

Numbers Only, Multiple Selected Trans Types

Change Record Detail with Description Department of Education and Early Development

DRAFT

Scenario: FY2013 Governor (9494)

Component: Early Learning Coordination (2912)

RDU: Teaching and Learning Support (56)

Title: Maintain Pre-Kindergarten Program

Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services			Travel Services			Commodities			Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions			
														PFT	PPT	NP	
IncM	700.0	700.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	700.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund	700.0																

This request maintains the current level of services to continue the department's Early Learning Coordination Pre-Kindergarten program.

The Alaska Pre-Kindergarten Project provides a voluntary, comprehensive, half-day preschool program for four- and young five- year olds (five-year old children who do not meet the cut off date for Kindergarten entry) based on the Guiding Principles and goals set forth in the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines. The Pre-Kindergarten provides the framework, guidance, and funding for the creation of local model programs in a variety of Alaskan settings including urban, rural, and remote.

These programs focus on all areas of a child's development while emphasizing school readiness, language development, early literacy, mathematics, and cognition. They balance teacher directed and child initiated activities that recognize each child's individual temperament and interests by providing opportunities and experiences for learning through exploration, Mediated Learning Experiences, and direct instruction for four- and young five- year olds. The programs meet with children for a minimum of four days per week and a minimum of fourteen hours per week following the local school calendar with at least three hours, and no more than five hours, of contact time per day. The Pre-Kindergarten program builds on existing district and community resources to expand high quality, comprehensive preschool services to interested families.

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Change Record Detail with Description Department of Education and Early Development

DRAFT

Scenario: FY2013 Governor (9494)

Component: Student and School Achievement (2796)

RDU: Teaching and Learning Support (56)

Title: Funding for the Support of a Statewide Literacy Program

Trans Type	Totals	Personal			Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Positions			
		Services								Benefits	Miscellaneous	PFT	PPT NP
Inc	300.0	0.0			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	300.0	0.0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund	300.0												

The literacy program will support the implementation of the Alaska State Literacy Blueprint, which outlines literacy outcomes for birth to graduation. The Blueprint, which was developed by a team of Alaska literacy leaders, was approved by the State Board of Education in March 2011. The Blueprint provides direction for educators, parents, and agencies that work with children on improving literacy for all learners. A primary goal behind the initiative is to ensure students are proficient readers by grade three, and that appropriate interventions and strategies are used with struggling readers, regardless of age, so that all Alaska students graduate ready for college and careers.

The literacy program supports professional development in literacy, as well as provides the core skill requirements for entry into the public school system for both public and private early childhood programs. Professional development will be delivered in three ways:

- 1) A literacy institute modeled after a very successful institute that was hosted in 2011 for intervention school districts;
- 2) Distance education through the use of an Alaska reading course; and,
- 3) Directly to districts, conferences or other venues by the department's content specialist in literacy.

Outreach to public and private early childhood providers, as well as parents, will include distribution of the Blueprint, which includes materials and presentations promoting language and literacy development in preparation for strong connections and success in the K-12 school system; and public awareness around what it takes to be prepared for success in the K-12 school system through a program called "I Am Ready", an early learning activities booklets for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, and the "Babies on Track" DVD

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Change Record Detail with Description Department of Education and Early Development

DRAFT

Scenario: FY2013 Governor (9494)

Component: Student and School Achievement (2796)

RDU: Teaching and Learning Support (56)

Title: Support Funding for the Alaska Learning Network

Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	PFT	NP
Inc	1,200.0	0.0	0.0	1,200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund	1,200.0									

This increment request will provide program support for the Alaska Learning Network, a statewide consortium that includes all 54 of Alaska's school districts.

Alaska's Learning Network (AKLN) improves student achievement through online learning opportunities for students, and through professional development opportunities for educators by providing:

- Distance courses for students that are taught and supported by highly qualified Alaska teachers,
- Courses offered through AKLN help students meet the curriculum requirements of the Alaska Performance Scholarship,
- A network of support for teachers, educators, and students to collaborate and share artifacts, resources, ideas and tools in a digital repository searchable by Alaska standards, and,
- Professional development coaching, including on-site and off-site support and training.

Originally awarded to Chatham School District to serve an 11-district coalition, AKLN has expanded to include all 54 Alaska school districts, starting with web-based, online classes in the fall of 2011. AKLN has established a governing board that includes 15 superintendents from around the state. The board has established a 3-year Strategic Plan.

Courses offered through AKLN are filling the need to provide rigorous courses not currently available in rural Alaska as well as highly qualified instructors for those courses. High school courses in English, Math, History, Social Studies, Alaska Studies, and World Languages are currently being offered. While AKLN online courses are open to all Alaska districts, AKLN is not competitive with services already provided by districts.

Course fees include a highly qualified instructor online and support, as stated in the AKLN agreement. Fees do not take away formula funding from districts since AKLN is not a correspondence school, but rather a consortium of all 54 Alaskan school districts.

Principals enroll students on a semester basis. Students must pass a pre-assessment to show readiness for the course prior before enrollment is confirmed. Tuition reductions are available and allow all AKLN courses to be offered at a cost of \$150/course per semester, per student. The reductions are weighted to allow for larger number of tuition reductions to smaller, rural Alaskan high schools. Continued tuition reductions are contingent upon the ability to obtain additional funding.

The Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 courses offered through AKLN are from Wrangell School District through K-12 Learning Online and from Anchorage School District through Moodle. As other districts develop their capacity to offer seats in their quality online courses, AKLN will be able to offer courses from all Alaskan districts.