



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board President Roxanne Brower
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: Stewart McDonald, Superintendent

FROM: Kathy Ahgeak, Interim Director of Teaching and Learning
Liz Noble, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

DATE: February 28, 2019

SUBJECT: **K3/K4 Early Childhood Education**

Memo No. SB19-150
(Action Item)

NSBSD Strategic Plan Goal:

- 1 Academic Success/Whole Child: All students will reach their intellectual potential and achieve academic success through integrating Iñupiaq knowledge systems into the core content areas and focusing on the development of the Whole Child
- 2.2 Community in the School: Honoring ideas generated by the community for the inclusion of Elders, parents and community members in the school academics and activities as well as utilizing community resources and expertise in learning
- 2.5 K3/K4 Inupiaq Language & Culture: Implement K3/K4 language and culture programs to revitalize the Iñupiaq language.
- 3.1 Local Teachers: Support the systems that inspire, develop and recruit local teachers.

Recommendation:

Curriculum Committee recommends supporting the K3/K4 3-year plan, adopting Teaching Strategies Gold® (K3/K4 Observational Tool) and Creative Curriculum® (K3/K4 Resource) as core resources for the K3/K4 program district wide.

Issue Summary:

As per BP 6141/6161 ECE materials have been reviewed by the ECE Sub-Committee and sent to the Curriculum Committee for recommendation to the North Slope Borough School District School Board. TSG and Creative Curriculum are state recommended resources for all ECE programs in Alaska.

TSG aligns with the State of Alaska Early Learning Guidelines through its Objectives, Dimensions and Indicators. Teaching Strategies Gold is an assessment/observational tool available to teachers that is user-friendly and inclusive—one that enables them to increase the effectiveness of their assessments while having more time to spend with children. TSG assesses the whole child as described in Objective 1, Academic Success/Whole Child: All students will reach their intellectual potential and achieve academic success through integrating Iñupiaq knowledge systems into the core content areas and focusing on the development of the Whole Child of NSBSD Strategic Plan’s Mission statement.

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is everything that teachers love: a comprehensive, research-based curriculum that features exploration and discovery as a way of learning. Creative Curriculum’s thematic based units are adaptable to the Inupiaq Learning Framework (ILF) as designated in our Strategic Plan. Thematic units are hands-on, project-based investigations. These Preschool resources help teachers build children’s confidence, creativity and critical thinking skills, and promote positive outcomes.

Continuing work with our K3/K4 teachers, Iñupiaq Education Department, Curriculum & Instruction and Student Services will ensure the inclusion and development of additional resources to align with the ILF and complement the Creative Curriculum and Teaching Strategies Gold curriculum and resources.

Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education adopt the K3/K4 Three Year plan, Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment and Creative Curriculum materials.”

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____

Advisory Vote _____ Vote _____