

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: September 29, 2026

NUMBER:

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Superintendent's Report

Attendance

8/13/26 - 9/24/26

AMB	88.90%
BKC	87.00%
DRG	88.76%
IAN	82.22%
KVL	81.31%
OBU	95.80%
JNES	89.61%
KMHS	82.21%
WTK	81.28%
ORV	87.27%
WLK	77.50%
SHG	79.87%
District	85.30%

Congratulations to the staff and students of Kobuk, who is maintaining above a 95% attendance rate. Keep up the great work in getting students to school.

Attendance continues to be a challenge. We can only continue to work towards improvement and will need the help of all stakeholders. Discussions, along with a plan will be developed and put into place. More to come.

Enrollment

As of September 14, 2026. Pre-K–12 enrollment is currently 1,815 students, with K–12 enrollment at 1,724 students. We will continue to see a drop with the October count coming up, as students who have 10 consecutive absences are dropped from enrollment.

Introducing new leadership

Thank you to Kerry Saylor, Kotzebue interim principal, who completed his last week with us on September 24, 2026. Jeremy Millard will be on board with us September 27. A huge welcome to Jeremy.

I would also like to Welcome Wanda Nauyaq Baltazar to the Iñupiaq Programs Team. We are excited with the experience Nauyaq brings in Language and Culture. She will be a valuable asset to the team.

Alaska's Education Challenge

See Document attached that shows the State Board of Education list of priorities. In preparation of the development of our next strategic plan, I thought I would share this.

Quyaanna,

Terri Walker, Superintendent

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Alaska's Education Challenge (AEC)



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Support ALL students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.

K–3 Literacy Benchmark Achievement

The number of Kindergarten-Grade 3 students performing at or above benchmark on the literacy screener will increase by 10 percent from the End-of-Year 2026 baseline by End-of-Year 2029, as measured by the mCLASS DIBELS 8 Curriculum-Based Measures.

Grade 3 Literacy Proficiency

The number of Grade 3 students scoring proficient or above in English Language Arts (ELA) will increase by five percent from the Spring 2026 baseline by Spring 2029, as measured by the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR).



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.

3-Year Perkins CTE Concentrators

High school students who complete two credits of Perkins-approved CTE courses in a program of study (CTE concentrators) will increase by 25 percent over three years from the 2026 baseline by 2029, as reported in the Carl Perkins All-In-One Reports and Summer OASIS submissions.

3-Year Alaska Performance Scholarship

High school graduates eligible for the Alaska Performance Scholarship through Option B, which includes 2 credits of CTE coursework, will increase by six percent from the 2026 baseline by 2029, as reported in the Summer OASIS submissions.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.

3-Year Literacy

The number of Grade 3-9 students scoring proficient or above in English Language Arts (ELA) will increase by six percent from the Spring 2026 baseline by Spring 2029, as measured by the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR).

3-Year Math

The number of Grade 3-9 students scoring proficient or above in Mathematics will increase by six percent from the Spring 2026 baseline by Spring 2029, as measured by the Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR).



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.

3-Year Career Pathway Participation

The percentage of high school seniors who complete two consecutive Perkins-approved CTE courses or an approved dual credit sequence within an Education career pathway will increase by 25 percent over three years from the 2026 baseline by 2029, as reported in the district Carl Perkins All-In-One Reports and the Career and Technical Student Organization report.

3-Year Educator Apprenticeship Program

The percentage of educators participating in either a U.S. Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship pathway or the Green to Teach pathway to certification will increase by 25 percent over three years from the 2026 baseline by 2029, as reported to the Alaska Office of Apprenticeship and DEED.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.

3-Year Bullying and Harassment Reduction

The percentage of students involved in bullying, harassment, and cyberbullying incidents resulting in suspensions or expulsions will decrease by nine percent from the 2026 baseline by 2029, as reported in the bullying, suspension, and expulsions data.

3-Year Chronic Absenteeism

The percentage of students identified as chronically absent will decrease by six percent from the 2026 baseline by 2029, as reported in the State of Alaska annual accountability reporting system.

One Shared Planning Framework: Two Paths to Improve Student Learning Outcomes



SEA ACTION PLAN

DEED will align its programs, resources, technical assistance, funding, and continuous improvement efforts to advance the State Board of Education's Alaska's Education Challenge Strategic Priorities and SMART Goals.

GOAL

- AK Education Challenge Strategic Priority
- State Board SMART Goal
- Performance Measures
 - Performance Indicators
 - Data Source
 - Baseline
- Annual Targets (Year 1–3)

STRATEGY

- If - Then Statement (How DEED's strategy will drive improvement in student outcome)
- Implementation Measures
 - Implementation Indicators
 - Data Source
 - Baseline
- Annual Targets (Year 1–3)

ACTION PLAN

- Actions
- Anticipated Output/Deliverable
- Timeline
- Person Responsible
- Collaborators

DEED monitors progress and provides technical assistance, resources, and continuous support to advance outcomes statewide.



LEA STRATEGIC PLANNING TOOL

May be used by local education agencies (LEA) to develop strategic plans aligned to the Alaska Education Challenge while addressing local priorities and needs.

GOAL

STRATEGY

ACTION PLAN

Districts may use this tool to plan, implement, and monitor strategies that improve outcomes for their students and communities.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING TOOL

May be used by schools to develop strategic plans aligned to the Alaska Education Challenge while addressing local priorities and needs.

GOAL

STRATEGY

ACTION PLAN

Schools may use this tool to plan, implement, and monitor strategies that improve outcomes for their students and communities.