

Date:	June 7, 2022
To:	Lake and Peninsula School Board
From:	Kasie Luke, Superintendent
Re:	Report, June 9, 2022

## Summer Student Opportunities 2022:

**ANSEP:** ANSEP held their Bristol Bay Region Middle School Academy (MSA) for 2022 at their facilities on the UAA campus from May 24 to May 30. LPSD was one of four districts from the region in attendance (Bristol Bay, Dillingham, and Southwest School Districts also participated), and 10 of the 32 students that attended were from LPSD: Chignik Lake, Kokhanok, Meshik and Perryville.

Experiencing Out: Students can access the necessary information for experiencing out credit through the LPSD website: LPSD Website --> Info Tab --> Experiencing Out

**BBRCTE Commercial Fishing:** Applications were due June 6, 2022. Students can earn credit for commercial fishing through BBRCTE (LPSD students have been earning credit for commercial fishing through Experiencing Out prior to this opportunity with BBRCTE).

## Legislative Update

- → HB 114: Early Learning & Reading Bill <u>PASSED</u>. More details to come on this reading bill and implications for LPSD & funding. LPSD is already making moves to support reading proficiencies through more effective use of staff and mentoring programs (ASMP & LPSD's homegrown mentoring) and maintaining our robust PK program.
- → SB20: Teacher License Reciprocity <u>PASSED</u>. This is important because it allows teaching licenses from other states to be recognized in Alaska, particularly those held by military spouses. It will ideally help address the teacher shortage.
- → SB 80 Public school mental health education: <u>PASSED</u> Physical health has long been taught in schools. SB 80 expands this to mental health, now seen as a real need. More details on any fiscal components of this bill to come...
- → HB 363 Federal/State Broadband Bill: PASSED The bill will make Alaska eligible for the unprecedented level of federal funds available for broadband investment, while establishing a fund to create parity in internet costs between rural and urban communities. Alaskans throughout the state suffer from low-quality, prohibitively expensive broadband service, if they're lucky to have service at all. Following the passage of the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA), over two billion dollars was made available to states for broadband infrastructure investment, but access to these federal funds is contingent states have a broadband office. In anticipation, Governor Dunleavy established a Taskforce on Broadband to develop policy objectives and steps necessary to best position Alaska. Modeled directly from the taskforce's recommendations and strict federal guidelines, HB 363 establishes the Office of Broadband, which will prioritize expanding high-quality, affordable broadband access to unserved and underserved communities, as well as anchor institutions. In response to the enormous premiums rural Alaskans pay for broadband, HB 363 creates the Broadband Parity Adjustment Fund, designed to help temporarily bridge the cost between rural and urban broadband prices. Finally, the bill would form the Statewide Broadband Advisory Board, comprised of experts who would help the Office of Broadband engage stakeholders.

- → SB 34 Tribal Compacting of Schools <u>HASN'T CHANGED</u> This is the in the same place as my previous report where there are five Alaska schools will experiment with Tribal Compacting. I look forward to more details about Tribal Compacting of schools and keeping aware of the process.
- → HB 272/273 Education Funding/BSA Increase: <u>NOT PASSED</u>. These would have adjusted the Base Student Allocation for inflation, but the bills never went out of House Finance much less get to the Senate. There was a smaller increase in the BSA as part of the reading bill, HB 114.
- → HB 220 Teacher Retirement: <u>HASN'T CHANGED</u> This Bill made it to the House Floor, but didn't move beyond that point before the end of the session.

(Information from Bradner Leg. Digest, 20/2022 5/31/22 and AASB)

## **On-going topics on the frontburner...**

- LPSD Staffing for FY23
  - Hiring teachers
  - PTH & PIP Principal
  - Accounting & Payroll in Palmer
- LPSD in Review
  - Identify SBS System Reviewer to begin review in FY23
  - Assessments/Intervention Strategies & Implementation to support reading scores
  - Admin., Teacher & Head Teacher Trainings to begin the year