

## January 2025 Curriculum Report

**To:** LPSD School Board Members and Superintendent Kasie Luke

**From:** Nicole Metzgar, Curriculum Director

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### LPSD Professional Development

**January 8-10:** Tutor & Student Teacher January Induction took place at Chugach's Voyage to Excellence facilities in Anchorage. LPSD welcomed 6 spring student teachers and 4 tutors. Being able to conduct New Hire Inservice and January's Tutor and Student Teacher Induction at the Voyage to Excellence building has been a huge blessing. We are fortunate to have a healthy working relationship with the Chugach School District and appreciate all of the friendly and authentic collaboration. Link to schedule here: [LINK](#)

#### **January 24 & 27:**

Friday, January 24th's In-service goal is for teachers to collaborate on Place-Based Education, the new Technology standards, and figuring out how to have a realistic writing End of Level Assessment when students have access to AI and chatGPT. A draft schedule can be found here: [LINK](#)

Monday, January 27th's In-service became a Teacher Work Day. 19 teachers choose to attend the virtual Rural MTSS/RTI conference on Saturday, January 18th, in exchange for this work day.

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### Curriculum

Here are a few shifts and ideas being discussed to better support the work teachers and principals do at the beginning of the school year..

1. **PowerSchool Data Accessibility:** Teachers now have access to student historical grades in their Teacher PowerSchool SIS/Pro accounts. This immediate access gives teachers the essential information needed to begin the school year. Previously, teachers had to send an email asking for this information and wait for a response and the information to make informed decisions.
2. **School Schedules:** LPSD is discussing what it looks like for sites to build a school schedule in May for teachers to have as a tool in August vs. teachers having to build a schedule in August. One suggestion is to find a way to give teachers release time during the student days in May to do this. Another idea is to shift In-service and/or work days in future calendars to give teachers and principals more time to do this in May.
3. **PowerSchool Records:** Quarterly release time was built into this year's calendar to give teachers time to update standards throughout the school year. The goal is to have accurate PowerSchool academic records for each student at the end of every quarter and the end of the school year. One suggestion is to give principals and teachers release time during student days in May to look at the data together to make sure it is accurate before closing schools down for the summer.
4. **Arrive to sites earlier:** Discussions about ways to continue to support this are ongoing.

5. **More work time and less PD time:** Across the district, new teachers have expressed the need for more time during August and September In-service days to set up classrooms, schedules, routines, and create lessons. One suggestion is to offer half PD training days and half work days. Another suggestion is to offer more work days without PD training.
6. **Begin Textbook orders in February:** Textbook orders for this year were not finalized until after school started this year. When possible, LPSD wants materials at sites before teachers arrive at the beginning of the school years. One way to help make this possible is to begin the order forms in February instead of March.

**End of Level Assessment Edits:** Updates are caught up. Teachers continue to offer feedback about ways to make them better. The EOL for Math level 6 is currently being looked at closer by a team of LPSD teachers. Also, conversations about AI and the EOL Writing Prompt Process for LV 9 and 10 continue to take place.

**Social Studies Standards:** Alaska has new Social Studies standards. Link to the new standards are here: [LINK](#)

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**LPSD Pathways of Earning HS Credits** [LINK](#): Over the past few years, LPSD students have been given more options to earn HS elective credits.

Here is some information from 2022-present about LPSD student involvement in the different ways of earning HS credit: [LINK](#)

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It is a pleasure to serve the district. Please reach out as questions arise.

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