



Board of Education Meeting
October 23, 2019
Superintendent Report



Superintendent Message

Dear School Board Members,

Principals and staff in each school have been preparing for the Alaska STEPP Plans to present to the schools, community and school board during the November school board meeting. Alaska STEPP, which stands for Steps Toward Educational Progress and Partnership, is an online, school improvement planning tool based upon Indistar, a software template. The program is designed to help schools and districts create an improvement plan by assessing, planning and monitoring data driven instructional needs.

Objectives created for school improvement are based upon the needs emerging from the data analysis and the needs assessment; therefore, it is important that schools, with the support of the district, are able to collect appropriate data efficiently and find ways to manage and display the data so that all staff members are able to analyze, communicate, and act upon it. This analysis, communication, and subsequent actions are the heart of the continuous improvement process.

There has been reporting on current PEAKS assessments scores and other data during each board meeting that provided a foundational view of where our schools and district performed compared to other schools and year by year. The principals and their teams are continuing the data reviews and preparing the STEPP plans (school improvement plans) that will set goals for the 2019-2020 school year. These plans are used to measure progress, closely monitor and address achievement gaps, opportunity gaps and learning gaps for all students. These plans are used for grant reporting purposes and considerations for budget planning.

The months of November and December KGBSD will be working directly with the Department of Education and Early Development (AK DEED) before, during and after onsite visits from the National School Lunch Program (NLSP) and ESEA Title Programs state personnel.

National School Lunch Program Review

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) review will be conducted by TCB Consulting on behalf of the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (AK DEED). The date of the onsite visit is November 14, 2019 through November 15, 2019. The administrative review is a federal requirement; the purpose is to monitor compliance of the federal meal programs administered by your organization. Part of this review includes an off-site assessment, which must be completed and submitted with supporting documentation by October 15, 2019.

ESEA Title Programs 2019-2020 Monitoring (Title I, II and III)

The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) emphasizes equal access to education to ensure that every student succeeds. ESEA authorizes an important group of educational programs administered by the states. These programs provide supplemental support to eligible schools and districts to raise the academic achievement of struggling learners and address the complex challenges that arise among students who live with disability, mobility problems, learning difficulties, poverty, transience and the need to learn English as a second language. The date of the onsite visit is December 16-18, 2019. Part of this review includes an off-site assessment, which must be completed and submitted supporting documents by November 8, 2019.

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Early release Wednesday's are continuing to be valuable and beneficial for staff and administration. There is continued planning and trainings proposed and principals and staffs have established consistent and ongoing trainings that staff have reported are much appreciated. Another exciting opportunity that is taking place with the early release Wednesday's are opportunities for the high school students in being able to take college level courses developed just for them. To date the CNA courses are held mostly on Wednesday afternoons and most recently Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District (KGBSD) and UAS Ketchikan (UASK) have collaborated to provide DESL S106 Diesel Engines to KGBSD students during the Spring semester of the 2019/2020 academic school year. Tuition and fees will be covered by the KGBSD for students from the RLIS Grant. Classes will be held on Wednesdays (1/8/2020 – 4/22/2020) from 2:30 – 6:30pm (No class 3/18/20).

In conclusion, our students, staff, parents and communities social and emotional learning continue to be of importance. I want to invite all constituents of the school community to my office for a visit, say hello or to just hear ideas and share input. I do tend to be in and out of my office and at schools so a phone call ahead of time and a place on my calendar is a guaranteed slot of time.

Beth Lougee, Interim Superintendent

Information

Annual ACTE Conference

* The annual Alaska CTE Conference was held in Anchorage from October 13-16. KGBSD sent 3 CTE teachers and 1 principal to the conference. Funding is provided through the Carl Perkins Grant and DEED will reimburse for up to 2 participants to attend.

53rd Annual Alaska Principals' Conference

- AAESP and AASSP leaders are excited about working together and bringing you a professional development conference that is tailored specifically for principals, in Anchorage from October 26-28. KGBSD has 5 Principals attending the conference.

NSTA Science Conference

* 8 teachers recommended by the principals will attend the National Science and Technology Conference in Seattle from December 12-14, 2019.

Spelling BEE Times and Dates

School Spelling Bee: To be held by January 31, 2020

District Spelling Bee: Tentative Dates February 13 or February 21, 2020, at the Discovery Center

State Spelling Bee: March 24, 2020 in Anchorage

Director Reports

- Alonso Escalante: Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction Report
- Katie Parrott: Business Manager Report
- Terri Crofcheck: Special Education Report
- Bob Hewitt: Mentoring Report
- Richard McAlpin: Maintenance Report
- Brandon Roof: School Board Student Representative Report
- Emma Campbell: Superintendent Student Committee Report