

Board of Education
Tuesday, August 19, 2025 Alaska Time

Zoom
P.O. Box 90
McGrath, Alaska 99627

Kathy Chase: Present
Alice Dale: Present
Rudy Hamilton: Absent
Doug Heath: Present
Ann Short: Absent
Robert Walker: Present
Kim Wortman: Present
Present: 5, Absent: 2.
Rudy Hamilton: Present
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Mission Statement
- IV. Introduction of Guests
- V. Director Reports
- VI. Recognition and Awards
- VII. Communications to the Board
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Approval of Agenda
 - IX.A. Agenda Modification
- X. Approval of Consent Agenda Items
- XI. Old Business
- XII. New Business
 - XII.A. 26-001 Update Policy Booklet
 - XII.B. 26-002 Organizational Chart
 - XII.C. 26-003 Six Year Plan
 - XII.D. 26-004 Personnel Recommendations
- XIII. Discussion Agenda
- XIV. Final Items
 - XIV.A. Future Agenda Items
- XV. Adjournment



Michelle McGovern
Curriculum Support Director
Iditarod School District
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August Curriculum Support Director Board Report

Summer preparation has been productive. Curriculum has been ordered, delivered to IDLC, and shipped to the airlines for school delivery. This was a significant undertaking, and I would like to thank Texas, Ann, and Bob for their assistance in completing this process.

The In-Service Meet and Greet for new teachers was successful and provided an opportunity to connect in person. The virtual in-service sessions scheduled for August 11–12 will ensure all teachers are ready for the first day of school.

I will be traveling to Nikolai for one week to assist the new teachers in setting up for the school year, introduce them to the curriculum, and prepare classrooms for students.

This month, Texas and I will also be preparing for beginning-of-year testing, scheduling professional development, and working on the new CLSD grant as we aim to stay ahead of the demands of the school year.

In my new role, site visits will focus on monitoring curriculum implementation, confirming that teachers have the necessary materials and resources, supporting intervention efforts, and advancing the implementation of the Reads Act and the CLSD grant.

I am hopeful that, with the dedication of our staff, the preparedness of our teachers, and the strong support of our community, this year will be both productive and successful for our students and schools.

Michelle McGovern
Curriculum Support Director



Kyle Schneider
Registrar
Iditarod School District
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Records Requests

A number of records requests have been received over the summer from students applying to boarding schools or leaving the school district. The district's electronic records request system continues to function well – insuring that these records requests don't languish on fax machines in schools without full-time summer staff. All requests this summer have been within 1-3 business days.

2025-2026 Preparation & Registration:

Preparation for the 25-26 school in the district's two student information systems (SIS) is wrapping up. In support of yearly registration process, information has been compiled for Principal/Teachers about their students' registration progress, along with details about which students are missing birth certificate, immunization, Indian Education, or JOM paperwork so that they can work with families to get that information updated.

Registrations have slowly started coming in. As of August 9th, 2025, 21% of in-person students who are expected to return this school year have already completed their registration paperwork. However, incoming Kindergarten registrations are (so far) fewer than were expected.

IDLC registrations are down compared to this time last year. Se have been notified that several families are transferring their students to other correspondence programs that are being more permissive in their use of allotment money, and some correspondence schools are offering larger allotments this year than what the IDLC is offering.

Draft schedules for all students have been sent to Principal/Teachers and revisions have been coming in. These revisions are necessary to align teacher's course schedules with students' changing needs over the summer. For example, in some instances a class will be taught because a junior or senior will need it for graduation, but if they transfer to boarding school, the schedule will be adjusted to provide a class for 9th and 10th graders that better fits a their needs.

Inservice Training

With in-service being held virtually this year, a series of how-to videos has been created for teachers, P/Ts, and secretaries that cover most of the topics that have been addressed during in-person in-service. While creating the videos is a more time-intensive process than presenting the information in-person or via a web meeting, it has the added advantage of allowing staff to re-watch the videos when needed.

Board Report - August 2025

Inservice and the 25-26 School Year have had a strong start. The hiring Breakdown is below:

Nikolai Elise Barrett (P/T and Lower Elem) and Alvin Juanite (Upper Elem/MS)
Grayling Dana Drummonds (P/T and MS) and Marie Goloran (Math/Electives)
Anvik AJ Anting (PT and Math/Electives)
Takotna Marita Tan (K-5)
ECE Amanda Langston
Career/General Halie Mahoney
Counseling

McGrath, Shageluk, and Holy Cross - Entire Certified Staff returned

15 Teachers stayed from 24-25. All Directors and the District Office returned

Board Secretary Returned

CONTINUITY - It drives Success. Our students have the opportunity to work with the same teachers they had access to last year. We thank them for coming back and wanting to continue working with our students. I feel very strongly that this is a good group of people we have in our district.

AK Grad

We have moved the district away from Acellus to AK Grad because of the following considerations:

- 1. AK Grad is more cost effective**
- 2. AK Grad is geared towards AK Home Schools and Smaller Districts in Alaska.**
- 3. AK Grad has access to specific classes for our students, such as AK Studies that small 2 and 3 teacher sites don't have the ability to create curriculum for.**

Opportunities for Students

We are looking at many different opportunities for students

- 1. CTE through YK and ExCell - Won't be the same sessions. YK will be focusing on more of the Career piece, while ExCell focuses on the Social/Mental piece. The Sessions will be coming out shortly. YK asked about doing some sessions down here - McGrath and Grayling as possibilities. This still needs fleshing out.**
- 2. Possibility of 2 Career Trips this year vs 1 in previous years. We could not go on a trip last year, but we still have grant money to spend towards it that has to be used (or we lose it by the end of September).**
- 3. Academic Activities - Battle of the Books. Possibly more. Depends on the grants we have and whether the Feds continue to pull money back**

4. **Athletic Activities - JRNYO/NYO, Possibly more individual sports such as Archery. We have some possibilities. The biggest issue is travel costs.**

CIP - Anvik. Making Application for 2 Additional

Blackwell School at Anvik - Start date 8/21/2025

A 3rd Phase was added, mainly because of the gym. Phase 1 was completed this summer. I have not had the opportunity to see the finished product yet.

We are looking at McGrath and Nikolai as CIP project to replace the heating systems in each building, with additional work

As with anything involving CIP projects, student population above 10 and being stable is what gets the project funded.

Handbooks/Policies

The following will be put before the Board in September:

1. **Classified Handbook.**
2. **Student Handbook**
3. **A Finalized and Updated Policy Booklet - 2 Step Process**
 - a. **Initial policies updated to most current**
 - b. **Catered to meet the district's needs.**
4. **An Updated Cell Phone Policy - Being piloted by McGrath to begin the year.**

Open Houses - To be announced, but we look forward to showing off our student's efforts and seeing our district buildings shine.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

John



Chris Romine
Technology Director
Iditarod School District
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August 2025 Technology Report

Welcome back to a new school year. In the technology department, the biggest change is our new internet service provider, GCI, has installed fiber connections for our schools on the Yukon and satellite service for McGrath, Nikolai and Takotna. Our schools that now have fiber will enjoy much faster responses while using the internet as well as fewer disconnects and interruptions to the service. We will be monitoring this new service closely to make sure the district is getting the best service possible.

Laptops were distributed to new staff during inservice this month. New laptops are also shipping out to the sites for high school students to refresh the older units. Those should be delivered sometime next week to the schools.

Blackwell School is currently offline due to the construction project but we should have access sometime this week to determine what will be required to get systems back online. A wireless system to provide internet access should be available very quickly while replacing the wiring plant for the site may take additional time and resources. The district have funds available to replace that wiring this coming July 1st 2026 so we can make things work this year knowing a better solution for the updated building will be available soon.

Thank you so much for your time. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

Chris Romine
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