


# Angela Busch Alston

  
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School of Education  
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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Interdisciplinary Studies Linguistics and Indigenous Education** Anticipated 2025  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**Research Question:** What is the role of the non-Indigenous teacher in Indigenous language reclamation?

Chair: Dr. Amy Vinlove

**M.Ed. Cross Cultural Education** 2017  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**Masters Project:** *Protocols, Language Videos, and Masks: A Professional Development Module and Cultural Arts Units for Use in the Bering Strait School District*

Chair: Dr. Amy Vinlove

**B.S. History Education** 2004  
Brigham Young University-Idaho

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Full Time Faculty: Secondary Education Department** Fall 2023-present  
School of Education  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**ED 630 Curriculum Development** Summer 2023  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**ED 206 Core Practices in Arts and Place-based Teaching** Fall 2022  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**ED 630 Curriculum Development** Summer 2022  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**ED 111 Teaching for Alaska's Future**  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Spring 2022

**ED 111 Teaching for Alaska's Future**  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Spring 2021

**ED 293 Arts and Place-based Teaching Strategies**  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Spring 2019

## LICENSURE

**Alaska Professional Teaching Certificate**  
Endorsements: History, English

## SECONDARY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Brevig Mission School, Brevig Mission, Alaska** 2013–present, 2010-2011  
Junior High and High School World History, United States History, Alaska History,  
American Government, Reading, Writing, Technology, Physical Education, Leadership,  
Inupiaq, Video Productions, and Art

**Shishmaref School, Shishmaref, Alaska** 2005-2010  
Junior High and High School Social Studies, Reading, and Writing

## PUBLICATIONS

**Alston, A. B.** (2021). *The Transplant Teacher: Looking Inward and Reaching Outward When You're Far From Home*. West Tanglewood Press.

**Alston, A. B.** ( 2018, October 23) *How Video Coaching Leads to More Honest Teaching*.  
EdSurge.  
<https://www.edsurge.com/news/2018-10-23-how-video-coaching-leads-to-more-honest-teaching>

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

**Alaska Council for the Social Studies** 2021–present

- Served on the Revitalization Team to reactivate the council and re-establish it as an affiliate of the National Council for the Social Studies.
- Co-chaired the Information Sharing Committee that redesigned the website, forums, and newsletter.
- Currently serving as the Northwest Regional Representative.

- Assisting with management of social media accounts to increase visibility and membership.

**Inupiaq Language Elective Collaboration** 2018–present

- Partnering with Helen Olanna, an Elder in Brevig Mission to facilitate an Inupiaq Language Elective for high school students.
- Working with students to transcribe Olanna’s translations of Visual Inupiaq Vocabulary Acquisition framework.
- Creating study helps and games for use with younger students.

**Sustaining Indigenous Local Knowledge, Arts and Teaching** 2015–present

- Collaborated to create a set of Core Teaching Practices and one Core Disposition vital to culture and arts integration in the classroom.
- Designed Professional Development Modules and Arts and Culture Units around the Core Practices/Disposition for use across the Bering Strait School District.
- Conducted local professional development introducing the Core Teaching Practices/Disposition and Arts and Culture Units.
- Presented the Professional Development Modules at the Alaska Teacher Educator Forum 2018.

**Brevig Mission School Art Camp** 2014–present

- Worked with Brevig Mission School staff to schedule two weeks of arts instruction at the end of each school year.
- Designed small and large scale art projects.
- Coordinated the secondary schedule to accommodate district and local specialists and student choice.

**Rose Urban Rural Exchange** 2010, 2011, 2015

- Facilitated exchange between students at West High School and Pacific Northern Academy in Anchorage and Shishmaref and Brevig Mission Schools.
- Nurtured students as they stayed with host families in Anchorage.
- Hosted a West High School and Pacific Northern Academy teacher.
- Arranged cultural activities for visiting West High and Pacific Northern Academy students.

**Inupiaq Dictionary** 2009–2011

- Designed an online interactive dictionary hosted on the Bering Strait School District wiki including images and sound files of Inupiaq words.
- Taught groups of students to record and upload translated words.

**Fulbright Teaching Exchange** 2008–2009

- Taught three high school English classes in Morocco.
- Lived with a Moroccan host family.

- Hosted a Moroccan teacher in Shishmaref.

### **Inupiaq Days**

2005–2010

- Served on the committee that created a week-long cultural celebration at Shishmaref School.
- Arranged and scheduled cultural classes including: seal butchering, beading, and ice fish hook making.

## **GRANTS**

### **Carrs/Safeway Grant Recipient**

2018–2019

- Wrote a proposal to the Alaska Council of School Administrators to fund travel to and participation in the American Association of Applied Linguistics Conference in Atlanta, Georgia with Brevig Mission Bilingual/Bicultural instructor.
- Conference training and content used to develop a plan for focused Inupiaq language instruction beginning in Kindergarten and continuing through high school.

### **Carrs/Safeway Grant Recipient**

2017–2018

- Wrote a proposal to the Alaska Council of School Administrators to fund two Brevig Mission School educators to observe philosophy techniques for students in an Indigenous setting.
- Coordinated with faculty and staff at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and schools around Oahu to arrange school visits and interviews.
- Observed techniques adapted for the local student population to help Brevig Mission students develop skills to cope with their challenging life situations and emotions in order to change their lives and achieve more at school.

### **Fund for Teachers Grant Recipient**

2016

- Co-wrote a proposal to study Indigenous education reform in New Zealand.
- Communicated with leaders in New Zealand education to arrange school visits and interviews with teachers and school leaders.
- Spent two weeks in New Zealand observing classrooms and participating in cultural activities.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Alaska Society for Technology in Education**

2023

Featured Speaker: “Why Teachers Need to Adapt”

- Telling stories from my years in rural Alaska to illustrate why teachers need to focus on what they can control and adapt to meet the needs of their students.

### **Alaska Society for Technology in Education**

2023

“Technology and Indigenous Language Reclamation in the Classroom”

- Highlighting tools and methods used in the classroom while collaborating with Elder Helen Olanna to translate and transcribe Inupiaq words and phrases.

**Alaska Society for Technology in Education**

2023

“Tools to bring wonder and inquiry into classroom discussions.”

- Crafting structured circle discussions using digital tools and the power of wonder. How a rural Alaska school has adapted the philosophy 4 children framework.

**Bering Strait School District Educational Conference**

2017

“Gilder Lehrman Seminars”

- Introduced secondary Social Studies educators to the vast resources available through the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.
- Shared my experiences with the Gilder Lehrman Native American History Seminar at Dartmouth.
- Guided teachers through an example activity in Google Classroom comparing primary sources.

**Alaska Society for Technology in Education**

2011

“Down Under and Up Over: Cultural Exchange between Alaska and Australia”

- Showcased year-long collaboration between schools in Alaska and Australia sharing images and writing samples.

**Alaska Society for Technology in Education**

2010

“Tech Tools for Teachers”

- Demonstrated free tools for use in the classroom and beyond.

**Bering Strait School District Educational Conference**

2009

“Inupiaq Dictionary”

- Taught bilingual educators from across the school district how to create and upload images and audio files of Inupiaq words into wiki templates.

**Bering Strait School District Educational Conference**

2006

“Differentiated Instruction”

- Presented techniques for teaching across multiple skill levels and learning styles.

## **CURRICULUM AND TESTING**

**Bering Strait School District Social Studies Curriculum Review**

2021–2022

- Evaluated Social Studies curriculums for alignment with C3 Framework and Alaska Content Standards.

**Achievement Level Descriptor Review Workshop** 2014

- Revised Achievement Level Descriptors for the Alaska Measure of Progress for recommendation to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

**Bering Strait School District Social Studies Advisory Committee** 2010–2011

- Refined Social Studies standards.
- Evaluated textbooks for curriculum adoption.

**Bering Strait School District Content and Standards Committee** 2006, 2008–2010

- Rewrote district Social Studies standards.
- Redesigned district End of Level assessments.

## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP ROLES

**Principal's Assistant, Brevig Mission School** 2017–2018

- Designed and ran a system for tracking unexcused absences in Kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Drafted and refined letters to be sent home every five absences.
- Tracked absences and produced letters in line with district and state truancy policy.
- Coordinated publicity for school events online and at strategic locations around Brevig Mission.

**Member of Plus More Foundations Team (Leadership Team)** 2016–2018

- Studied the Safe and Civil Schools Foundations curriculum, encouraging positive, school-wide discipline.
- Represented the secondary school as the team made decisions regarding school-wide policies and data collection.
- Supported the implementation of teacher to parent communication regarding sleeping in class, cell phone policy, and the transition of Brevig Mission School to a pop free zone.

**CHAMPS Classroom Management Coach** 2015–2017

- Trained in Safe and Civil Schools CHAMPS classroom management techniques.
- Provided local professional development regarding CHAMPS classroom management.
- Performed peer observations throughout the school on student time on task, ratio of positive to negative interactions, and opportunities for student response.
- Collected and compiled data from observations.