

Early Learning & Grants Report

February 2025



Photos: Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Kokhanok, Newhalen, Tanalian



Vertical Painting





Not Just a Box!



Storytime



Water Measurements



Drum Making



Magnet Creations



Dough & Insects



Learning About Tooth Brushing

Preschool Enrollment

NEW Igiugig- 2

Chignik Lagoon-2 Chignik Lake- 4 Kokhanok-5 Nondalton-2 Newhalen-13 Perruville- 3 Port Alsworth-2

Port Heiden-Need Staff Levelock-Need Staff

Early Learning Programs

Professional Development

- New PreK Teacher Training: Feb. 3-7 (IGI)
- Monthly PLC- Implementing Pyramid Model & Inclusive **Practices in Early Childhood**
- Themes-Nurturing & Responsive Relationships, Targeted • SEL Support, Understanding Inclusion, Implicit Bias, Reducing Challenging Behaviors, Implementing MTSS within EC classrooms
- Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children (AAEYC)- Feb. 20-22
- Developing: Individualized "Classroom Action Plans"



Teaching Strategies- Checkpoint #2 (Due Feb. 21)

- PreK Progress Monitoring Tool & Objectives of **Development Milestones**
- Examining data with families, Sharing targeted resources, and Creating individualized learning plans

Literacy Board Game Development-Game #5

• Harvest Time: A Game of Blending & Segmenting





Literacy Grants

Fully Grant Funded-CLSD Grantee

- Collecting & analyzing data for final grant reporting (May).
- Monthly Mentor Mtg- Feb. 5th: Supporting Mentees
- Mentors (7) & Mentees (14)
- Hearing positive news regarding retention of Mentees!
- Due to the fragility of Federal Grant Funding, they have yet to release an update on the upcoming grant application.

Safer Communities & Stronger Connections Grant

- Newly Awarded- Dec. 2024!
- Supports LPSD Mentor & Mentee Program
- Provides site visits for on-the-ground support
- Development of Place-Based Learning Opportunities ٠
- Jan 24th Inservice: Place-Based Learning Session
- Some ideas: Water sampling, Animal identification & tracking, Exploring shorelines, Interviews from the Community, Traditions from Elders (canning, skin sewing, recipes, storytelling)

Early Literacy Bags: Candice Berner Memorial

- FY23-24: 15,250 Books Provided
- FY24-25: 16, 750 Books Provided







Early Learning & Grants Report

2024-2025

Learn & Grow



Program Procedure Writing

As part of our Continuous Quality Improvement Plan towards maintaining high-quality early learning programs and AK Learn & Grow Initiatives, I have begun drafting our **Early Learning Program Procedures.** The intent is to outline a comprehensive overview of LPSD specific, early childhood program operations and procedures.

If you would like to participate in the Review Process, I welcome feedback from the Board. Please email me your interest and I will include you in the process!

Screening and Developmental Evaluation



Lake & Peninsula School District (2024-25)

Procedure Statement

LPSD Early Learning Programs are committed to fostering the health and development of all enrolled preschool children by conducting comprehensive, developmental screenings. Developmental screenings will be conducted for early identification of developmental concerns and to support each child appropriately.

Purpose & Objectives

- Purpose: The purpose is to outline guidelines and procedures for the screening and assessment of
 young children within LPSD Early Learning Programs. This procedure ensures that all children are
 appropriately supported in their developmental journey; and it aligns with best practices for early
 childhood education.
- Definition of Developmental Screening: A brief assessment to evaluate a child's development in the following domains of early childhood:
 - Brigance Screen III: Academic/Cognitive, Language Development, and Physical Development.
 - Ages & Stages Questionnaire-3: Communication, Gross Motor, Find Motor, Problem Solving, and Personal-Social
- Objective: The screening results will be utilized to identify children's developmental strengths and needs, while also providing information to guide the development of early interventions and individualized educational plans (I.E.P.) when needed. The screening data will be shared with families to collaboratively support whole-child development.

Available Drafts to Review

Curriculum & Instruction Screening & Developmental Evaluation Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood

In Progress

Assessment Procedures for Early Childhood Reduction of Exclusionary Practices in Early Childhood

Curriculum & Instruction



Lake & Peninsula School District (2024-25)

Procedure Statement

LPSD Early Learning Programs will utilize evidence-based, developmentally appropriate curricula that align with the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines and will implement instructional practices to support the growth and development of young children, with a whole-child, play-based approach. These programs will also foster measurable progress in developmental domains, while providing differentiation in a culturally responsive early learning environment.

Purpose & Objectives

- Purpose: The purpose is to outline guidelines and procedures for the implementation of adopted curriculum and supplemental materials.
- Definition of Curriculum: To provide intentional, content-rich early learning experiences that
 promote children's developmental progress across domains. Such curriculum should be
 designed around the following foundational principles:
 - Child-Centered Learning: Focus on the interests and developmental stages of the children, providing opportunities for exploration and discovery.
 - Holistic Development: Foster the development of the whole child—socially, emotionally, cognitively, and physically.
 - Play-Based Learning: Encourage learning through play, as it is essential for young children's development.
 - Inclusive Education: Ensure that all children, regardless of ability or background, are able to participate and learn.

Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood

Lake & Peninsula School District

Procedure Statement

LPSD Early Learning Programs embody the belief that inclusion is the practice of educating all children, regardless of their abilities, needs, or designation to receive special education services, within the same learning environment, ensuring that each have equitable access to high-quality learning experiences, that also include targeted services, supports, and accommodations when necessary and developmentally appropriate.

Purpose & Objectives

Programs are committed to fostering an inclusive, early learning environment by:

- Provide equitable access to the curriculum and classroom activities for all children.
- Foster a sense of belonging and respect among peers.
- Support individualized learning needs through differentiated instruction.
- Promote collaboration between teachers, specialists, and families to support each child's development.

NAEYC & DEC (Division for Early Childhood) Position Statement

Early childhood inclusion embodies the values, policies, and practices that support the right of every infant and young child and his or her family, regardless of ability, to participate in a broad range of activities and contexts as full members of families, communities and society. The desired results of inclusive experiences for children with and without disabilities and their families include a sense of belonging and membership, positive social relationships and friendships, and development and learning to reach their full potential. The defining features of inclusion that can be used to identify high quality early childhood programs and services are access, participation, and supports.

