

**Date:** October 2022  
**To:** LPSD School Board Members  
**From:** Kate Cornell and Nicole Metzgar  
**Re:** October Curriculum Report

## **Professional Development**

New Hire Induction in Anchorage August 22-24: LPSD has 10 new teachers this year. New Hire Induction prepared teachers to travel to their sites and begin the school year by shopping for food, transferring phones over to GCI coverage, obtaining Alaska driver's license, filling out paperwork for the business office, staying safe in rural Alaska, and learning about the standards based school system. Special guests, Alexana Salmon and Michelle Snyder, introduced the group to traditional languages spoken in our region.

Katmai August Inservice August 31-Sept 3: The venue at Katmai is relaxing and creates an opportunity for the staff to bond in a very unique way. It is tight quarters, which allows staff to connect in ways other locations do not. This connection before school begins is a great way to build collegiality and relationships throughout the district. PD topics focused on science and sites were given time to look at student data, create schedules, and establish goals for the school year. They say a picture is worth a thousand words: [Katmai photo share from teachers](#)

Late Start Monday Sept 12: Assessment and Data Overview w/ Ms. Moon McCarley.

Late Start Monday Oct 3: Topics to be covered include Powerschool Basics with Jim Dube, an Introduction to Reach for Reading, and Social Studies Collaboration.

Power Hour Tuesday Sept 20: End of Level Assessments w/ Nathan McArthur. Mr. McArthur introduced to teachers how to assign, administer, and score online and printable End of Level Assessments. He also created video tutorials meant to cover the same information for teachers to view when necessary.

October Inservice Oct 19-21 & Oct 24: We are finalizing inservice plans to be in person with Bristol Bay School District at Alyeska on Oct 19-21 and remoting in from our school sites on Oct 24. Highlights of the planning process include special guest presenter Panigkaq Agatha John-Shields and Youth Mental Health First Aid training with the Aleutian Pribilof Island Association. We will also have a trainer present to do Visible Learning with staff and many offerings presented by LPSD staff. We will also have a pre-inservice session (Oct 18) with members of the Assessment Committee to complete working on the printable versions of End of Level exams.

## Curriculum

Progress Reports: To support and facilitate stronger communication about student progress in levels and even more specifically the standards in the levels, LPSD has made changes to the Student Snapshot Matrix and created district wide Progress Reports that will be printed and distributed quarterly. LPSD is open to feedback on ways to tweak these reports to increase their readability. First Progress Reports will be printed and distributed at the end of October.

EOL Assessments: Assessment Committee members worked this summer to update End of Level Assessments. In many cases, multiple versions and practice tests were created as well. In total, 34 Writing Skill Assessment materials were created, 22 Reading Assessment materials were created, and 30 Math Assessment materials were created. There are 13 printable copies of Math Assessment materials that still need to be finished. The Math Assessment Committee will work this fall to complete these tasks. At this time, finishing all printable assessments and getting them to teachers is our number one priority.

Writing Curriculum Guides LV 0-2 and LV 3-5 LPSD Writing Curriculum Guides are published for teachers to begin using. They include updated scoring guides, student friendly checklists, exemplar writing samples, graphic organizers, focus standards for teachers to target instruction in, and directions on how students can create a writing portfolio. End of Level Assessments for LV 0-5 writing will be the Writing Skills Test and the Writing Portfolio. LV 0-5 writers will no longer be required to pass an End of Level Analytical Prompt to show mastery of the standards.

Science: This year, LPSD is incorporating new NextGen Science standards and Curriculums. A plethora of materials to “do” science were purchased and sent out to sites. It has been quite a while since materials were purchased and we are so excited to see what teachers and students do this year! Feedback from teachers has been positive as they begin to explore the curriculums, materials, and standards.

## Distance Classes

Distance classes are up and running with Marli Nikolaus and Christian Meneskie at the helm again for the 2022-2023 school year! One of the predictors of student success is having consistency in educators and we are so fortunate to have Mrs. Nikolaus and Mr. Meneskie show that commitment to LPSD and our students! We have 10 sites on board with online MA this year, and 9 sites participating in online ELA. Mr. Meneskie has switched up his teaching this year to allow for a more SBS-like process with student learning and progression through standards. Mrs. Nikolaus is working on adding novel studies into her classes and I am excited to see where her students go in their learning!

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!