

To: Robyn Burke, NSBSD Board President
NSBSD Board of Education

From: Mark Roseberry, ICAS Education Director *MR*

Date: 8/22/24

RE: Qargi Academy Tribal School update and Program Overview

Quyanaqpak for the invitation to present at the NSBSD Board of Education work session.

Background: Qargi Academy Tribal School is a tribally controlled school established by ordinance under the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) council in October 2021. The ICAS council established a framework of governance and oversight by establishing an education Committee and creating by-laws that provide that committee with its authorities, roles and responsibilities to have oversight of Qargi Academy and advise the ICAS Education Department and ICAS council regarding education matters.

Since inception, Qargi Academy has hired three local ilisaurrit (teachers) who reside in Wainwright, Alaska. We have one Inupiat language expert and elder, one ilisaurri who is the teacher of record for Wainwright students and one ilisaurri who is the teacher of record for our virtual students. In addition, every student has a virtual highly qualified teacher who supports the students' academic progress and completion of the academic courses.

Qargi Academy supports students from 6th-12th grade and individuals who are over 18 years of age and have not earned a diploma. We do not offer GED services, but we do provide courses to students who are interested in completing the requirements of earning a diploma.

ICAS was chosen to be one of the five tribes to negotiate with the State of Alaska to discuss the establishment of tribally compacted public schools. A report was produced and approved by the State Board of Education as written in January 2024. To date the supporting legislation is being drafted and expected to be presented at this next legislative session.

Presentation outline:

The Qargi Academy presentation for 8/23/24 work session will provide the following information:

- Update and overview of Qargi Academy programming and services
- Answer Questions that the Board of Education may have about Qargi Academy