



## **RURAL, RIGOROUS, REWARDING... AN OVERVIEW**

### **OVERVIEW /ENROLLMENT**

The Lake and Peninsula School District (LPSD) covers some 30,000 square miles - by way of comparison, South Carolina takes in approximately 32,000 square miles. According to the 2010 Census the District is home to approximately 1,600 year-round residents, with over 15 villages. Thirteen of these villages are home to LPSD schools with approximately 310 students in enrollment.

### **INNOVATION**

LPSD is offering data driven interventions and one on one tutoring during and after the school day to increase the amount of direct instructional contact time, resulting in growth in academic achievement and increased graduation rates for LPSD students. The key components include:

1. Certified educators are hired as tutors. Acting as an "Educational Special Forces Team", they fly into our struggling villages each spring, reviewing current interventions and student data, and working with site staff to formulate a plan to enrich the education of each student on site.
2. Novel, mutually beneficial partnerships have been developed with select universities to provide online support for LPSD student interventions and classroom instruction. Pre-service teachers as part of their university methods and practicum experience deliver online tutoring and intervention.

### **STANDARDS BASED EDUCATION**

It has been over ten years since Lake and Peninsula School District decided to reform the district's educational model. Instead of measuring "seat time" in the classroom and promoting students from grade to grade, whatever their skills, LPSD students proceed through a set of standards at their own pace. Teachers continuously monitor student progress and push, encourage and teach students. Some students may excel in completing district requirements and reach graduation level a year or two early while others stay with us and graduate a year or two later. With this model, time is not a factor in student success. LPSD student performance is the measure of academic achievement – not a grade or period of time a student spends in class.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

With the help of Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Wells Fargo, Delta Western, Lake and Peninsula Borough, SAVEC, Bristol Bay School District and Lake and Peninsula School District, a vocational program has been established in Southwest Alaska!

We run three phases a year and offer the following courses/ certifications: Small Engines, Carpentry, Building Trades, Business, Web Design, Outboard Engines, Welding, Driver Education,

Basic First Aid/CPR, and Water Safety. OSHA 10, Job Readiness, Maritime, Appliance Repair, Toyo Repair and Culinary Arts, ETT, Heavy Equipment, etc.

I would like to personally thank our lawmakers who supported legislation to fund Career and Technical Education in Alaska. For so many of our region's students, vocational training will offer them career opportunities that they would otherwise not have!

### **STAFF RETENTION**

Our staff retention is also at an all time high. Along with this, our tutoring program has provided us with an ample supply of certified educators ready to fill open positions. We attribute our low turnover to: a competitive salary and benefits package, a struggling economy in the lower 48, high quality district housing, feeling a part of a progressive educational system and sustainable leadership.

### **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

We continue to offer a wide variety of student activities; Volleyball, Cross Country, Basketball, NYO, Student Government, Student Leadership and Rifrey. While these activities are becoming more and more expensive to provide, we realize that they are an important part of student development and overall student morale.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

We are providing instruction, interventions, professional development, and counseling via the web and through technology. We are moving towards a 1 to 1 platform, realizing that the initial investment is a small price to pay for the educational benefits. As more programs are offered via the net, bandwidth and latency continue to plague our remote school district.

### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

The district is trying to harness the high cost of energy in rural Alaska with upgraded heating systems, waste heat agreements with our village utilities, hydroelectric boilers, LED lighting, and student and staff awareness programs.

### **MEASURING UP**

- District-Wide Attendance Rate for FY14 – **90.68%**
- Graduation Rate FY14 – **66.7%** 4 year graduation rate – **89.29%** 5 year graduation rate
- ASPI Star Ratings – **Three 5 Star Schools, Three 4 Star Schools, Seven 3 Star Schools**

<b>LPSD Benchmark (proficient or advanced) Student Comparison</b>										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
% benchmark in Math	33%	35%	46%	49%	58%	67%	68%	73%	67%	<b>81%</b>
% benchmark in Reading	55%	61%	68%	66%	67%	76%	71%	81%	71%	<b>75%</b>
% benchmark in Writing	46%	54%	51%	56%	62%	67%	70%	74%	72%	<b>75%</b>