jobs.

### 2.3 Project Type

Please check as appropriate.

#### 2.3.1 Renewable Resource Type

- |                                                              |                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wind to Heat                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biomass or Biofuels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydro to Heat                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Solar Thermal                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Recovery from Existing Sources | <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Pumps                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe)                    |                                                         |

#### 2.3.2 Proposed Grant Funded Phase(s) for this Request (Check all that apply)

##### Pre-Construction

##### Construction

- |                                                            |                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reconnaissance                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Final Design and Permitting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feasibility and Conceptual Design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction     |

# Renewable Energy Fund Round 13

## Grant Application – Heat Form



### 2.4 Project Description

*Provide a brief, one-paragraph description of the proposed heat project.*

The Northway School Woodchip Heating Project proposes Phase IV Construction funding in the amount of \$650,000 and will construct a biomass wood chip district heating system to service the Northway School and Garage. This project will replace about 23,166 gallons of imported heating fuel which is approximately 90% of the current usage. This system will use approximately 280 tons (25% moisture) per year of locally harvested woodchips. This project will create local wood-harvesting employment/small business opportunities, providing a use for wood that is harvested to protect communities from wildfire while decreasing the community's dependence on expensive imported diesel.

### 2.5 Scope of Work

Provide a short narrative for the scope of work detailing the tasks to be performed under this funding request. This should include work paid for by grant funds and matching funds or performed as in-kind match.

The project scope includes the construction of the following components:

- Modifications to an existing building to house the new woodchip boiler, fuel handling equipment, and associated heat distribution equipment.
- A fabric 3-sided, woodchip storage barn similar to what the Tok School has been using successfully for 7 years.
- Underground piping to distribute the heat to the school and garage.
- Piping and controls to integrate the woodchip heating system into the existing fuel oil heating systems in the school and garage.
- Matching local in-kinds funds will provide grant/project management, construction management and 280 tons of chips for the 1<sup>st</sup> year's wood fuel supply.
- Federal in-kind funds will include 40 hours of technical support for the Woody Biomass Technical Support Team through the USFS valued at \$5600.

### 2.6 Previous REF Applications for the Project

See Section 1.15 of the RFA for the maximum per project cumulative grant award amount

Round Submitted	Title of application	Application #, if known	Did you receive a grant? Y/N	Amount of REF grant awarded (\$)
None				



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883.5151 Fax: 907.883.5154

Scott MacManus – Superintendent of Schools

## RESOLUTION FY21-01

### AUTHORIZATING AEA APPLICATION REQUESTING FUNDS FOR "AGSD NORTHWAY SCHOOL BIOMASS WOOD CHIP HEATING PROJECT"

WHEREAS, the Alaska Gateway School District has a shared commitment to the families of its students and to the community of Tok and surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, the cost of heating our schools is a significant portion of our school district budget;

WHEREAS, fuel savings could be transferred into the instructional program to directly impact and provide additional opportunities for student learning; and

WHEREAS, a wood chip heating system at the Northway School could displace up to 23,400 gallons of #1 fuel oil; and

WHEREAS, Northway is located in the middle of the Tanana Valley Forest which has available a vast quantity wood fuel for energy usage; and;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Gateway School District currently has in excess of a two year supply of woody fuels available to use as fuel available, and is committed to operating and maintaining the wood boiler; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Gateway School District has committed to the matching resources for the project at the match amounts indicated in the grant application; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of the Alaska Gateway School District is authorizing the grant application to Alaska Energy Authority's Renewable Energy Fund Round 13 Grant Application for the Alaska Gateway School District (AGSD) Northway School Wood Chip Heating System.

**ADOPTED** 25 by the Board of the Alaska Gateway School District this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.



Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 25 day of September 2020

Deborah L. Sparks  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 9/18/2023

Scott MacManus

*"Educating all students to reach their full potential as responsible citizens"*

Dool Lake  
907-882-2663  
Fax: 907-882-2112

Foght  
907-547-2210  
Fax: 907-547-2382

Meadows  
907-291-2127  
Fax: 907-291-2325

Northway  
907-776-2287  
Fax: 907-776-2221

Tok  
907-883-5161  
Fax: 907-883-5163

Timberline  
907-883-4391  
Fax: 907-883-4390

Trillo  
907-324-2104  
Fax: 907-324-2114

**Walter Northway School Wood Chip Heating System****FY2022 Request:****\$650,000****Reference No:****AMD 63448****AP/AL:** Allocation**Project Type:** Energy**Category:** Development**Location:** Northway**House District:** Eielson/Denali/Upper  
Yukon/Border (HD 6)**Impact House District:** Eielson/Denali/Upper  
Yukon/Border (HD 6)**Contact:** Curtis Thayer**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2026 **Contact Phone:** (907)771-3000**Appropriation:** Alaska Energy Authority - Round XIII Renewable Energy Project Grants (AS 42.45.045)**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Northway School Woodchip Heating Project will construct a biomass wood chip district heating system to service the Northway School and Garage. This project will replace about 23,166 gallons of imported heating fuel, which is approximately 90% of the current usage. An in-kind match of \$62,375 will be provided. This project will create local wood harvesting and small business opportunities, providing a use for wood that is harvested to protect communities from wildfire risk while decreasing the community's dependence on diesel fuel.

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>FY2025</b>	<b>FY2026</b>	<b>FY2027</b>	<b>Total</b>
1210 Renew Ener	\$650,000						\$650,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill		

**Operating & Maintenance Costs:**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**



THE STATE  
of ALASKA

GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Education  
& Early Development

DIVISION OF INNOVATION &  
EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

801 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
P.O. Box 110500  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500  
Main: 907.465.2800  
Fax: 907.465.4156

October 29, 2021

Scott MacManus, Superintendent  
Alaska Gateway School District  
PO Box 226  
Tok, Alaska, 99780

Mr. MacManus,

Alaska Gateway School District (AGSD) has been recommended to receive a Carl D. Perkins Professional Development Grant for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) for \$24,748. This grant amount is based on the district's application, budget, and the review team recommendations. The awarded grant amount will be available on November 15, 2021 subject to the successful conclusion of the two negotiated elements listed below:

- DEED/CTE would like further information on the plan for recruiting participants from outside of the district.
- DEED/CTE has some concerns about supplying 3D printers to all participants and suggests that the money currently allocated for this could be repurposed to bring more participants to Tok for in-person training.

Please submit an updated budget narrative and proposal summary incorporating your district's response to these proposed changes to DEED/CTE no later than November 15, 2021. If you have any questions, or need further clarification, please contact the grant program manager, Bjørn Wolter, at 907.465.6542 or [bjorn.wolter@alaska.gov](mailto:bjorn.wolter@alaska.gov).

The Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) is excited about the potential offered by the trainings outlined in AGSD's proposal, and we believe it will significantly contribute to the continued improvement of statewide CTE programs.

A final report of grant activities will be required of the district within one month of the grant closing. The latest date for submission of this report is July 31, 2022.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Bellamy".

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 10**

**Issue:** Ratify Poll Vote – Temporary hire(s) for Tetlin housing project

**Background Information**

The Board was informed at the last RSB meeting that the school district has been having a hard time finding construction crew workers to finish the Tetlin House, which has not progressed much since our crew went back to their regular work. We posted and advertised locally in Tok, Tetlin and Tanacross, on-line via our website, with the state employment office, and have placed ads in the Fairbanks News Miner. We did not get a single eligible applicant, much less any with a construction background.

The Superintendent's son, who has construction experience, agreed to temporarily relocate to finish up the Tetlin duplex. This was discussed with our Maintenance Director, Wade Boney, who is supervising the project, and he agrees with this. District policy requires Board approval when hiring any relative of the Superintendent. Although as a temporary position (MOA), this position is not as a regular "hired" employee, in order to avoid misunderstanding, Board approval was requested via Poll Vote to approve the MOA. The duplex project is now progressing steadily, and is back on track, and we expect to have our Tetlin teachers moved into their new housing units before second semester.

The poll-vote was conducted from October 31 to November 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the motion was approved with a majority of the Board responding in the affirmative (with none in the negative), and the poll-vote now requires ratification.

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Ratify the Poll Vote approving an MOA with a relative of the Superintendent, to complete the Tetlin Housing Project.

**To: Regional School Board**

**Date: Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

**From: Superintendent's Office**

**Agenda Item: 11**

---

**Issue: Leave Without Pay**

**Background Information:**

This is a request for Leave Without Pay from Virginia John, a Mentasta Lake School employee. Section 406 of the AGESP Collective Bargaining Agreement requires Board approval for Leave Without Pay lasting longer than 5 days.

Supporting confidential material for this request is being provided separately.

**Administrative Recommendation:**

Approve Leave Without Pay as requested



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883.5151 Fax: 907.883.5154

Scott MacManus, Superintendent of Schools

Date: November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

To: Regional School Board Members

From: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

RE: Superintendent's Board Report

The Dot Lake situation has been consuming much of my time this month, and especially since we learned that we are not eligible for the Hold Harmless Clause, which takes into account the reduction of enrolled students in a district (after running through the formula), and if the percentage of the loss is greater than 5% total, resulting in a school closure, then there typically is a financial safety-net, known as the Hold Harmless Clause. Our total enrollment loss was about 4.5%, because student numbers in our other schools (like Tetlin) went up much more than expected. We are still waiting on the state with some questions, but as the Board Packet needs to go out, will send that out to the Board when we get those answers.

## Current Administrative Activities

- Tetlin School Restructuring – with help from a grant written by our Curriculum Director that is designed to provide targeted and specific training for our Tetlin school staff, we are preparing for state audit of Tetlin School which will bring a team to the school to look at instructional and management practices, and suggest ways to improve the school. Restorative Practice to help change the school culture will be a key piece of that.
- Tok Biomass – The steam engine and turbine are running and producing power to help offset our utility costs. The engine is going through a break-in period and is running well, with some new features that will allow the crew to monitor the engine, and that will automatically shut the engine down if it needs to. Many thanks to the crew who worked on it.
- Tetlin Duplex – We have two new workers that started in early November, and are making steady progress on the Tetlin Duplex. At this pace we expect to have it ready for staff before the end of this semester.
- Mentasta Tribal Council is looking at partnering with the school district to build teacher housing there. As is the case in several of our sites, teacher housing remains a critical barrier to initial teacher hiring and long term retention.
- Northway Biomass Hydronic heating system
- Tok School Sprinkler System
- District Office addition – The area between the Maintenance building and the district office has been closed in and covered,
- District classroom furniture order – including new chairs for staff, and desks and tables for students.
- SILKAT – University Project Sustaining Indigenous and Local Knowledge, Arts and Teaching (SILKAT) is underway, with an MOA expected following a meeting with the University in

## “Where Teachers Are The Gateway To Learning”

<b>DotLake</b> 907-882-2663 Fax: 907-882-2112	<b>Eagle</b> 907-547-2210 Fax: 907-547-2302	<b>Mentasta</b> 907-291-2327 Fax: 907-291-2325	<b>Northway</b> 907-778-2287 Fax: 907-778-2221	<b>Tok</b> 907-883-5161 Fax: 907-883-5165	<b>Tanacross</b> 907-883-4391 Fax: 907-883-4390	<b>Tetlin</b> 907-324-2104 Fax: 907-324-2114
-----------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------

January. This is provide resources that will help to grow multiple staffing streams for our schools, including current high school students, current para-professional staff, and

- We are looking at offering a winter driving course to drivers new to Alaska's icy winter roads. This is a behind-the-wheel winter driving course designed to improve driving skills on snow & ice. Topics covered are skid control/recovery and general driving in Alaskan winter weather on snow & ice.
- Staffing – The first round of contract offers for FY23 are enclosed in this Board Packet. We will have all of this first round of offers ready to go on the first work day of the 2022 calendar year, helping us to anticipate staffing needs for next year.
- Eagle Busing – We have been able to work through our issues, and this has resolved amicably with all parties in good standing with each other, which is always our goal. When communities and parents and the school district are able to work together, it is always preferable. Thanks to everyone who came together to make this work out.
- Admin Meeting is scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup>, our third of this year. Meeting regularly helps to keep everyone on the same page, and enables us to address possible problems early.

#### COVID:

**Current Status** - All sites are Yellow. We are currently working on creating another level (Orange), as right now as a district we have learned a more nuanced approach to COVID which has been largely successful in keeping our schools open.

#### CURRENT SCHOOL RISK LEVELS

Tok	Northway	Totl:n	Mentasta	Eagle	Tanacross	Dot Lake
Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk	Medium Risk
Follow-Up Plan Implementation	Follow-Up Plan Implementation	Follow-Up Plan Implementation	Follow-Up Plan Implementation	Follow-Up Plan Implementation	Follow-Up Plan Implementation	Follow-Up Plan Implementation
						

**Vaccine Information** - We received notice from the state that school district's in Alaska may have to conform to the OSHA regulations once they work out the legal issues. This is an issue that may make its way to the Supreme Court. In the order, there is a testing option, which as a district we already meet, so I do not think that it will make much difference for the district at this point. I doubt that the state will go beyond the federal order, and the federal order may not get through the court system.

**Crisis Intervention Training-** Marion Hazelton has been conducting CPI training with staff from all schools, and currently has trained, or is scheduled to train 37 classified and certified staff. This is critical work that will help to change our

#### Superintendents' Note:

This has been a particularly difficult year for some, and I want to commend all of our staff who are working really hard to keep our schools open and our student learning. This goes for both our classified and our certified staff. If you get the opportunity to thank a member of the staff at your school, please let them know how much we all appreciate their dedication to our students. It also means our students, who are growing up during unprecedented times. Let's always be thinking about setting a good example for our students, and that how we would all hope they would behave, is the example we are also setting.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone. Be joyful these holidays with presence of your families around you.

STATE OF ALASKA  
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
JUNEAU

## CERTIFICATE

***I, Gail Fenumiai, Director of the Division of Elections for the State of Alaska, do hereby certify that*** in accordance with the provisions of AS 14.08.071(b), an election for REAA 16, Alaska Gateway School District, was held on October 5, 2021, and the following candidates were elected as school district board members for the seat and term designated:

Frank Cook  
Jeff Wells  
Daisy Northway

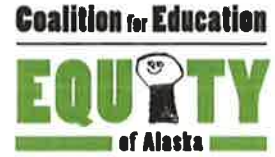
Section II, Seat B                      3 year term  
Section II, Seat C                      3 year term  
Section II, Seat E                      3 year term



**In Testimony Whereof**, I have  
hereunto set my hand and affixed hereto the  
Seal of the State of Alaska, at Juneau, the  
Capital, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, A.D. 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gail Fenumiai".

Gail Fenumiai, Director  
Division of Elections



*Provided by J&H Consulting to CEE 11/07/2021*

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The fourth special legislative session has ended, and Governor Dunleavy has stated he will not be calling another special session this year. The legislature did hold hearings on legislation related to the various recommendations from the Fiscal Policy Working Group, including legislation concerning the dividend, spending limits and revenue measures. As expected, the fourth special session did not produce either a watershed comprehensive fiscal policy or a supplemental dividend. Things remain deadlocked, high-centered on the PFD, and the same debates will be taken up again on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, when the next regular session starts. The next big items on the calendar are the mid-December release of the updated fall revenue forecast and Gov. Dunleavy's proposed FY23 budget.

One bright spot is the rising price of oil combined with a roaring stock market. A preliminary state revenue forecast for the current and next budget years predicts \$1.2 billion in additional income this year and \$1 billion next year due to higher oil prices. A complete set of estimates from all revenue sources will be available in January. Some believe that the preliminary forecast is overly optimistic because it is based on an \$81-per-barrel average price for the current year, based on recent oil prices in that range. To achieve the \$81 price average, higher prices for oil will have to continue to June 30, 2022. While that could happen, there could also be significant price decreases. If the oil price trend holds it will essentially eliminate projected state budget deficits for FY 2022 and FY 2023, which would be great news for the state.

On the federal front, the \$1.2 trillion dollar infrastructure has passed and is headed to President Biden for signature. This legislation will send billions to the state for bridges, roads, ports, and broadband. In brief the funding provides the following for Alaska:

- Authorizes \$3.5 billion in federal highway funding for Alaska to construct, rebuild, and maintain our roads and highways.
- Provides \$1 billion for essential ferry service to communities off the traditional road system in rural and coastal Alaskan communities and allows \$73 million for constructing new ferries.
- Designates millions in funding to bolster and provide broadband services to help businesses, families, and students across the state.
- Authorizes \$250 million for harbor construction to help rural communities who rely on this critical infrastructure every day for necessities.
- Allows for \$75 million to Alaska's Denali Commission to provide essential utilities, economic support, and infrastructure where it is needed across the state.

Officials from the Department of Revenue also report that the Dunleavy administration will be introducing gaming legislation as part of a package of bills in the upcoming regular legislative session. Last February, the revenue department solicited gaming consulting services with the Innovation Group submitting the winning bid for \$400,000. Depending on how and what types of gaming are implemented, the industry could create 1,500 to 2,000 year-round jobs. State revenue projections, depending on the tax rate and number of licenses, are as follows:

- Casinos - \$20-60 million per year
- Video gaming terminals - \$40-60 million per year
- Sports betting - \$25 million per year
- State lottery - \$40-70 million per year

These projections are preliminary. Note that legalized gambling has been debated before in the legislature and there is a block of legislators who strongly oppose any increased gambling in Alaska. However, this will be something to watch in the next legislative session.

## CALENDAR UPDATE:

- Wednesday, November 10: Alaska Redistricting Board: “Final Proclamation” selection of new legislative maps
- Friday, November 12: Commonwealth North: “Washington Update” w. U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski; info [HERE](#), 12 Noon
- November 14-19: Alaska Municipal League (AML) Annual Local Government Conference; Hotel Captain Cook, info [HERE](#)
- Friday, November 19: Deadline **ARPA Nonprofit Recovery Fund** [first round, \$20 million]; info [HERE](#)
- Wednesday, December 8: Commonwealth North: “Annual Legislator Meet & Greet” info TBA
- Thursday, December 9: THREAD “Economic Impact of Early Care & Learning: Taking Big Strides for Child Care in Alaska” economic summit; info [HERE](#)
- December 13-15: AFN Convention (virtual); info [HERE](#)
- Wednesday, December 15: Deadline for Gov. Dunleavy to release proposed FY23 budget
- Tuesday, January 18, 2022: Second Regular Session of 32<sup>nd</sup> Alaska State Legislature begins

## GRANTS:

The Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development (DCCED) has announced a partnership with The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) to distribute \$20 million of federal ARPA funds to the state’s nonprofits to respond to the public health emergency and the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds were approved in the FY22 state budget. The nonprofit grant program is called the **ARPA Nonprofit Recovery Fund**. ACF will administer the program, including processing applications, distributing grant funds, and managing grantee reporting. Grant awards will range in size from \$25,000 to \$750,000 through two rounds of funding. The first round application period is now open with a deadline of 5 p.m., November 19. Eligibility criteria, qualified expenses, and application instructions can be found [HERE](#). Please share with your local nonprofits.

The Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development (DCCED) has also opened an application process for funds from the Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV). This allocation was authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These funds are to be used for community development projects including building and

improvements of public facilities. CDBG-CV projects must prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus and benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

Any Alaskan municipal government is eligible to apply for CDBG-CV grants. Non-profits may apply as co-applicants for these pass-through funds. CDBG-CV grants are single-purpose project grants with a maximum of \$850,000 per community. Approximately \$5.7 million is available for competitive grants for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 20 Grant Cycle. Awards are expected to be made in Spring 2022. Please share with your local organizations.

J&H Consulting will continue to monitor the legislature as it prepares for the upcoming January session. We will also provide a more detailed report on the federal infrastructure package soon. In the meantime, enjoy the break from politics.

J&H Consulting  
Reggie Joule and Christine Hess

# How Staff Shortages Are Crushing Schools

By [Mark Lieberman](#) — October 15, 2021



Stephanie LeBlanc, an instructional strategist at Greely Middle School in Cumberland Center, Maine, has picked up numerous additional duties to help cover for staffing shortages at the school.

Ryan David Brown for Education Week

Teachers are sacrificing their lunch periods to cover unsupervised classrooms, monitor lunch lines, and get behind the wheel of school buses. Students are enduring prolonged bus rides and diminished meal options. Principals are still searching far and wide to fill dozens of open positions, including for people who quit after the school year started.

And at least several dozen school buildings have temporarily shut down due to an insufficient number of adults on the job.

These are just a few of the many effects widespread staff shortages are having on the nation's [3.2 million teachers](#), [91,000 principals](#), and [roughly 3 million support staff](#) who work for public schools, according to interviews with educators and administrators and an Education Week analysis of local media reports.

Forty percent of district leaders and principals describe their current staff shortages as “severe” or “very severe,” according to a [survey](#) conducted Sept. 29 to Oct. 8 by the EdWeek Research Center.

Crucial job openings that would normally attract hundreds of applicants are going to underqualified candidates or remain unfilled, even with higher wages and recruitment bonuses fueled by federal relief aid. When people do get hired, they're taking time off more often because they're sick or were exposed to someone who may have COVID-19.

The current challenges highlight longstanding labor issues in K-12 schools and raise questions about the sustainability of fully reopened school buildings this year as the pandemic wears on.

While vaccinations have dimmed the immediacy of the COVID-19 threat for many, the still-ongoing global crisis continues to take a substantial toll.

### **A longstanding crisis that shows no signs of slowing**

This is hardly the first time schools have had trouble filling open positions; many have long struggled to find enough workers qualified to help students with disabilities, for instance.

But the problem right now is particularly acute, and many educators told Education Week they've never seen it worse. Subpar wages, minimal benefits, tough work environments, onerous pandemic protocols, pressing health concerns, contentious political disputes, and a broader trend of disruption in the American labor market are among the factors shaping this year's K-12 chaos.

District leaders and principals are scurrying to raise wages, expand benefits, and turbocharge recruitment drives. But the most common strategy in the short term for tackling the shortage, according to a recent EdWeek Research Center survey conducted between Sept. 29 and Oct. 8, is asking employees to take on additional responsibilities. Nearly two-thirds of respondents said they've done that this year.

Many educators have agreed to pitch in for the sake of the students. But that doesn't mean they're not frustrated. For instance, four teachers in Alabama sued their school district this summer for adding on responsibilities last school year without appropriate compensation.

For many who work in schools, the year has piled new stress on top of old, falling far short of expectations for the coveted return to normalcy that appeared possible as vaccines rolled out earlier this year.

"We're certainly not feeling like we're in this period of recovery that we keep hearing about," said Brooke Olsen-Farrell, superintendent of the Slate Valley district in Vermont. "We're still in this pandemic, and I think feeling the effects even more so this year than ever before."

Olsen-Farrell spoke to Education Week from her home, where she was working remotely last week after her vaccinated husband tested positive for a breakthrough case of COVID-19. The next day, she said, half of the eight nurses for her six-building school system would be out sick or on quarantine.

On the list of positions Olsen-Farrell is having trouble filling: custodians, instructional assistants, bus drivers, special education assistants, and librarians. For the latter, the district cut the middle school library program to prioritize library services for K-5 students.

A middle school social studies teacher and a high school special education teacher both quit during the first week of school.

"They just walked out in the middle of the day, saying it was too much in this kind of environment," she said. "It's just too stressful."

The middle school teacher's replacement started last week; the district has yet to replace the other teacher, Olsen-Farrell wrote in a recent email.

Many exasperated educators are expressing existential concerns about the future of the public education system.

Here's what people who work in school buildings are seeing and feeling as staff shortages persist.

### **Teachers are filling all kinds of gaps, on top of their regular duties**

Substitute teachers were the role respondents to the EdWeek Research Center survey most often said they are struggling to fill.

At Belvidere Central Middle School in Illinois, the assistant principal shares with teachers a daily spreadsheet listing all the teachers who are absent and the timeslots that need to be filled. Thanks to a shortage of substitutes willing to step in, teachers are asked, though not required, to consider giving up their planning period to plug a hole in the schedule.

Johana Avila, a second-year instructor who teaches 6th- and 7th-grade social studies, recently covered a physical education class. It was surprisingly difficult to wrangle the students and teach them a sport she herself wasn't familiar with, she said.

She likely wouldn't offer to serve as a substitute again. "It's almost like you feel a little bit of guilt, I should be covering, I should help out. But at the same time, we're already piled so much with coming up with homework for kids who are quarantined," Avila said. "I just feel like I need that planning time to make sure I'm giving enough for my students."

At Huntington Middle School in Huntington, W.V., teachers are reluctant to give any substitute teachers a negative review in the required paperwork because they're "desperate" for anyone willing to work, said Angela Nottingham, who teaches 7th grade and leads the school's hiring committee for teachers. Some teachers are volunteering to sacrifice both their planning periods and delaying plans for days off to ensure students are supervised.

"It's like baking a lasagna and baking a cake at the exact same time in the same kitchen, but you can only use one bowl," Nottingham said.

Most schools have avoided reverting back to remote learning even when staffing is thin, but some have had no choice.

Hawthorne Elementary School in Tulsa, Okla., has pivoted from in-person to fully remote learning twice since the school year started, once for three days and once for two days.

The first time, teachers woke up one morning to an email from administrators notifying them that the school building was shut down, said Katherine Maloney-Jacobs, who teaches 3rd grade reading and social studies.

The next time, teachers found out at 5 p.m. the night before—too late to ensure students took home the materials they'd need to keep learning remotely.

How do you encourage people to come into a field where we don't have enough custodians so you're going to have to clean your own classroom?

Carrie Tulbert, principal, Oakwood Middle School in North Carolina "The hardest part was communicating with enough advance notice that parents don't feel caught off guard, or didn't feel pressure to get their students on Zoom at a certain time," she said. "I don't want parents to feel pressured because I know everybody's dealing with a lot right now."

Chaos has prevailed even when the school building is open. On some days, Maloney-Jacobs ends up with five extra students in her class because of teacher absences. She has to quickly integrate them into her classroom routine, find more desks and chairs, and race to make additional copies of assignments.

Olsen-Farrell said she's never seen burnout among staff hit so soon after the school year starts. "Our teachers are June tired, and it's the beginning of October, but I was saying that at the beginning of September already," she said.

Nottingham said she thinks often about the fact that she could take a job doing data entry from her living room and make more money than she currently does.

"The only thing that my boss can do is say, 'This is happening everywhere,'" she said. "I understand that, and we all understand that. But it just doesn't seem like there's any relief at all."

### **Administrators struggle to make the case that working in a school will be rewarding**

Thirty-percent of district leaders and principals who answered the EdWeek Research Center survey characterized their current staffing shortage as "moderate." Another 25 percent called it "severe," and 15 percent said the issues are "very severe." Only five percent said their schools aren't having staffing issues.

Administrators are faced with tough decisions about allocating resources and their own duties. The challenging conditions in schools don't lend themselves to pitching their work environments to prospective employees.

Several candidates at Oakwood Middle School in Statesville, N.C., have told principal Carrie Tulbert during job interviews that they could likely get paid \$7 more per hour working at Chick-Fil-A, "in a great environment serving chicken all day," than they could as a school custodian.

"Typically you could have said, 'Working in education is so rewarding. You get to be with kids no matter what job you're doing, you're impacting kids and how they feel at school,'" Tulbert said.

"Now public education is such a polarizing experience unfortunately, and a political experience, and sometimes a very antagonistic experience because of what's going on in the world, that's hard to say as a recruiter and hiring manager."

The school started the year with two unfilled teacher vacancies. They've since been filled, but there weren't many applicants to choose from, Tulbert said. "You have to find somebody with an amazing heart and passion for teaching. Most of those people are scooped up earlier in the summer," she said.

Even when districts are seeing applications, many candidates lack the proper qualifications. "We fill them with people who have no teaching experience and who get alternatively certified," said Heath Oates, superintendent of the El Dorado Springs district in Missouri. "Sometimes this works out. Sometimes it doesn't."

Meanwhile, shortages of school nutrition workers and custodians have led to teachers cleaning their own classrooms a few times a week, and administrators stepping in to keep the chaotic breakfast and lunch lines moving smoothly.

More than two-thirds of school district leaders and principals say they're struggling to hire a sufficient number of bus drivers, according to the EdWeek Research Center survey. Forty-one percent said the same about custodians, and 42 percent said the same about cafeteria workers.

Tulbert herself has been putting her bus driving license to use two days a week, covering for drivers who are out sick. She worries about the possibility of a fight breaking out or a parent needing her attention while she's away from the building during the pickup period after classes end.

More broadly, though, she worries that her colleagues are becoming disillusioned with working in education.

"A lot of teachers are now saying, 'I don't want to be an administrator. I wouldn't wish your job on anybody,'" she said. "How do you encourage people to come into a field where we don't have enough custodians so you're going to have to clean your own classroom?"

### **Students are missing out on crucial services**

The Cumberland-North Yarmouth district in Maine is currently facing a significant shortage of ["educational technicians,"](#) who work with small groups of students and help out teachers, including in special education classrooms, according to Superintendent Jeff Porter.

At the district's Greely Middle School, an 11-person team in the special education department has dwindled to six. Until last week, there was also an opening for a teacher in the behavior program for students who need specialized support and a quieter environment.



Stephanie LeBlanc is an instructional strategist at Greely Middle School in Cumberland Center, Maine. Staff shortages in the school are making it difficult to provide students much more than the basic requirements, LeBlanc said.

Stephanie LeBlanc, an instructional strategist who coordinates students' individual education plans (IEPs), was filling in for the behavior teacher on top of her regular duties. She also recently had to cover an English class because the school didn't have enough substitutes, and the educational technicians who have been helping fill gaps were busy with other substitute assignments.

It just doesn't seem like there's any relief at all.

Angela Nottingham, 7th grade social studies teacher, Huntington Middle School in West Virginia

"Everybody becomes more exhausted because the breaks that we would usually get aren't happening," LeBlanc said. "That cycle causes more people to be out."

The effects of the shortage are falling most heavily on students who need a staff member with them all day. Some students have had to go to unfamiliar classrooms or miss out on crucial opportunities for academically enriching activities.

"We're still meeting all kids' base needs and our minimum requirements," LeBlanc said. "But we really can't go above and beyond and create those fun or creative opportunities."

The Slate Valley district in Vermont has had to send students with disabilities home and offer compensatory services later to make up for their lost time in the building, Olsen-Farrell said. Students in Syracuse, N.Y., have been missing morning classes and staying in school long after the final bell thanks to a [shortage of bus drivers](#). In Medford, Ore., [football games have been canceled](#), and a larger-than-usual number of students who live close to school buildings no longer have the option to ride the bus.

Schools in Filer, Idaho, closed for a week without remote learning recently due to an insufficient number of teachers. At least one school or district has also shut down temporarily due to staffing concerns in California, Colorado, Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Tennessee, Vermont, and West Virginia.

Many who work in schools are hard-pressed to name an ideal solution to these problems. Olsen-Farrell would like to see her state follow the lead of Massachusetts and call in the National Guard to fill emergency staffing gaps and help with COVID testing.

"I just think there needs to be recognition for a staffing crisis in education in the United States," Olsen-Farrell said. "I think this is going to be here long after COVID is gone."

These are examples of situations. There will likely be situations that do not fit anywhere on this chart, and their solutions will be situation-specific.

These are examples of situations. There will likely be situations that do not fit anywhere on this chart, and their solutions will be situation-specific.

[illegible]

Employee Is NOT Vaccinated against COVID-19					
Description/Examples of Situation	Regular Sick Leave	COVID-19 Leave	Annual Leave/Personal Leave	Leave Without Pay (LWOP)	Public Health Guidance
9. I tested positive for COVID-19	Yes (per CBA)	A total of 5 days may be used after sick and annual leave is exhausted. Must follow required protocols	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	Isolate immediately - Inform your supervisor, and do not report to work or school until medically cleared to return to work. (may take from 7 to 14 days, depending). Isolate in the home away from family if possible.
10. I have had a positive COVID-19 contact but have no symptoms.	Yes (per CBA)	If required to isolate, a total of 5 days may be used after sick and annual leave is exhausted. Must follow required protocols	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	Isolate immediately, inform your supervisor, and test - If positive, see #9, If negative, continue quarantine protocol. Consult a health care provider and test regularly. After isolation period is completed, complete a Binax screener and Release Form, and return to work.
11. I was exposed to COVID-19 and have symptoms.	Yes (per CBA)	A total of 5 days may be used after sick and annual leave is exhausted. Must follow required protocols.	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	Isolate immediately, inform your supervisor, and test - If positive, see #9, If negative, see #10, continue isolation protocol and stay home as directed by public health. (7 - 14 days). Consult a health care provider, complete a Binax screener and Release Form, and return to work.
12. I have symptoms of COVID-19 but no known exposure.	Yes (per CBA)	No if tested Neg If tested Positive a total of 5 days may be used after sick and annual leave is exhausted. Must follow required protocols.	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	Isolate immediately, inform your supervisor and test - If positive, see #9, If negative, isolate until you are symptom-free for at 24 - 48 hours. Talk to your health care provider, complete a Binax screener and Release Form, and return to work.
13. A family member who lives with me has tested positive for COVID-19.	Yes (per CBA)	A total of 5 days may be used after sick and annual leave is exhausted. Must follow required protocols.	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	Isolate immediately, inform your supervisor, and test - If positive, see #9, If negative see #10, and do not report to work or school. You must be medically cleared in writing to return to work, complete a Binax screener and Release Form, before returning.
14. I have been diagnosed with long-haul COVID, or remain symptomatic and am unable to work.	Yes (per CBA)	A total of 5 days may be used after sick and annual leave is exhausted. Must follow required protocols.	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	Follow doctor's orders, fill out your FMLA paperwork. Must be medically cleared by a doctor in writing to return to work.
15. My child is ill with something other than COVID-19 and I do not have childcare.	Yes (per CBA)	No	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	NA
16. I am sick with something other than COVID-19, and cannot work	Yes (per CBA)	No	Yes	Yes, per FMLA	NA



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883.5151 Fax: 907.883.5154

Scott MacManus – Superintendent of Schools

## Return to Work Clearance

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Employee Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_: Tested Positive for COVID on (Date) \_\_\_\_\_ or,

\_\_\_\_\_: Had positive contact with someone known to have COVID-19 on (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

This confirms that the person above has completed the recommended isolation period that started on

\_\_\_\_\_ and is cleared to return to work on \_\_\_\_\_.

**Persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms** and were directed to isolate may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*; **AND-**
- At least 1 day (24 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms; **AND-**
- Other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved.

**Persons with COVID-19 who have not had any symptoms** and were directed to isolate may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days have passed since the collection date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, and they have not had symptoms since their positive test.

People who have tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to quarantine or get tested again for up to 3 months as long as they do not develop symptoms again. People who develop symptoms again, within 3 months of their first bout of COVID-19, should see their healthcare provider and may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

I certify that I have completed my required isolation period as stated above:

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the below named person has cleared me to return to work:

**Healthcare worker or school official and contact**

(Printed name) \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

*"Educating all students to reach their full potential as responsible citizens"*

**DotLake**  
907-882-2663  
Fax: 907-882-2112

**Eagle**  
907-547-2210  
Fax: 907-547-2302

**Mentasta**  
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Fax: 907-291-2325

**Northway**  
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Fax: 907-778-2221

**Tok**  
907-883-5161  
Fax: 907-883-5165

**Tanacross**  
907-883-4391  
Fax: 907-883-4390

**Tetlin**  
907-324-2104  
Fax: 907-324-2114



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Scott MacManus – Superintendent of Schools

PO BOX 226, Tok, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883-5151 Ext 109 Fax: 907.883.5154

Business Office, Robbie MacManus, Chief Financial Officer

KMM

DATE November 11th, 2021  
TO: Superintendent MacManus  
FROM: Robbie MacManus  
CFO

RE: November Board Report

Another busy month in the business office. Friday 11/05/2021 Candy completed the FY22 Fall Oasis report, I helped with some of the verification and ensured that the signature pages were submitted and received by the State. Thank you Candy for your accurate work with this report. The unofficial student count for FY22 is 386.05 which includes 61.55 REACH students and 324.65 (Brick and Mortar students). We also received our duplicate student list today, there was only 1 student on the list and we had the other school district adjust their number as ours was correct. There should be no adjustment to our count.

Unfortunately, Dot Lake did not meet the 10 student minimum requirement during our 20 day count period, as they only had 8 students. With a decrease in average daily membership from FY21 to FY22. We did not meet the minimum of 5% which triggers "hold harmless" that would allow us to receive 75% of Dot Lakes funding for FY22, we are at 4.47%. What this means is that the District will receive "Zero" funding for Dot lake this fiscal year. We will discuss this more at the meeting.

Our FY23 projected enrollment is anticipated to be approximately 371 students. These numbers include 57 correspondence students. This projection was turned in to the State on November 5th, 2021 (attached).

The Impact Aid cards were sent out and returned. Tok School did not have a 100% return, they are still trickling in. This month quarterly reports were completed for most grants (if they are not 100% approved I am unable to do the drawdown) , pupil transportation, unemployment and IRS 941 taxes.

We are expecting our bound copies of the FY 21 audit this week, you should have received a digital copy from the Superintendent.

Patti, Danielle and I would like to take this time to wish everyone the best for the upcoming Holiday season and the New Year. Take advantage of your time with family and friends.

**"Educating all students to reach their full potential as responsible citizens"**

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State of Alaska

Department of Education & Early Development

School Finance & Support Services

Average Daily Membership (ADM) Report

PROJECTED FY2023

DUE: NOVEMBER 5, 2021

Prepared By: Robbie MacManus

District Name: Alaska Gateway School District

Email: [rmacmanus@agasd.us](mailto:rmacmanus@agasd.us)

I certify the reported counts & foundation claim comply with state law, regulations, including the Student Data Reporting Manual. Noncompliance is subject to FRC sanctions per AS 14.20.030 & 20 AAC 10.020(d)(9).

Superintendent's Signature:



Date: 11/5/2021

School District / Attendance Center:

K-6 ADM

7-12 ADM

ADM TOTAL

SPED  
Intensive

Enter the District's ADM & Intensive numbers in the column for that school. Correspondence goes in the above box.

ALASKA GATEWAY

Dot Lake School	7.00	3.00	10.00	
Eagle Community School	5.00	6.00	11.00	1.00
Mentasta Lake School	16.00	17.00	33.00	2.00
Tanacross School	9.00	2.00	11.00	2.00
Tetlin School	23.00	16.00	39.00	3.00
Tok School	85.00	77.00	162.00	9.00
Walter Northway School	21.00	27.00	48.00	8.00
TOTAL	166.00	148.00	314.00	25.00

Correspondence  
ADM Only

57

Fund	Committed Current Month	Committed YTD	Original Appropriation	Current Appropriation	Available Appropriation	% Committed
100 GENERAL FUND	22,051.57	2,846,669.80	10,656,492.00	10,656,492.00	7,809,822.20	27 %
205 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	80,867.50	186,020.35	781,049.00	781,049.00	595,028.65	24 %
208 BROADBAND FUNDING	0.00	11,181.60	47,805.00	47,805.00	36,623.40	23 %
220 A-CHILL	0.00	19,312.00	20,144.00	20,144.00	832.00	96 %
234 FASD	0.00	0.00	326.00	326.00	326.00	0 %
235 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT	3,171.83	20,036.01	150,000.00	150,000.00	129,963.99	13 %
240 CRRSA CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF	10,582.32	310,651.68	681,748.00	681,748.00	371,096.32	46 %
245 LITERACY GRANT	2,399.88	28,487.21	238,012.00	238,012.00	209,524.79	12 %
251 IPRRS Increasing performance and	1,697.67	21,304.46	12,819.00	12,819.00	-8,485.46	166 %
255 FOOD SERVICE	12,414.29	189,652.39	668,435.00	668,435.00	478,782.61	28 %
256 FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE	568.56	9,590.37	20,576.00	20,576.00	10,985.63	47 %
257 GENYOUth	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	0 %
259 SHI ACTION PLAN TOK	0.00	0.00	851.00	851.00	851.00	0 %
260 TITLE VI-B	2,835.29	39,516.38	152,832.00	152,832.00	113,315.62	26 %
261 TITLE I PART A	1,275.41	78,786.43	218,325.00	218,325.00	139,538.57	36 %
262 DHSS	0.00	16,300.89	114,370.00	114,370.00	98,069.11	14 %
263 AK PRE ELEMENTARY	76.71	36,944.99	149,718.00	149,718.00	112,773.01	25 %
265 FFA Tok School	0.00	0.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	0 %
266 MIGRANT ED TITLE I PART C	793.14	111,707.48	454,177.00	454,177.00	342,469.52	25 %
267 TITLE IIA TEACHER/PRIN TR	0.00	4,603.59	41,786.00	41,786.00	37,182.41	11 %
270 TITLE IV STUDENT ENRICHMT	0.00	0.00	27,808.00	27,808.00	27,808.00	0 %
277 RAVE	0.00	96,925.94	201,717.00	201,717.00	104,791.06	48 %
279 REAP - RLIS	0.00	1,049.00	8,384.00	8,384.00	7,335.00	13 %
286 CARL PERKINS BASIC	0.00	581.64	16,429.00	16,429.00	15,847.36	4 %
350 INDIAN EDUCATION	852.00	14,192.11	97,918.00	97,918.00	83,725.89	14 %

Fund	Committed		Committed	Original	Current	Available	% Committed
	Current Month	YTD	YTD				
352 GATEWAY AFTERSCHOOL PROG.	5,735.42	116,254.86		467,945.00	467,945.00	351,690.14	25 %
370 DW TEACHER RENTAL	450.00	11,490.38		0.00	0.00	-11,490.38	*** %
373 STUDENT ACTIVITIES	0.00	5,927.38		5,927.00	5,927.00	-0.38	100 %
502 SPECIAL CAPITAL PROJECTS	18,927.44	245,005.53		1,224,462.00	1,224,462.00	979,456.47	20 %
516 TOX SPRINKLER SYSTEM	0.00	89,215.00		89,215.00	89,215.00	0.00	100 %
Grand Total:	164,699.03	4,511,407.47		16,558,645.00	16,558,645.00	12,047,237.53	27 %



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883.5151 x 103 Fax: 907.883.4352

Scott MacManus, Superintendent of Schools

Memo: Regional School Board Report

To: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

From: LeAnn Young, Assistant Superintendent

Date: November, 2021

## Strategic Plan Progress

**Teaching & Learning-** The Pathways alternative program continues to grow and how success. We are very pleased with the new location. The new building has allowed the program and its participants the ability to create its own identity. Students who were once unwilling to attend the program because of its location in the school building are now attending. We have many students experiencing academic success this year and expect many more good things to come.

**Student Engagement-** The AGSD counseling program includes 4 counselors who work at all 8 district schools. Our programs include individual mental health counseling, career and technical education counseling, guidance counseling and K-8 SEL counseling. Our counselors travel daily to outlying schools to meet the demands of our student population.

**Highlights-** The AGSD work study program is pleased to be back to working with local businesses to offer work placements and job shadowing opportunities for students. After two years of being unable to place students in the community due to COVID-19 we are happy to have kids back in work study placements, gaining real life on the job training skills. AGSD partners with many local businesses to place students.

**Upcoming Event:** The final Annual Performance Report is due soon for the fifth and final extension year of our ACHILL project. It is a comprehensive report detailing our efforts over the five-year project. It is rewarding to see the progress that was made toward our goals, the student lives we reached and the impact we had on teaching, learning and student engagement.

**Perkins P/D Grant-** AGSD was notified that we have been recommended to receive a Carl D. Perkins Professional Development Grant for Fiscal year 2022 for \$24,748 dollars. The primary goal of the project is to provide educators the opportunity to develop pedagogical content through practical and application of real-life skills associated with Rhino CAD operation, additive manufacturing, manufacturing technologies, and entrepreneurship models. The institute will be held this June in Tok, Alaska and will include up to 12 educators from AGSD, Copper River, Tanana and YKSD.

**Carl Perkins Funding-** Every year in November, unused Perkins funds from the previous year are distributed among current year district grantees. This year, awards will increase by 20-40 percent as unspent funds from last year's grants was nearly double the normal pre-COVID amounts. Funding will also be included for district staff to participate in the 2022 DEED Spring Perkins Workshop in Anchorage this February.

## "Where Teachers Are The Gateway To Learning"

**DotLake**  
907-882-2663  
Fax: 907-882-2112

**Eagle**  
907-547-2210  
Fax: 907-547-2302

**Mentasta**  
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**Tanacross**  
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Fax: 907-883-4390

**Tetlin**  
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Fax: 907-324-2114



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

907-883-5151 x 115 Fax: 907.883.4352

R. Eston Jennings, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Eagle, Tanacross, & Tetlin District Site Administrator

## MEMORANDUM:

To: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

From: Eston Jennings, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

RE: Board report for November 22, 2021

### Instructional Support Team Briefs:

**Jane Teague (Technology Specialist):** I have been supporting teachers to set up and use Star assessments provided by a company called Renaissance. Renaissance provides us with Accelerated Reader which is part of our core curriculum for English Language Arts. The star assessments are a very effective progress monitoring tool, which allows teachers to gain insight into students' progress and target areas where explicit instruction may be needed. I was delighted to receive notification that a small Perkins grant I wrote for the professional development of Alaskan teachers was approved. Once the board approves the award, I will begin work on the proposal which is scheduled for 2022.

I entered some of our students into a solve for tomorrow's STEM challenge. State winners will be announced in early December and our students have a good chance of winning an award. I have noticed increased confidence and the ability to articulate ideas and solutions in our middle school students as they have become more familiar with applying strategies to STEM challenges. I have ten students on my robotic team and we head to competition in mid-December. Students are solving a problem related to transportation. Students have been working closely with Lynden transport and have met with Brooke Sillers the Logistics Analyst from Lydens twice to gain advice about their research. Their project may have a milky look to it!

We have implemented cooking lessons for students in two of our schools using the Charlie Carts we purchased as mobile kitchens, Tetlin high School students have also used the cart for some explorations into science taking a deeper dive into food science and the humble salad. Cooking is a popular learning activity and we plan to host a "Chopped" family night in Tok this November to further encourage this interest.

I continue to offer support to students and staff districtwide and travel to schools within our district to offer support, technical support, resource information, and data insight.

### "Where Teachers Are The Gateway To Learning"

DotLake 907-882-2663 Fax: 907-882-2112	Eagle 907-547-2210 Fax: 907-547-2302	Mentasta 907-291-2327 Fax: 907-291-2325	Northway 907-778-2287 Fax: 907-778-2221	Tok 907-883-5161 Fax: 907-883-5165	Tanacross 907-883-4391 Fax: 907-883-4390	Tetlin 907-324-2104 Fax: 907-324-2114
----------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------

**Suzanne Bell (Instructional Coach):** I have been observing and meeting with teachers helping them troubleshoot and implement new strategies. There are so many great things happening in our classrooms and most teachers are eager to learn how to continuously improve their teaching practices. I have been learning more about Visible Learning and the science of reading through ASDN's webinar series and I will be passing this knowledge on to our principals and teachers. Please check out my Instructional Coach Newsletter that is included.

**Conan Steel (STEM Teacher):** Kinross is sponsoring mining and forestry sessions with Alaska Resource Center. Conan has agreed to help support the students of Tetlin during these specialized session along with Jane Teague.

**IPRARS Grant:** We are continuing our work with IPRARS. This work includes session on visible learning. Several staff members have taken classes on Visible Learning for Social Studies and the Science of Reading. The Visible Learning Team has a training on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements have been made for district evaluators to train on evaluation calibration and to gain certification in this area.

**CLSD Literacy Grant (SLAM):** The SLAM Grant has continued work to create a Response to Intervention (RTI) committee to refine our intervention practices. Six teachers participated in the AMLE Conference via distance learning. The Association of Middle Level Education (AMLE) conference via distance learning.

### **District Site Administrator Report**

**Eagle:** Eagle had their first school closure due to COVID. Eagle was closed for four days, but thanks to our use of AKSVS (Alaska Virtual School Program) our students continued their education, uninterrupted. We have found ways to tweak our system, but overall, it was successful for everyone.

**Tetlin:** Tetlin has continues their work on climate and culture. The Tetlin Team is eagerly anticipating their staff retreat to continue their work supporting students. It was scheduled for November but has been rescheduled due to Covid in the community. Tetlin hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jazz Band of the 9<sup>th</sup> Army Band as part of the Veterans Day celebrations. Students, staff, and families enjoyed their time with the Army guys who not only played music but played basketball with the students!



**Tanacross:** Principal Fenley shared, “We are starting to do more cross grade collaboration. We have the middle school reading with the littles and helping run some math and literacy games. They work really well together and it's actually pretty fun to watch!”



Tetlin Students with the 9<sup>th</sup> Army Band



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Scott MacManus -- Superintendent of Schools

PO BOX 226, Tok, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883-5151.114

Districtwide, Wade Boney, Maintenance Director

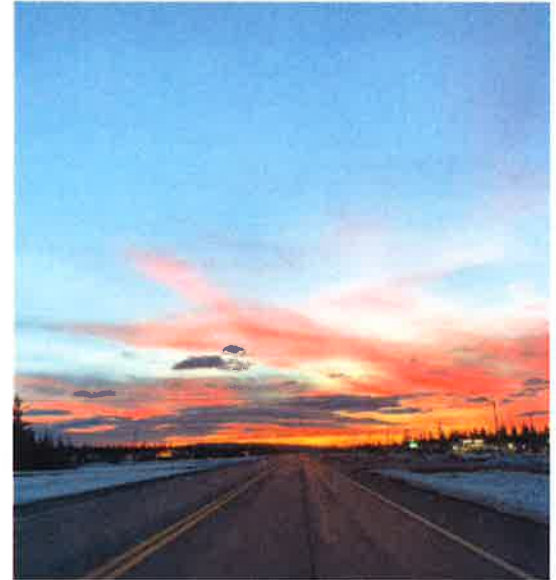
Date: November 8th, 2021

To: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

From: Wade Boney, Maintenance Director

RE: November Building Maintenance Report

We have had a good month getting many tasks completed. For the month of October we tried to keep one Maintenance Mechanic concentrating on the construction items we have in process. This has worked to some extent, but by trying to also complete maintenance tasks that come up it has slowed the progress of construction. Our custodial staff are working well with their site administrators in keeping our schools clean and disinfected. From time to time we have to make adjustments to their daily tasks and they have been good at making those adjustments to help with the process. We were able to make it to Eagle during the last week of road maintenance so that we could finish up a few things. Gary and I were able to get the heat loop back in operation, get some more food and custodial items delivered, install some lighting, and tie up a few other loose ends while we were there.



Over the last couple of weeks we were able to get exterior walls built and stood in place for the office project. Trusses were just received on Friday and we plan to set them this week. Once the trusses are set will sheet the roof and walls so the space is dried in and we will be able start with the internal construction. Looks like we will be meeting our goal of having it dried in before winter sets in.

Over at the biomass plant Matt and Tony have been working hard to get much if not all the chipping done early this year. They have been able to get over half of the winter's chip supply into the yard and are making fast progress toward completion. This week they are working to have the steam engine setup and repairs completed so that we can be generating power. Also in Tok, we have rescheduled with our contractors to get the fire alarm system replaced at the end of the month. It will be a welcome thing to have this one checked off the list.

In Tetlin we continue to make forward progress on the duplex but still have a substantial number of tasks to complete. We now have someone that we have dedicated to the project and should have a second person soon working alongside moving toward completion. I plan to continue having at least one maintenance staff member help with the most technical aspects in hopes of finishing faster. I am very appreciative of the work the guys are doing throughout the district. They are doing a great job.

**"Educating all students to reach their full potential as responsible citizens"**

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**Tetlin**  
907-324-2104  
Fax: 907-324-2114



# ALAKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brenda Overcast – Technology Director

P. O. Box 226, Tok, AK 99780

Ph: 907.209.9667 Fax: 907.883.5154

Date: 11/09/2021

To: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

From: Brenda Overcast, Technology Director

RE: Regional Board Report for 11/20/2021

## **E-rate/Internet providers**

DRS has is working on the point to point to the Pathways Building and the cost for the equipment and installation. Since this is just pulling from what Bandwidth we have it will only be the cost of the equipment and installation. We are now using AP&T DSL at Pathways.

DRS has a proposal for setting up for AGSD monthly Board meetings so that we can have up to 3 members come into the zoom meetings by phone with a toll free number. This should help with eliminating the problem of not hearing each other. Those that have cell phones have unlimited long distance and can call in to the numbers zoom provides or access with internet. For those having local numbers, who are not able to use their cell phone, are charged long distant charges. This process will eliminate the charges and board member will have a toll free number that will instantly put them into the zoom meeting.

DRS has also helped guide AGSD tech in setting up individual computers/Chromebook and iPads so they are not on the student filter. This helps with our UAF students and using the iPads as devices for filming activities.

## **Schools**

Internet has been consistent at the schools and students Chromebooks are working consistently.

## **Testing**

Kindergarten state test, the Alaska Developmental Profile (ADP), has been completed with 37 students for the district.

Students are now working on the Fall Writing Assessment to be completed on Nov. 19

Next testing is Winter MAP testing January 17- Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>.

The States New test with NWEA (same company we use with MAP ) is called **AK STAR** (Alaska System of Academic Readiness). This is the replacement of PEAKS English and Math State testing the Science will still be PEAKS (Performance Evaluations for Alaska Schools)

We will be testing the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) testing February 2, this is only for Tok 4<sup>th</sup> grade and Tetlin 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

Coordination of technology will be setting up new applications and servers for new updates and new test AK STAR and WIDA.

**Brenda Overcast**  
**Technology Director**



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

Ph: 907.883.5151 x 103 Fax: 907.883.4352

Scott MacManus, Superintendent of Schools

Memo: Regional School Board Report

To: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

From: Kay Huxford, State and Federal Programs Coordinator

Date: November 2021

## Strategic Plan Progress

**Student Engagement** – For the first year since implementation of the current 21-CLCC/GAP grant, we held our first Student Leadership / Teen Advisory Group (T.A.G.) retreat. The two-day overnight event was held November 12-13 at Log Cabin Wilderness Lodge, and welcomed eight students in grades 7-11 from Mentasta, Tetlin and Tok Schools. The event fulfilled our goal of developing leadership qualities in our youth to encourage greater involvement in their schools and communities, as well as to motivate students toward increased academic success.

**Staff Recruitment / Retention** – AGSD staff members recently attended the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE) virtual conference funded by our Literacy/S.L.A.M. grant. This event, held November 4-7, provided six instructional staff from Mentasta, Northway, Tetlin, Tok and District Support to learn more in the areas of access and equity, leadership in the middle grades, leveraging technology, meeting the social and emotional needs of students, and middle level essentials for early career teachers.

**Cultural Knowledge** – The Migrant Education Program is completing its annual recruitment drive which establishes our current number of qualified students to determine funding for the 2022-23 school year. Through the efforts of Karla Champagne, Migrant Program Recruiter, and Deb Sparks, Migrant Program Records Manager, as well as the support of office staff at all of our schools, we are welcoming additional families to our program, expanding our ability to support children and adults in our community. Additionally, the Indian Education Program's annual review of records has begun, and we anticipate this effort will conclude before the end of our first semester.

**Teaching and Learning** – Beginning in November, the Migrant program will be sending books and interactive activities to our enrolled youth between the ages of 0-5 years. These related texts and learning tools will provide learning tools and materials for each household, encourage adult-child and sibling interaction, support early learning and school readiness, and contribute to our goal of developing active, independent, lifelong learners.

**School Culture**- Both Migrant and Indian Education Programs were represented at the recent Trunk-or-Treat which took place at Tok School Halloween afternoon. Our Migrant Program distributed free, fiction and nonfiction books to youth of all ages, and advertised the Scholastic Book Fair taking place this week and next at Tok School. The Indian Education Program distributed candy to youth and provided adults the chance to win one of three "door prizes" from the Great Alaska Bowl Company through random drawing. It was a wonderful opportunity to share information about our granted programs in an informal, community-based environment.

**Community Partnerships** – During the first semester, the AGSD work-study program has provided 12 students paid, supervised positions at various locations including GAP assistant, Nutrition Services, media and Technology Services, Maintenance and Custodial Services, TCC shadow/assistant and Tetlin Wildlife Refuge. These positions help to prepare students for post-secondary success through enriching, hands-on experiences with local businesses and district operations.

## "Where Teachers Are The Gateway To Learning"

DotLake	Eagle	Mentasta	Northway	Tok	Tanacross	Tetlin
907-882-2663	907-547-2210	907-291-2327	907-778-2287	907-883-5161	907-883-4391	907-324-2104
Fax: 907-882-2112	Fax: 907-547-2302	Fax: 907-291-2325	Fax: 907-778-2221	Fax: 907-883-5165	Fax: 907-883-4390	Fax: 907-324-2114



# AGSD'S COACHING CORNER

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 3  
NOVEMBER 2021


## *Thankful*

In this month of Thanksgiving, I am incredibly thankful to work in Alaska Gateway School District and with some of the most dedicated and amazing teachers I have ever had the pleasure to work alongside. There is a real desire to constantly learn and improve to better serve our students. We're in the trenches now. The excitement of the new school year has worn off, but it will soon be replaced with the excitement of the holidays. No matter what time of year, THANK YOU for all that you do!

SAVE THE  
*date*

November 12 - Deadline to request to  
attend RTI/MTSS Conference

November 25 -26 Thanksgiving Holiday  
Stay tuned for Fall/Winter Writing  
Assessment Dates



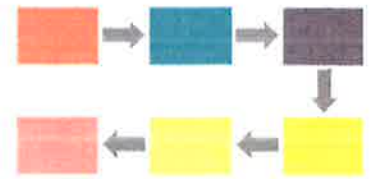
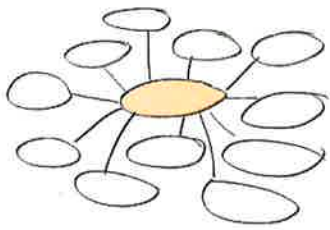
## Visible Learning Focus: Teacher Clarity

Teacher clarity has an effect size of 0.75. Remember, 0.4 is one year's average growth. So, what exactly is **teacher clarity**? According to *The Teacher Clarity Playbook*, it includes clarity of organization, explanation, examples and guided practice, and assessment of student learning. For the remainder of this school year, I am going to dedicate this section of the newsletter to teacher clarity. I will get the majority of the information I share here from *The Teacher Clarity Playbook*. Want even more? This book is perfect to use for a PLC! I am going to be offering schools one to two PLCs a month with the specific purpose of digging into this book and helping teachers apply it to the classroom. I am happy to facilitate the entire year or just get your PLC group started and let someone else take the lead when they are ready. If you are interested in one or two PLCs a month to dive in, let me know! This is not designed to be a sit and listen to a presentation experience. Active learning will be expected! The things we learn will be able to immediately be applied to your classroom and teaching practices.

The *Teacher Clarity Playbook* is written by Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey, Olivia Amador, and Joseph Assof. (It also includes Sketchnotes which I mention in the article on graphic organizers!)



# STRATEGY OF THE MONTH



## Using Graphic Organizers

Do you currently use graphic organizers in your classroom? What about a variety of graphic organizers? What do you primarily use them for? Helping students organize information with a graphic organizer is good practice for struggling students and ALL students. In [Jennifer Gonzalez's blog, Cult of Pedagogy](#), she talks about 10 different uses for graphic organizers. Here are just a few you may want to think about this month. Check out the link above for the whole list and direct access to the podcast on this topic!

1. Note Taking - This tends to lend itself to a teacher created organizer, at least in the younger grades or students new to graphic organizers.
2. Lecture Support- There is a time for lecture. A graphic organizer can help students file concepts and visualize ideas.
3. Pre-writing - Writing is an area many teachers have requested help with instructing. Using a graphic organizer in pre-writing helps students organize and structure their writing.
4. Text Illustrations - Graphic organizers aren't just for pre-writing! Have students include one in their informational writing as an illustration.

Some reminders:

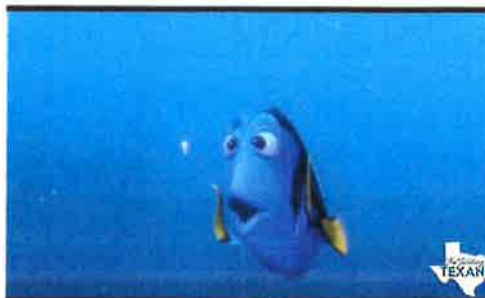
- Remember to stay away from using complete sentences in graphic organizers.
- Be sure to model how to use each graphic organizer you introduce.
- Doodling and [Sketchnotes](#) are fun ways to add to graphic organizers that can really engage students and use different parts of the brain, which can increase retention.
- Teach and use a variety of graphic organizers. Some obviously lend themselves to certain tasks, but many can be used for a variety of things. Students will also start to figure out how their brains best organize material and which organizers they prefer and can transfer to different situations.

JUST FOR FUN



In another universe.

OH LOOK.  
MY TEACHER'S LAST NERVE.



I WANT TO TOUCH IT.

Me: Tells students not to wait until last minute to turn in projects and study for exams.

Also me: Hasn't written the exam and is 2 weeks behind in grading.



# ALASKA GATEWAY COUNSELORS

## November Newsletter



### Career Counseling

Blair has begun using EED's new "Exploring Transition Goals" Student Workbook to help students envision their futures and how they will achieve their goals. The students are enjoying it alongside AKCIS. If your student is a part of Alaska Gateway School District and would like to learn more about careers, contact Blair at [bseawell@agsd.us](mailto:bseawell@agsd.us)

### Senior Students

Reminder! ACT is December 11th. Please reach out to Jeff at [jdeeter@agsd.us](mailto:jdeeter@agsd.us) for more information!

Fafsa is open for students who are looking for college/continuing education funding. You can complete your application at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Visit the counselor website at <http://agsdcounselor.weebly.com/> for info on scholarships.

There has been a significant increase in senior scholarship applications! Kudos Seniors!

### Pathways

Pathways should be expecting a visit from Governor Dunleavy and Commissioner of Education Michael Johnson in the next few months for the donation of \$150,000 to the program!

## Pumpkin Math Day

Thanks to the hard working effort of the Mentasta staff-students got to participate in a fun-filled day. Stations included a STEM challenge, pumpkin carving, zombie geometry and pumpkin seed math.



**School Attendance**-Regular daily attendance in class is of prime importance in ensuring the academic success of students. Attendance is the responsibility of the students, the parents, and the school. Absences have a negative effect upon a student's success in school. PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL if you child will be absent for any reason! If you know you will be absent pre-arranging the absence and allowing your vchild to get their work ahead of time is the best way to keep them on track.

## Family Activity Night

The theme of the October Family Activity Night was Pumpkin Painting! 28 students and family members attended. Participants got to paint a gourd, listen to a story about the history of Halloween and enjoy a great spaghetti meal. Thank you to Kaitlyn, John John and Meranda for hosting and helping with this event.





# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 226, TOK, AK 99780

Ph:907-883-5151 Fax: 907.883.4352

Date: November 1, 2021

To: Scott MacManus, Superintendent

From: Michele Flagen, Greenhouse Manager

RE: Greenhouse Report

## Report for October 2021

- The warm weather crops are being removed as they slow in production. The crops that have been removed so far are yellow squash, zucchini, and green beans. Cucumbers are next on the list to be removed. The tomatoes increased production after the heat pumps were turned on and are doing surprisingly well despite the decreasing amount of sunlight.
- The lasagna method has been completed in three of the greenhouse beds. Carrots and spinach have been planted and have already germinated. The number of beds that can be completed with this method is limited by the amount of compost. There is enough compost to do three more beds this winter.
- Broccoli, cabbage, onion, and celery are currently growing indoors. They will be transplanted into the greenhouse by December 1.
- Lights have been hung in the greenhouse to compensate for shorter winter days. More lights will be hung as the warm weather crops are removed and replaced with cool weather crops.
- Total weights of produce provided to the school district in September:
  - Lettuce 67.45 lb, kale 7.55 lb, cucumber 67.77 lb, zucchini 13.8 lb, cherry tomatoes 202.15 lb, large tomatoes 72.2 lb, green beans 3.4 lb, , parsley 2 oz

## Upcoming plans for November:

- Continue the lasagna method in as many beds as possible until there is no more compost.
- Remove warm weather plants from the greenhouse as they begin to slow production.
- Continue to plant cool weather crops in greenhouse beds.
- Continue to hang lights in the greenhouse.

## “Where Teachers Are The Gateway To Learning”

DotLake	Eagle	Mentasta	Northway	Tok	Tanacross	
Tetlin						
907-882-2663	907-547-2210	907-291-2327	907-778-2287	907-883-5161	907-883-4391	907-
324-2104						
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324-2114						



*Broccoli, cabbage, onion, and celery starts are growing in cells in the hydroponics building. These plants will be transferred to the greenhouse by December 1.*



*Two beds of carrots, totaling approximately 4,500 carrots, have been planted in two of the greenhouse beds.*



*The tomato plants are still looking healthy and producing high yields, despite cold weather and less sunlight.*

NOVEMBER 2021 ISSUE

# THE ECS TIMES

Principal's Report



## Fresh Eyes On Ice

*Pictured: Trish, Joey, Hunter, Rachael, Eli & Vieve  
in front of the Yukon River on Nov. 5, 2021*

ECS students are participating in a citizen science project through UAF entitled *Fresh Eyes On Ice*. For the duration of this winter the students will collect data on snow and ice depth to report to UAF, NASA, the National Weather Service, and TCC, among other entities. The data will be collected from both Long Lake, in the Native Village of Eagle, and from the Yukon River.

Once the river freezes students will establish a safe location to collect measurements. Presently they are reporting from the bank near the NPS buildings using the GLOBE app and taking pictures for submission. They can compare their land observations to satellite imagery of the exact location at the same time and make observations and draw conclusions regarding thermal changes in the river.

A camera has been mounted upriver to capture an image each day at the same time. This will visually document the freeze-up and break-up processes of the river over time.

## CALENDAR

**Turkey Dinner for ECS  
Families**

**NOV 19 @ 5:30 P.M.**

**RSB Meeting**

**NOV 22 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**Thanksgiving Holidays**

**NOV 25-26**

**PAC Meeting**

**DEC 1 @ 3:30 P.M.**



## CAPTURING JOY

*Bryce the T-Rex entertains his classmates*

The Student Council, comprised of Middle and High School students, chose to spread some joy this fall to their younger compadres. When the school had to close due to the local spread of the coronavirus, our Halloween plans for classroom parties and a carnival had to be cancelled. When the school reopened the elementary students were allowed to wear their costumes to school on Friday, Nov. 5. The older students decided to surprise them with a carnival in the gym. Tristan facilitated the breaking of the pinata, Taylor offered face painting, Grace orchestrated the pinning of the mouth on the ghost, and Vieve was in charge of the gummy worm game. Everyone had a great time and Dolly won the costume contest for the originality of her homemade costume. Bryce entertained his friends with his fabulous dinosaur costume.



*"Learning is  
a never-  
ending  
process."*

The COVID conundrum finally arrived in Eagle during the last two weeks of October. For the first time since the start of this global pandemic, ECS had to close its doors. The school was closed to students for a total of four days. Thankfully, the use of the Alaska Statewide Virtual School curriculum, affectionately known as BUZZ, saved our academic progress. Students were able to continue learning in this virtual platform during the closure and as long as they checked in with their teachers and made progress in their courses, the closure days are not required to be made up this summer. Preparation and participation can be applauded in this situation. Students knew exactly what to do and they successfully did what was required of them. Kudos to our kiddos!

Regretfully, ECS  
cannot host  
events open to  
the public at  
this time.  
We will reassess  
the health situation  
in January  
2022.

# ***Dot Lake School***

*Home of the Eagles*

*November 2021*

Another month has flown by, full of learning, growing, and making memories.

At the beginning of October, our students completed the STAR assessments for math and reading. These assessments provide teaching staff with feedback that helps to guide instruction. They also facilitate goal-setting for our students, letting them monitor their growth on a monthly basis versus the three-times-per-year MAP assessments. We are currently working through our second assessments and are excited to see how much our students have grown.

On October 29, Dot Lake School hosted their annual Fall Fest. Students and family members enjoyed good food and fellowship. Participants played games that were set up around the gym, winning candy and prizes. Several guests took home plates of cupcakes that they won during the cakewalk.

Our students have been working diligently and have many exciting artifacts to display for our upcoming Success Night in early December. We will also be treated to a musical concert as our students showcase what they have learned this semester during music lessons.

During our GAP sessions, students have been learning archery skills and safety, working on physical fitness, and creating treats (for humans and dogs) in the school kitchen.

# MENTASTA NEWS

## NOVEMBER



### Upcoming Events:

November 4 Picture Day 9am  
November 5-6 MS Basketball to Minto  
November 12 \*9th Army Band  
\*Movie Night  
\*Student Leadership Retreat  
\*MS Basketball Lock-in Tok  
November 22 Book Fair 10am-2pm  
Family Fun Night-Literacy & Indian Tacos!  
November 24 Early Release  
GAP Movie Night  
November 25 Thanksgiving Holiday  
November 26 No School  
November 29 PAC Meeting



9th Army Band  
Performance!  
Friday, November 12th  
9:15am  
Everyone Welcome

### Upcoming Academic Focus

#### K-2 Focus:

Math: Number sense - subtraction  
Science-Space  
ELA-K1 - beginning sounds and sight words  
ELA 2 - spelling patterns and compare and contrast  
Social Studies-Laws & Rights

#### 3/5 Focus

Math 4 - Fractions  
Math 5 - Fractions to decimals  
ELA- Nouns, Adjectives, & Verbs  
Science-Measuring Volume  
Social Studies- North America

#### MS Focus

Math - Multi-Digit Multiplication, Dividing Rational  
Numbers & Congruent Figures  
Science - Biological Interactions  
Elective Exploration - Engineering & Design  
Social Studies - Slavery & Economics  
ELA - Theme & mysteries

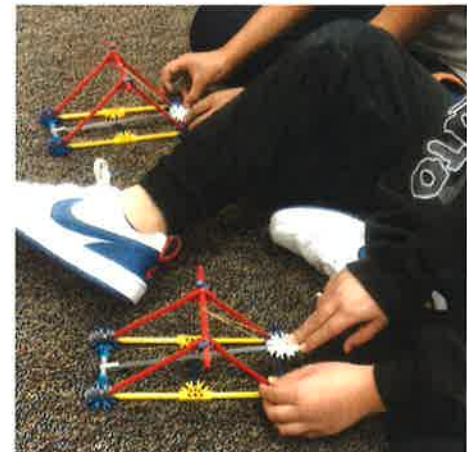
#### HS Focus

Math - Absolute Value & Compound Inequalities  
Biology - Cell Structures & Functions  
Social Studies-Byzantine Empire, growth and collapse  
ELA - Humor, Tone, & Narrative Plot



### Science Technology Engineering & Math (STEM)

Conan Steele is our districtwide STEM teacher who comes to Mentasta every Wednesday to work with our students. In October elementary students got to work with catapults!



## Pumpkin Math Day

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## Walter Northway School

Home of the Warriors

PO Box 519, Northway, AK 99764

Phone: 907-778-2287 Fax: 907-778-2221



TO: Scott MacManus  
FROM: Joe Krause, Principal, Northway School  
DATE: November 15, 2021  
RE: November Northway Principal Report

- COVID-19: Students are still diligent about wearing masks and using hand sanitizer.
  - I've personally used the BinaxNOW tests to test over 250 staff and students since the year began. Having this tool available for schools to test ourselves has proven invaluable.
- FACILITIES:
  - Northway's pottery lab is taking shape. Thanks to the diligent work of our maintenance department over the summer and into this school year for getting water and drain issues solved.
  - Northway's drinking water is safe and legal. However, it smells, tastes, and looks bad. Kids don't want to drink it so we regularly make the trek to the village water source in the school van, fill up plastic containers, and then cart those containers back to school and unload them. Filling the water cooler dispensers during the winter is always a cold and challenging event...that needs to occur almost daily.
    - Thankfully, the maintenance department is installing a large indoor potable water tank IN THE BUILDING that the Village can fill up on their weekly water runs. This will save time and help Northway's students to stay hydrated. We can fill the water dispensers directly from the water tank whenever necessary. While this seems like a small thing, it's actually a huge upgrade that will help Northway students and staff have a better facility in which to learn and work.
  - "A growing body of peer-reviewed research finds a relationship between school facility quality and student achievement. A 2002 review of the literature, compiled by Mark Schneider, the current director of the Institute of Education Sciences at the U.S. Department of Education, found that, on average, researchers observed a difference in student achievement between above-standard buildings and substandard buildings to be 5 to 17 percentile points." <https://kappanonline.org/how-crumbling-school-facilities-perpetuate-inequality-filardo-vincent-sullivan/> April 29, 2019

## Walter Northway School

*Home of the Warriors*

PO Box 519, Northway, AK 99764

Phone: 907-778-2287 Fax: 907-778-2221



- Challenges:
  - Assessments: MAP
    - Tier 3 Response to Intervention (RTI) results should (ideally) be about 5% of a school's population. Tier 3 requires INTENSIVE intervention. Ideally, Northway should have *less than four* students in Tier 3. Northway has 26 Tier 3 in math and 27 Tier 3 in reading.
    - It is entirely possible that a large majority of our Tier 3 students simply did not take the MAP assessment seriously. We're trying to solve this by exploring motivation and incentive.
      - I am speaking with each student about the MAP assessments and helping them understand *WHY* it's important to them, the school, and the district.
      - I am sharing results with older students and individually encouraging each student to *show us that they can do when they give a good effort*.
      - We are exploring incentives for MAP score improvement.

---

- Successes:
  - 20% of our K-11 students are in RTI Tier I for both math and reading!
    - That's equates to ten students.
    - We believe our students are more capable than they are allowing us to see. We'll keep encouraging and exhorting our students to work hard to achieve.
  - Our Junior High Boys' basketball team won the Tok Tournament and our girls' basketball team earned the runner-up trophy. Our coaches are helping them to learn basketball and sportsmanship while keeping practices and games fun. That's not an easy task.



## Tok School

Jon Summar Dr., Tok, AK 99780

907-883-5161 FAX: 907-883-5165

Drew Larrabee, Principal

1. Tok Advisory School Board Meeting  
Tuesday, November 23, 2021, @ 6:00pm  
Tok School Library <https://zoom.us/j/92608694834?pwd=SU5JcVpNMmR4WHVzNnJRVXdoV2crdz09>  
Meeting ID: 926 0869 4834 Passcode: 5S6P3X
2. ASB Elections for 3 seat- one member reapplying
3. Athletics Report - Alicia Lovelace
  - a. High School Volleyball Update
    - i. Aurora Regional Conference- November 19-20
  - b. Middle School Basketball Update
    - i. End of Season Lock In- November 12-13
  - c. Wrestling Update
    - i. Five tournaments so far
    - ii. Added a few female wrestlers and a few more male wrestlers
  - d. Basketball
    - i. Practice starts December 1, 2021
    - ii. Richard Fraser Memorial Tournament- February 10-12, 2022
4. Recent events:
  - a. The Great Shakeup Earthquake Drill
  - b. Senior Sponsored Family Movie night- Space Jam 2
  - c. Wrestling sponsored movie night - Canceled
  - d. Middle School activity night - Canceled
  - e. Oct. FAN/ Bonfire/ Pumpkin carving - Canceled
  - f. Halloween Friday School activity day
    - i. Elementary Pumpkin carving with the high school students
    - ii. Baked the pumpkin seeds and let the students try them.
    - iii. Halloween stories with Nicole Wells in the glow rooms.
    - iv. Hotdog lunch served from the cart
    - v. Classroom activities
    - vi. S'mores on the playground
    - vii. School Assembly with SOM, Activities, prize drawings, pumpkin decoration prizes.
  - g. Virtual visit with story book authors
    - i. Author's Kate Messner and Traci Sorell virtually visited Tok School with the elementary students on 11/3 & 11/4
5. Upcoming School Activities:
  - a. Lockdown practice and drill
  - b. Veteran's Day Program with the 9th army band
  - c. Nov. 22 time to be determined - Parent meeting for High School Basketball
  - d. November FAN Night
  - e. Success Night
6. Reports:
  - a. GAP:
    - i. All student have ½ hour of academic support
    - ii. Music
    - iii. Rocks and Minerals
    - iv. Lego Robotics- meeting
    - v. STEM (engineering activities)
    - vi. Grossology
    - vii. Art
    - viii. Book club
    - ix. Movie Club
    - x. Tech/ CAD
    - xi. Basic online business

November 2021

# TOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

"Education is for improving the lives of others"



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Basketball**  
Nov 5-6  
@ Minto

**Basketball**  
**Lock-In**  
Nov 12-13

**Movie Night**  
Nov 17  
*HS Wrestling*  
*Fundrasiser*

**Thanksgiving**  
**Break**  
Nov 25-26



## MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE

The Middle School is doing a canned food drive from November 1st-November 12th. Students who bring cans in will get extra credit in classes and words off their next ELA essay!

## WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH SKYLA FRANK-YOUNG



Skyla has had a great start to her 7th grade year! She has a positive, can-do attitude that makes her an excellent role model to her peers. Skyla is always on time to class, prepared, and focused. Her hard work shows in her grades and is a great example of how hard work pays off. In addition to academics, Skyla is a student athlete who proves to have a big future in the world of sports. Congratulations Skyla!



#### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Students will read novels from the “Battle of the Books” list in preparation for the event on February 1-3.

#### ART

Students will explore a variety of artistic platforms including the evolution of music and the evolution of dance. Students will create album playlists that represent their life and learn a variety of individual and partner dances.

#### ELA

During Native American Heritage Month, students will connect history and current world issues with literature to explore the meaning of writing and storytelling. A focus on “Island of the Blue Dolphins”, “The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian”, and excerpts from “Braiding Sweetgrass”.

#### MATH

Students will learn about ratio concepts and use ratio and rate reasoning to solve problems. Students will develop an understanding of statistical variability. They will also learn to summarize and describe data distributions.

#### PE

Students are working on team building, cooperation, and learning new games.

#### SCIENCE

Students will develop their understanding of the scientific method to approach problems and questions encountered in the natural world. Students will use measurement skills using the metric system in scientific investigations and hands-on labs.

#### EXPLORATIONS

Students will explore what it takes to create, build, and run a successful business.

#### SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will continue exploring the USA by focusing on a different state each day, learning its history, geographic mapping, and cultural identities. Students will be able to identify and present the New England, North East, South East, MidWest, and Western Regions.

# HALLOWEEN FUN!



As a Middle School fundraiser, we will be selling merchandise until November 20th.

*If you, or anyone you know, would like to purchase apparel, there are order forms at the front office. Cash or check (made payable to: Tok School) are accepted.*

## Tok Merchandise Order Form

**"A" \$43**



**"B" \$43**



**"C" \$43**



**"D" \$20**



**"E" \$43**



**"F" \$20**



**"G" \$43**



**All apparel customizable for no extra charge!**



ONE DRUM ONE SOUND

### Go team!

Tanacross staff was able to come and cheer on our players that are participating as part of Tok's basketball teams. We had an amazing time seeing their hard work pay off in a real game!

## From the principal

We have wrapped up our first quarter! I feel so proud with what our staff and students have accomplished in such a short amount of time. My perfect school is one that is made up of mutual respect. We have grown so much in this area. There is a different feeling when you enter the school or a classroom. I can't wait to see what is accomplished by the end of the year.

-Brooke Fenley

## TEACHER INSERVICE

All teachers and teacher aids attended teacher in service last month. It was an amazing learning opportunity for everyone. One of the biggest things we tackled was learning how to look at all of our testing results even deeper and then teach to the needs of students. We always strive to do this of course- but we got a chance to sit down and make an even better plan!

NOVEMBER, 2021

# Tanacross School



## American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month

November marks American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage month. We will be spending a lot of our focus this month on the populations that first help shape our amazing state. Much of our focus will be on local history but we will also be honoring native groups across the state.

If you enter our building you will begin to see items labeled with Athabaskan words (thank you for your help Ms. Liz!). We will also be digging deep into Athabaskan values and relating them to our lives.

We would love to invite some local knowledge into our school (masks required) as our first introduction into oral story telling.



## Coming up

- 11.11. Family Activity Night
- 11.25. Thanksgiving meal with families
- 11.26 No school- Thanksgiving
- 11.27 No school- Thanksgiving



## Tardy Policy

This is a friendly reminder that school starts at 9:30. If students are late for more than 30 minutes. They will be considered absent for the morning block.

## GAP changes

GAP is now being taught by our lovely Ms. Marlene. She has been working with every pocket of time she has to create some really fun after school activities. We are so lucky!



**Like Tanacross School for more updates and news!**

We were honored to have the 9th Army Jazz Ensemble Band come on the 10<sup>th</sup> to share music and honor our Veterans.



**MAP scores:** We had 7 of 21 kids increase in the MAP scores. We were shooting for 3 points increase to get money but most of the students gained significantly more points than three. Certificates were sent home and a total of \$560.00 money was distributed. To the students.

**GAP:** Kids love roller skating and it happens often. They do a lot of different types of art. They had a movie night in October with the animated movie "Corpse's Bride".

We look forward to some happy holidays and lots of parents coming to our events.

Principal Rhodes

# REACH Academy Newsletter

November 2021

## Pumpkins and Pizza at Musher's Hall

We had a great turnout for the Pumpkins and Pizza family event at Mushers Hall. We had almost forty students and parents attend the event that afternoon. It was fun to see all carving masterpieces created by our students.



## Calling all Musicians!!

Several REACH parents have expressed a desire for creating a space and opportunity for students to explore their musical interests with other REACH students. The REACH office would love to help facilitate this and support our students with musical ambitions. If you have student who would be interested in sharing their talents with other students contact the REACH office and we will work to organize a meeting later this month.



## Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

Our next Parent Advisory Committee meeting will be Thursday November 18th at 6:00. It was suggested by parents at our October meeting that we offer the option to Zoom in. These meetings are open to all REACH parents and we encourage everyone to come and share their ideas. If you have any questions call the Rob at the REACH office for more information. A link for the meeting will be sent out in a separate email.



Just click on the link below on Thursday the 18th at 6:00. We look forward to seeing you there.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81739539595>

# Walter Northway School

*Home of the Warriors!*

PO Box 519, Northway, AK 99764

Phone: 907-778-2287 Fax: 907-778-2221



## Northway Advisory School Board Meeting Wednesday, November 17, 2021 @ 4:00PM ZOOM Attendance Only

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/91485864763?pwd=STlrWDdEcZRTNfZyZEJ4N0hPc2pQZz09>

Meeting ID: 914 8586 4763 Passcode: 9uYD3T

**Regular Meeting Call to Order at 4PM**

President

**Roll Call**

Secretary-Treasurer

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President

**Hearing of Visitors on Agenda Items**

President

**Action Items: Routine Matters**

President

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Last Board Meeting Minutes.

**Action Items: Old Business**

President

- 2021-2022 School Handbook

**Action Items: New Business**

President

**Reports/Information/Discussion**

President

- Principal's report

Principal

**Hearing of Visitors on Non-Agenda Items**

President

**Discussion, Comments and Questions from the Board**

President

**Future Agenda Items**

President

**Future Meeting Date: Wednesday, DECEMBER 15, 2021?**

President

**Adjournment**

President

# Log Cabin Wilderness Lodge

PO Box 122

Tok, Alaska 99780

907-883-3124 P



Dear Superintendent MacManus, AGSD Board Chairperson, Tok ASB Chairperson, Tetlin ASB Chairperson, and Mentasta ASB Chairperson,

I just wanted to let you know what a treat it was this past weekend to host your Student Leadership event at our Lodge. You should be aware that all of the students involved were on stellar behavior and all exhibited outstanding leadership qualities. It's pretty obvious to us that the staff that nominated these kids knew what they were talking about.

I'd also like to note that based on my 25 plus years of educational leadership, that the content and delivery of the material was right on target with what these young adults needed to hear. Kay Huxford was very organized in setting up the event and did an outstanding job delivering the material. Erica Burnham engaged with the students as they reviewed the student handbooks and got them too seriously think about what changes might need to be made. Robert Kelso is always alert to see what it is that needs to be taken care of as he watches over his group to make sure it gets completed correctly.

In closing, I just wanted to let you know what a positive impression all involved in the recent leadership retreat left on us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A. Rusyniak'.

John A. Rusyniak

---

**John & Jill Rusyniak**

907-505-0305 John H, 907-505-0306 Jill C stay@logcabinwildernesslodge.com

Forwarded message -----

From: **Nathan Becker** <[vagabond121401@gmail.com](mailto:vagabond121401@gmail.com)>

Date: Mon, Oct 18, 2021 at 11:28 AM

Subject:

To: Steve Robbins <[eaglevillageepa@gmail.com](mailto:eaglevillageepa@gmail.com)>, Steve Robbins <[srobbins@agsd.us](mailto:srobbins@agsd.us)>, Steve Robbins <[leavingthegridak@gmail.com](mailto:leavingthegridak@gmail.com)>

Hey, can you please read this at the SBM tonight.

Hello School Board Members and Administration,

My wife and I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for the resolution regarding the school bus not accommodating the pick-up and delivery of our children in Eagle. It was a stressful couple of weeks as we awaited the outcome of this situation but through regular communication with AGSD school board member Steve Robbins and Superintendent Scott McManus, we remained well informed of the processes that had to unfold for this dispute to be rectified.

We sincerely appreciate the districts quick and decisive response and we truly feel the outcome is indeed the safest one that could have happened for our family. We would also like to personally thank Superintendent Scott McManus for his steadfast support and resolve in overseeing this matter.

We feel that the district put the safety and welfare of our children first and foremost and as parents, we cant ask for anything more.

Best Regards

Nate and Ruby Becker