

Board of Education Work Session

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 6:30 PM

KIBSD Central Office Conference Room F140, 722 Mill Bay Road, Kodiak, Alaska 99615

1. KIBSD Board of Education

2. General Meeting Information

2.a. Call to Order

2.b. Legal Statements

Speaker (s) : Board President

2.c. Alutiiq Land Acknowledgment

Speaker (s) : Board President

2.d. Public Notification of Recording

Speaker (s) : Board President

3. Community Comments

3.a. Community Comments

Speaker (s) : Board President

4. Program Presentations

4.a. Kodiak 2036 Presentation

5. Discussion Items

5.a. BP 4141.6 and BP 4241.6 - *Certificated and Classified Personnel - Concerted Activity/Work Stoppage*

5.b. AI Policy Development Discussion

6. Reports

6.a. Superintendent's Report

Speaker (s) : Superintendent

6.b. Board Committee Reports

7. Board Comments

7.a. Board Comments

Speaker (s) : Board President

8. Adjournment

9. Informational Items

Speaker (s) : Board President

9.a. AASB Annual Conference

9.b. AASB Call for Resolutions

Kodiak Island Borough School District

2023-2028 Strategic Plan

Looking Forward to 2036

VISION

The vision of KIBSD is to ensure all learners are safe, seen, and supported.

MISSION

The mission of KIBSD is to engage and empower all students for growth and success.

AT KIBSD WE VALUE

- Having Integrity
- Being Accountable
- Being Collaborative
- Being Fair and Unbiased
- Being Inclusive
- Being Innovative
- Being Respectful

KIBSD BUOY 4 SUCCESS

High-Quality Instruction

Provide high-quality Instruction utilizing the Common Vision for Learning framework in every classroom, for every student, every day.

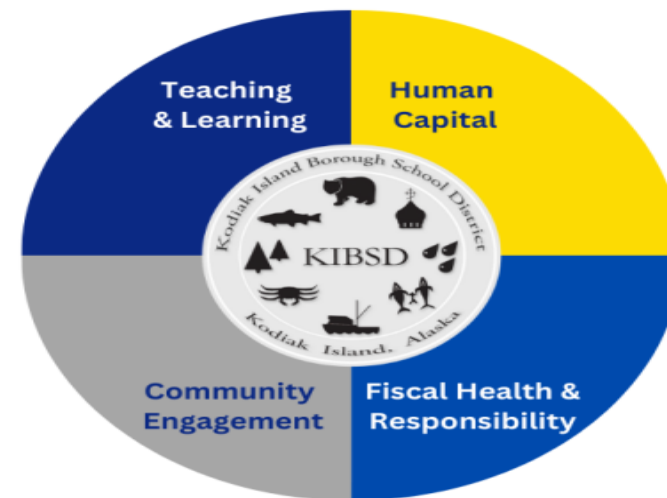
Collaboration

Engage in collaboration focused on student success.

Relationships

Intentionally build strong, positive relationships where each person is safe, supported, valued, and appreciated.

JOURNEY TO 2028 STRATEGIC FOCUS



PRIORITIES

Teaching & Learning	Community Engagement	Human Capital	Fiscal Health & Responsibility
We will provide, guide, and ensure a robust, standards-based curriculum with focused, individual advancement. We will provide equitable, high-quality instruction that enables students to develop literacy and reach grade-level proficiency. We will provide student-centered, culturally responsive learning experiences that develop the whole child.	We will partner with community organizations and leaders to provide unique learning experiences for all students. We will communicate frequently, proactively, and transparently with students, families, employers, and the community through various modes.	We will recruit, support, and retain staff through quality training and professional development and by providing avenues for meaningful input, mentorship, and collaboration. We will create healthy school communities focused on shared leadership and shared success while meeting the needs of staff in their various environments and settings.	We will continuously seek potential sources for funding and use available resources to bridge fiscal gaps. We will prioritize needs and allocate resources to programs and initiatives that have significant impact on student success.

Engaged In Learning. Prepared for Life.



MISSION STATEMENT

Engage and empower all students for growth and success.

VISION STATEMENT

Ensure all learners are safe, seen, and supported.

VALUE STATEMENTS

In KIBSD we value:

- having integrity.
- being accountable.
- being collaborative.
- being fair and unbiased.
- being inclusive.
- being innovative.
- being respectful.

BRAND

Engaged in Learning. Prepared for Life.



Teaching and Learning

We will provide, guide, and ensure a robust, standards-based curriculum with focused, individual advancement.

We will provide equitable, high-quality instruction that enables students to develop literacy and reach grade-level proficiency.

We will provide student-centered, culturally responsive learning experiences that develop the whole child.

Teaching & Learning

TL3: We will provide student-centered, culturally responsive learning experiences that develop the whole child.



Community Engagement

We will partner with community organizations and leaders to provide unique learning experiences for all students.

We will communicate frequently, proactively, and transparently with students, families, employers, and the community through various modes.

Community Engagement

CE1: We will partner with community organizations and leaders to provide unique learning experiences for ALL students.





Human Capital

We will recruit, support, and retain staff through quality training and professional development, avenues for meaningful input, mentorship, and collaboration.

We will create healthy school communities focused on shared leadership and shared success while meeting the needs of staff in their various environments and settings.

Human Capital

HC2: We will create healthy school communities focused on shared leadership and shared success while meeting the needs of staff in their various environments and settings.



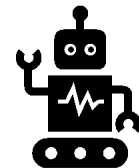
Fiscal Health and Sustainability

We will continuously seek potential sources for funding and use available resources to bridge fiscal gaps.

We will prioritize needs and allocate resources to programs and initiatives that have significant impact on student success.

Fiscal Health and Sustainability

FHR1: We will continuously seek potential sources for funding and use available resources to bridge fiscal gaps.



Fiscal Health & Sustainability

FHR2: We will prioritize needs and allocate resources to programs and initiatives that have significant impact on student success.

PRELIMINAR **Y Financial** **Information**

FY26 Actual Expenditures	\$53,314,407
10% Limit	\$5,331,441
FY26 Ending Fund Balance	\$7,566,959

Reserved Fund Balance Components

Self Insurance	\$998,655
Inventory	\$308,379
Prepaid	\$1,257
Encumbrances	\$575,048
Homeschool Rollover	\$70,176
Impact Aid	\$2,469,019
Total Reserved Fund Balance	\$4,422,533

FY27 Beginning Fund Balance	\$3,144,426
FB used to balance FY27 Budget	\$2,116,386
Preliminary FY27 Ending FB	\$1,028,040

Closing North Star Elementary resulted in \$1,800,000 in personnel savings.

Where are we now...

- Ongoing financial strains impacting basic resources for students, staff and schools,
- Challenge to maintain the best education possible while expanding opportunities for students,
- Ongoing climate of cuts/loss/negativity,
- Potential loss of public confidence and trust,
- WE NEED A PARADIGM SHIFT...

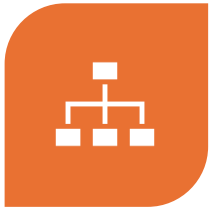
On Kodiak Island...

- Alaska Aerospace Center
- Village Schools and Town Schools Honoring the Past While Preparing For The Future
- National Research Laboratories
- Largest US Coast Guard Base in the World
- Home of the Only Arctic Training Facility for the Most Elite Special Forces In The World
- Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA)
- Kodiak College & UAA/UAF
- Providence Medical
- *K-HI-C* (KIBSD Boat)
- World Class Auditorium & Center for the Performing Arts
- Strong Support from Local Businesses
- Self-Sufficient Infrastructure with Nearly 100% Renewable Energy
- Abundant Resources
- A Community of Very Talented, Supportive Citizens

Other Community Resources

- Port of Kodiak
- Alaska Airlines
- Island Air
- City of Kodiak
- Kodiak Island Borough
- Kodiak Electric Association (KEA)
- Matson Shipping & Logistics
- Merchant Marines
- NOAA
- Alaska Department of Fish & Game
- Alaska DoT/Alaska Marine Highway
- Alaska Department of Education Division (DEED)
- Local Civic Organizations
- Local Private Marine Businesses
- Local Banks
- Local Restaurants
- Kodiak Economic Development Council
- Kodiak Baptist Mission
- Kodiak Island Solid Waste
- General Communications, Inc. (GCI)
- Safeway
- Walmart
- Kodiak Community Health Clinic (KCHS)

SPRING 2026



REVIEWED
CURRENT
ORGANIZATIONAL
STRUCTURE



REVIEWED
UTILIZATION OF
RESOURCES



EXPLORED
LOCAL
COMMITMENT TO
PREK-12
EDUCATION



ASKED PROBING
QUESTIONS
ABOUT PAST,
PRESENT, AND
FUTURE NEEDS



GAINED MORE
INFORMATION
REGARDING THE
POTENTIAL FOR
KIBSD



KIBSD COULD BE
THE MOST
INNOVATIVE,
RURAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT IN
AMERICA!

Questions for Consideration



HOW CAN WE
RESTRUCTURE OR
RECONFIGURE OUR
EXISTING RESOURCES
AND FACILITIES TO
MAXIMIZE OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS?



HOW CAN WE
RECONFIGURE OUR
EXISTING FACILITIES TO
CREATE *LONG-TERM*
FINANCIAL STABILITY
WHILE MAXIMIZING
EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
STUDENTS?



HOW DO WE ALIGN OUR
SCHOOLS TO MATCH OUR
COMMUNITY ASSETS?



HOW DO WE PREPARE
STUDENTS AND OFFER
VERTICALLY ALIGNED
PROGRAMS BEGINNING IN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO
FEED INTO SECONDARY
PROGRAMS LEADING TO
CAREER CERTIFICATIONS,
CERTIFICATES, AND
DIPLOMAS?

Current Facility Use = 100% Under Capacity

KHS currently 9-12 (60% capacity)

KMS currently 6-8 (72% capacity)

Main Elementary currently 4/5 (72% capacity)

East Elementary currently K-3 (59% capacity)

Peterson Elementary currently K-5 (40% capacity)

Rural Schools(5)

- Akhiok K-12
- Chiniak K-12
- Old Harbor K-12
- Ouzinkie K-12
- Port Lions K-12

10 Year Student Enrollment Trend

2016

- 15 School Sites (counting rural schools)
- ADM=2,420 (incl. AKTeach)
- Source: 2015-16 AK State Report Card

2026

- 10 School Sites (counting rural schools)
- ADM = 1,854 (incl. AKTeach)
- Source: PowerSchool Current Enrollment
- -566 ADM (-23%)

ADM Comparison : September 2025 to September 2026

2025-2026 First Week ADM: 1,735

2026-2027 First Week ADM: 1,854
(a difference of 119)



2036 Projection with Past 10 Year Trend

2026

- 10 School Sites (counting rural schools)
- ADM = 1,854 (incl. AKTeach)
- Source: PowerSchool Current Enrollment
- -566 ADM (-23%)

2036

- 10 School Sites? (counting rural schools)
- ADM = $1,854 - 426$ (23%) = 1,428 (incl. AKTeach)

Loss of Efficiency in Under Populated Facilities

Heat unused space(s)

Maintenance of facilities

School Nutrition Program

Support services (Nurses, Guidance, Psychologists, Special Services, Support Programs/Arts & Music)

Transportation

Media & Technology Support

Administrative Support

Other costs associated with school operations

How Do We Improve Operational Efficiency while Improving Services and Resources for Students?

Reconfigure	Reconfigure our existing facilities to accommodate long term educational needs of our students
Restructure	Restructure district with two (2) elementary campuses with program areas aligned with community resources & assets
Capitalize on	Capitalize on existing partnerships while creating new partnerships to support K-12 programs
Build & sustain	Through reallocation of resources, build & sustain programs for long term benefits for KIBSD and our community

START WITH CAPACITY

BEFORE WE DECIDE HOW TO CONFIGURE THE BUILDINGS, WE FIRST NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY GRADES THEY CAN SAFELY AND REALISTICALLY ACCOMMODATE.

EIGHTH GRADE RELOCATION: SPACE FEASIBILITY

	ELA		MATH		SOCIAL ST.		SCIENCE	
	S/SEC	SECTIONS	S/SEC	SECTIONS	S/SEC	SECTIONS	S/SEC	SECTIONS
8 TH	30.75	4	30.75	4	30.75	4	30.75	4
	24.6	5	24.6	5	24.6	5	24.6	5
9 TH	30.2	5	30.2	5	30.2	5	30.2	5
	25.2	6	25.2	6	25.2	6	25.2	6
10 TH	30.75	4	30.75	4	30.75	4	30.75	4
	24.6	5	24.6	5	24.6	5	24.6	5
11 TH	27	4	27	4	27	4	27	4
12 TH	28	5	*26.25	4	*26.25	4	*26.25	4

KEY: MINIMUM vs SUGGESTED – reminder, offering fewer sections will increase conflicts in scheduling- impacting student choice/availability

EIGHTH GRADE RELOCATION: SPACE FEASIBILITY

SUBJECT	SECTIONS	CLASSES
English	22 + 3ELAP = 25 25 + 3ELAP = 28	ELA 8 (4) , Honors ELA8 (1), CompLit (5), HonorsCompLit (1), WorldLit (4), HonorsWorldLit (1), AmLit (3), ModLit (4), AP Lang (2), 8-12 ELAP ELA (3)
Math	21 24	Math 8 (4), Pre Algebra (2), Algebra I (5), Geometry (5), Algebra II (3), AP PreCalc (1), AP Calculus (1), AP Stats (1), Pers Finance (2)
Science	21 22	Science 8 (5), Earth Science (3), Biology (4), Chemistry (3), Physics (1), Astronomy (1), Forensics (1), Human Anatomy (2), AP Environmental (1), AP Chem (1)
SocStud	21	SocSt 8 (5), AKHist (3), Civics (3), World (3), USHist (2), APUSH (2), AP Human (1), AP Psych (1), AP World (1)
PE	15	8 PE (4), Weight Training (5), Team Sports (2) Adventure Rec (2), Yoga (2)
Health	4	8 Health (2), 9-12 Health (2)
Music	6	Band, Concert Band, Choir, Advanced Choir, Orchestra, Advanced Orchestra
Elective	58	8 Computer Science/Career (2), 8 Art (1), 8 Culture (1), Intervention (7), ELAP Skills (2), ELAP prep (1), Welding (5), Auto (5), Construction (6), Engines (4), Culinary (6), Business (2), Multimedia (6), 9-12 Art (5), Spanish (3), Early Childhood (1), Leadership (1)
Other	24	New Tides (12), KVL A (6), Library (6)
SPED	30	5 teachers – 6 periods per teacher
Total Sections	232 224	38.7 Teachers 37.3 Teacher

Strategy “A” for Consideration FY28 (Summer 2027)

Kodiak High School

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades 8-12 (estimated ADM = 652)

Kodiak Middle School

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades 4-7 (estimated ADM = 503)

Main Elementary School

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades K-3 (estimated ADM = 211)

Peterson Elementary School K-3

- Building utilization decreases to 107 as K-3 School
- Transition East Elementary School into Main Elementary School and Kodiak Middle School: **EES Closed Summer 2027**
- *Recognize Current Waiver Process to Promote School Choice K-3 with Possible Transportation Shuttle Consideration*

Strategy “B” for Consideration FY28 (Summer 2027)

Kodiak High School

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades 8-12 (estimated ADM = 652)

Kodiak Middle School

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades 4-7 (estimated ADM = 380, assuming none of KMS students desire to return to Peterson K-7 for 1 year)

Main Elementary School

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades K-3 (estimated ADM = 211)

Peterson Elementary School K-7

- Increase building utilization and program access for students in grades K-7
- Building utilization increases to 230 as a K-7 school
- Transition East Elementary School into Main Elementary School and Peterson Elementary School: **EES Closed Summer 2027**
- *Recognize Current Waiver Process to Promote School Choice K-3 with Possible Transportation Shuttle Consideration*

Career Modules

Reorganization will occur during year one.

Beginning in year two (FY 29), the district will consider options to implement high-interest career modules in our two elementary/K-7 schools, including:

- marine sciences
- robotics
- military sciences
- music, strings, and
- other performing arts.

Strategy “C” for Consideration FY28 (Summer 2027)

- Postpone reorganization in anticipation of improvements in political landscape at state level
- Hope additional funding is provided through state and local funding bodies.
- Remain under current organizational structure while reviewing and reducing personnel and programs to close reoccurring budget deficits throughout KIBSD
- *We have explored other configurations, including a PreK/K Center in F-Wing.*

Next Steps:

- Time for planning and preparation is on our side!
- Share considerations/options with Community Budget Advisory Council (09.09.26) for feedback, ideas, opportunities, and concerns.
- Continue meeting with building and district leadership regarding grade level reconfiguration, building capacity and utilization, assignment of personnel, and grade level goals.
- Review transportation & school nutrition programs.
- KIBSD Board of Education Action/Determination



Thank you!

Questions?



Board Agenda Item

Kodiak Island Borough School District
722 Mill Bay Rd
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Board Mtg. Date
8/03/2026 WS

Reports of the
Superintendent

☐

Action
Item

☒

Consent
Agenda

☐

Reports,
Routine
Monthly

☐

Other

☐

Subject:

BP 4141.6 and BP 4241.6 - Concerted Activity/Work Stoppage

**Presenter or
Contact Person:**

Dr. Daniel Brigman, Superintendent

Summary:

KIBSD has not adopted a policy to specifically address *Concerted Activity/Work Stoppage*. AASB originally proposed this model policy in 2004 and this updated version contains minor grammatical changes to the original.

Note from AASB:

The following optional policy may be revised or deleted. SB 16 (Statutes of 1992), repealed Title 14 provisions related to collective bargaining and affirmed placement of public school employees under the Public Employment Relations Act. In addition, public school employees were reclassified from class (a) (2) to class (a) (3) under [AS 23.40.200](#) which provides them the right to strike after exhausting the advisory arbitration process. If advisory arbitration fails, a strike may not begin until at least 72 hours after notice of the strike is given. In any event, a strike may not begin on or after the first day of the school term, as that term is described in [AS 14.03.030](#), unless at least one day in session with students in attendance has passed after notice of the strike is given by the employees. [AS 23.40.080](#) provides public employees the right to engage in concerted activities. AASB is available for assistance in preparing contingency strike plans.

**Financial
Implications:**

There is no financial impact to the budget.

Attachments:

BP 4141.6 and BP 4241.6 - Concerted Activity/Work Stoppage

Recommendation: Administration recommends the Board Review the policy and direct staff concerning potential revisions.

Motion:

**CERTIFICATED AND CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL - CONCERTED
ACTIVITY/WORK STOPPAGE****Key**

Black text – current policy with no suggested changes

Red ~~strikeout~~ – deletions to policy suggested by AASB

Red [brackets] – additions to policy suggested by AASB

Blue ~~strikeout~~ – deletions to policy by Policy Committee and/or KIBSD

Blue [brackets] – additions to policy suggested by Policy Committee and/or KIBSD

[The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a plan for the safe operation of the schools in the event of a work stoppage. In the event of a strike, a walkout, a coordinated mass use of sick leave or any other concentrated refusal of staff to perform assigned duties, the Superintendent or designee shall take whatever emergency steps they deem necessary for the safety of students, staff and district property. Such steps shall be reported to the School Board as soon as possible. When students raise questions related to a work stoppage, staff shall be expected to approach the subject in accordance with the district's policy on controversial issues. Staff shall not let such discussions interfere with their regular employment responsibilities.

(cf. 6144 - Controversial Issues)

Employees shall not provide students with messages or other information that promotes or explains the position of any employee organization that is engaged in or contemplating a work stoppage.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

23.40.080 *Right of public employees*

23.40.200 *Classes of public employees; arbitration]*

Adopted: *Not in current KIBSD Policy.*

Revised:

Last Reviewed:

BP XXXX.X ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

The School Board recognizes that the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the District enhances student learning and staff productivity. The District shall leverage AI capabilities to optimize instructional practices and operational efficiency while prioritizing ethical and responsible use by district staff and students.

District use of AI shall be guided by the following principles:

1) Purpose

The District will facilitate the use of AI to help students achieve educational goals and promote staff productivity while protecting human decision-making and judgment.

2) Compliance

The District will ensure that the use of AI adheres to existing district policies, administrative regulations, and applicable law.

3) Knowledge

The District will promote AI literacy for staff and students. AI education shall equip students and staff with critical thinking skills for recognizing AI technologies and analyzing AI outputs.

4) Balance

The District will harness the power of AI while acknowledging its limitations. AI outputs need to be checked for potential biases and inaccuracies and must be critically evaluated for accuracy and credibility using reliable sources.

5) Integrity

The District will integrate AI for genuine learning growth while safeguarding academic and professional integrity.

6) Agency

The District will empower student staff decision-making in the use of AI. AI is a tool that offers recommendations; staff and students are critical consumers who are responsible for making informed professional, instructional, and academic decisions.

7) Evaluation

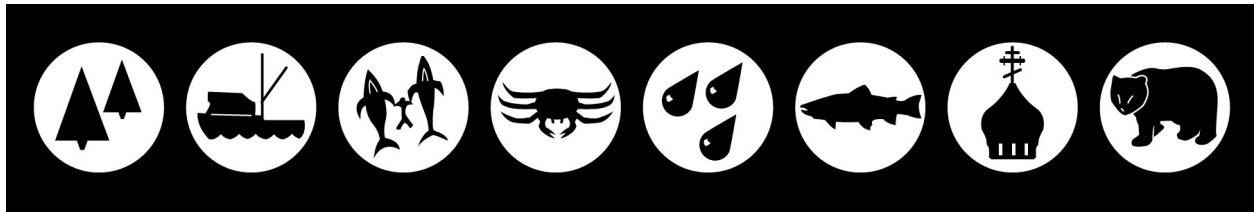
The District will regularly assess the impacts of AI.

Definition

Artificial Intelligence – refers to technology that is capable of simulating human intelligence by learning from data, Large Language Models, and Small Language Models, and performing tasks that typically require human reasoning.

These tasks can include:

- Recognizing patterns and trends
- Making predictions
- Adapting to new information
- Communicating and interacting with humans
- Generating original content (written, audio, visual, etc)



Kodiak Island Borough School District Board of Education

Committee and Board Member Appointments (Updated 10/20/2025)

Facilities Review Committee:

Not Active at Present

Graduation Expectations Committee:

Not Active at Present

CTE Committee:

Duncan Fields, Jesse Mickelson

Todd Burton, Matt Bieber

Curriculum Advisory Committee:

Mike Litzow and Jim Pryor

Angie Hietala, Katrina Stewart

Native Education Parent Committee:

Jim Pryor, Kerry Irons

Todd Burton

Policy Review Committee:

Mike Litzow, Kerry Irons

Cyndy Mika

Staff Development Committee:

Kerry Irons, Jesse Mickelson

Angie Hietala, Katrina Stewart

Strategic Education Plan Committee:

Not Active at Present

Cyndy Mika

Budget Development Committee:

All Board Members

Krista Cowley, Cyndy Mika

Food and Nutrition Committee:

Kerry Irons, Jim Pryor, Graham Edwards (USCG Representative)

Krista Cowley, Jerilyn Urban

Negotiations Committee:

Jim Pryor

Activities Committee:

Jim Pryor, Jesse Mickelson



AASB's 73rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE & Youth Leadership Institute

November 5-8, 2026 • Anchorage

Invest in Your Board & Students

We're pleased to present two prolific keynote speakers during our Annual Conference this year: **Rebecca Winthrop**, Director of the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution, and **Vera Starbard**, Alaska State Writer Laureate.



**Friday, Nov. 6th Keynote
Speaker:**

Rebecca Winthrop

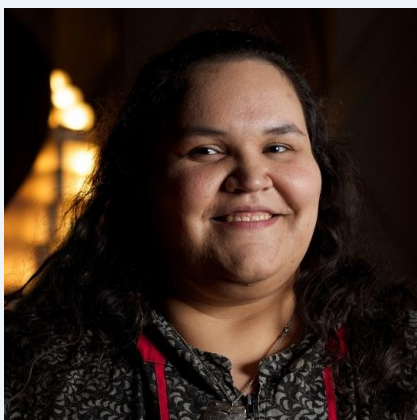
Brookings Institution and Georgetown
University.

Rebecca Winthrop is a globally recognized leader in education and a Senior Fellow and Director of the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution and Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University, joining us for this year's conference! Her work focuses on ensuring all young people—especially the most marginalized—develop the skills they need to thrive in work, life, and as engaged citizens. She leads innovative research on transforming education systems, including the role of families, communities, and emerging technologies in accelerating student agency, engagement, and learning.

Winthrop currently leads the Brookings Global Task Force on AI in Education and has co-authored a book on student engagement, *The Disengaged Teen: Helping Kids Learn Better, Feel Better, and Live Better*. A trusted adviser to governments, schools, parent networks, international institutions, foundations, and companies, her expertise has informed efforts at the United Nations, the White House, State, and school district leaders, and Fortune 500 firms. Prior to Brookings, she spent 15 years working on education for displaced and conflict-affected communities, including as head of education for the International Rescue Committee.

Winthrop holds a Ph.D. from Columbia University Teachers College.

[More About Rebecca](#)



**Saturday, Nov. 7th Keynote
Speaker:**

Vera Starbard

Alaska State Writer Laureate and four-time
Emmy-nominee.

T'set Kwei yóo ɣat duwasáakw. Vera Starbard áyá ax saayí. Dleit káa x'éináx Vera Marlene Bedard yóo ɣat duwasáakw. Leeneidi naax ɣat sitee. T'akdeintaan yádi. Wooshkeetaan dachxán. Dena'ina dachxán. Takjik' kwáan áwé uháan. Shaan Seetx' yéi ɣat koowdiztee. X'áat' T'áakx' kuxaa.óo.

Vera Starbard, T'set Kwei, is a Tlingit Raven of the Leeneidi (Dog Salmon clan) after her mother, and a Child of T'akdeintaan. Her paternal grandfather is of the Wooshkeetaan Clan, and her maternal grandfather is Dena'ina Athabaskan. Vera's ancestors are from the village of Tuxecan on Prince of Wales Island, she was born in Shaan Seet (Craig,) and she's lived in many communities throughout Alaska.

Vera was appointed to be the Alaska State Writer Laureate in 2024. She is a four-time Emmy-nominee as a writer and story editor for the PBS Kids children's program "Molly of Denali." Vera was previously Playwright-in-Residence at Perseverance Theatre through the Andrew W. Mellon National Playwright Residency Program, and editor of First Alaskans Magazine for over a decade. In 2022-23 she was staffed as a writer on the ABC show "Alaska Daily," and wrote the libretto for the first Tlingit opera – "Kutulagaw" – premiering in September 2026. Her middle-grade novel, "Park Survival: Lost in Alaska" will be published by Scholastic in November 2026.

More About Vera

Join us this November for AASB's 73rd Annual Conference in Anchorage – **November 5-8, 2026!** As Alaska's largest gathering of education policymakers, the conference provides school board members with opportunities to learn from experts, connect with peers, and enhance board-superintendent collaboration.

This year's program includes expert keynote speakers, roundtables, like-sized district forums, shared meals, and over 15 breakout sessions on timely education topics. Plus, the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) returns, bringing high school students together to build leadership skills and inspire change in their schools and communities.

New Venue! This year, all conference sessions will be held at the **William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center** (555 W 5th Ave, Downtown Anchorage). This new location provides expanded meeting space and greater accessibility to fulfill our mission to serve Alaska's students and communities.

Early Bird Sale for Main Conference registration ends Friday, October 9!

For questions or assistance, please contact us at aasb@aasb.org.

Youth Leadership Institute - \$550

Thursday, November 5 - Sunday, November 8

Hosted at the Egan Convention Center in Anchorage, students will spend 4 days with peers and guest speakers from across Alaska. This year's theme, "Coming Together for Alaska's Students," will empower youth to use their voices to be change-makers in their schools and communities. Engaging breakout sessions with speakers and school board members enable conversations at a level unique to Youth Leadership Institute.

Pre-Conference Add-On Sessions

Experienced Board Member Academy - \$220

Partnering with Families to Help Students Learn, Feel, & Live Better

Thursday, November 5

This year's Experienced Board Member Academy will focus on student engagement and strengthening family-school partnerships. Rebecca Winthrop, professor and author at the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution, will lead a conversation about how to help students meaningfully connect with learning.

Ready, Set, Govern! - \$140

For New Board Members

Thursday, November 5

Ready, Set, Govern!, designed for new school board members, is structured to help them better understand and feel more comfortable in their role, as well as connect with school board members from around the state. Input from school board members this past year is being used to develop this year's agenda.

AASB's Mission

To advocate for children and youth by assisting school boards in providing quality public education, focused on student achievement, through effective local governance.



Call for Resolutions - Response due by Oct. 7, 2026

AASB is soliciting resolutions, resolution amendments and comments from local school boards for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference on Nov. 5 - 8 at the Egan Convention Center in Anchorage. These resolutions guide our association for the coming year. They also guide our advocacy and positions during the upcoming legislative session.

We encourage each school board to carefully review the resolutions packet. It is essential that our resolutions adequately address the issues facing school boards and public education across Alaska. As you review the materials, please consider the challenges and opportunities within your district—as well as those that may affect other districts statewide.

**The following reference documents
may be viewed online or downloaded:**

- [2027 Draft #2 Where We Stand \(pdf\)](#)
- [2027 Draft #2 Where We Stand \(Word\)](#)
- [2026 Table of Sunsetting Resolutions/Proposed Sunsetting Resolutions](#)
- [AASB 2026 Resolution Process and Timeline](#)
- [AASB Resolution Submission Form](#)

At their July 2026 meeting, the AASB Board of Directors reviewed the current resolutions scheduled to sunset and considered proposed revisions to existing resolutions and newly proposed resolutions. The Board's recommendations are noted in the *Where We Stand* [Draft #2](#) document for consideration by the membership.

AASB resolutions provide the authority needed for the Association to respond when approached by the Legislature or other parties. We encourage member districts to review existing resolutions and consider potential amendments or new proposals, as well as identify important topics that may not yet be addressed in the current resolutions.

To comment on or suggest changes to the resolutions, AASB requests that your board schedule time to discuss the resolutions at a regular meeting and vote by official board action. We require all submissions of comments, new resolutions, or amended resolutions be submitted by **October 7, 2026**. To submit a comment, new resolution, or amendment, click the button below:

Submit Resolutions

A complete set of all resolutions, including those proposed by districts, will be

compiled and sent to member districts by October 17, 2026. If you have any questions regarding the resolutions, please email Katie Oliver at koliver@asb.org or call 907-463-1660.

Thank you for your board's continued commitment to supporting Alaska's students! We look forward to receiving your comments, amendments, and resolutions.

The mission of the Association of Alaska School Boards is to advocate for children and youth by assisting school boards in providing quality public education, focused on student achievement, through effective local governance.