



# THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jensen Drive  
King Salmon, AK 99613  
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1617 S Industrial Way #1  
Palmer, AK 99645  
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**Date:** April 7, 2022  
**To:** LPSD School Board Members  
**From:** Kate Cornell and Nicole Metzgar  
**Re:** April Curriculum Report

## Professional Development

Late Start Monday: Late Start Mondays continue to be crucial to the growth of our professional development community. We are thankful for this time to clarify, communicate, and collaborate. April's late start will focus on our new Science curriculum/transition and allow teachers to dive in and ask questions.

Tuesday 4-5 PM PD (Power Hour): Tuesday, April 19th will be focused on the importance of updating records and preparing PowerSchool for next school year. Teachers will also be given the opportunity to give feedback on a new LPSD Progress Report before being implemented next school year. We would like to see these Power Hour sessions continue into next year as it is a great time to provide valuable Professional Development to all staff.

April 16th 8:30-11:30AM: This half day PD is for teachers who are interested in updating our End of Level Assessments. Mr. Stark will provide training on how to use the online program to create assessments. We expect about 15 teachers to participate.

Hybrid Alyeska Assessment Training May 5- May 8: This PD work session is for teachers who are interested in updating our End of Level Assessments. We are planning for 10 to be in person and 3 to be remoting in. This will be a time for us to calibrate and start the work we will continue throughout the month of May.

Summer Writing and Thinking Institute, July 10-15: Three LPSD teachers are planning to attend this optional summer PD training at The Bard Institute for Writing and Thinking at the Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. The July weeklong workshops help teachers deepen their understanding of writing-based teaching, its theory and practices, and its application in the classroom.

New Hire Induction Aug 22-24: Time with our newly hired teachers is very valuable. This short induction prepares teachers to navigate logistics of moving to our rural sites and managing a multi-level classroom. We are expecting and planning for there to be more new hires at this inservice training than there were last year. The location is TBD.

August Inservice Aug 31-Sept 3: We are excited to bring teachers back to Katmai Lodge on the Alagnak River for three nights. Ideas and plans are currently being developed. Because we are switching to new science standards next year, we hope to build the focus of this inservice around science.



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## Curriculum

CTE: Twenty LPSD students from six different sites successfully completed CTE courses this spring. We are very excited to strengthen our regional partnership with BBRCTE and encourage student involvement by offering them credit for the effort put forth and the knowledge gained by participating in BBRCTE courses. These courses will count towards meeting the high school graduation credit requirement of 9 elective credits.

EOL Assessments: After meeting on Saturday, March 12, and Saturday, March 26, teachers have information and materials they need to begin work on the Writing Curriculum Guides. There will be training on how to write/choose assessment items on April 16th, and then an assessment writing retreat to happen on May 6-7 at Alyeska. We look forward to beginning this process and having new assessments to roll out for teachers next fall.

Science: Science standards and curriculum were introduced to teachers on Monday April 4th during our Late Start PD. Teachers are excited about the prospect of having something new to work with, and a more inquiry-based science experience. We are still finalizing how the transition will work for our credit-bearing levels and how supplies will be compiled and sent out, but will have that in place before the end of the school year.

SNAP Meet: Both Kate and Nicole will be attending the SNAP meet. We feel it is important to connect with staff and students and school leaders in person and are excited about the opportunity to spend this time together. Mr. Lester has allowed us to lead the Experiencing Out and Speech Class. We look forward to sharing about LPSD's Experiencing Out opportunity with every student who attends the SNAP meet this year and helping to make students feel more comfortable speaking in front of an audience. Any school leader that is present is welcome to attend our session. We would encourage you (if you are comfortable) to share with the group the importance of students using their voice to make a positive impact.

## Distance Classes

Synchronous distance classes have ended for the school year. With state testing the week of April 4th and the SNAP Meet the week of April 11th, it made sense to have April 1st the final day of synchronous sessions. Mr. Meneskie and Mrs. Nikolaus are available every day for the next two weeks, however, for one-on-one tutoring sessions, or small group sessions with students. As stated in previous updates, we are working on developing a schedule for next year that will allow more flexibility within the classes for students to move at their own developmental pace, instead of at a pace set forth by the curriculum. This will allow us to get back to our competency-based roots. I have enjoyed working with the distance team this year and am looking forward to continuing on into next year.

As always, feel free to contact Kate Cornell at [kcornell@lpsd.com](mailto:kcornell@lpsd.com) (907.571.7020), or Nicole Metzgar at [nmetzgar@lpsd.com](mailto:nmetzgar@lpsd.com) (907.781.3201). Thanks for all you do!