

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** January 21, 2026

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Deborah Lancaster, Director of Curriculum and Instruction reports on the following:

### **Academics - Literacy**

Our department has been working with principals and teachers to follow up on their Individual Reading Improvement Plans (IRIPs) development since our Middle of Year MOY testing was completed in December. Our team is looking for trends and possible test administration anomalies as we review data. We continue to simplify our processes and remove obstacles that impede student engagement and academic growth. During our Principal Retreat, principals will work with our Literacy Liaison to complete our Individual School Reading Improvement Plans (ISRIPs). The plans are submitted to DEED at the end of January.

### **Professional Development**

Our department purchased individual training sessions for the HMH Into Reading Curriculum and Carnegie Math. Principals provided a list of teachers who wanted the additional training. Pre K teachers received 6 hours of explicit training on using the curriculum from Teaching Strategies. Breakout sessions included “hands on” and small group activities to reinforce learning and check for understanding. In response to requests from building administrators, our Monday afternoon Professional Development Schedule will offer a more individualized approach. There are more opportunities for principal facilitated meetings and individualized options for professional development for each campus. The DEED liaison and the NIET contractors are working closely with each principal to provide timely training.

### **Dual Credit**

As of this report, approximately 10 NWABSD students are enrolled in dual credit courses. Students who have participated consistently in dual credit opportunities over recent years have already completed most of the courses available to them, resulting in decreased enrollment and a more limited selection of remaining courses needed to meet their academic requirements.

## **Hiring**

The Curriculum Department hired a **Program and Staff Development Specialist** and partnered with ATC in hiring a **Career Pathway Specialist**. The additional help in both departments should prove beneficial in serving our students.

## **Iñupiaq Science Curriculum Task Force Team**

The Iñupiaq Programs Department teamed up with the Department of Curriculum & Instruction to host 5 Iñupiaq Knowledge Bearers and 4 Secondary Science Teachers for a 2-day work session in December. The task force discussed integrating Physical and Earth Science into the Iñupiaq culture and creating a culturally relevant science course curriculum for our high school students to pilot next year. On January 7, the teams met again with our new Project Director, Dr. Crystal Redgrave. As result of that meeting, the Task Force will be able to review a newly developed lesson before the next work session. The group is highly motivated and enthusiastic in moving forward with the job ahead.