

Nome Public Schools Board
Report
Karen Dixon, Director of Federal Programs, Curriculum, Assessment
February 10, 2026

Mission Statement: We inspire and empower students to be culturally grounded responsible citizens who are deeply connected to our community and world.

Vision Statement: Together, strong in identity, purpose, potential

Assessments:

Initial response about NAEP was that it went smoothly. Jennifer Shreve confirmed that “everything went well. The staff and students were recognized as being very respectful and did a super job completing all the work. NES 4th grade made 89% of the selected group with five students absent and one student moving away two days before testing”.

We are preparing for several upcoming assessments: MAP, WIDA-ASSESS and AKStar and AK Science. This school year a collaborative effort between the Special Education department and the school administrators was made to support and encourage all students to complete the WIDA-Access testing. Kudos to Mary Jane Abangan, Anne Madonia and Mary Donaldson for supporting this effort.

Building Test Coordinators are preparing for the upcoming AKSTAR and AK Science assessments that are scheduled for March 30 – May 1, 2026. A Nome Public School AKSTAR and AK Science Test Schedule is also set for NES, NBMHS and ACSA.

Curriculum:

I've discussed with Jamie an approach to work with principals about developing strategies to focus on data, data decision making regarding curriculum, instruction and professional development. Principals have requested for me to set up windows of availability during the normal workday (if at all possible).

During our bi-monthly meeting, Jamie and I recognized the need for Nome Public Schools to establish a cohesive vision for our Professional Learning Community (PLC). This PLC framework is all about using data-driven collaboration-focusing on enhancing student achievement through collective inquiry, common formative assessments and systematic interventions. To make this happen, administrators need to carve out dedicated time and commit to a strategic process. PLCs are a part of the above curriculum, instruction and professional development work that needs to be refined.

Joni (consultant) and I did meet briefly to discuss the state of the NPS's curriculum and to give an overview of current curriculum work. Jamie has been updated on our meeting and is taking the lead with the curriculum consultant she mentioned in her December 2025 report.

Grants:

The Parent Advisory Committee meeting will be called in early February as an update and to set another for approving the “Supplementally Approved” grant status. Tribal consultation information that Jamie held with tribes is needed for grant work. FY 26 grants will be uploaded as “Supplemental Approved”

Administrators are aware of the April 1, 2026 deadline to spend funds. Additionally, I've reached out to individuals to provide support for spending in accordance with grant narratives. A ZOOM meeting is scheduled next week. We will continue to work to meet the April 1, 2026 deadline.

Thank you.