



# Nome Public Schools Board of Education Meeting Agenda

November 14, 2023 - 5:30 PM  
Regular Board Meeting, NES Library /Zoom  
1057 E 5th Ave  
Nome, Alaska 99762

PO Box 131  
Nome, AK 99762

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

## SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Darlene Trigg, President  
Mr. Bob Metcalf, Vice President/Clerk  
Ms. Marjorie Tahbone, Treasurer  
Mrs. Nancy Mendenhall  
Mr. Jon Gregg

## AGENDA

### A. Call to Order

1. Pledge of Allegiance 3
2. Nome Public Schools Mission Statement 4
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Swearing In of Board of Education Member
6. Board Committee Assignments 5

### B. Consent Agenda

(Routine matter considered for approval as one motion. Any item can be pulled for separate consideration).

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting: October 10, 2023 6
2. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting: November 7, 2023 10
3. Approval of October 2023 Disbursements
4. Approval of October 2023 Gifts, Grants and Bequests
5. Approval of October 2023 Personnel Report 12
6. Approval of Out of State Travel Request

### C. Awards and Presentations

1. Introductions of Guests & Visitors
2. Students of the Month
3. Presentation from NPS Attendance Committee

### D. Opportunity for Public Comments on Agenda/Non-agenda Items 14

(3 minutes per speaker, 30 minutes aggregate)

### E. Superintendent Report 15

### F. Information & Reports

1. Student Representative Report 41
2. Principal Reports 43
3. Director Reports 56
4. Business Manager Report 70

### G. Second Public Comment Opportunity 75

(Individuals are limited to three minutes each.)<sup>1</sup>

### H. Action Item

1. Approval of Change in Banking Services 76

**I. Board and Superintendent's Comments & Committee Reports**

**J. Upcoming Events:**

- Tuesday, December 12, Regular Meeting, 5:30 pm, NES Library/Zoom
- Tuesday, December 19, Work Session, 5:30 pm, NES Library
- Tuesday, January 9, Regular Meeting, 5:30 pm, NES Library/Zoom

**K. Adjournment**

**BB 9320 Meetings:** "Though great importance is given to the physical presence of School Board members at meetings, the attendance and participation of members by teleconference is authorized whenever physical presence is not practicable."

To join the **Public Zoom** meeting on your computer or smart device, please use the link below:  
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Meeting ID: 873 0147 4430

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# Pledge of Allegiance

Allegiance

(I promise)

Kamaksriġmik akiqsruutmik

(to give)

to the flag

(of our land)

aituġaa illalitaanunapta

United States of America.

(here)

and to

(to) the republic

Ittuaq taavrumuġa nunamun

one

nation

under

God

atausiq nuna ataani Agaiyutim

indivisible

with liberty

avgutaulguituaq pituiqsimaaliq

and justice

for all

atisipłuni illuqnaitnun.



## *Our Mission*

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

## *Our Vision*

Together, strong in identity, purpose, potential

## *Board and Superintendent Guiding Principles*

- ◆ Works to ensure academic success for all students
- ◆ Works to promote positive community partnerships
- ◆ Provides leadership and support to ensure reading proficiency by 3rd Grade
- ◆ Supports the recruitment and retention of effective staff

## *Board and Superintendent Goals*

- ◆ Provide the resources for the development and adoption of curriculum as per Board Policy (BP 6141).
- ◆ Support the integration of a student's culture in the curriculum within the context of the community through implementation of the Alaska standards for culturally responsive schools.
- ◆ Work to ensure all students feel connected to their peers and the adults in their schools by improving school climate.



**Nome Public Schools  
School Board Committees/Other Roles 2023 – 2024**

**Committee Assignments**

<p align="center"><b>Board Policy:</b> Representative 1: Representative 2:</p>	<p align="center"><b>Equity Committee:</b> Primary: Alternate:</p>
<p align="center"><b>Northwest College Advisory:</b> Primary: Alternate:</p>	<p align="center"><b>NACTEC:</b> Primary: Alternate:</p>

**Other Roles**

<p align="center"><b>Recruitment/Job Fair:</b> Primary: Alternate:</p>	
<p align="center"><b>NEA Negotiations:</b> Primary: Alternate:</p>	<p align="center"><b>Calendar Committee:</b> Primary: Alternate:</p>

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, October 10, 2023  
5:33 pm  
NES Library/Zoom

Member Trigg called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm Tuesday, October 10, 2023 with a quorum present.

Superintendent Burgess led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Member Trigg read the Nome Public Schools Mission Statement.

**School Board Members Present:**

Sandy Martinson (excused)	Darlene Trigg	Bob Metcalf (via Zoom)
Nancy Mendenhall	Marjorie Tahbone	

**Others in attendance included:**

Doug Pfau	Alisha Papineau	Genevieve Hollins (via Zoom)
Jim Shreve	Jennifer Shreve	Stan Burgess
Nick Settle	Karen Dixon	Doug Pfau
Lisa Leeper	Teriscovkya Smith	LoAna Benton

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Mendenhall moved to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Sandy Martinson: (excused)	Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes	

**SWEARING IN OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER**

Superintendent Burgess swore in Bob Metcalf to serve a three-year term on the Board of Education until October 2026.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION REORGANIZATION**

**ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT**

Member Tahbone moved to nominate Member Trigg as Board President.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Sandy Martinson: (excused)	Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes	

Member Trigg was elected as the Nome Board of Education President.

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT/CLERK

Member Mendenhall moved to nominate Member Metcalf as Board Vice President/Clerk.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Sandy Martinson: (excused)	Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes	

Member Metcalf was elected as the Nome Board of Education Vice President/Clerk.

ELECTION OF TREASURER

Member Trigg moved to nominate Member Tahbone as Board Treasurer.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Sandy Martinson: (excused)	Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes	

Member Tahbone was elected as the Nome Board of Education Treasurer.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Member Mendenhall moved to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting: September 19, 2023; the September 2023 disbursements; the September 2023 Gifts, Grants and Bequests; and the September 2023 personnel report.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Sandy Martinson: (excused)	Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes	

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND VISITORS**

Superintendent Burgess presented Member Trigg with her AASB Master Boardmanship award.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

NONE

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Burgess reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

**INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

NES Assistant Principal, Nick Settle reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

ACSA Principal, Lisa Leeper reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

NBMHS Principal, Teriscovkya Smith reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

Director of SPED, Mary Donaldson reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

Director of Curriculum & Instruction/Assessments/Federal Programs, Karen Dixon reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

Director of Technology, Jim Shreve reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

Director of Facilities, Jonathan Duarte reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

CFO, Genevieve Hollins reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

**SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

NONE

**ACTION ITEMS**

Member Mendenhall moved to approve the draft resolutions for the Alaska Association of School Boards for Tribal Governance and Tribal Schools, and English Learner Identification for Alaska Native Students.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Sandy Martinson: (excused)	Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes	

**BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Member Mendenhall commented that it was an informative meeting with interesting issues brought up and positive things in the works.

Member Metcalf thanked Member Trigg for taking on role as Board President.

Member Metcalf congratulated Member Trigg for her AASB Master Boardmanship award.

Member Metcalf commented to Member Trigg that he’s willing to help out and to check in with him whenever she needs to.

Member Metcalf said he was looking forward to the board retreat that weekend.

Member Tahbone congratulated Member Trigg and Member Metcalf for their new roles on the School Board.

Member Tahbone said she will figure out her new role as Board Treasurer and is honored to be in this position.

Member Tahbone expressed how thankful she was to the directors, principals and Superintendent.

Member Tahbone said it had been a good start to the school year and she looked forward to continuing the process of supporting the schools.

Member Tahbone suggested posting the Pledge of Allegiance in Inupiaq in the NES library and say the Pledge of Allegiance in Inupiaq at the school board meetings.

Member Tahbone also suggested to say “here” in Inupiaq when doing roll call in the school board meetings.



BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
Special Meeting  
Tuesday, November 7, 2023  
5:36 pm  
NES Library/Zoom

Member Trigg called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm Tuesday, November 7, 2023 with a quorum present.

Superintendent Burgess led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Member Trigg read the Nome Public Schools Mission Statement.

**School Board Members Present:**

Darlene Trigg	Bob Metcalf
Nancy Mendenhall	Marjorie Tahbone (excused)

**Others in attendance included:**

Jamie Burgess	Alisha Papineau	Ken Hughes(via Zoom)
Jon Gregg	Paul Kosto	Anna Lionas
Stan Burgess		

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Mendenhall moved to approve the agenda with the addition of A.6. Public Comment.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: (excused)

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

NONE

**INTERVIEW OF BOARD VACANCY CANDIDATES**

The School Board interviewed Paul Kosto, Jon Gregg and Ken Hughes.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Member Metcalf moved to appoint Jon Gregg to the Nome Board of Education to serve on the board until October 2024. Discussion followed.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: (excused)





Nome Public Schools  
Personnel Items for Approval/Ratification  
November, 2023

**Certified/Administrative Staff**

NAME	POSITION/ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE

**Classified Staff**

NAME	POSITION/ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jennifer Reader	NES Attendance Secretary	10/2/2023
Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna	Substitute Teacher	11/2/2023
Sandra Harvey	Substitute Teacher	11/3/2023
Stan Burgess	Resignation	10/5/2023
Michael Mann	Substitute Teacher	11/2/2023

**Non-Staff Coaches**

NAME	POSITION/ACTION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kelly Bogart	MS Girls Basketball Coach	10/2/2023
Eric Lie	MS Boys Basketball Coach	10/2/2023
Corey Erikson	Varsity Wrestling	10/2/2023
Oliver Hoogendorn	Assistant HS Wrestling	10/2/2023
Krystal Hensley	MS Volleyball Coach	10/2/2023
Klay Baker	Elementary Basketball Coach	10/11/2023

**Extra Duty Contracts**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
Ryan Horton	eSports Coach	10/2/2023
Pat Callahan	Athletic Director	10/2/2023
Pat Callahan	High School Varsity Boys Basketball Coach	10/10/2023
Ryan Wharry	High School Asst Boys Basketball Coach	10/10/2023
Bailey Immingan-Carpenter	HS Cheer Head Coach	10/10/2023
Holly Harlow	HS Student Council	10/10/2023
Ryan Horton	MS Student Council	10/2/2023
Holly Harlow	Senior Class Advisor	10/10/2023
Rachel Finney	Junior and Senior Class Advisor	10/10/2023
Rosa Wright	Freshman and Junior Class Advisor	10/10/2023
Michael Deering	National Honor Society Sponsor	10/10/2023

## **Public Comment Statement**

The Board of Education welcomes community member input during meetings about issues on or not on the agenda. The Board is not able to respond directly to you during Public Comment; the Board may decide at the end of the meeting during Board Member Comment to discuss your topic at a work session, regular meeting, or direct the Superintendent to look into a situation further.

The Board may not speak about subjects that are protected by legal confidentiality such as specific student discipline issues or personnel issues that could disparage or slander district employees.

The general guideline is approximately three minutes per speaker; however, additional time is allowable if needed. When you speak to the Board, please state your first and last name for the record.



Board/Leadership Areas of Focus:

**Strategic Plan Goal #1: Students are Prepared for the Pathways of Their Choice**

- We are starting the work for the Raising the Bar grant with a survey for teachers on Hattie's Visible Learning. We will be sending 10 staff to the RTI Conference to attend a special strand of sessions that go along with Visible Learning. This initiative's ultimate goal is to provide teachers with teaching strategies that have the best possible impact on raising student achievement.

**Strategic Plan Goal #3: Students and Families are Positively Connected to their School, Their Culture and Their Community**

- The topic of safety is at the forefront of many discussions with the District leadership team. There are two aspects to feeling safe at school; the first is physical safety, which includes facilities, crisis response plans, and freedom from harm. The second is emotional safety, which includes strong positive relationships between staff and students, amongst staff, an orderly learning environment, and support in times of struggle.

The implementation of the PBIS initiative continues at each site to recognize our students when they model any of our three district wide expectations: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. The long-term goals of the PBIS initiative are reductions in disciplinary referrals, reductions in exclusionary discipline, and building positive feelings that students feel towards their school setting.

The District's current emphasis on attendance is one method of measuring effects of the PBIS initiative, and is also important for addressing effort to increase student achievement.

Work on the District's Crisis Response Plan will continue – Principals and the Superintendent will meet on November 18<sup>th</sup> for a half day working session. The Administration is also in the process of contacting appropriate support agencies such as the Nome Police Department, the State Trooper post, NVFD, etc. to have discussions on the development of the Crisis Response Plan – a meeting will be scheduled as soon as a date that works well for key personnel is found.

- We are excited to receive \$30,000 in additional funding from the City of Nome for student activities. We will be utilizing approximately \$10,000 of this as well as some funds leftover from last year's contribution to purchase a new sound system for the Beltz gym. The remainder will be distributed out to support various club and sports teams.



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**Staffing Update**

We are getting closer to welcoming our international teachers – several have their visas approved and are working on travel plans and/or embassy appointments. We are still in the process of hiring several classified staff members.

**Tribal Compacting Meeting**

Genevieve Hollins and myself met with Maddy (Kiminaq) Alvanna-Stimpfle representing King Island Native Community, Cameron Piscoya representing the Native Village of Solomon, and two attorneys from Kawerak, along with Joel Isaak from the Department of Education to discuss the plan that KINC and Village of Solomon have begun to develop for the creation of a STEC (State Tribal Education Compact) school. We discussed their initial school model and the need for potential supports from the district that would require a MOA. We will meet with Kiminaq and Cameron at the District Office next to acquaint them with some of the requirements to operate an independent school district based on DEED's current accountability requirements.

**Major Maintenance List**

The Department of Education has released the priority list for Major Maintenance Projects. Nome has two projects in the top 20 – our supplemental funding for the Nome-Beltz roof, and replacement of the emergency generator at the Beltz campus. The state would need to expend approximately \$30M to fund our higher scoring project (generator) and \$47M to fund the roof replacement funding. This is disappointing, as our roof project scored much higher last year (#9), and enough funding was allocated by the legislature, but the Governor's partial veto cut that funding in half. There are 95 projects on the list with a total request of \$250M; there is discussion amongst many of the education organizations in the state regarding the failure of the Legislature to address the many maintenance needs for school buildings, many which are located in rural areas where the costs are high and skilled personnel/vendors to address are few. The list is attached to this report for your review.

**Funding Update**

The December work session will include a review of the Alaska Funding Formula, and a nice dive into the process of building our first draft budget. We will have our enrollment projections for FY25 and our revenue projections as well, and we can review our FY24 expenditures and staffing at the work session. Priorities and input from the Board will be helpful for us to consider how we can best build our budget.

We will likely have our first FY24 budget revision to present to the Board at the December Board meeting.

**State Board of Education – Activities and Student Gender**

Attached to this report is a statement released from the State Board of Education regarding sports and student gender. The Alaska School Activities Association has also made changes in its bylaws to align with the changes in state regulations. The end result is that any sport that is



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divided into a boys/girls team, would require a student who is designated as male on their birth certificate to participate in the boys' team regardless of their current gender identity, OR the district may choose to create a gender-neutral (coed) additional team that would allow either gender to participate; however, coed teams cannot participate in regional or state competitions against female teams (Mixed Six volleyball is an exception). A copy of the report from the State Board of Education is attached, as well as the amended ASAA Bylaws for your review.



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

The revised bylaw now reads (emphasis added):

## ARTICLE 7 - SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES

### Section 1 - Compliance with Title IX

A. The Association will comply with the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Alaska Statue Chapter 18.80, and all amendments there to. No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be treated differently from another person or otherwise be discriminated against in any activities regulated by the Association.

B. Separate Teams and Contact Sports: Separate teams for each sex are permissible in contact sports or where selection for teams is based on competitive skill. **If a separate high school athletics team is established for female students, participation shall be limited to females who were assigned female at birth.** Contact sports include wrestling, ice hockey, football, basketball, and any other sport “the purpose or major activity of which involves bodily contact.”

### C. Sports Divisions

**Single Division Sports:** Whenever a school has a team in a given sport for one sex only, and athletic opportunities for the other sex have been limited, members of both sexes must be allowed to try out for the team.

**Double Division Sports:** Whenever a school has separate divisions based on sex, one team shall be limited to females who were assigned female at birth. The other team shall not be limited to either sex. However, a female is ineligible to compete on both teams during the same school year.

**Coed Teams:** Prior to the first contest of the season for a specific sport, a school may declare a team as a coed team. If a school chooses to have a coed team, then it may not have a separate team in that sport. Any school declaring a coed team may not compete in any district, regional or state competition in the division limited to females who were assigned female at birth. An exception to the playoff rule is made for mixed-six volleyball when a separate playoff category is provided by the Board of Directors.

D. Equal Opportunity: A school must provide equal athletic opportunity for both sexes in numbers that are “substantially proportionate” to enrollment. In determining whether athletic opportunities are equal, the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) will consider whether the selection of sports and levels of competition effectively accommodates the interests and abilities of members of both sexes. HEW will also consider (among other factors): locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities, medical and training facilities and

services, equipment, supplies, game and practice schedules, travel, per diem allowances, coaching (including assignment and compensation of coaches), academic tutoring, housing, dining facilities, publicity and support services. Equal expenditures are not required, but HEW “may consider the failure to provide necessary funds for teams for one sex in assessing equality of opportunity for members of each sex.”

Section 11- Joint Participation and Cooperative School Programs.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STATEMENT OF DECISION**

**SUMMARY**

On August 31, 2023, the State Board of Education voted to adopt regulation changes to amend 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) addressing interscholastic activities in Alaska. The proposed regulation change would amend 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) to require nonprofit associations that administer and promote interscholastic activities in Alaska to ensure fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics by providing “that if a separate high school athletics team is established for female students, participation shall be limited to females who were assigned female at birth.” The term “athletics” as used in the proposed regulation means competitive or contact sports, as determined by the association.

**BACKGROUND**

**I. March 16, 2023 Board Meeting**

On March 16, 2023, the board passed a resolution titled “Resolution to Preserve Opportunity for Student Athletes While Balancing Competitive Fairness, Inclusion, and Safety for All Who Compete.” The resolution supported passage of regulations to “prioritize competitive fairness and safety on the playing field while allowing all students to participate in activities” and that the regulations should “provide a girls’ division with participation based on a student’s sex at birth” a “division for students who identify with either sex or gender; and a “process for appeal for all students.” As a result of the resolution, the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED or the department) worked with the Department of Law to prepare a draft regulation for the board’s consideration.

**II. June 8, 2023 Board Meeting**

At the board’s June 8, 2023, meeting, it voted to send out for public comment proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06.115. However, before sending the proposed regulation out for public comment, the board elected to make some revisions to the proposed regulation. Specifically, the board revised the regulation to limit its applicability to high school level competitive or contact sports. These revisions were made after consideration of the proposed Title IX regulations and after consultation with the board’s attorneys in an executive session.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.<sup>1</sup> Importantly, on April 6, 2023, the USDOE proposed new Title IX regulations that would, if adopted as is, directly address the issue of transgender<sup>2</sup> student athletes.<sup>3</sup> In its proposed regulations, the federal government has taken the position that one-size-fits all policies that categorically ban transgender students from participating in athletics consistent with their gender identity across all sports, age groups, and levels of competition would constitute unlawful sex discrimination under Title IX. However, the federal government has stated that for older students, especially at the high school and college level, USDOE expects that sex-related criteria that limit participation of transgender students may be permitted, in some cases, when they enable the school to achieve an important educational objective, such as fairness in competition, and meet the proposed regulations’ other requirements.<sup>4</sup>

At the June 8, 2023, meeting the board heard public comment on the proposed regulation both in person and remotely. The board listened to all of the comments from members present at the meeting and participating remotely. The public comment lasted for approximately one hour and 44 minutes.<sup>5</sup>

### **III. Public Notice of Proposed Regulation Change**

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<sup>1</sup> Under Title IX, “no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” 20 U.S.C. 1681(a).

<sup>2</sup> “A ‘transgender’ individual’s gender identity does not correspond to their sex assigned at birth, while a ‘cisgender’ individual’s gender identity corresponds with the sex assigned to them at birth.” Gender identity is the term used to describe a person’s sense of being male, female, neither or some combination of both. *Hecox v. Little*, No. 20-35813, 2023 WL 5283127, \*18, \*13-\*14 (9th Cir. Aug. 17, 2023)(citations omitted).

<sup>3</sup> Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance: Sex-Related Eligibility Criteria for Male and Female Athletic Teams, 88 Fed. Reg. 22860 (proposed Apr. 13, 2023)(to be codified at 34 CFR pt. 106).

<sup>4</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. at 22875

<sup>5</sup> June 8, 2023 recording of State Board of Education meeting, [https://education.alaska.gov/State\\_Board](https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board) (public comment opened at 00:09:02 and ended at 01:53:43)

On June 21, 2023, DEED provided notice of the proposed regulations, in accord with the Administrative Procedures Act<sup>6</sup>, and provided thirty days to submit written comments and the opportunity to provide oral comment at the Board’s July 26, 2023, meeting.

#### **IV. July 26, 2023 Board Meeting**

On July 26, 2023, the board held a virtual meeting that included the opportunity for public comment on all agenda items. The board’s agenda included consideration of adoption of the amendments to 4 AAC 06.115. The board scheduled two hours for public comment, but the agenda stated that “[i]n the event that there are more than two hours of public comment, the board may move to amend the agenda to extend the oral hearing.”

The board adjusted the time for public comment to accommodate all members of the public who wished to make public comment, which lasted over three hours.<sup>7</sup> The board also held an executive session that included attorney-client consultation related to the regulations. When it came time to discuss the proposed regulations and possible adoption, the board acknowledged the significant number of public comments and thanked the public for their input. The board then determined that it would not take any action on the proposed regulation amendments, in light of the need to fully consider all facets of the issue, the significant number of public comments and the fact that two new board members had just joined the board. One board member stated that she had reviewed all of the public comments but would like additional time to review all of the sources cited in the public comments.<sup>8</sup>

#### **V. Public Comment**

The formal written public comment period started on June 21, 2023 and ended July 21, 2023. The public submitted approximately 1300 written comments during this period. Additional written comments continued to be submitted to the department, after

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<sup>6</sup> AS 44.62.190(a) includes publication of the notice in a newspaper of general circulation, posting of the notice on the Alaska Online Public Notice System, furnishing the notice to persons who have requested such notice and additional notice requirements.

<sup>7</sup> July 26, 2023 recording of State Board of Education meeting at 00:04:55, [https://education.alaska.gov/State\\_Board](https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board) (public comment begins at 00:04:55 and closes at 03:11:07).

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 4:25:59.

the July 26, 2023 public hearing. The department received a substantial number of comments both in support and in opposition to the proposed regulation.

## DISCUSSION

The board listened to and considered all oral public comments and reviewed and considered all written public comments, including references to additional documents and studies. The board also consulted with and received advice from the Department of Law related to the legal landscape surrounding the proposed regulations and litigation over similar laws and regulations across the country. The board reviewed the language of the statutes cited as authority for the regulation, in particular Alaska Statute (AS) 14.18.040. Finally, the board considered its role and DEED's general role and authority in regard to students in Alaska.

After considering all of the comments submitted on the regulations, the advice from the Department of Law, the role of DEED and the State Board and statutory and other support, the voting members of the board voted unanimously to approve the proposed regulations.<sup>9</sup>

### **I. Authority and Role of Board**

In considering the authority for the regulation and the role of the board, the board reviewed AS 14.18.040. This statute has been in existence since 1981, when the legislature enacted it as part of a chapter addressing the prohibition against discrimination based on sex or race in public education. Specifically, AS 14.18.040 states that:

Equal opportunity for both sexes in athletics and in recreation shall be provided in a manner that is commensurate with the general interest of the members of each sex. **Separate school-sponsored teams may be provided for each sex.** (emphasis added).

The legislature has not chosen to amend or repeal this statute in the forty-two years since it was enacted. The legislature also chose to instill the board with the

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<sup>9</sup> All voting members of the board voted in favor of the proposed regulation amendments. Advisory board members may cast advisory votes, but advisory votes are not counted in determining the disposition of board matters. 4 AAC 03.025(g). Of the advisory members, the military advisor abstained from voting and the student advisor voted against the proposed regulation amendments.

authority to adopt regulations to implement this chapter.<sup>10</sup> Chapter 18 also includes a statute granting to the board enforcement authority to ensure compliance with the provisions of the chapter and the regulations and procedures adopted under it.<sup>11</sup> The statutory scheme makes clear that the legislature entrusted enforcement and implementation of this chapter to the State Board of Education.

The proposed regulation at issue here provides needed clarification to implement AS 14.18.040, so that school districts can interpret it consistently. The board is well within its specific authority to pass regulations to implement AS 14.18.040 and, even if it did not have this specific authority, it could adopt regulations under its more general authority to adopt regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of Title 14.<sup>12</sup>

## **II. Public Comment**

In general, the public comments focused on seven major issues, which the board specifically reviewed and considered.

### **A. Equal protection**

First, the board reviewed and considered the issue of equal protection, or that the proposed regulation would inappropriately treat classes of people differently. For the board to treat the two groups differently it must show that the regulation serves an important governmental objective and that the regulations are substantially related to the

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<sup>10</sup> AS 14.18.080(a) provides “[t]he board shall adopt regulation under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) to implement this chapter.”

<sup>11</sup> AS 14.18.090 states: (a) The board shall enforce compliance by school districts and regional educational attendance areas with the provisions of this chapter and the regulations and procedures adopted under it by appropriate order made in accordance with AS 44.62. After a hearing conducted by the office of administrative hearings (AS 44.64.010) and a finding by the board that a district or a regional educational attendance area is not in compliance with this chapter and is not actively working to come into compliance, the board shall institute appropriate proceedings to abate the practices found by the board to be a violation of this chapter.

(b) After a finding by the board that a district or regional educational attendance area has not complied with AS 14.18.020 - 14.18.070, and that the measures taken under (a) of this section have been ineffective, the board shall withhold state funds in accordance with AS 14.07.070.

<sup>12</sup> AS 14.07.060.

achievement of those objectives.<sup>13</sup> In reviewing this issue, the board considered the important governmental objectives of fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics. It also considered whether the regulation is substantially related to those objectives, and determined it is.<sup>14</sup>

In particular, the proposed regulation is directly tied to the objective of promoting fairness. School districts and athletic associations, as well as organizations governing athletics at higher levels have long recognized the need for separate sports teams and divisions. These separate divisions are based factors such as school size and student sex, which is addressed further below.

The proposed regulation is also directly tied to the objective of promoting safety. One board member recounted an instance in North Carolina involving a transgender female athlete seriously injuring a biological female athlete in a varsity volleyball game in September of 2022. The transgender student played on the opposing team and spiked the ball with such velocity it hit the injured student in the face, and she was knocked unconscious and unable to complete her volleyball season due to the injury.<sup>15</sup> The regulation specifically and only applies to high school competitive or contact sports, in which athletes are more likely to be injured. The legislature has recognized the importance of student safety in athletics and the role of the Alaska School Activities Association in student safety when it passed statutes addressing concussions in student athletes, for example.<sup>16</sup>

Finally, the proposed regulation is also directly tied to the objective of providing equal opportunities for female students in high school athletics where no participant has an unfair and disproportionate advantage over the rest.

## **B. Privacy Concerns**

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<sup>13</sup> See generally *Alaska Civil Liberties Union v. State*, 122 P.3d 781 (Alaska 2005).

<sup>14</sup> The board does not opine on what standard of scrutiny should apply to any equal protection claim that could be raised in response to the regulation.

<sup>15</sup> August 31, 2023 recording of State Board of Education meeting at 01:15:50, [https://education.alaska.gov/State\\_Board](https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board); see also Yaron Steinbuch, *Injured North Carolina volleyball player urges transgender ban for female sports teams in schools*, NEW YORK POST, <https://nypost.com/2023/04/21/nc-volleyball-player-urges-transgender-ban-for-schools-female-sports/> (last visited Sept. 12, 2023)

<sup>16</sup> See AS 14.30.142; AS 14.30.143.

Second, the board reviewed and considered the concern that all girls could be subject to embarrassing invasions of their privacy to prove they were born female. For example, commenters raised concern that individuals born female but presenting with more stereotypically masculine features may be questioned or targeted in a way that may violate their privacy rights.

The proposed regulation does not raise privacy concerns because students may show sex assigned at birth by submitting a form or a birth certificate, which is something that many students already submit to their school district. The proposed regulation does not require any invasive testing or physical examinations. This is different from a recent 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court decision, *Hecox v. Little*, in which the court found that the law's sex dispute mechanism, which allowed an individual to dispute a player's sex, requiring a provider to verify the student's biological sex through the player's reproductive anatomy, genetic makeup or normal endogenously produced testosterone levels was likely unconstitutional.<sup>17</sup>

Here, the proposed regulation is consistent with an individual's right to privacy and does not require invasive testing or examinations.

### **C. Local Control of Education**

Third, the board reviewed and considered the questions raised in some public comments about whether this type of issue should be left to local schools. For example, the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) noted that local school boards function as local governance units and implement a system of education (including addressing participation in school athletics), through their board policies. AASB suggested that the proposed regulation would infringe on the local control model.<sup>18</sup> The concept of local control is based on the legislature delegating the task of school operation to the local school districts.<sup>19</sup> The board reviewed and considered whether this regulation change would infringe on the local control of school districts and conclude it does not.

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<sup>17</sup> *Hecox v. Little*, No. 20-35813, 2023 WL 5283127, \*18 (9th Cir. Aug. 17, 2023).

<sup>18</sup> July 2023 State Board of Education Meeting, 7B.6 Public Comment Week 5 - 7.16.23 - 7.21.23, at 520-521, [https://education.alaska.gov/state\\_board/july-2023](https://education.alaska.gov/state_board/july-2023) (last visited Sept. 12, 2023).

<sup>19</sup> AS 14.12.020(b) ("Each borough or city school district shall be operated on a district-wide basis under the management and control of a school board"); AS 14.08.021 (delegating authority to operate public schools to regional attendance areas).

When the legislature passed AS 14.18.040, stating that “separate school-sponsored teams may be provided for each sex” and passed AS 14.18.080, providing that the board shall adopt regulations to implement the chapter, it intended that DEED would pass implementing regulations. The regulation provides needed clarification to implement AS 14.18.040, so that school districts can interpret it consistently. In addition, the legislature has not granted any authority to local school districts in this area, instead the legislature has granted authority to the board to adopt regulations implementing AS 14.18.040.<sup>20</sup>

**D. Concerns that the Legislature is the Proper Body to Address this Issue**

Fourth, some public commenters have said that the legislature should decide this issue and that there have been proposals before the legislature to do so, which have not passed. The board considered this issue. Certainly, the legislature could amend the education law and directly address this topic. The board disagrees, however, that this possibility precludes the board from addressing this issue.

The State Board of Education is at the head of DEED.<sup>21</sup> DEED has numerous specific duties and responsibilities over education in the state.<sup>22</sup> It also has the authority to exercise general supervision over the public schools of the state<sup>23</sup> and authority to adopt regulations to implement the education statutes<sup>24</sup> In addition, the legislature has given the board specific authority to adopt regulations to implement the statute allowing separate school-sponsored teams for each sex. When it passed these statutes, the legislature gave authority on this topic to the board. The proposed regulation change provides needed clarification to implement AS 14.18.040, so that school districts can interpret it consistently.

Some commenters have noted that unlike the legislature, the board is not elected. According to those commenters the board should not engage in this level of regulatory promulgation. The legislature, which is composed of elected officials, determined in their elected capacity how the board should be appointed.<sup>25</sup> The governor, in his elected

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<sup>20</sup> AS 14.18.080.

<sup>21</sup> AS 14.07.075.

<sup>22</sup> AS 14.07.165; AS 14.07.170

<sup>23</sup> AS 14.07.020.

<sup>24</sup> AS 14.07.060.

<sup>25</sup> AS 14.07.085.

capacity, then appointed the board members.<sup>26</sup> After that appointment the legislature, again in its elected capacity, consented to those appointments. Therefore, the board is working under the authority determined appropriate by elected officials.

**E. Concerns that the Proposed Regulation is Unnecessary or too Broad to Accomplish its Objective**

Fifth, some commenters raised the question of whether the proposed regulation is unnecessary or too broad and that alternatives, such as height or weight rules, could be used to ensure safety and fair competition in sports. The board reviewed and considered this concern and concluded that the adopted regulation is necessary to ensure fair competition and safety concerns and that other narrower alternatives could not accomplish the same goal.

As noted above, the board has already narrowed the language of the proposed regulation from the original version to limit its impact to apply only to high school students in competitive or contact sports. This language is consistent with AS 14.18.040 and in alignment with the proposed Title IX regulations.

In addition, the board believed that alternative restrictions on height and weight would not address all of the purposes of the regulation. Individuals born female could still be displaced and discriminated against in favor of those born male if the regulation contained height and weight restrictions rather than the proposed language.

**F. Concerns that the Regulation is Based on Stereotypes instead of Science**

Some commenters stated that there is no scientific consensus on how transgender athletes perform compared cisgender athletes or that transgender females who are prepubescent, taking puberty blockers or receiving hormone therapy would have no physical advantage over cisgender females. Other commenters cite to the results of specific athletic competitions and to anatomical differences between males and females.

The board reviewed and considered the public comments raising this issue and reviewed scientific studies cited in public comments and we concluded that the proposed regulation is supported by science and not based on stereotypes.

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<sup>26</sup>

*Id.*

As an initial matter, the regulation is consistent with state law allowing separate teams for each sex which itself is a recognition of biological differences between males and females. It is also consistent with the current Title IX regulations that authorize separate sports teams for each sex, as long as selection for such teams is based upon competitive skill or the activity involved is a contact sport.<sup>27</sup> Additionally, the proposed new Title IX regulations also recognize those differences in allowing for some limitations on transgender student athletes, based on age and education levels and the nature of the sports league. Next, the board reviewed specific areas of scientific study in its determination that the regulation is supported by science.

### **1. Scientific Studies Provide Evidence of Sex Differences in Athletic Performances**

The board discussed and reviewed biological differences between the sexes, as shown in scientific studies, the results of athletic competitions and the modifications between male and female competitions in particular sports.

First, one board member discussed a 2018 study on circulating testosterone as the hormonal basis of sex differences in athletic performance.<sup>28</sup> The study found that from male puberty onward, the sex difference in athletic performance emerges as circulating concentrations of testosterone rise. After male puberty, the testes produce 30 times more testosterone than before puberty, resulting in men having 15 to 20-fold greater circulating testosterone than children or women at any age.<sup>29</sup>

The study stated,

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<sup>27</sup> 34 CFR §106.41(b) (“Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, a recipient may operate or sponsor separate teams for members of each sex where selection for such teams is based upon competitive skill or the activity involved is a contact sport. However, where a recipient operates or sponsors a team in a particular sport for members of one sex but operates or sponsors no such team for members of the other sex, and athletic opportunities for members of that sex have previously been limited, members of the excluded sex must be allowed to try-out for the team offered unless the sport involved is a contact sport. For the purposes of this part, contact sports include boxing, wrestling, rugby, ice hockey, football, basketball and other sports the purpose or major activity of which involves bodily contact.”)

<sup>28</sup> Handelsman, David J et al. *Circulating Testosterone as the Hormonal Basis of Sex Differences in Athletic Performance*. ENDOCRINE REVIEWS vol. 39,5 (2018): 803-829. doi:10.1210/er.2018-00020

<sup>29</sup> *Id.* at 811.

The striking male postpubertal increase in circulating testosterone provides a major, ongoing, cumulative and durable physical advantage in sporting contests by creating larger and stronger bones, greater muscle mass and strength, higher circulating hemoglobin as well as possible behavioral differences. In concert, these render women, on average, unable to compete effectively against men in power-based or endurance-based sports.<sup>30</sup>

The authors of the study noted that muscle mass is the most obvious driver of male athletic advantage, since on average women have 50% to 60% of men's upper arm muscle, 65% to 70% of men's thigh muscle and 60% to 80% of men's leg strength.<sup>31</sup>

In addition to differences in muscle mass, the study addresses that men and boys have distinct athletic advantages in bone size, strength, and configuration. "On the average, men are 7-8% taller than women with longer, denser and stronger bones. The major effects of men's larger and stronger bones would be manifest via their taller stature as well as the larger fulcrum with greater leverage for muscular limb power exerted in jumping, throwing, or other explosive power activities."<sup>32</sup>

Another study found that "male and female athletes perform almost equally in running and jumping events up to the age of 12. Beyond this age, males outperform females."<sup>33</sup> The proposed regulation preserves the opportunities for individuals born female by eliminating the unfair competitive advantages of individuals born male. In addition, the regulation recognizes that the male unfair competitive advantage becomes pronounced at the age of 12 and above, which is why the regulation only applies to high school students. This unfair competitive advantage in athletic performance in most sports is the basis for the commonly accepted division of athletic competition in male and female categories.

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<sup>30</sup> *Id.* at 805.

<sup>31</sup> *Id.* at 812.

<sup>32</sup> *Id.* at 818.

<sup>33</sup> Tønnessen E, Svendsen IS, Olsen IC, Guttormsen A, Haugen T (2015) *Performance Development in Adolescent Track and Field Athletes According to Age, Sex and Sport Discipline*. PLOS ONE 10(6): e0129014, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0129014>, at p. 7-8. (Last visited September 12, 2023)

Second, biological differences between born-male and born-female athletes are shown in the results of athletic competitions, which illustrates a wide disparity among the top female and top male athletes in high school athletics. Board members cited several examples to illustrate this point.<sup>34</sup> One example is Olympic gold medalist Lydia Jacoby's best time in the girls' 100-meter breaststroke, which is almost four seconds slower than the Alaska state high school record for boys' 100-meter breaststroke.<sup>35</sup>

These athletic competition results exemplify the physiological differences between biological males and females and support the historical separation of the sexes for athletic competitions.

Third, biological differences between the sexes are also the basis for modifications between female competitions and male competitions in particular sports. For example, different organizations governing sports at all levels (but particularly at high school and above) provide shorter net heights for female volleyball, smaller size and lighter weight for basketballs for females, shorter distances for female track and field, golf, baseball/softball among other modifications. These modifications are based on physiological differences between males and females.

For example, ASAA follows the National Federation of High School Sports for many high school sports, including track and field. The NFHS provides different specifications for male and female hurdles, including race length, hurdle heights, distance to first hurdle, distance between hurdles and distance from last hurdle to finish. In all categories the male distances are longer and hurdle heights are higher.<sup>36</sup>

The scientific studies addressed above detail physiological differences between individuals born male and female, which are borne out in the results of athletic competitions and which account for different specifications for male athletic competitions versus female athletic competitions. The board addresses below how hormone therapy affects these physiological differences.

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<sup>34</sup> See August 31, 2023 recording of State Board of Education meeting at 0021:46.

<sup>35</sup> Alaska Swim & Dive State Performances, ASAA, <http://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/archive/records/swim-dive/Alaska-Swim-Dive-State-Performances.pdf>, (last visited September 12, 2023).

<sup>36</sup> USATF Officials Best Practices, Hurdle Heights and Placement, <https://www.nfhs.org/media/6892931/rule-comparison-document-final.pdf> (last visited September 12, 2023).

**2. Research demonstrates that administration of testosterone suppression or estrogen therapy does not eliminate the physical advantages males have over females in athletics.**

Board members cited to studies finding that testosterone suppression treatment does not eliminate the physical advantages those born male have over those born female in athletics. One study reviewed longitudinal data examining the effects of testosterone suppression on muscle mass and strength in transgender women who had undergone a 12-month testosterone suppression treatment. The authors found very modest changes in these individuals—only a 5% loss of lean body mass, muscle area, and strength.<sup>37</sup> The study concluded that “[m]uscular advantage enjoyed by the transgender women is only minimally reduced when testosterone is suppressed.”<sup>38</sup>

Another study referenced by a board member titled, “Transwoman Elite Athletes: Their Extra Percentage Relative to Female Physiology,” considered how prenatal and postnatal testosterone and estrogen therapy affects elite transgender athletes. The physiological difference between the sexes includes athletic performance advantages, such as increased muscle mass and strength, stronger bones, different skeletal structure, better adapted cardiorespiratory systems, and early developmental effects on brain networks.<sup>39</sup>

The author of the study stated that testosterone secreted before birth, postnatally, and then after puberty is the major factor that drives these physiological sex differences.<sup>40</sup> This study also found that male physiology cannot be reformatted by estrogen therapy in transwoman athletes because testosterone has driven permanent effects through early life exposure.<sup>41</sup> Findings show estrogen therapy can affect some anatomical structures but

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<sup>37</sup> Hilton, Emma N, and Tommy R Lundberg. *Transgender Women in the Female Category of Sport: Perspectives on Testosterone Suppression and Performance Advantage*, SPORTS MEDICINE (Auckland, N.Z.) vol. 51,2 (2021): 199-214, at 205, Doi:10.1007/s40279-020-01389-3, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33289906/> (last visited Sept. 12, 2023).

<sup>38</sup> *Id.* at 205-206.

<sup>39</sup> Heather, Alison K., *Transwoman Elite Athletes: Their Extra Percentage Relative to Female Physiology*, INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH & PUBLIC HEALTH, 2022, at 1, 3, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35897465/> (last visited Sept. 12, 2023).

<sup>40</sup> *See id.* at 3-5.

<sup>41</sup> *See id.* at 5-6.

fails to create a female-like physiology in a transgender female elite athlete.<sup>42</sup> The author concluded:

Given that sports are currently segregated into male and female divisions because of superior male athletic performance, and that estrogen therapy will not reverse most athletic performance parameters, it follows that transgender women will enter the female division with an inherent advantage because of their prior male physiology.<sup>43</sup>

These scientific studies support the board’s decision to adopt the regulation amendment providing that for high school level competitive or contact sports “if a separate high school athletics team is established for female students, participation shall be limited to females who were assigned female at birth.” The studies confirm that individuals born male retain competitive advantages over individuals born female, even if they undergo hormone therapy or testosterone suppression. The regulation acknowledges that competitive advantage and promotes fairness and equal opportunity for female students by limiting female sports to those who do not have an unfair competitive advantage.

### **G. Intersex Individuals**

The seventh and last major issue raised in public comments is about whether the regulation treats intersex individuals fairly. The board has reviewed and considered this concern and conclude that the proposed regulation treats intersex individuals fairly.

Under the existing regulation, ASAA must provide a fair procedure for challenging the interpretation or application of a rule.<sup>44</sup> In other words, intersex individuals can challenge the implementation of the regulation if they feel they have been inappropriately categorized. The regulation also provides an appeal process for application of ASAA bylaws.<sup>45</sup> Intersex individuals could also work with their member school district on student eligibility questions.

The director of ASAA and Commissioner of Education both stated on the record that ASAA relies on school districts to follow ASAA requirements like age eligibility,

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<sup>42</sup> See *id.* at p. 6-7.

<sup>43</sup> *Id.* at p. 8.

<sup>44</sup> 4 AAC 06.115(b)(3).

<sup>45</sup> 4 AAC 06.115(c).

grade point average requirements and the prohibition of substance use.<sup>46</sup> Director Strickland stated that ASAA intends to tell schools that they need to have a student's birth certificate confirming with the parent that it shows their sex assigned at birth.<sup>47</sup> Intersex individuals would have the opportunity to work with their member schools and their parents to report their gender and if an individual disagreed with any ASAA determination it would have two levels of appeal to challenge that determination.

### III. General Considerations

In addition to considering the major issues raised in public comment, the board also discussed and considered the history of transgender female participation in Alaska high school athletics and in other states, and considered how transgender students may be affirmatively accommodated under the regulation.

First, a board member reviewed and discussed specific instances of transgender female students displacing biological female students in athletic competitions. Board members noted limited instances in Alaska, but specifically discussed a transgender female athlete from Haines, Alaska who competed in a 2016 Alaska state track and field meet, capturing third place in the 200-meter dash and fifth in the 100-meter dash, displacing biological females who would have qualified and placed.<sup>48</sup>

A board member also recounted examples of two transgender female athletes in Connecticut taking 15 state championships in track and field, displacing several biological female athletes.<sup>49</sup> The board discussed similar examples of displacement occurring in California and North Carolina.<sup>50</sup>

Second, the board discussed and considered how transgender students may be affirmatively accommodated under the regulation. For example, one board member stated

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<sup>46</sup> See August 31, 2023 recording of State Board of Education meeting, Commissioner Bishop at 1:11:49, Director Strickland at 01:11:44, [https://education.alaska.gov/State\\_Board](https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board).

<sup>47</sup> *Id.* at 00:48:19.

<sup>48</sup> Beth Bragg, *At Alaska state track meet, a transgender athlete makes her mark*, ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS, <https://www.adn.com/sports/2016/05/27/at-alaska-state-track-meet-a-transgender-athlete-makes-her-mark/> (last visited Sept. 12, 2023).

<sup>49</sup> See August 31, 2023 recording at 01:13:44, [https://education.alaska.gov/State\\_Board](https://education.alaska.gov/State_Board).

<sup>50</sup> See *Id.* at 01:15:10.

that we don't want anyone to be excluded from participation in extracurricular activities.<sup>51</sup> She then asked ASAA Director Strickland, "[w]ill ASAA support schools in creating a third open league to make it possible for everyone to participate. And how do you see that happening and coming together?"<sup>52</sup> Director Strickland responded that if the proposed bylaw were to pass, we would say that in divisions that are separated based on sex, one team would be limited to females who were assigned female at birth and the other team would be open to either sex. He further explained that if a transgender female would be playing in the nonlimited division they could do so as they identify.<sup>53</sup> For example, ASAA would have a girls basketball division and another division they would simply refer to as basketball.<sup>54</sup>

### CONCLUSION

The board reviewed and considered extensive input on this regulation, including public comments from a large number of Alaskans as well as legislators, educational organizations and other interested individuals and considered numerous scientific studies and reports. The board held multiple public hearings and postponed its decision to further review extensive public comments and cited sources. The board considered advice from legal counsel and reviewed relevant federal law and state law cited as authority for the regulation. Finally, the board considered its role and DEED's general role and authority in regard to students in Alaska. After taking all of the above into consideration, the board voted to adopt the amendments to 4 AAC 06.115.

Approved this 21 day of September, 2023.

State Board of Education

By:   
James K. Fields, Chair  
REAA Representative

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<sup>51</sup> See *Id* at: 00:48:56.

<sup>52</sup> See *Id* at: 00:49:15.

<sup>53</sup> See *Id* at: 00:49:39.

<sup>54</sup> See *Id* at: 00:51:33.

**Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
FY2025 Capital Improvement Projects  
Major Maintenance Grant Fund**

**Initial List**

<b>Nov 5 Rank</b>	<b>School District</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Eligible Amount</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>DEED Recommended Amount</b>	<b>Participating Share</b>	<b>State Share</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount</b>
1	Craig City	Craig Elementary and Middle School Rehabilitation, Supplemental	\$13,400,176	\$13,400,176	\$8,415,126	\$4,985,050	\$997,010	\$3,988,040	\$3,988,040
2	Yukon-Koyukuk	Allakaket K-12 School Copper Pipe Replacement	\$287,892	\$287,892	\$0	\$287,892	\$5,758	\$282,134	\$4,270,174
3	Northwest Arctic Borough	Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation	\$9,596,772	\$9,424,172	\$0	\$9,424,172	\$1,884,834	\$7,539,338	\$11,809,512
4	Denali Borough	Tri-Valley School Partial Roof Replacement	\$2,263,988	\$2,249,219	\$0	\$2,249,219	\$449,844	\$1,799,375	\$13,608,887
5	Anchorage	Ptarmigan Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$2,991,230	\$2,991,230	\$0	\$2,991,230	\$1,046,930	\$1,944,300	\$15,553,187
6	Anchorage	Birchwood Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$3,008,175	\$3,008,175	\$0	\$3,008,175	\$1,052,861	\$1,955,314	\$17,508,501
7	Kenai Peninsula Borough	Homer High School Partial Roof Replacement	\$3,280,189	\$3,280,189	\$0	\$3,280,189	\$1,148,066	\$2,132,123	\$19,640,624
8	Anchorage	Northwood Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$1,495,296	\$1,495,296	\$0	\$1,495,296	\$523,354	\$971,942	\$20,612,566
9	Kuspuk	Johnnie John Sr. K-12 School Major Maintenance, Crooked Creek	\$2,009,216	\$1,989,549	\$0	\$1,989,549	\$39,791	\$1,949,758	\$22,562,324
10	Aleutians East Borough	Sand Point K-12 School Major Maintenance, Supplemental	\$6,811,429	\$6,811,396	\$2,968,577	\$3,842,819	\$1,344,987	\$2,497,832	\$25,060,156
11	Lower Kuskokwim	Bethel Campus Fire Pump House and Fire Protection Upgrades, Supplemental	\$3,441,629	\$3,441,629	\$2,982,088	\$459,541	\$9,191	\$450,350	\$25,510,506
12	Petersburg Borough	Petersburg High/Middle School Roof	\$4,306,542	\$4,272,898	\$0	\$4,272,898	\$1,495,514	\$2,777,384	\$28,287,890
13	Anchorage	Bayshore Elementary School Boiler Replacement	\$1,143,580	\$1,143,580	\$0	\$1,143,580	\$400,253	\$743,327	\$29,031,217
14	Nome City	Nome Beltz Jr/Sr High School Generator and Electrical Replacement	\$1,318,010	\$2,142,123	\$0	\$2,142,123	\$642,637	\$1,499,486	\$30,530,703
15	Lower Kuskokwim	Akula Eliitnavik K-12 School Renovation, Kasigluk-Akula	\$6,355,832	\$5,775,602	\$0	\$5,775,602	\$115,512	\$5,660,090	\$36,190,793
16	Wrangell Borough	Wrangell Schools Renovations, 3 Sites	\$10,000,000	\$9,968,009	\$0	\$9,968,009	\$3,488,803	\$6,479,206	\$42,669,999
17	Anchorage	Government Hill Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$2,635,154	\$2,635,154	\$0	\$2,635,154	\$922,304	\$1,712,850	\$44,382,849
18	Nome City	Nome Beltz Jr/Sr High School Roof Replacement, Supplemental	\$6,026,434	\$6,026,434	\$2,233,488	\$3,792,946	\$1,137,884	\$2,655,062	\$47,037,911
19	Lower Yukon	Hooper Bay K-12 School Exterior Repairs	\$2,296,607	\$2,296,607	\$0	\$2,296,607	\$45,932	\$2,250,675	\$49,288,586
20	Yupit	Mechanical System Improvements, 3 Schools	\$635,269	\$635,269	\$0	\$635,269	\$12,705	\$622,564	\$49,911,150
21	Northwest Arctic Borough	HVAC Controls Upgrade, 8 Sites	\$9,838,153	\$9,838,153	\$0	\$9,838,153	\$1,967,631	\$7,870,522	\$57,781,672

**Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
FY2025 Capital Improvement Projects  
Major Maintenance Grant Fund**

**Initial List**

<b>Nov 5 Rank</b>	<b>School District</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Eligible Amount</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>DEED Recommended Amount</b>	<b>Participating Share</b>	<b>State Share</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount</b>
22	Nenana City	Nenana School Flooring and Asbestos Abatement	\$548,871	\$548,871	\$0	\$548,871	\$27,444	\$521,427	\$58,303,099
23	Kuspuk	Jack Egnaty Sr. K-12 School Roof Replacement, Sleetmute	\$1,608,442	\$1,608,442	\$0	\$1,608,442	\$32,169	\$1,576,273	\$59,879,372
24	Kake City	Exterior Upgrades - Main School Facilities	\$351,797	\$351,797	\$0	\$351,797	\$70,359	\$281,438	\$60,160,810
25	Ketchikan Borough	Ketchikan High School Security Upgrades	\$485,609	\$485,609	\$0	\$485,609	\$169,963	\$315,646	\$60,476,456
26	Anchorage	Homestead Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$3,515,805	\$3,515,805	\$0	\$3,515,805	\$1,230,532	\$2,285,273	\$62,761,729
27	Anchorage	King Tech High School Roof Replacement	\$3,829,327	\$3,829,327	\$0	\$3,829,327	\$1,340,264	\$2,489,063	\$65,250,792
28	Kashunamiut	Chevak K-12 School Campus Renovation	\$32,497,916	\$32,497,916	\$0	\$32,497,916	\$649,958	\$31,847,958	\$97,098,750
29	Nenana City	Nenana School Boiler Replacement	\$206,846	\$206,846	\$0	\$206,846	\$10,342	\$196,504	\$97,295,254
30	Lower Yukon	Marshall K-12 School Emergency Tank Farm	\$1,809,501	\$1,809,501	\$0	\$1,809,501	\$36,190	\$1,773,311	\$99,068,565
31	Southeast Island	Thorne Bay K-12 School Mechanical Control	\$1,438,929	\$1,438,929	\$0	\$1,438,929	\$28,779	\$1,410,150	\$100,478,715
32	Anchorage	Service High School Health and Safety Improvements	\$5,462,781	\$5,462,781	\$0	\$5,462,781	\$1,911,973	\$3,550,808	\$104,029,523 37
33	Haines Borough	Haines High School Roof Replacement	\$1,993,782	\$1,993,782	\$0	\$1,993,782	\$697,824	\$1,295,958	\$105,325,481
34	Aleutians East Borough	Sand Point K-12 School Pool Major Maintenance	\$102,608	\$102,608	\$0	\$102,608	\$35,913	\$66,695	\$105,392,176
35	Southeast Island	Thorne Bay K-12 School Fire Suppression System	\$1,375,906	\$1,375,906	\$0	\$1,375,906	\$27,518	\$1,348,388	\$106,740,564
36	Anchorage	Mears Middle School Heating Upgrades	\$575,376	\$575,376	\$0	\$575,376	\$201,382	\$373,994	\$107,114,558
37	Kenai Peninsula Borough	West Homer Elementary School North Wall Improvement	\$356,760	\$356,760	\$0	\$356,760	\$124,866	\$231,894	\$107,346,452
38	Kake City	Kake Career and Technical Education Building Rehabilitation	\$3,492,395	\$3,463,759	\$0	\$3,463,759	\$692,752	\$2,771,007	\$110,117,459
39	Denali Borough	Districtwide Electrical Code Upgrades	\$1,372,127	\$1,372,127	\$0	\$1,372,127	\$274,425	\$1,097,702	\$111,215,161
40	Haines Borough	Haines High School Locker Room Renovation	\$1,456,741	\$1,456,741	\$0	\$1,456,741	\$509,859	\$946,882	\$112,162,043
41	Anchorage	Mears Middle School Roof Replacement	\$6,403,930	\$6,403,930	\$0	\$6,403,930	\$2,241,375	\$4,162,555	\$116,324,598
42	Anchorage	Stellar Secondary School Fire Alarm	\$389,096	\$389,096	\$0	\$389,096	\$136,184	\$252,912	\$116,577,510
43	Nome City	Nome Elementary School Fire Alarm Replacement	\$562,735	\$562,735	\$0	\$562,735	\$168,820	\$393,915	\$116,971,425
44	Denali Borough	Tri-Valley School Septic System Upgrades	\$547,871	\$547,871	\$0	\$547,871	\$109,574	\$438,297	\$117,409,722
45	Northwest Arctic Borough	June Nelson Elementary School Partial Roof Replacement	\$1,860,808	\$1,860,808	\$0	\$1,860,808	\$372,162	\$1,488,646	\$118,898,368
46	Alaska Gateway	Tetlin K-12 School Renovation	\$2,072,902	\$2,072,902	\$0	\$2,072,902	\$41,458	\$2,031,444	\$120,929,812
47	Lower Yukon	LYSD Central Office Renovation	\$4,768,361	\$4,914,128	\$0	\$4,914,128	\$98,283	\$4,815,845	\$125,745,657

**Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
FY2025 Capital Improvement Projects  
Major Maintenance Grant Fund**

**Initial List**

<b>Nov 5 Rank</b>	<b>School District</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Eligible Amount</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>DEED Recommended Amount</b>	<b>Participating Share</b>	<b>State Share</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount</b>
48	Lower Yukon	Hooper Bay K-12 School Emergency Lighting and Retrofit	\$234,545	\$234,545	\$0	\$234,545	\$4,691	\$229,854	\$125,975,511
49	Alaska Gateway	Tok K-12 School Partial Roof Replacement	\$544,789	\$544,789	\$0	\$544,789	\$10,896	\$533,893	\$126,509,404
50	Alaska Gateway	Northway K-12 School Mechanical Renovation	\$1,270,125	\$1,270,125	\$0	\$1,270,125	\$25,402	\$1,244,723	\$127,754,127
51	Lower Yukon	Scammon Bay K-12 School Emergency Lighting and Retrofit	\$119,467	\$119,467	\$0	\$119,467	\$2,389	\$117,078	\$127,871,205
52	Yupitit	Tuluksak K-12 School Generator Replacement	\$161,487	\$161,487	\$0	\$161,487	\$3,230	\$158,257	\$128,029,462
53	Kodiak Island Borough	Chiniak K-12 School Water Code Compliance and Upgrade	\$157,201	\$157,201	\$0	\$157,201	\$55,020	\$102,181	\$128,131,643
54	Northwest Arctic Borough	Districtwide Fire Systems Replacement, 6 Sites	\$3,731,750	\$3,731,750	\$0	\$3,731,750	\$746,350	\$2,985,400	\$131,117,043
55	Southwest Region	Twin Hills K-12 School Renovation	\$6,738,352	\$6,738,352	\$0	\$6,738,352	\$134,767	\$6,603,585	\$137,720,628
56	Lower Kuskokwim	Akiuk Memorial K-12 School Renovation, Kasigluk-Akiuk	\$5,711,232	\$5,030,358	\$0	\$5,030,358	\$100,607	\$4,929,751	\$142,650,379
57	Lower Yukon	Scammon Bay K-12 School Exterior Upgrades	\$705,351	\$705,351	\$0	\$705,351	\$14,107	\$691,244	\$143,341,623
58	Petersburg Borough	Petersburg Gym Sewer Line Repair	\$571,270	\$477,671	\$0	\$477,671	\$167,185	\$310,486	\$143,652,109
59	Lower Kuskokwim	Bethel Regional High School Boardwalk Replacement	\$1,389,873	\$1,389,873	\$0	\$1,389,873	\$27,797	\$1,362,076	\$145,014,185
60	Yukon-Koyukuk	Roof Replacement, 3 Schools	\$2,122,364	\$2,122,364	\$0	\$2,122,364	\$42,447	\$2,079,917	\$147,094,102
61	Lower Kuskokwim	Gladys Jung Elementary School Heating Mains Replacement	\$1,188,713	\$1,188,713	\$0	\$1,188,713	\$23,774	\$1,164,939	\$148,259,041
62	Mat-Su Borough	Elevator Code And Compliance Upgrades, 6 Sites	\$1,612,539	\$1,721,599	\$0	\$1,721,599	\$602,560	\$1,119,039	\$149,378,080
63	Denali Borough	Generator Replacement, 3 Schools	\$2,657,110	\$2,657,110	\$0	\$2,657,110	\$531,422	\$2,125,688	\$151,503,768
64	Anchorage	Bear Valley Elementary School Domestic Water Replacement	\$2,665,758	\$2,665,758	\$0	\$2,665,758	\$933,015	\$1,732,743	\$153,236,511
65	Kake City	Kake High School Gym Floor Replacement	\$325,139	\$325,139	\$0	\$325,139	\$65,028	\$260,111	\$153,496,622
66	Fairbanks Borough	North Pole High School Mechanical and Electrical Upgrades	\$9,656,968	\$9,005,360	\$0	\$9,005,360	\$3,151,876	\$5,853,484	\$159,350,106
67	Southwest Region	Ekwok K-12 School Renovation	\$8,498,325	\$8,498,325	\$0	\$8,498,325	\$169,966	\$8,328,359	\$167,678,465
68	Nome City	Nome Beltz Jr/Sr High and Nome Elementary Secure Access and ADA Improvements	\$363,926	\$363,926	\$0	\$363,926	\$109,178	\$254,748	\$167,933,213
69	Nenana City	Nenana School Fire Suppression System Replacement	\$1,417,574	\$1,417,574	\$0	\$1,417,574	\$70,879	\$1,346,695	\$169,279,908
70	Saint Marys City	St. Mary's Campus Renewal and Repairs	\$1,054,393	\$1,054,393	\$0	\$1,054,393	\$105,439	\$948,954	\$170,228,862

**Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
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Major Maintenance Grant Fund**

**Initial List**

Nov 5 Rank	School District	Project Name	Amount Requested	Eligible Amount	Prior Funding	DEED Recommended Amount	Participating Share	State Share	Aggregate Amount
71	Fairbanks Borough	Arctic Light Elementary School Exterior Renovation	\$8,908,517	\$8,373,816	\$0	\$8,373,816	\$2,930,836	\$5,442,980	\$175,671,842
72	Yupitit	Tuluksak K-12 School Fuel Tank Replacement	\$4,955,370	\$4,955,370	\$0	\$4,955,370	\$99,107	\$4,856,263	\$180,528,105
73	Southeast Island	Port Alexander and Thorne Bay K-12 Schools Roof Replacement	\$172,716	\$172,716	\$0	\$172,716	\$3,454	\$169,262	\$180,697,367
74	Anchorage	Ptarmigan Elementary School Intercom Replacement	\$550,316	\$550,316	\$0	\$550,316	\$192,611	\$357,705	\$181,055,072
75	Southeast Island	Thorne Bay K-12 School Flooring Replacement	\$76,014	\$76,014	\$0	\$76,014	\$1,520	\$74,494	\$181,129,566
76	Kake City	Kake High School Plumbing Replacement	\$1,112,699	\$1,112,699	\$0	\$1,112,699	\$222,540	\$890,159	\$182,019,725
77	Kenai Peninsula Borough	Seward Middle School Exterior Repair	\$1,101,805	\$1,101,805	\$0	\$1,101,805	\$385,632	\$716,173	\$182,735,898
78	Ketchikan Borough	Houghtaling Elementary School Transformer Replacement	\$613,033	\$613,033	\$0	\$613,033	\$214,562	\$398,471	\$183,134,369
79	Mat-Su Borough	HVAC Control Upgrades, 5 Sites	\$10,618,114	\$10,457,788	\$0	\$10,457,788	\$3,660,226	\$6,797,562	\$189,931,931
80	Juneau Borough	Dzantik'i Heeni Middle School Roof Replacement	\$2,815,360	\$2,815,360	\$0	\$2,815,360	\$985,376	\$1,829,984	\$191,761,915
81	Ketchikan Borough	Schoenbar Middle School Gym Floor Replacement	\$777,625	\$777,625	\$0	\$777,625	\$272,169	\$505,456	\$192,267,371
82	Mat-Su Borough	Colony and Wasilla Middle Schools Partial Roof Replacement	\$4,514,921	\$4,820,279	\$0	\$4,820,279	\$1,687,098	\$3,133,181	\$195,400,552
83	Mat-Su Borough	Districtwide Generator Replacement, 7 Sites	\$6,760,486	\$9,119,183	\$0	\$9,119,183	\$3,191,714	\$5,927,469	\$201,328,021
84	Southeast Island	Thorne Bay K-12 School Underground Storage	\$1,126,953	\$1,126,953	\$0	\$1,126,953	\$22,539	\$1,104,414	\$202,432,435
85	Juneau Borough	Riverbend Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$2,974,720	\$2,974,720	\$0	\$2,974,720	\$1,041,152	\$1,933,568	\$204,366,003
86	Southwest Region	Aleknagik K-12 School Renovation	\$9,794,638	\$9,794,638	\$0	\$9,794,638	\$195,893	\$9,598,745	\$213,964,748
87	Southeast Island	Port Alexander K-12 School Domestic Water Pipe Replacement	\$4,861,247	\$4,861,247	\$0	\$4,861,247	\$97,225	\$4,764,022	\$218,728,770
88	Lower Yukon	Kotlik and Pilot Station K-12 Schools Renewal and Repair	\$5,157,545	\$5,157,545	\$0	\$5,157,545	\$103,151	\$5,054,394	\$223,783,164
89	Fairbanks Borough	Tanana Middle School Classroom Upgrades	\$10,520,673	\$10,346,777	\$0	\$10,346,777	\$3,621,372	\$6,725,405	\$230,508,569
90	Fairbanks Borough	Weller Elementary School Classroom Upgrades	\$7,110,482	\$7,110,482	\$0	\$7,110,482	\$2,488,669	\$4,621,813	\$235,130,382
91	Fairbanks Borough	Anne Wien Elementary School Exterior	\$402,823	\$402,823	\$0	\$402,823	\$140,988	\$261,835	\$235,392,217
92	Fairbanks Borough	Pearl Creek Elementary School Classroom Upgrades	\$7,245,394	\$7,245,394	\$0	\$7,245,394	\$2,535,888	\$4,709,506	\$240,101,723

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**Initial List**

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93	Lower Yukon	Sheldon Point K-12 School Exterior Repairs, Nunam Iqua	\$2,097,164	\$2,097,164	\$0	\$2,097,164	\$41,943	\$2,055,221	\$242,156,944
94	Fairbanks Borough	Anderson Crawford Elementary School Exterior	\$9,092,951	\$8,398,492	\$0	\$8,398,492	\$2,939,472	\$5,459,020	\$247,615,964
95	Fairbanks Borough	Lathrop High School Kitchen Upgrade	\$3,426,412	\$2,221,726	\$0	\$2,221,726	\$777,604	\$1,444,122	\$249,060,086
<b>Totals:</b>			<b>\$331,915,024</b>	<b>\$330,582,300</b>	<b>\$16,599,279</b>	<b>\$313,983,021</b>	<b>\$64,922,935</b>	<b>\$249,060,086</b>	

## Student Representative Report

Hello, my name is Iryna Kadatska and I am the new Student Council President. I am looking forward to working with you and letting you know what's going on in the school.

To start off, many of our clubs are up and running including the Pride Club, Student Council, and the Spirit Club. The Spirit Club hosted our first spirit week of the year at the end of October. On October 6th, they also held an assembly for Indigenous Peoples' day. Community members that came to talk at this assembly were Kelly Bogart, the Hoogendorn brothers, Marjorie Tahbone and Vanessa Tahbone. The King Island Dance group, led by Phyllis Walluk, danced and invited the student body to join. Another club that is doing very well is Youth Court. Youth Court helps kids who get in trouble earn a second chance. They currently have 14 members.

Yesterday the Ski Club held their interest meeting at the Elementary School library as their second year as an official sport. There were over 20 interested in joining! We are excited to see their growth. Volleyball regions were held in the Nome-Beltz gymnasium the first weekend of November and our team placed second. This brought them to the State Competition in Anchorage this past weekend. Wrestling season is well under way and the students travel most weekends around the region. The first Nanook News in over a year came out and it highlighted a few of our athletes and what they do in their off season.

Some new things that have been introduced to our school are new staff, new safety protocols, and new rewards systems. We have been reviewing our procedures for ALICE drills in the classrooms and implementing rewards for positive behaviors seen

around the school. We are also recognizing kids for good attendance through a District and State initiative. Our slogan is "Showing up Together" and we are looking to have a 90% attendance for both staff and students. Last week, the staff attendance was 92% and the student attendance was 86%.

The Halloween Carnival was hosted by the Junior Class and they raised funds for prom and for their graduation activities next year. The Senior Class has been meeting and finished painting the plow for the Class of 2024. It is displayed at the entrance to Beltz. During the Pinkie's tournament the Sophomore Class hosted a turnabout dance, the Barbie Ball. We were able to invite visiting teams and everyone had a good time.

We are looking forward to basketball season, cheer season and many more activities our student groups have planned for us. I look forward to telling you all about it and working with you to create better communication between the Board and our students.

# Nome Elementary School

Box 131 • Nome, Alaska 99762

Phone: 443-5299 Fax: 443-2850

Elizabeth Korenek-Johnson  
Principal



Nicholas Settle  
Assistant Principal

November 3, 2023 (October Report)

Dear Board Members,

October flew by with a jam-packed schedule. We started the month by recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Week/Day. We celebrated by sharing fall harvest stories of our students during morning announcements. This continued throughout the month as the stories rolled in. Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> we hosted an Indigenous Clothing & Regalia Fashion Show MC'd by Kunaq Marjorie Tahbone. The assembly was organized by our Cultural Relevance Committee and ended with singing and dancing. While we were not able to get the audio functional for a Welcome Dance, Kaavik Marie Sakar saved the day by bravely singing and leading the dance for two songs for the whole school. It was awesome!

On Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> we shared a viewing of the documentary film, "*The Right to Read*." We provided popcorn and free babysitting to the caring adults of children ages 0-10+. The event was attended by 12 adults representing 25 Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students. Literacy as a civil right was discussed as a critical issue for our school and across the country. We shared our commitment to each of our students in the path to literacy and asked that families help by prioritizing school attendance and having a focus on language usage at home. We also discussed more ways we will be reaching out to families throughout the year.

Our primary tutoring sessions started on October 10<sup>th</sup>. This first session will go through November 9<sup>th</sup>. This tutoring serves 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students who are designated as well below proficient by the DIBELS measures and is our Tier 3 intervention. Tier 2 happens in the classroom during the school day, in addition to the Tier 1 core instruction time. We will monitor the effectiveness of these interventions with ongoing DIBELS assessments and curriculum-based assessments. The groups will be evaluated and reorganized based on student need in mid-November, with our second session beginning Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.

All Fall MAP Testing was completed within the month of October. Overall achievement results are included at the end of this report. While it appears rather dismal there are some rays of progress. I'm happy to address questions at the meeting.

In October we had a total of 340 reading logs returned, resulting in 14 celebrations for eleven different classes. Ms. Kiminaq's Kindergarten, Ms. Janet's Kindergarten, and Ms. Ten Eyck's Kindergarten, Mrs. Cross's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Mrs. Hirst's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, and Mrs. Thomas's Fourth grade all earned one mascot each. Ms. Secor's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Mrs. Pardee's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade,

Mrs. Erikson's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, and Mrs. Marvin's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade each earned two mascots. Way to go Nanauyaat! Readers are leaders!

**STEM Star for October:** Silas Ventress! In the large and busy fourth grade classrooms, Silas has stood out as a shining STEM star in the month of October. *"He has a curiosity and a passion for exploration. This young innovator exhibited remarkable skills through hands-on experiments, creative problem-solving, and a relentless drive to learn."* ~Sophia Pantelis, STEM Teacher. Congratulations, Silas! He received a robot-building kit and a certificate.



**This Month's Inupiaq Values & Phrases:**

Obedience: Kammaklui

Humor: Quyniunniq

Week of: Oct. 2: Naanaan (Wait)

Oct. 10: paglugipsi – We welcome you

Oct. 16:

Oct. 23: Naguatun piilusi – (You all) be good

Oct. 30: Iksinaqpatuq Ubluq – "Halloween," "a very scary day"

**Coming Events:**

(-Nov. 1 & 2: Reading Endorsement Training, Anchorage)

(-Nov. 2 & 3: Adaptive PE Conference in Burbank, CA)

(-Nov. 4: STEM Lab)

(-Nov. 8, 9, 10: Family/Teacher Conferences)

(-Nov. 13: Diyet & The Love Soldiers musical group assembly)

-Nov. 23 & 24: Thanksgiving Break

**Statistics:**

School was in session for 21 days in October:

-We had an attendance rate of 87.61%.

-We served 4,442 breakfasts, and 3,962 lunches.

-47 individuals from the community volunteered a total of 186 hours in the school.

*Nome Elementary School provides a positive and welcoming environment where our culturally-diverse students, staff, and community members are valued through mutual respect, collaboration, safe interactions, and enriching experiences. Clear and high expectations serve as guidelines to reach success and wellness for all students in this rapidly-changing world.*

### MAP Growth Assessment - Achievement Comparison

Grade Level	Fall 2022			Fall 2023	
	Math	Reading		Math	Reading
<b>K</b>	32% Below 49% On 19% Above	30% Below 63% On 7% Above		18% Below 39% On 43% Above	22% Below 53% On 25% Above
<b>1</b>	56% Below 40% On 4% Above	70% Below 24% On 6% Above		57% Below 31% On 12% Above	62% Below 20% On 18% Above
<b>2</b>	64% Below 28% On 8% Above	73% Below 17% On 10% Above		57% Below 30% On 5% Above	69% Below 31% On 0% Above
<b>3</b>	58% Below 38% On 4% Above	55% Below 38% On 7% Above		61% Below 33% On 6% Above	68% Below 21% On 11% Above
<b>4</b>	57% Below 32% On 11% Above	58% Below 30% On 12% Above		58% Below 37% On 5% Above	66% Below 27% On 7% Above
<b>5</b>	83% Below 17% On 0% Above	86% Below 12% On 2% Above		72% Below 19% On 9% Above	76% Below 24% On 0% Above



## ACSA School Board Report November 14, 2023

Lisa Leeper, Principal

### Enrollment / Attendance Update

- We had a 97% student attendance rate for October. This matches our attendance rate for last October.
- There were no changes to our enrollment in October.

### Classes and Activities

- Some events to highlight from the month of October include: a Flu Shot Clinic provided by nurses from public health, parent meetings for any students who may need extra supports, Honor Roll lunch for students who earned all A's and B's in the 1st Quarter, formal observations for newer teachers, and goal setting for veteran teachers.
- Lily Greenberg visited her mother in Nome for the month of October and came to ACSA to teach movement and dance to over 20 students who signed up for the special opportunity. Students loved finding freedom of expression and trying to understanding some basic choreography.
- Ms. Smyke had both in person and virtual presenters to discuss climate and climate change issues with students. Some scientists explained how they set up tidal gauges around the state of Alaska and helped the students set up an sample gauge. Rick Thoman came in to show data and graphics to help portray climate changes in Alaska from the past 40 years. Ken Tape zoomed in to talk about how climate change seems to affect the moose and beaver populations of the Seward Peninsula.
- Vape detectors were installed in the bathrooms in early October. So far, no vaping has been detected in either bathroom.
- We held an APC work session to discuss funds that have been held in a student activity account for the 8th Grade Class of 2020. Those students had their Washington DC Trip canceled due to the COVID pandemic, and they now have an opportunity to travel as seniors with Rachel Finney and the Beltz

senior cohort. It was decided that funds held will be available to any senior that travels with their Beltz cohort. It was also decided that students from the 2020 class who are no longer enrolled in Nome Public Schools and who made a deposit to go on the trip can apply for a scholarship to be used at a institute for post-secondary learning.

- Discipline data is being regularly tracked and reported to staff in order to better understand what each of us, staff and students alike, can do to improve the school climate with a focus on our three behavior expectations: SAFE, RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE. For ACSA, the most common Level 1 behavior infraction so far this year is use of cell phones without permission. For each infraction, the student must give up their phone for the day. In addition to Level 1 behaviors, we have had three Level 2 bullying issues that resulted In School Suspensions. No student has earned an Out of School Suspension to date.
- Attendance data is being regularly tracked and reported to students, staff and families as part of our district wide initiatives for improved overall attendance. Our student attendance rate for this school year is approximately 97%, while staff attendance is about 95%. At school we have celebrations around perfect attendance per student and attendance rates by grade level. Doug Pfau is offering the class with the best attendance a pizza party at the end of the first semester, which also motivates students.
- Shout Outs for October — Teachers use a spreadsheet to track positive messages they send home to parents and to track shout outs given at school to students. Our aim is that every student be recognized for something positive at least once per quarter. The following are our Shout Out categories.

INTEGRITY (character)

GROWTH (mindset)

RESPONSIBILITY (actions)

STAR MOVES (unique and exceptional)



# Nome-Beltz Middle High School

PO Box 131, Nome Alaska 99762

Phone: 907-443-5201 Fax: 907-443-3626

Date: November 2023

To: NPS Board

From: Teriscovkya Smith and Dr. Michael Akes

Subject: November Board Report

## **NBMHS Data:**

- Current Enrollment: 284
- Attendance: 88%

**Student Celebrations:** So many wonderful celebrations are happening at NBMHS and Nanooks are proving again and again that the majority of those in the Den are moving in the right direction. With our Attendance Matters campaign, we would like to celebrate students who are truly in it to win it! The following students had perfect attendance for the month of October and a 4.0 gpa for the 1st quarter.

- **High School**
  - Upperclasswoman: Lyndsay Johnson (11th-grade)
  - Underclassman: Aiden Knudsen (9th-grade)
- **Middle School**
  - Rose Ozenna (6th-grade)

## **NBMHS Staff Star**

- NBMHS Building Sub Hank Irelan

## **The following is a list of happenings that currently impact NBMHS:**

- **Vacancies:** (MS Language Arts, Behavior Specialist and Library Assistant) continue to pose challenges to rostering, class size, new initiatives, and safety protocol. Our plans for a school within a school to better serve struggling students is extremely difficult to implement due to these vacancies.
- **Campus Safety and Security:**
  - Teachers delivered lesson modules through the [Navigate360](#) platform. These modules allowed for teachers to guide students through age-appropriate safety protocol ensuring common language and practice.

- The last stage of our campus rollout will be a “sandbox dry run”; as opposed to a drill, which can be stress inducing for students, we will set time aside and present a series of scenarios. Teachers will discuss options with their classes and the ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate) protocol that best meet the needs of each respective class.
- Building access and securing the campus during the school day and at sporting events continues to pose numerous challenges.
- **Substances on Campus**
  - Campus vape sensors continue to alert administration throughout the week and our middle school sensors are now going off at an increasing rate.
  - Positive and solution-based conversations at the City Council Work Session, with parents and guardians, and with teachers and staff are moving us in the right direction for a proactive stance to keep our campus substance free and our Nanooks healthy and vibrant.

### Growing the Den:

- **Partnership with CAMP:** We know that a K-12 comprehensive educational program on substance abuse is the best preventative measure to help students make healthy choices. In the meantime, NBMHS counselors, Mr. Brown and Ms. Tweet, continue in their partnership with the Norton Sound CAMP department to support students who use vapes/tobacco products on and off campus. While we are still in the planning and implementation phases, recent developments include incorporating the American Lung Association’s *INDEPTH* (Intervention for Nicotine Dependence: Education, Prevention, Tobacco and Health) program as an alternative to exclusionary discipline or possible citations. This program will help NBMHS to improve community partnerships, reduce suspensions, provide students with service opportunities to help their classmates, and provide restorative discipline as an alternative to city ordinance penalties. CAMP staff would provide 4 50-minute sessions on the NBMHS campus that are individualized to meet the needs of students within the school day. Here is a brief summary of what each session entails:
  - **Session 1: Getting the Facts**
    - Includes program information, requirements and expectations, and identification of why participants started using nicotine/tobacco products.
  - **Session 2: Nicotine Dependence**
    - Examines addiction and harmful effects of vaping, self-assessments, and allows participants to identify what “triggers” their urges
  - **Session 3: Alternatives to Vaping/Tobacco Product Use**
    - Participants develop strategies to cope with the urges and usage and develop a vision of a healthy lifestyle
  - **Session 4: Past, Present, Future**
    - This session helps participants understand the process of change and to look at the big picture

- **Youth Court Grows:**

- NBMHS Science teacher Sarah Liben and Kathleen Cook, Nome Youth Court Coordinator held their first training for high school students on October 21. During this training, students gained an understanding of the roles in the legal system and what they entail. They also spent time examining the Bill of Rights and learned about the Nome Youth Court process, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Alaska Court System. Ms. Liben will act as a liaison for Youth Court and NBMHS in the hopes that this restorative component can complement the Camp partnership for a well rounded response to issues adversely impacting our Nanooks.

- **CPR/First Aid, October 5-6**

- Thanks to the City of Nome Emergency Services, 7 NBMHS staff participated in a two-night training for their CPR/First Aid certification and helped to grow our safety protocol to conclude emergency response.

- **Cultural Connections**

- **Indigenous People’s Day School Assembly, October 6**

- Counselors, teachers, staff, family, community members, and students filled the gym with an energy that was palpable for an all school assembly honoring Indigenous People’s Day. Kiminaq Alvanna-Stimpfle engaged the crowd with some storytelling. Marjorie Tahbone led groups of students through rounds of Sweep the Cabin. Senior Richard Cross interviewed Sobeloff award winners Wilson and Oliver Hoogendorn about their reality TV show experiences in *Race to Survive: Alaska*.

Vanessa Tahbone gathered students on the court for competitions in Seal Hop and the Scissor Broad Race. The incredible event wrapped with a beautiful performance by the St. Lawrence Island Dancers, including our own Phyllis Walluk and many of her current and former students. Everyone could feel the energy and exuberance in the gym and our Den became a place of dignity and belonging.





- **Cultural Arts, Science, and Salmon**

- Since her arrival at NBMHS, Ms. Liben has consistently threaded local knowledge and cultural values into her curriculum. The Cultural Arts room became a multifaceted learning space as students expanded their knowledge on salmon physiology, spawning patterns, climate change, and local and regional subsistence patterns. Phyllis Walluk and Ben Payenna worked with students on techniques for processing, drying, and smoking fish. One student commented, “I’ve lived in Nome my whole life and I’ve never done this before” - a testament to the vital role these partnerships play in building our campus cultural proficiency.

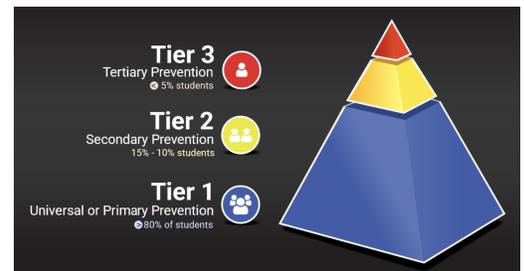
- **Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS)**

- Under the guidance of Mrs. Badertscher, MS and HS PBIS teams are moving forward in their progress of implementing our Tier 1 structures.

Teams meet regularly to review progress in a select number of critical elements, assess the benchmarks of quality of each element, examine options, and create action plans that move us forward in our plan to grow Nanooks who are safe, respectful, and responsible.

- Incentives: Intrinsic and extrinsic incentives support our Tier 1 efforts:

- MS: In addition to weekly celebrations during Friday breakfast, counselors and staff continue to grow the Nanook cash system and store.
    - HS: The HS team worked hard to come to a consensus on a token system that would support students without burdening staff with extra responsibilities. PBIS Rewards ([Introductory video](#)) made its debut at the end of October and Nanooks are already starting to collect points!



- **Halloween Carnival, October 27-28**

- Junior Advisors Ms. Finney and Mrs. Wright, along with juniors, their parents and guardians, and a slew of volunteers and support resulted in two nights of carnival fun, haunted house screams of delight, cake walks, drama club performances, stations with games and prizes, and of course - copious amounts of



candy. Class of 2025 secured their funding for the Junior Prom and their Commencement (but we are not ready to talk about that yet).



- **The Nanook News is BACK!**

- After a year-long hiatus, the [Nanook News](#) is back in publication and the Yearbook staff began printing and selling its first edition of the school year. Ms. David has worked tirelessly to maintain the integrity of our student publication and we hope to grow this product through subscriptions and digital postings. Please click the link above to read October's issue!

- **Community Conversations: Joint hearing between Nome Common Council & School Board on Underage Vaping, October 23**

- City Council and school board members joined school staff and community partners to discuss e-cigarettes and increasing vaping rates. Superintendent Burgess presented data and information regarding campus vape sensors alert frequencies. The City Council is exploring community-based options which would support efforts in school to reduce vaping. Mayor Handeland made some poignant comments including personal anecdotes and various options, including increasing the minimum age to purchase vape products. We are extremely grateful for our community's willingness to have difficult conversations and to explore options that promote the health and well-being of our Nanooks!

- **Standardized Test Training:**

- This year, NBMHS staff has worked tirelessly to grow a MAP testing culture that better prepares students for real-world testing. At the high school, teachers created a testing center in the cafeteria to model other standardized tests that students will face in their secondary and post-secondary lives. We hope that consistent testing environments, increased discussions about test results and their associated skill sets will increase student buy in and improve results. NBMHS staff will begin working with data to drive decisions on curriculum and instructional practices.

### Activities Wrap-up:

- **NBHS Volleyball → season reflection from Coach Alviso**

- The 2023 Nanook volleyball season has been nothing short of a thrilling roller coaster for our team. We are headed to state with a winning record of 24-21. This season we have faced some formidable opponents that tested our mettle on the court. However, through the ups and downs, we've shown remarkable resilience, adaptability, and unity that has defined our journey this year.

One of the key strengths of our team has been our flexibility in terms of lineups. We've had to adjust and experiment with various combinations of players, and this has proven to be a testament to our versatility. It's not just about individual talents; it's about how we work together as a cohesive unit.



This season has truly showcased our team's ability to adapt and come together under any circumstances.

Perhaps what sets us apart this year is our unwavering tenacity. We've faced numerous challenging moments and found ourselves trailing on more than one occasion. But, every time we were pushed to the brink, we managed to mount incredible comebacks. These moments have demonstrated our indomitable spirit and refusal to give up, no matter the odds. It's a testament to the heart and determination that each player brings to the court.

Our success this season extends beyond the volleyball court. We've been actively involved in our community, serving as both athletes and dedicated citizens. We made it a priority to give back to our community by providing berries to the elders at QCC and spending time with elders at XYZ. We've not only built connections but also shown our appreciation for the wisdom and experience they have to offer. In addition to community service, we also continue to support those in need within our local community. Our Arctic Pinkies fundraiser provides financial aid to community members battling cancer and raises awareness about this challenging issue.

Honoring those individuals who have displayed incredible strength and resilience in their fight against cancer has been a humbling experience for our team.

We are so incredibly thankful for the support and energy of our loyal fans. Special thank you to our Madleaders, family, school staff, future and alumni Nanooks,

As we reflect on the season so far, it's clear that we've achieved more than just wins and losses. We've cultivated a sense of camaraderie, perseverance, and community engagement that will serve as the foundation for future successes. With the continued support of our coaches, fellow players, and the community, the future looks promising, and we're excited to see what lies ahead.

- **Next up:** Lady Nanooks head to the state competition on Nov 9-10. No Nanooks! #gofightHIT
  
- **HS Wrestling (Coach Erikson & Assistant Coach Oliver Hoogendorn)**
  - **Bethel Scramble, October 13-14**
    - Nanooks gave it their all and landed top 5 spots in the following weight classes:
      - Boys division → 119: Young Erikson placed 3rd; 125: Ben Milton placed 4th; 145: Chris Smith placed 5th; 152: Son Erikson placed 1st; 160: Beah Jorgensen placed 4th; 189: Wyatt Ahmasuk placed 5th; 189: Dalton Buffas placed 2nd; 215: Kade Vandermark placed 5th; 215: Frank Ahnangnatoguk placed 4th;
      - Girls division → 107: Renee Brown placed 2nd; 138: Lacey Sherman placed 2nd.
  - **Nome Invitational, October 20-21**
    - Nome wrestling hosted teams from Kotzebue, Galena, Stebbins, Savoonga, Shaktoolik, Gambell, and Golovin and took to the mats. Nanooks went for the win!
      - **Boys Varsity** 103-112 → 1st: Young Erikson; 2nd: Brandt Bradley; 119-125 → 1st: Ben Milton; 140 → 1st: Chris Smith; 145 → 1st: Son Erikson; 152-160 → 1st: Beah Jorgensen; 3rd: Orson Hoogendorn; 171-189 → 1st: Dalton Buffas; 2nd: Ryder Magneson; 3rd: Wyatt Ahmasuk
      - **Girls Varsity** 100 → 1st: Renee Brown
  
- **MS Cheer (Coach Kunnuk), MS Boys (Coach Lie), and MS Girls Basketball (Coach Bogart)** continue their season with hard work and grit with games against Teller, a trip to Glenallen, and Blue/White games that filled the gym!
  
- **Upcoming activities:**

- Wrestling
  - ACS Tourney, Anchorage, November 3-4
  - Bush Brawl, Kotzebue, November 10-11
- MS Basketball/Cheer
  - Blue/White games and NBMHS
  - MS BB Valdez competition

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE DEN:

November 4	SAT Testing
November 8	Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences
November 9	Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences
November 10	Inservice → No school
November 13	Assembly Performance: <b>Diyet &amp; the Love Soldiers</b>
November 23-24	Thanksgiving Break → No school
November 30	Q2 mid-quarter progress report cards mailed home

## November Board Report *Mary Donaldson Special Education Director*



### **CELEBRATIONS: Partnerships**

#### **Hospital/Nome Public Schools**

*Hi Mary and Suzan,*

*It was great to meet you last week Mary, and I appreciate you both taking the time to sit down with Kelsey and me to discuss how we can better serve our kids in Nome and the region. We're both very supportive of increasing communication between our clinic and the schools and promoting better sharing of information that would help shape services/supports on both sides! Suzan, we talked about touching base about specific asks that Kelsey and I might be able to approach NSHC with in order to facilitate some communication, and I'll keep an eye out for that! We look forward to advocating in whatever ways we can for some of these positive changes. Thanks again for your time, and I'm sure we'll be in touch in the coming weeks!*  
*Best, Dr. Stephani Zakutansky (Pediatrics)*

**FASD Department of Health State of Alaska/Early Learning Coalition** *Thank you for working with us to redesign Nome Child Find with a FASD strength inventory. We look forward to working with you on this diagnosis project as a "HUB member." This requires attendance at a planning meeting (to be scheduled early this month), participation during the monthly sessions, facilitation of a session and recruitment for monthly engagement. We will allocate \$10,000 to the Nome Early Learning Coalition and Nome Public Schools for Child Find -With much gratitude & solidarity, Hope [Hope.Finkelstein@alaska.gov](mailto:Hope.Finkelstein@alaska.gov) FASD Program Manager*

**Alaska Native Mental Health Practices/Traditional Practices** *We are reaching out to the community to learn more. PBIS and Alaska Native practices need to combine to meet the needs of our children. There is not a program currently in Alaska that integrates both approaches together for the schools. Gerrick Fuller is developing his own practice and willing to work with the schools to meet the needs of our children. We are looking for connections within the community to begin this partnership*

*Jill Locke, PhD Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences*

*University of Washington (UW) Co-Director, UW School Mental Health, (SMART) Center*

#### **High School Special Education/World History/Wood working**

*Ryan Wharry (History) and Jill Peterson (SPED) are teaming in the teaching of history that is documented in the movie Killer of Flower Moon. The students earned the opportunity to attend the movie-with parent permission. The connections to Alaska Native history have led to meaningful conversations. The partnering of regular education teachers and special education teachers has resulted in a powerful learning experience for our children. Robert Voonhess (Sped Teacher) and Doug Coultier (CTE) in woods*

class are making picnic tables with the students for teachers at the Apartments. The students created the plans, determined supplies needed and cost and presented a proposal.

**Special Olympics Bowling** We sent our second team to Anchorage to participate in the Special Olympics. Mr. Von Hess and Ms Scott from the high school will chaperone a team of six students to Anchorage on November 1-2.

**Twice Exceptional Children** Peggy Simpson, Special Education teacher at the elementary school, is working closely with families, teachers and children to identify our gifted students and our twice exceptional children. “2e” or twice exceptional refers to intellectually gifted children who have one or more learning disabilities such as dyslexia, ADHD or autism spectrum disorder. Twice-exceptional children think and process information differently. 2e kids may be more emotionally and intellectually sensitive than children of average intelligence. Due to asynchrony or their learning difference 2e children struggle with what other kids do easily.

**State Audit 2024-2025** Nome Public Schools' special education programs will be audited next year. In prep for the audit all paperwork and documentation has been streamlined and reviewed. LoAna Cooper is doing all paperwork at the middle high school, Anne Madonia is responsible for paperwork at the elementary and Mary Donaldson is responsible at ACSA and preschool.

**Referrals** We currently have 31 referrals for evaluations for special education for children ages 3 to ninth grade. Our school psychologist and Anne Madonia who evaluate academics, work closely to determine an eligibility recommendation to the team. We are beginning to meet with parents. We have completed 42 evaluations with 22 qualifying for special education services. We have 112 students in special education Age 3 - Grade 12 which is 16% of our student body. That aligns with the state average of 16% and nationally it is 15%. That is an increase from 12% in the 2021-2022 school year.

**Additional Staff** Welcome to Ms Ryman who is here for three months helping in the special education department at the elementary school. Ms Ryman is a certified teacher from Texas who accompanied her husband here for his work. She contacted the school and inquired about working. She is lovely and needed!



# Nome Public Schools Director of Technology Report

Jim Shreve  
14 November 2023

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## Completed Projects

As part of a Cybersecurity course that I am completing with the Alaska Staff Development Network and Consortium for School Networking I conducted a Cybersecurity Self assessment on 25OCT23 for Nome Public Schools. Even though I was fairly harsh with the assessment, we still earned a satisfactory score of 678 (the average score is 604). This means we have implemented many correct things and are off to a good start but still have some work to do to continue to improve our physical security and cybersecurity posture. Here is how we scored in the areas of: Administrative Controls(655); following of Board policies, Administrative Regulations, Acceptable Use Policies, etc. We scored lowest in Physical Controls (542); the physical security of our structures, door locks, restricted access to network areas, etc. We scored highest in the Technical Controls (Internal (803) and External(713)); includes filtering, firewall, device settings, security cameras, etc. See attached S2SCHOOL Gateway Summary Report.

## Current projects

I have spent many hours installing and configuring multiple PowerSchool Plugins to assist in day to day operations, PBIS efforts, State Reporting, and Alaska Reads Act requirements. These plugins include MBA Attendance Monitor - to assist in reporting, tracking and taking attendance; MBA Alert Creator - to assist in identifying, displaying, and reporting student general info, at risk info (low grades / high absent count), and positive info (high grades / low absent count) in PowerSchool Admin and PowerTeacher; MBA Behavior (to assist in completion, tracking, and reporting of discipline logs entries and other behavior issues); MBA Chart It - to provide faster visibility and extraction of data for Incident and discipline entries; MBA Report Creator - to create, customize, and streamline report cards, attendance reports, form letters, templates, and much more; GSD AK Data Validation - assists in data error identification and correction for State Reports; and GSD IRIP - to assist in identification and development, tracking, and compliance of Individual Reading Improvement Plans.

Installation and configuration of caching servers / services to assist in bandwidth conservation continues.

2023-2024 Cyber security training campaign launched on 22AUG23 with a training suspense of 22NOV23. We are at 49.1% (54) users complete.

Replacement of older HP LaserJet Pro M402 printers (10+ years old) with new HP LaserJet M4100 printers.

## Future Projects

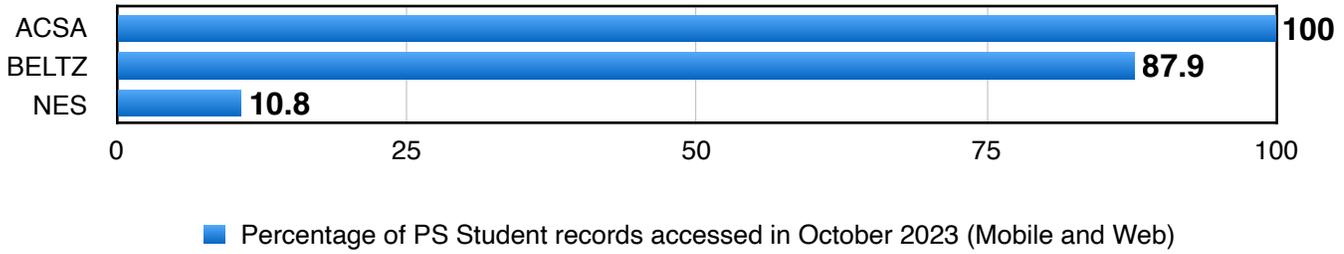
Network diagraming for our entire network infrastructure in support of District Data Protection Policy.

Division of our large layer two network into multiple Virtual Local Area Network segments to improve speed and security of our connected devices and network as a whole. This will also allow better protection of NPS owned equipment from equipment joining the guest side of our network.

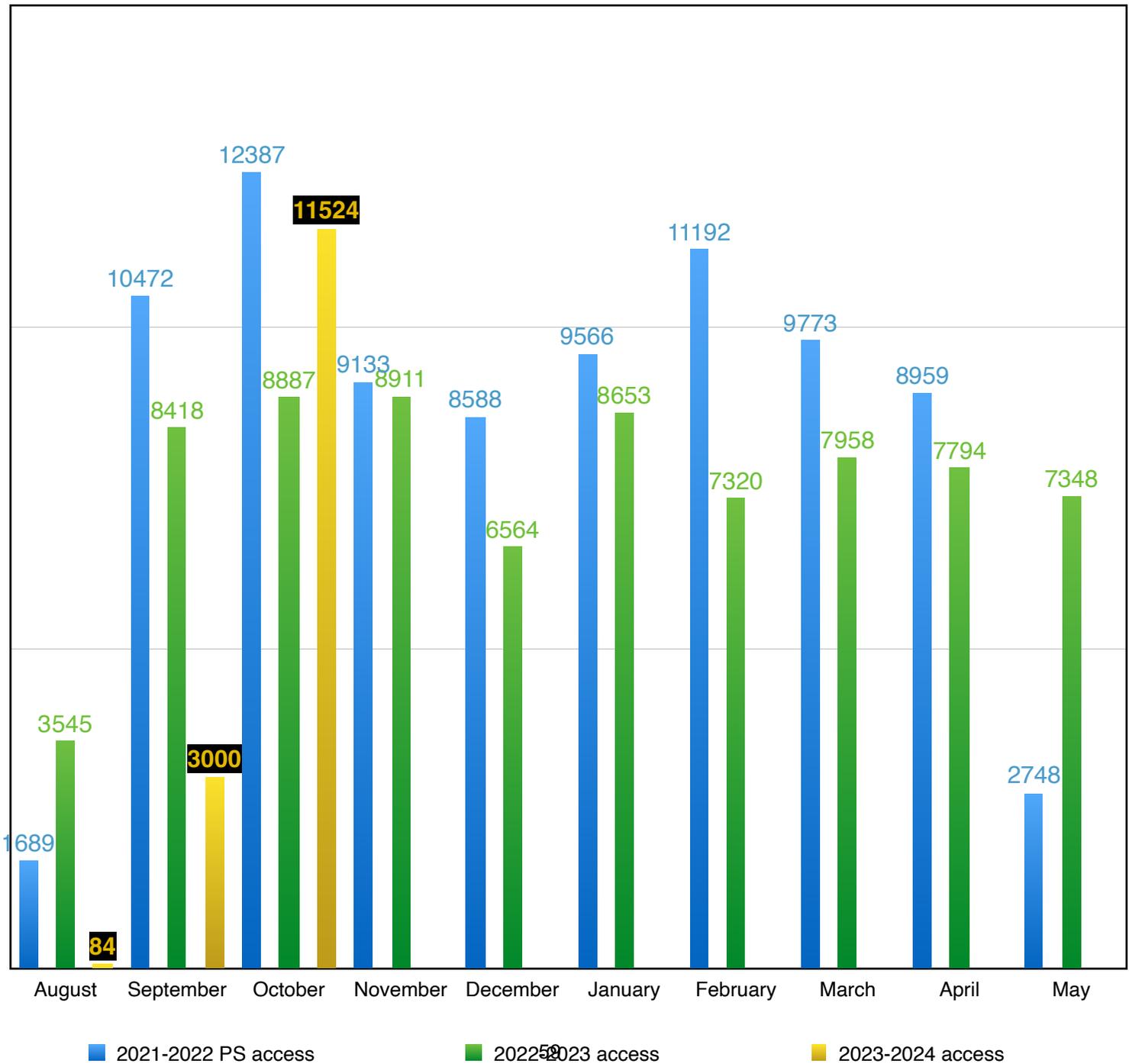
## PowerSchool Online Enrollment

As of 01NOV23 SY23-24 New Student Enrollments forms completed are at 125 and Returning Student Enrollment forms completed are at 485 for a total of 610 records of 710 (85.9%). The submitted records include several students who have since transferred out of district and skew the completion rate / math for the number of records remaining. The following Returning Student records remain as "un-submitted": 88 NBMHS, 30 NES, 1 ACSA. I have extended the closing date for our Returning Student Enrollments to 30NOV23 in an effort to collect these vital updates for our student data. We will continue to email and hard mail invitations to Returning Student families who still need to complete the process.

**For October 2023 PowerSchool Student Information System Access data.  
PowerSchool use, by students and parents.**

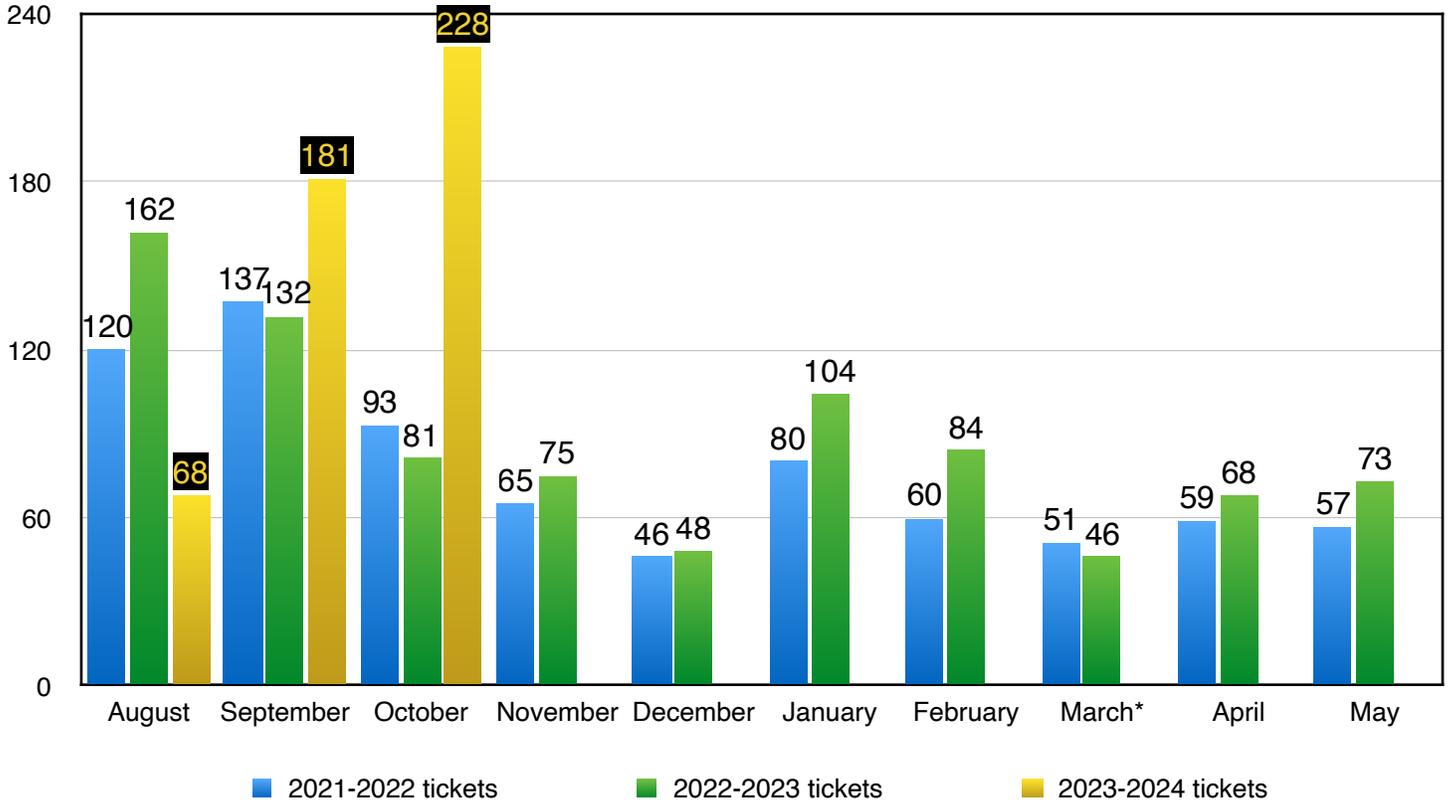


**Total Parent and Student PS Web and Mobile Access Sessions**



# Technology Web HelpDesk

Part of the Technology Department's role is to maintain the Technology Web Help Desk for staff to request repairs, training, and troubleshooting. In October we closed / resolved 214 of 228 (94%) of the tech tickets submitted through the system. Our average response time was 2.1 hours and average resolution time was 1.3 days. We encourage staff to make use of this resource but many immediate needs are still handled outside of the ticketing system. As previously mentioned, I have requested Tech Dept personnel to log most if not all of these types of requests and have requested staff to enter more of these requests as tickets. These entries account for the majority of the increase in tickets and are a more realistic count of monthly assistance services provided.



**All Activity** 10/01/2023 10/31/2023 FILTERS (1) TICKETS

Explore ticket analytics filtered only by your permission level

**Ticket Resolution Over Time** (closed tickets vs. newly submitted)

● Closed tickets ● New tickets

**2.1 hours**

Response time ( avg )  
for all ticket statuses

**214**

Tickets now closed  
out of 228 submitted

**1.3 days**

Resolution time ( avg )

**14**

Tickets still open  
3 waiting on requestor

**Ticket Pipeline Analysis** ( shows time spent in each status, along with ticket routing for all workflows )

Submitted
In Progress
Closed

**3.1 hrs**

Avg. response time  
• 228 submitted

**1.1 days**

Avg. in progress time  
• 228 in progress

**All Tickets**

( please note tickets may be represented in multiple statuses below )

**1.1 days**

• 228 tickets

**In Progress Only**

**days**

• 0 tickets

**Waiting on Requestor**

( no in progress time recorded )

**days**

• 0 tickets

**Waiting on Vendor**

( no in progress time recorded )

**days**

• 0 tickets

**Waiting on Department of Education**

( no in progress time recorded )

**1.3 days**

Avg. resolution time  
• 212 resolved  
• 2 cancelled  
• 14 still open

# S2SCHOOL Gateway Summary Report

Provided to

## Nome Public Schools

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Date

## October 25, 2023

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Your estimated\* S2SCORE is

# 678

The above score is just an estimate and not a true S2SCORE.

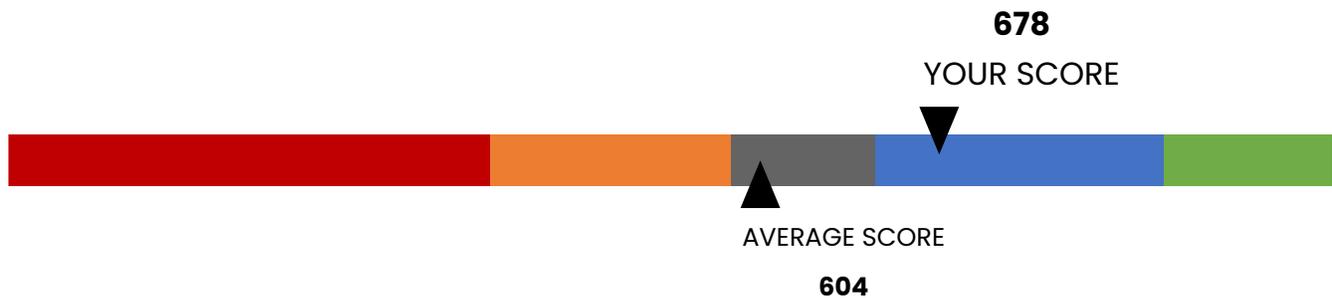
A S "Satisfactory" estimated S2Score<sup>®</sup> means that you have really spent time, effort and made investments in building a good information/cybersecurity program. The foundation of your program is laid, and now you're in "maintenance mode," although you still have some major projects and tasks to accomplish. Your risk exposure starts to diminish for Districts with a "Satisfactory" S2Score, so it's very important to spend your time and investments wisely and to effectively communicate your information/cybersecurity measurement of risk. To accomplish this, schedule the full S2School assessment with your info/cybersecurity partner, which will give you a clear picture of where to focus via a detailed Action Plan.

To support district leaders CoSN has partnered with the Cybersecurity Collaborative to provide their members with access to trusted security experts in a confidential venue. With a Satisfactory S2Score we recommend that you join Cybersecurity Collaborative to have access to these key artifacts: Planning for

a Ransomware Attack, Measuring & Minimizing Third-Party Risk, Data Loss Prevention In-Depth, Social Engineering In-Depth, Cloud Assessment Checklist, and the IT Security Solution One-pager. As a CoSN Member you qualify for a discount off the list prices of the annual subscriptions, click here to learn more <https://www.cosn.org/JointMembership> or <https://cyberleadersunite.com/request-access/>

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# SEE HOW YOU COMPARE



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# WHERE ARE YOUR WEAK LINKS?



**655**  
ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS



**542**  
PHYSICAL CONTROLS



**803**  
TECHNICAL CONTROLS (INTERNAL)



**713**  
TECHNICAL CONTROLS (EXTERNAL)

**\*This is a S2SCORE® estimate only.**

A verified S2SCORE® report will empower you to make wise information security investments and improvements in a measurable way. Contact your SecurityStudio partner today in order to determine your next steps.

## **Nome Public School Board, Facilities Service Report, November 2023**

Jonathan Duarte, Facilities Director

### **Maintenance Snapshot:**

- Scheduled Work Order in progress: 85

### **Staffing:**

- Custodian II- Thuong Nguyen
- Custodian II- Jimmie Murdock
- Custodian Lead- Julianna Duarte
- Custodian Rotational Supervisor- Ivan Bacon/ Darius Johnson
- Custodian II- Bill Baxter
- Rotational Custodian - Alaelua Amituanai
- Custodian (High School Student)- Aiden Jones
- Maintenance Foreman- Toby Higginson
- Maintenance Technician III- Laban Iyatunguk
- Maintenance Technician III- James Sherman
- Maintenance Technician II - Jakob Plock
- Maintenance Technician II- Cody Sherman

### **Maintenance Department Tasks with Status:**

- NBHS- Fire Water Pump Replacement.
- Apartments- installing antennas.
- AMLJA Monthly safety briefing attendance.
- DDC Control System- Closing out phase 1.
- Fleet Vehicle PM's with Bonanza Fuel Incorporated, Farley Auto and in house. Vehicle 006 installing transmission, 019 brake rotor/ pads replacement. Two more vehicles to complete fleet minor engine tune up.
- NBHS- Boiler room sump pump under repairs.
- NBHS- Exterior lighting timers are being installed.
- NBHS- Gym Floor Refurbishing is pending resources.
- NBHS- Kitchen Heat Exchanger needs to be replaced. Part on site.
- Mechanical room PM's ongoing. Filters changed out, adjusting fans and greasing bearings. 70% complete.
- NBHS- Installing replacement exhaust fans to several areas.
- NBHS- Sewer cover damages, under further review.
- NBHS- Campus Bollards, locating equipment to install.
- NBHS- Addressing hot water generators. Cleaning and potentially adding inline boosters.
- NBHS- Speed limit signs- pending shipment
- NBHS- Roof leak repairs on going.
- NES- Window review/ inventory on replacements.
- NES- Removing and replacing damaged door smoke adhesive gasket seals.
- NES- Roof repairs and siding leaks in multiple locations are ongoing.

### **Janitorial Department with Tasks and updates:**

- Staying on top of sanitation and cleanliness.
- Organizing new products.

### **Safety Concerns:**

- Beltz Fire water system not operational. Pending motor replacement.



**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

In late September, several introductory meetings happened because teachers reached out for questions and answers regarding SY22-23 grant funds that supported curriculum needs.

An introductory meeting and agenda with an NES culture teacher covered English Language requirements and expectations. The teacher was encouraged to not get too overwhelmed, as we would work throughout the school year to meet her curriculum, as well as EL requirements and data collection.

Read 180 is Nome Beltz Middle High School Reading program. On November 29 2023 teachers and administrators, including myself will meet on-line with a Read180 representative for a utilization training.

Once grants, grant implementation and State reporting is addressed, time has to be made for curriculum and professional development, therein.

November 10, 2023 NBMHS morning professional development is a continuation of Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS). The agenda development was a collaborative process with Deb Badertscher, Teriscovkya Smith, Dr. Akes and me. The agenda was distributed to teachers November 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>. Different this school year is a more structured leadership approach from this office, so everyone is on a slight learning curve.

**FEDERAL/STATE GRANTS:**

Washington D.C. Learning Experience is the implementation and planning stages. One informal meeting and two formal meetings have occurred to set expectations, develop working relationships, understand roles and responsibilities, as well as the fiduciary responsibilities associated with such a journey. Right now, three separate trips are planned and funded through fund raising and Title I-C funding. The three trips are:

1. NBMS: 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Rachel Finney, teacher and Jade Mudock, Migrant Coordinator/Chaperone
2. NBHS: 12 grade – Jill Peter and Ryan Fox, teachers
3. ACSA: 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Jessica Smyte

Memorandums of Agreements (MOAs) have been signed and are being implemented. As grants come to fruition, so will appropriate MOAs.

Carl Perkins is being administered by NPS beginning this school year. With the help of former NACTEC employees, required documents were submitted with the application and budgets were aligned with CTE course numbers. Supply requisitions submitted for FY23, but not ordered until this FY24 year resulted in this year's budget paying for supplies from last fiscal year. Doug Coulter was instrumental in identifying specific supplies to align with Carl Perkins CTE course numbers. Both Doug Coulter and Teriscovkya Smith confirmed that NPS CTE classes are using required CTE modules and assessments this school year.

Office of Indian Education (OIE) Title IV-A or Indian Education funds for FY24 is \$234,339.00. A work session is planned with the culture teachers and educational assistant to clarify their roles, duties and responsibilities within the Indian Education grant. Supplies/Material funding was divided based on student enrollment within NES and NBMHS.

English Language letters were mailed out to students who were continuing in the English Language program. At this time, there were no new students identified as EL learners.

Nome Public Schools  
 Karen R. Dixon, Director of Federal Programs, Curriculum, Assessment  
 School Board Report  
 November 14, 2023

**Reports Due:**

<b>Report</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>NPS Submitted</b>	<b>Thank you</b>
Neglected & Delinquent Report	November 9, 2023	November 2, 2023	Aaron Brown
Migrant Strategic Program Evaluation	November 3, 2023	November 3, 2023	Jade Murdock
LEA Consolidated Report was submitted	November 3, 2023	October 31, 2023	
OASIS	November 9, 2023	November 6, 2023	Jim Shreve

WIDA materials will be ordered as soon as we can. Ordering window is October 24, 2023 – November 20, 2023.

Quarterly reports for various federal grants were approved and submitted by Genevieve Hollins, Business Manager. A good working relationship has developed over the past few months.

Parent advisory committee involvement is required and have a specific make-up. Parent, community, staff and student involvement will be a next challenge as initiatives are evolving to create a meeting that is clear, concise, organize and relevant to participants.

<b>Date</b>	<b># of Participants</b>
September 27, 2023	1
October 3, 2023	0
November 1, 2023	1
December - TBD	

Jade Murdoc posted PAC meeting flyers everywhere in the town of Nome where the public could possibly see the notice, at schools, in our hallways, NPS Facebook, NPS website, on the radio, and if we had a local tv station, she would be one it. Kudos to Jade for efforts to get the word out.

Structure in grant implementation is imperative to assure that funds are used to support student achievement. Data will drive decision making and instruction. Principals are aware of the new organization and accountability within my office.

**ASSESSMENTS:**

State required assessments are being implemented per the SY2023-2024 Test Calendar dates provided by Superintendent Burgess.

Data from achievement tests, enrollment, surveys and evaluations serve as tools that validate information which Directors and the Superintendent leverage from in decision making.

**OASIS:**

The Fall 2023 OASIS (20-day count) determines state funding. District reports the students that they have enrolled and how many days they were enrolled. PowerSchool maintains a built-in report to produce the Fall OASIS file. Given this, it was imperative that data entries were corrected by November 1, 2023. School secretaries and Principals were advised to review and make corrections to help with timelines in preparation for the required and absolute deadline of submitting the OASIS report which is due November 10, 2023. NPS submitted their OASIS report on November 6, 2023 with zero errors. Superintendent Burgess signed the required Foundation Report and that was submitted November 8, 2023.

Nome Public Schools  
Karen R. Dixon, Director of Federal Programs, Curriculum, Assessment  
School Board Report  
November 14, 2023

Jim Shreve, Director of Technology is to be commended for his professional and technical support throughout this endeavor.

**OTHER:**

On October 23, 2023 Superintendent presented to Nome City Council growing concerns about vaping and it's impact within NPS community. I also attended that meeting.

Thank you.

NOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2023-2024 TEST CALENDAR

\*Subject to Change  
July 1, 2023

TEST	SCHOOL	GRADE	SUBJECT	DATE	TIME	ADDITIONAL	
DEV-PROFILE	NES	Kindergarten	Readiness	10/31/23	09/23 - 10-23		
WORK KEYS	NBMHS	11,some 12	Locating Info, Reading for Info, Applies	12/23/23	TBD		
ACCESS for ELL	EL Students	K-12	Reading, Listening, Spea king, Writing	2/24-3/31/224	TBD	Pace moduals before testing	Paper Test Possibility
AK Star	ALL	10-Mar	English, Math, Science	3/25/23-4/26/24	TBD	Annual Training	
NAEP	?	12-Aug	English, Mth, Science	01/24 - 02/24	TBD		
MAP Windows		K-10		Fall - 09/4/23 - 11/7/23		Online	
				Winter - 01/14/24 - 02/15/24		Online	
				Spring - 03/24 - 04/24		Online	
mClass Windows		K-5		Fall - 09/4/23 - 09/29/23		Online	
				Winter - 12/11/23 - 02/2/24		Online	
				Spring - 04/22/24 - 05/17/24		Online	
DIBELS	NES			09/23 -09/29/23		DEED support arriving to help give assessment	
TEST	SCHOOL	GRADE	SUBJECT	DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE		
PSAT	NBMHS	10, 11	Reading, Writing, Mth	REGISTRATION E18DEADLLINE	TBD		
ASVAB	NBMHS	10, 11, 12	Various	TBD	TBE		
ACT	NBMHS	11, 12	Reading, Writing, Math, Science	10/28/23	9/22/23		
	NBMHS	11, 12	Reading, Writing, Math, Science	02/10/242	1/5/24		
	NBMHS	11, 12	Reading, Writing, Math, Science	4/13/24	3/8/24		
SAT (no Essay)	NBMHS	11,12	Language Arts, Math	10/7/23	9/7/23		
	NBMHS	11,12	Language Arts, Math	11/4/23	10/24/23		
	NBMHS	11,12	Language Arts, Math	5/4/24	4/23/24		



# Nome Public Schools

**TO:** Nome Public Schools Board of Education  
**THRU:** Jamie Burgess, Superintendent  
**FROM:** Genevieve Hollins, Alaska Education & Business Services, Inc.  
**SUBJECT:** FY2024 Expenditures: 7/01/2023 through 10/31/2023  
 - All Except Special Revenue Programs -  
**DATE:** November 9, 2023

**REVENUES:**

	<b>Received</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>% Received</b>
State of Alaska - Foundation	\$ 3,029,760	\$ 9,034,235	\$ 6,004,475	33.54%
State of Alaska - One Time	-	-	-	0.00%
State of Alaska - TRS On Behalf	199,979	595,060	395,081	33.61%
State of Alaska - PERS On Behalf	14,585	43,399	28,814	33.61%
City of Nome	911,277	3,200,000	2,288,723	28.48%
Impact Aid - U.S. Government PL-874	69,136	34,354	(34,782)	201.25%
E-Rate	111,538	1,338,461	1,226,923	8.33%
Other (Fees/Gate/Rentals/Donations)	144,650	310,000	165,350	46.66%
Decrease (Increase) of Fund Balance	432,930	1,288,232	855,302	33.61%
Pupil Transportation (Fund 205)	157,780	610,000	452,220	25.87%
Food Service (Fund 255)	91,417	761,000	669,583	12.01%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 5,163,052</b>	<b>\$ 17,214,741</b>	<b>\$ 12,051,689</b>	<b>29.99%</b>

(Excluding Federal Special Revenue Programs)

**EXPENDITURES:**

	<b>Expended &amp; Encumbered</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>% Expended</b>
General Fund (100)	\$ 4,385,114	\$ 15,843,741	\$ 11,458,627	27.68%
Pupil Transportation (205) <sup>1</sup>	579,321	610,000	30,679	94.97%
Food Service Fund (255)	118,006	761,000	642,994	15.51%

<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND ENCUMBRANCES</b>	<b>\$ 5,082,441</b>	<b>\$ 17,214,741</b>	<b>\$ 12,132,300</b>	<b>29.52%</b>
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Percentage of Revenue Budget Recvd: 29.99%  
 Percentage of Budget Expended: 29.52%  
 Percentage of Year Passed: 33.61%

Days of Expenditures for this Fiscal Year: 123 Days

Remaining in Fiscal Year for Expenditures: 243 Days

Checking Account Bank Balance as of October 31, 2023 - \$8,842,101

<sup>1</sup>All regular route costs are encumbered for the year.



## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Board of Education  
Thru: Jamie Burgess, Superintendent  
From: Genevieve Hollins, Contracted CFO  
Alaska Education & Business Services, Inc.  
Date: November 9, 2023  
Subject: **Financial Narrative**

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### **New DEED Required Reporting**

When the FY2024 State Operating Budget was signed into law by Governor Dunleavy on May 18, 2023, it included legislative intent language pertaining to school districts' fund balances. The State of Alaska Dept of Education & Early Development is therefore requiring interim fund balance reporting at two additional times throughout the school year - as of October 31<sup>st</sup> with report to Alaska State Legislature by December 20<sup>th</sup> and by January 31<sup>st</sup> with report to legislature by February 15<sup>th</sup>. This fund balance reporting is a snapshot in time and is done on the cash basis for all districts for the sake of consistency, as opposed to modified accrual basis which would take much more time to prepare. The information for Nome Public Schools was sent to DEED on November 8<sup>th</sup> and will be reported to the legislature along with the rest of the districts in Alaska.

### **FY 2025 Budget Process and Timeline**

Attached herein is the FY 2025 Budget Process and Timeline. The 1<sup>st</sup> Draft Budget will be presented to the Board during the January 9, 2024 regular Board meeting.

### **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) #20**

Attached you will find SOP 20 - Consultant Contracts or Memorandum of Agreements (MOA's) for your information, comments, and any questions.

***Thank you!***



# Nome Public Schools

PO Box 131~Nome, Alaska 99762  
Phone: (907) 443-2231~Fax: (907) 443-5144

## FY 2025 BUDGET PROCESS AND TIMELINE

### **Budget Process, Timeline, Revenue Presentation, Board Sets Education & Fiscal Priorities For the District in Accordance with their Strategic Plan**

*BP 3100 - BUDGET – The district budget shall be prepared annually from the best possible estimates of revenues and expenditures. The Superintendent or designee shall determine the manner in which the budget shall be prepared and shall schedule the budget adoption process in accordance with legal time requirements. A public hearing shall be held prior to the adoption of the budget or a revised budget.*

**FY 2025 1st Draft Budget presented to the Board at regular meeting**  
January 9, 2024

**FY 2025 2nd Draft presented to the Board at regular meeting**  
March 12, 2024

**FY 2025 3<sup>rd</sup> Draft/Final Budget presented to the Board at regular meeting**  
April 9, 2024

**FY 2025 Budget Adoption at special session**  
April 23, 2024

NOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Nome, Alaska

SOP No. 20

CONSULTANT CONTRACTS OR MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENTS (MOA'S)

1. PURPOSE: To establish uniform procedures for defining the consultant contract or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) document and the method of payment.
2. AUTHORITY: Superintendent or designee
3. RESPONSIBILITY: Superintendent and CFO.
4. PROCEDURE: The following control procedures shall be followed for establishing a consultant contract or MOA and method of payment:
  - a. All contracts or MOAs for professional and consulting services will be negotiated by the Superintendent or designee. Other school district employees are not authorized to make such commitments per Board Policy [BP 3312]. The CFO is responsible for determining the eligibility of an individual as an independent contractor versus an employee. See IRS references in REFERENCES below.
  - b. All contracts must be approved or ratified by the School Board.
  - c. All contracts and MOAs are governed by standard district policies and procedures for purchasing, vendors, and payments. See SOPs No. 5 – Purchasing and No. 9 – Accounts Payable for more information.
  - d. All contracts paid by federal funds must follow OMB Guidance 2 CFR Title 2 Vol 1, Part 200, commonly known as Uniform Guidance (UG). See sections 200.317 through 200.326.
  - e. A W-9, *Request for Taxpayer Number Identification and Certification* form must be completed by all consultants and returned to the Accounting Technician before any work begins and before payment will be processed. A social security number is required for all non-incorporated consultants without a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN, aka EIN).
  - f. For consultants in the state of Alaska, a Business license number shall also be submitted to the District.
  - g. The contract or MOA must include all the following information before it will be considered for approval by the Superintendent or designee.

- 1) Consultant's contact information including full legal name, address, SSN or TIN, Alaska business license number, phone number, an email address.
  - 2) A detailed description of the service to be performed including the total expected duration in units (i.e. total hours, days, pieces, etc.).
  - 3) Start and end dates for the performance of services.
  - 4) The rate of pay including the maximum total amount the District will pay for the described services.
  - 5) The account code(s) to be charged for the services.
  - 6) The name and contact information for the administrator overseeing the services.
  - 7) A clause describing the process by which the vendor was designated as an independent contractor versus employee.
  - 8) Approval signatures from the Superintendent (or designee), budget supervisor, and consultant.
- h. A purchase order in accordance with the terms of the MOA is required to encumber funds. See SOP No. 2 – Purchasing for more information.
- i. The consultant must periodically submit a detailed invoice describing services rendered to the budget supervisor for review. Once approved, the budget supervisor forwards the invoice to Accounts Payable for payment according to SOP No. 9 – Accounts Payable.

REFERENCES:

BP 3311 – Bids

BP 3312 – Contracts

IRS Guidance: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/understanding-employee-vs-contractor-designation>

REVISION DATE: 06/18/2019

EXHIBITS: None

## **Public Comment Statement**

The Board of Education welcomes community member input during meetings about issues on or not on the agenda. The Board is not able to respond directly to you during Public Comment; the Board may decide at the end of the meeting during Board Member Comment to discuss your topic at a work session, regular meeting, or direct the Superintendent to look into a situation further.

The Board may not speak about subjects that are protected by legal confidentiality such as specific student discipline issues or personnel issues that could disparage or slander district employees.

The general guideline is approximately three minutes per speaker; however, additional time is allowable if needed. When you speak to the Board, please state your first and last name for the record.

## SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

**Title: Approval of Change in Banking Services**

**Date: November 15, 2023**

**Administrator: Jamie Burgess, Superintendent and Genevieve Hollins, Business Manager**

**Attachments: None**

Action Needed     For Discussion     Information     Other

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Upon reviewing bank balances and seeking proposals from Wells Fargo and Northrim Bank for fully insured interest bearing checking and CD accounts, the administration recommends that the District open one (1) CD at Northrim Bank titled Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service (CDARS) for a 26-week term for \$1M at approximately 4.88% APY, and one (1) CD at Northrim Bank titled Jump Up CD for an 11-month term for \$1M at approximately 5.00% APY. Both CDs to be effective approximately December 1, 2023.

The above recommendation ensures that one CD will mature before year-end payrolls, in the event we need to roll the monies back into the District's checking account for cash flow purposes. Otherwise, it would automatically renew at maturity at then rate. Additionally, the 11-month CD would mature at a later date, but take immediate advantage of the high interest rates being provided on short-term CDs.

Administration additionally recommends changing the Wells Fargo Checking into a Wells Fargo Government Checking which will bear interest and stay fully insured. Wells Fargo has proposed a 2.5% interest rate, but Administration will ask for a higher interest rate to match Northrim's proposed rate. The approximate amount that will remain in the Wells Fargo Government Checking account will be \$5.8M and will vary based on timing of expenses paid and revenues received.

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The administration recommends approval of the changes in district banking services.

**Sample Motion: I move to approve the changes in district banking services.**