



**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** John Hopson Jr., President  
Members of the Board

**THROUGH:** David Vadiveloo, Superintendent DsV

**FROM:** Tenna D. Pili, Director of Iñupiaq Education Tennessee Judkins

**DATE:** May 5, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Purchases over \$50,000 – Iñupiaq Language Curriculum/Card Games – Native Teaching Aids

**Memo No. SB25-198**  
(Informational Item)

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**NSBSD Strategic Plan Summary:**

Family & Community Collaboration

Goal 1: Prioritize and implement intentional and purposeful partnerships.

Culturally Responsive Instruction

Goal 2: All students perform at or above grade level

Goal 3: All students are prepared for their pathway of choice post-high school

Goal 4: Graduate bilingual students

Student Social & Emotional Wellbeing

Goal 5: Facilitate & maintain culturally, emotionally, & physically safe learning environments

Staff Support & Professional Development

Goal 6: Build and sustain a thriving workforce aligned with the mission of this District

Financial & Operational Stewardship

Goal 7: Standardize high-functioning, efficient, student-focused operations

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**Issue Summary:**

To support the Iñupiaq Language Classroom curriculum, supplement general education classrooms, and for families in the North Slope Borough School District, the District is purchasing Iñupiaq Language curricular materials and resources in the form of card games from Native Teaching Aids.

**Background:**

As part of the NSBSD's commitment to graduating bilingual students, cultural preservation, and engaging language instruction, the Iñupiaq Education Department has developed and aligned instructional materials with the Iñupiaq Language Program Scope & Sequence. The purchase includes culturally relevant card games designed to reinforce language skills in an interactive and accessible format. These resources offer hands-on opportunities for vocabulary acquisition, sentence formation, and conversational practice, tailored to different proficiency levels and dialects.

The materials will be integrated into all Iñupiaq Language classrooms across the district and made available to general education teachers to incorporate Iñupiaq language into their instruction. In addition, two sets will be distributed to each household within the North Slope Borough School District, strengthening family engagement and encouraging language use at home. This initiative



supports multiple strategic goals, including working towards graduating bilingual students, student achievement, community involvement, and the development of culturally responsive classrooms.

The card games include:

- Niqit 1
- Animals #1
- Body Parts
- ASLA Skill Set #1
- ASLA Skill Set #2
- ASLA Skill Set #4A
- Tally Marks 0–31
- Kaktovik Numerals 0–31
- 99 – NSC Dialect
- 99 – PHO Dialect
- 99 – AKP Dialect
- 7, 8, 9 – NSC Dialect
- 7, 8, 9 – PHO Dialect
- 7, 8, 9 – AKP Dialect
- Pictionary 1
- Pictionary 2
- Atausiq 1 – NSC/PHO/AIN Dialect
- Atausiq 1 – AKP Dialect
- House Commands 1–4 NSC
- House Commands 1–4 AIN
- House Commands 1–4 PHO
- House Commands 1–4 AKP
- House Commands 1–8 NSC
- House Commands 1–8 AIN
- House Commands 1–8 PHO
- House Commands 1–8 AKP
- Questions 1–4 NSC
- Questions 1–4 AIN
- Questions 1–4 PHO
- Questions 1–4 AKP
- Commands 1–4 NSC
- Commands 1–4 AIN
- Commands 1–4 PHO
- Commands 1–4 AKP
- Questions 1–7 NSC
- Questions 1–7 AIN
- Questions 1–7 PHO
- Questions 1–7 AKP
- Commands 1–7 NSC
- Commands 1–7 AIN
- Commands 1–7 PHO
- Commands 1–7 AKP
- Questions 1–9 NSC
- Questions 1–9 AIN
- Questions 1–9 PHO
- Questions 1–9 AKP
- Commands 1–9 NSC
- Commands 1–9 AIN
- Commands 1–9 PHO
- Commands 1–9 AKP

Estimated cost: \$126,309.10

Funding Source: 100.200.100.000.450 (General Funds)

