



Heather Mendonsa, Principal
Jackie Hanson, Superintendent
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School Board Report April 2025

Enrollment (as of April 23)

2024-2025

- Current Enrollment: 541 Students (includes full and part-time)

2024-25

- Students Pending: 76 (6 enrolled)
- Families Pending: 52 (5 enrolled)

FTE Trends

School Year	FTE
2023/2024	458.35
2022/2023	455.75
2021/2022	485.36
2020/2021	668.51
2019/2020	318.65
2018/2019	244.00
2017/2018	234.62

Enrollment for the 2025/2026 school year began February 1. The pending families will be completed once the handbook is approved by the school board for FY25/26. We also have some students still enrolling for this current school year.

PACE Outreach

PACE has continued with Outreach activities. Anchorage will host Breland, the Peregrine Falcon on April 23 in the PACE Office. Ketchikan will hold a beach day on April 30 from 8 to noon. Craig will have take a field trip to Triple S Ranch in Naukati on May 10. The

CRAIG

100 School Road
P.O. Box 800
Craig, AK 99921
907-373-9701 Option 4

KETCHIKAN

2417 Tongass Ave.
Suite 209C
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-373-9701 Option 2

ANCHORAGE

4241 B. St.
Suite 203
Anchorage, AK 99517
907-373-9701 Option 1

WASILLA

351 Parks Hwy.
Suite 101
Wasilla, AK 99654
907-373-9701 Option 3

Anchorage and Wasilla offices will combine for a final activity at the Reindeer Farm in May. In addition, Kimberly McMillan went to Kodiak to meet with families for testing, re-enrollment, and outreach. Jennifer Whicker went to Wrangell for the same outreach for our families in these small communities.

PACE Staffing

Our new Wasilla Administrative Assistant, Bobbi Cotton began work last month. She has already become an invaluable member of the team.

Our Anchorage Administrative Assistant, Emily Norris, will continue working with us through June 30. An ad has been placed in Anchorage Daily News (which includes many online job sites). At this time, we have not received any inquiries.

Heather Mendonsa submitted her resignation as principal/teacher on March 26. She will complete her contract through June 30. Josh Andrews has been assigned as the part-time principal for PACE for the FY 25/26 school year. The half-time teaching position details will be determined pending enrollment.

Interviews will be held on April 23, 2025 for the open PACE Contact teacher position. The position is currently open to the Craig, Anchorage, and Wasilla offices.

PACE Campuses

Due to budget constraints, the Ketchikan office will be closed at the end of the FY 24/25 school year. Heather Mendonsa will travel to Ketchikan to assist with the packing. Melinda Bass, Jared Grieve, and Heather Mendonsa will coordinate the sale of the furniture and technology equipment. Please see the attached letter that went out to families regarding the closure.

The cost of the Anchorage office lease increased, so we are actively seeking a smaller office with lower overhead, preferably in an area with better signage and foot traffic.

School Improvement

The PACE spring inservice was held April 16-17 through Zoom. Technology and AI were a main focus, along with practical use of AI, Chat GPT, and Canva in the classroom and homeschool programs. Another focus was on teacher wellness and resilience.

Monthly MTSS meetings with teachers, the principal, and the grad coach have continued. Success has been consistent with the coordinated efforts to support struggling students.

The staff have focused on curriculum and will have some recommendations on new programs to approve, as well as more enhanced guidelines for parents using online media to ensure they are successful in the programs they choose.

Handbook Updates and Revisions

Considerable time has been utilized to update the PACE Student Handbook. The Handbook was reformatted to improve the flow and make it easier for parents to find the information they are seeking. In response to parent questions about the changes made in February, 2025, more clarification about technology, the reimbursement process, and expense limitations were added. The guidelines provided in AR 3182 were explained in more detail.

State Testing: AK Star and PEAKS

As of April 23, 2025, PACE 24/25 AK Star and PEAKS state testing is completed.