

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education Members

Date: January 2, 2025

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Alaska Technical Center
& STAR of the NW

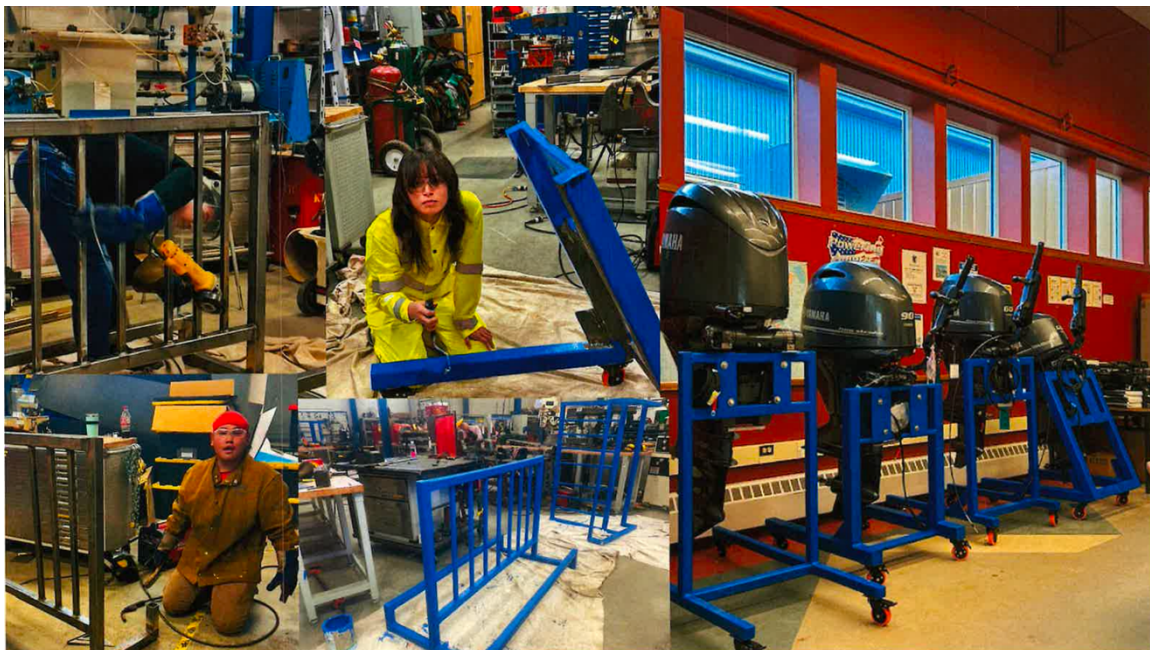
Joe Groves, Director of ATC/STAR, reports on the following:

ATC Course Update

Three students were enrolled in ATC's semester-long courses: Construction Trades Technology and Certified Nursing Assistant, during the first semester.

The first semester's short courses consisted of the following enrollments: four in Heavy Equipment Operator, eight in Toyotomi Repair, ten in Boiler Maintenance, six in Microsoft Office 365, eight in Heavy Equipment Mechanic, five in Coast Guard 6PAC, four in HAZWOPER 40, and four in the fall CDL course. Sixty-one high school students took 119 classes at the ATC during the first semester.

The ATC Welding class made five bike racks for JNES and KMHS so students could store their bikes. Students also made outboard stands for the small engine class that will be held next semester.



ATC Spring High School Schedule

2nd Semester ATC					
ATC Construction Trades (Keeter)	ATC Health Occupations (Panillio)	Defensive Driving (Keeter)	ATC Culinary (Alejandro Vargas)	CTE (Beck)	CTE (Tumaneng)
CTE204 Construction Trades Technology Certification (Seniors)	Health		CTE109 Culinary Arts II	VOC 107 Small Business Enterprise (Prerequisite: CTE307 Employability Skills)	RDYSTAR100
	CTE107 Foundations of Health Science			RDYSTAR100	CTE220 Design & Fabrication I
	CTE101F Professionalism in Healthcare		Culinary Arts (Adult)	English 11/12	RDYSTAR100
CTE212 NCCER Core (Seniors)				RDYSTAR100	VOC 104 Business Software II
ATC7010 Small Engine Repair (10th-12th) (14 students max)	CTE106 Certified Nursing Assistant			RDYSTAR100	RDYSTAR100
				CTE203 Arctic Resource Management II	RDYSTAR100
		ATC5003 A Defensive Driving			

2024-25 Semester 2 High School ATC Enrollment

Semester 2

Row Labels	Count of Student
Arctic Resource Mgmt II	11
Business Software II	11
Certified Nursing Assistant	3
Culinary 2	7
English 12	9
Foundations of Health Science	10
Health	19
Introduction to Construction Trades Tech	3
NCCER Core	2
Professionalism in Health Care	7
Small Business Enterprise	14
Small Engine Repair	7
Grand Total	103

Spring Short Course Schedule

2024-2025 ATC Short Course Schedule

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (cont'd)	Jan 6 -24 Palmer
Boiler and Furnace Repair	Jan 13 – 17
Toyo Stove Repair	Jan 20 – 24
Rural Water/Wastewater series ANTHC	Mar Placeholder (tentative)
CDL Training	Mar 31 - Apr 11 Kotzebue
CDL Practicum, Testing, Certification	Apr 14 - 25 Palmer
CLASS D Driver's License	Apr 15-19 (tentative)
Heavy Equipment Operator	April 28- May 9 Kotzebue
Heavy Equipment Practicum, Testing, Certification	May 12 – May 30 Palmer
Anyone Can Weld	May 21 – May 26
Flagger Class	May 27 – May 28
Outboard Motor Repair	May 29 – June 4

ATC Recruiter Update

The recruiter has traveled to Bethel, Hooper Bay, Buckland, Deering, Noatak, and Kivalina. The ATC held a career fair with a great turnout of high school students and community members

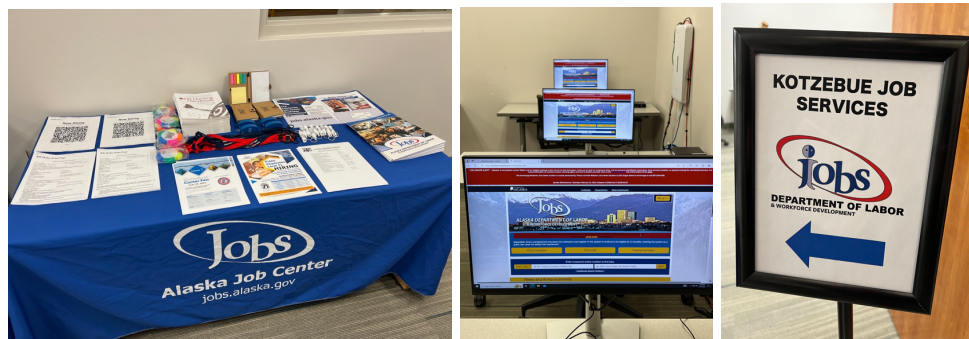
interested in welding, CDL, HEO, Toyo/Boiler Repair, and Class D Driver's License courses. The recruiter participated in a virtual meeting with the North Slope Borough and plans to set up a recruiting trip there in the spring. The recruiter and registrar set up a table outside the NANA shareholder's meeting in Kotzebue High School and got the word out about upcoming classes at the ATC. It was a great time to see people from the community.

ATC Student Spotlight

The ATC staff and instructors celebrate students' success by highlighting students who stand out and put extra effort into their courses, training, and jobs. Congratulations to Brenda Evak II, Rudy Thomas Jr, Bergman Nelson Jr, and Haylei Pete for achieving a Student Spotlight this first semester.

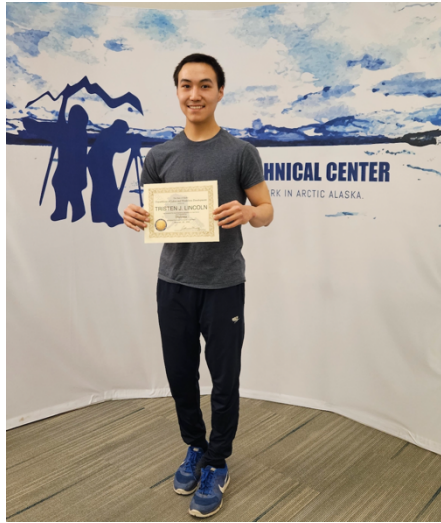
Alaska Job Center

The Kotzebue satellite office of the Alaska Job Center is open the last week of each month. The next scheduled opening is January 27th through the 31st.



GED Update

There are 37 students enrolled in the GED program from Kotzebue, Kivalina, Noatak, Buckland, Noorvik, Kiana, and Selawik. Students have spent over 700 documented hours studying. Four students received their GED this school year, and two became employed within weeks of completing their GED. Students from Buckland, Noorvik, Kivalina, Selawik, and Noatak have traveled to Kotzebue to attend a GED intensive class. A week-long class was held in Kivalina in November. China continues to make great gains with GED students.



STAR of the Northwest Magnet School:

Sixteen full-time students are currently enrolled. During the student count in October, the STAR of the Northwest had 39 out of 40 beds filled. This will increase funding for FY26.

Highlights from STAR:

- Three students are employed in part-time jobs
- Five students have completed the paperwork to get documents for a State ID
- The average GPA is 3.0
- Seven students signed up for the ACT Test
- Students continue to receive regular physical and mental healthcare
- Students are involved in community service including shoveling snow for elders and helping with flood clean-up
- Students participated in Volleyball, Wrestling, and Youth Leaders





24-25 ReadiSTAR schedule:

January 13-17, 2025	OTZ RS1
January 21-31, 2025	ORV/IAN RS2
February 4-14, 2025	WTK RS2
February 18-28, 2025	WLK RS2
March 4-14, 2025	KVL RS2
Mar. 25- Apr. 4, 2025	ABL/SHG/OBU RS2
April 15-18,2025	BKC RS2
April 21- 25, 2025	DRG RS2
Apr. 29- May 9,2025	OTZ RS2
May 12-16,2025	Driver's Testing



Highlights from Readistar “On the Jobsite”

- 44 students participated in Readistar during the first semester.
- Military career exploration with the Coast Guard
- Drake Const. Tug/Marine and Construction tours
- Drake Construction boiler instillation with a master plumber
- NWAB meeting with mayor and staff
- Exploration of Health Careers and skilled trades at Maniilaq Hospital
- Touring KEA wind and solar farm to learn about in-demand careers
- Employers asked three seniors to fill out job applications for full-time jobs after graduation



Readistar Community Partners

Thank you to Drake Const., Maniilaq, KEA, NWAB, the National Park Service, the Kotzebue Fire Dept., and Selawik National Wildlife Refuge. We look forward to working with them this upcoming semester. Much of what our students experience would not be possible without the cooperation of local businesses and entities that donate time and resources to enrich our region's youth.

Drivers Education

The Defensive Driver's Education course will start on January 14th at 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Students will receive a written knowledge exam with an instructor, practice driving skills, and receive a road test. ATC has two instructors who can administer the knowledge exam and road test. **NWABSD Home School**

- 33 Enrolled K-12
- K-5: 5
- MS: 6
- HS: 22
- ABL – 1
- BKC – 1
- DRG – 1
- IAN – 2
- OTZ – 15
- WTK – 5
- ORV – 3
- WLK – 3
- SHG - 2



Home School Highlights

- 3 Graduates in 2024-2025
- One senior is a teacher's aide for two class periods, paid out of a home school grant.
- 4 dual-enrolled students (1 of whom is in the ATC Construction Trades and Welding).

The ATC is happy to welcome Aletha Duchene to the team. Aletha will develop the Grow Your Own program and mentor participants. We are currently partnered with the Arctic Slope Community Foundation in their early childhood apprentice program. The NWABSD has seven employees who are working through apprenticeship. Participants are in the communities of Noorvik (3), Deering (1), Ambler (1), and Kotzebue (2).

Kuuppiaqtugvik@ATC

Kuuppiaqtugvik@ATC continues to be a focal point of ATC. We now have regular customers, and weekly revenues continue to increase. We have moved to seven days a week.

As with many businesses, staffing has been challenging as staff move on or are absent for extended periods. We accept applications continually and select the most qualified candidates when we have openings.

The chef and culinary arts trainees now regularly make breakfast sandwiches and homemade pastries, and feature "Fresh Bread Fridays."

We operate Kuuppiaqtugvik@ATC as a non-profit extension of the culinary arts program, and we invest revenues back into the programs at ATC.

The below is from sales July 1, 2024, to December 26, 2024

Sales	
Gross Sales	\$130,394.60
Items	\$130,394.60
Service Charges	\$0.00
Returns	(\$191.50)
Discounts & Comps	(\$8,716.09)
Net Sales	\$121,487.01
Taxes	\$0.00
Tips	\$18,648.80
Gift Card Sales	\$4,171.31
Total Sales	\$144,307.12

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: January 22, 2025

NUMBER: 25-056

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Approval of Residential
School Resolution 25-003

STRATEGIC PLAN/BOARD GOAL:

Track 1: Operational Improvements

Initiative: Optimize Business Practices

ABSTRACT:

The NWABSD administration requests a resolution from the School Board supporting a statutory funding increase to the residential school per-pupil monthly stipend. This support is coming from the following regions BSSD, Nome, Lower Yukon, Chugach, Lower Kuskokwim, Galena City, and Nenana City

ISSUE:

At issue is the approval of a Resolution supporting a statutory funding increase to the residential school per-pupil monthly stipend.

BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Residential school stipend funding per current Alaska statute 14.16.200 has remained flat since the 2014-2015 (FY25) school year. Recognizing the need for additional funding, the legislature and the governor provided one-time appropriations totaling \$3,633,950 over FY23, FY24, and FY25. Going into FY26, however, residential schools need a statutory funding increase. Without a funding increase, the FY26 stipend funding amount will revert to statutory FY15 funding levels.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Resolution 25-003 supporting a statutory funding increase to the residential school per-pupil monthly stipend as presented;
2. Do not approve Resolution 25-003 as presented;
3. Take no final action.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends that the Board approve Resolution 25-003 supporting a statutory funding increase to the residential school per-pupil monthly stipend as presented.



NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ambler · Buckland · Deering · Kiana · Kivalina · Kobuk · Kotzebue · Noatak · Noorvik · Selawik · Shungnak
PO Box 51 · Kotzebue, Alaska 99752 · Phone (907) 442-1800

RESOLUTION 25-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (NWABSD) IN SUPPORT OF A STATUTORY FUNDING INCREASE TO THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL PER-PUPIL MONTHLY STIPEND

WHEREAS, Alaska's residential school programs deliver high-quality career and technical education (CTE) programs of study as well as collegiate-level coursework through Advanced Placement/dual-credit programming,

WHEREAS, Alaska's residential school programs graduate hundreds of young Alaskans every year ready to enter the workforce, to enlist in the armed forces, or to enroll in post-secondary education opportunities,

WHEREAS, residential school funding per current Alaska statute 14.16.200 has remained flat since the 2014-2015 (FY15) school year,

WHEREAS, recognizing the need for additional funding, the legislature and the governor provided one-time appropriations totaling \$3,633,950 over FY23, FY24, and FY25,

WHEREAS, during FY24, the cost of delivering room and board services was approximately \$12,750 per student (double the revenue from statutory state stipend funding), and

WHEREAS, without a funding increase, the FY26 per-pupil monthly stipend funding amount intended to cover room and board expenses will revert to statutory FY15 funding levels,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the NWABSD Board of Education urges the legislature and the governor to support the following update to Alaska statute 14.16.200(b)(2):

- (A) for the Southeast Region (Region I), \$2,460;
- (B) for the Southcentral Region (Region II), \$2,400;
- (C) for the Interior Region (Region III), \$2,904;
- (D) for the Southwest Region (Region IV), \$3,018;
- (E) for the Northern Remote Region (Region V), \$3,552.

ADOPTED, January 22, 2025, at a duly convened special meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education, a quorum was present and voted.

ATTEST:

Margaret Hansen,
President, NWABSD Board of Education

Carol Schaeffer,
Secretary, NWABSD Board of Education

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL STIPEND

FOR CAREER, TECHNICAL, ADVANCED PLACEMENT & DUAL-CREDIT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Alaska Residential Schools Coalition



Alaska's residential school programs offer a great return on investment for the State of Alaska.

Alaska's residential schools deliver high-quality career and technical education (CTE) programs as well as collegiate-level coursework through Advanced Placement/dual-credit programming, providing students with course options necessary to earn the Alaska Performance Scholarship. Because of these critical offerings, hundreds of young Alaskans graduate from high school every year ready to enter the workforce, to enlist in the armed forces, or to enroll in post-secondary education opportunities.

Residential school stipend funding per current Alaska statute 14.16.200 has remained flat since the 2014-2015 (FY15) school year. Recognizing the need for additional funding, the legislature and the governor provided one-time appropriations totaling \$3,633,950 over FY23, FY24, and FY25. Going into FY26, however, residential schools need a statutory funding increase. **Without a funding increase, the FY26 stipend funding amount will revert to statutory FY15 funding levels.**

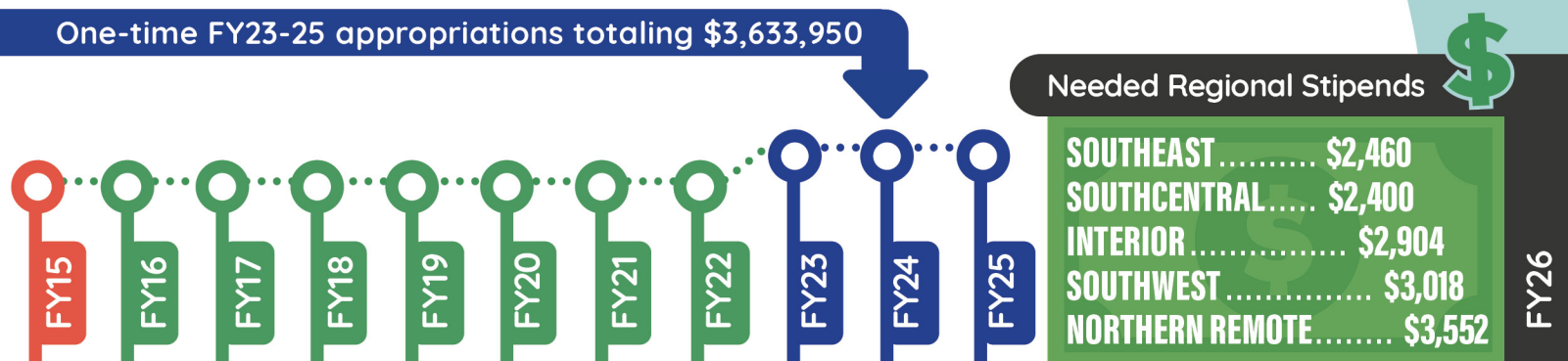
While grateful for the FY23-FY25 one-time funding appropriations, school districts providing residential school programs continue to operate at a significant financial loss per student for room and board services.

During FY24, the cost of delivering room and board services was approximately \$12,750 per student (double the revenue from statutory state stipend funding). A statutory funding update is critically needed.

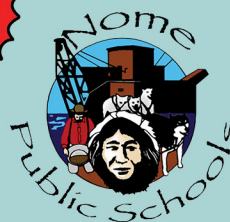
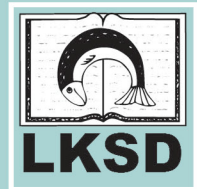
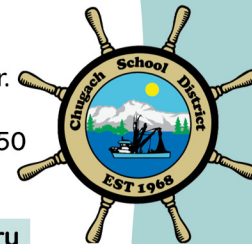
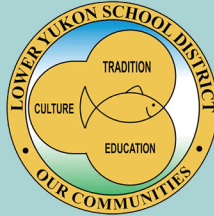
CTE Program Industry Career Paths

- Aviation / Drones
- Applied Mechanics
- Business
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Certified Nursing
- Driver's Education
- Education
- Entrepreneurship
- HAZWOPER Certification
- Health Science
- Hospitality / Tourism
- Media / IT
- Maritime / Natural Resources
- Tribal Governance

One-time FY23-25 appropriations totaling \$3,633,950



NO STATUTORY FUNDING INCREASE PER ALASKA STATUTE 14.16.200 SINCE THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR (FY15)



Building Tomorrow's Workforce

NORTHWESTERN
ALASKA CAREER
AND TECHNICAL
CENTER

BSSD & NOME



LOWER YUKON



CHUGACH



LOWER KUSKOKWIM



GALENA CITY



NENANA CITY



NW ARCTIC BOROUGH

Residential programs are particularly essential for students in rural and underserved areas who might not otherwise have access to quality CTE training. By creating these opportunities, we're not just building a skilled workforce, but also fostering hope and growth in communities across the State. Our collaboration has been a win-win: students gain meaningful, hands-on experience that aligns with industry needs, and we, in turn, benefit from a pipeline of capable, motivated individuals ready to contribute.

**Regina Qussauyaq Therchik, Workforce Shareholder
Development Manager, Calista Corporation.**

Regional CTE initiatives are critical for supporting and retaining the next generation of Alaskans. These programs give rural students equitable access to high-quality, hands-on career training and workforce readiness education. Their staff, facilities, and partnerships nurture student success and open doors to a brighter future for young people across Alaska. We support strengthening CTE programs at Alaska's residential schools.

**Jenny Starrs, Program Manager, Renewable
Energy Alaska Project's Alaska Network for
Energy Education & Employment (ANEED).**

As the existing workforce starts to age out, it is important that the next generation of students start thinking about their future. Coastal Villages Region Fund supports advocacy efforts to secure more residential funding to support programs in developing the skills in students to be able to become a part of the workforce in various areas of employment.

**Florence Kargi, Regional Affairs Manager,
Coastal Villages Region Fund.**

The training and support that these programs provide offer invaluable opportunities for students to gain skills directly applicable to their communities, empowering them with a sense of purpose and a sustainable future.

**James Hoelscher, Village Public Safety
Operations Division Director,
Department of Public Safety .**

**THE NEEDED STIPEND FUNDING
INCREASE FOR ALASKA'S RESIDENTIAL
SCHOOLS WILL ENABLE THE
FOLLOWING OUTCOMES:**

**INCREASE THE
NUMBER OF
STUDENTS
EARNING INDUSTRY
CERTIFICATIONS**



**CONTINUE
THE MANY
PROGRAMMATIC
OFFERINGS
CURRENTLY
GRANT FUNDED**

**INCREASE
INTERNSHIPS &
APPRENTICESHIPS
FOR STUDENTS**



**HIRE MORE
INDUSTRY
EXPERTS TO
TEACH/TRAIN
STUDENTS**

**IMPROVE
ALASKA'S
GRADUATION
RATE***

**STABILIZE
DELIVERY OF CURRENT
STATE-FUNDED
PROGRAMS**



**CONNECT STUDENTS
TO ACADEMIC & CTE
EXPLORATIONS,
PROGRAMS, &
CERTIFICATIONS
OTHERWISE INACCESSIBLE**



* Manhattan Strategy Group, American Institutes for Research, & National Dropout Prevention Center. (2016). Rural Dropout Prevention Project; Dropout Prevention in Rural America - Alaska. Retrieved from <https://dropoutprevention.org/>