

**03/09/15  
PRESENTATION:  
SUPERINTENDANT  
LAKE &  
PENINSULA  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
INNOVATIVE  
TEACHER  
TRAINING/RECRUI  
TING PROGRAM**

<TARGET><BILL></BILL><SUBJECT>03-09-15 PRESENTATION  
SUPERINTENDANT LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT ON  
INNOVATIVE TEACHER TRAINING-RECRUITING  
PROGRAM</SUBJECT><COMM>HEDC29</COMM></TARGET>



## **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>										
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
% 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>

# LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT'S UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION MODEL – FACT SHEET

## ONSITE TUTORING / INTERVENTION

### HOW IT WORKS:

- The majority of our tutors are recruited in the Fall and come to us for the Spring semester.
- Most are December graduates – all are certified educators.
- We provide travel, an induction, shopping help, no-cost housing, approximately \$20 an hour and an experience of a lifetime.
- Six years and dozens of tutors later, over 1/3 of our teaching staff is composed of former tutors!

### WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

- Academic achievement has increased.
- It's a wonderful cultural immersion for new staff.
- They are better prepared for the challenges of rural Alaska.
- Staff retention has increased dramatically.
- The majority of tutors want to stay. We have reduced the need for spring recruiting.
- It brings wonderful energy into our small schools.

## ONLINE TUTORING / INTERVENTION

54 students in Lake and Peninsula School District and 10 students in Bristol Bay Borough School District are receiving individualized distance-delivered tutoring from university students at University of Anchorage Alaska, Kutztown University of PA, Centenary College in New Jersey and Western Oregon University.

### HOW IT WORKS:

- Students are identified for intervention using AIMSweb.
- Students are tutored in 30-minute sessions one to three times per week.
- University students are enrolled in a teacher education program.
- Blackboard Collaborate is utilized for delivery.
- University professors train the tutors to analyze and interpret the AIMSweb data and create effective lessons.

### WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

- Academic achievement has increased.
- Provides a “live learning lab” for university partners.
- It has Big Brother / Big Sister qualities.
- Online tutors are starting to student teach and do onsite tutoring with LPSD.
- Works great for advanced students as well.
- It brings wonderful energy into our small schools.

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

- “I wanted to let you know how positive the online tutoring with the college students has been for \*\*\*\*\*. It has had an impact on him as his writing has improved substantially in the classroom. He seems to enjoy it and always says positive things to me about it. Just the fact that he came back to school for his tutoring lesson when he didn’t have to, says a lot. Writing has been so hard for him and now he is more willing to write than ever before. I hope it continues throughout the year as I believe he should make great gains in this subject area.” Classroom Teacher
- “The tutor he had last year was very good. She really understood how to teach inference and comprehension to someone with Autism. I have been using her techniques with him and he continues to improve. She taught him the technical words and the steps of inference in a very logical way. It was almost the way you would teach word problems in math. I don't know that I would have ever thought of teaching inference that way but it really worked for him.” Classroom Teacher
- “I just wanted to check in with you regarding \*\*\*\*\*. On Tuesday, he seemed to have a lot on his mind at the start of the tutoring session, and it seemed like something may have been bothering him. He left the tutoring session before the normal ending time, politely excusing himself and saying that he "had to go." I'm not worried that he left earlier than usual, because we had worked together for the agreed upon time, and he normally stays longer than the planned time, but I just wanted to check in to make sure that everything is going okay for him.” Online Tutor (Big Brother)
- “I feel it is really good for kids communication skills to interact with folks from outside the village. They get exposure to different dialect, syntax and verbiage. Students, by nature of the format in which the tutoring takes place, are forced to communicate outside their comfort level, which allows them to stretch their boundaries. I've also seen significant growth in basic math computational skills. I've also used tutoring for advanced students to get additional vocabulary building and an opportunity to wonder off on tangents of interest. I recommend it.” Classroom Teacher
- “Whether your young or young at heart you should just really do it. It is one of the best experiences you will ever have.” Onsite Tutor
- “UAA College of Ed faculty are working hard to re-imagine teacher preparation and think outside the box for better ways to build pathways to create culturally responsive educators. The online tutoring experience has opened a new portal to enter rural Alaska experience. We hope to build a bigger pathway to support more graduates to enter rural schools successfully. I have had great conversations with many faculty about tutoring possibilities. I think the stars are aligning...” Hilary Seitz, Associate Dean UAA College of Education
- “What you are providing us is the opportunity to teach our students how to teach, it’s a live learning lab for Universities.” Professor at University of Montana

## Janet Ogan

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**From:** Sheila Peterson <Sheila.Peterson@akleg.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 08, 2015 11:23 AM  
**To:** 'lsncshp+senateeducationcommittee@akleg.gov'  
**Subject:** Senate Education Committee on March 10

Good morning, Everyone,

The Senate Education Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 10 at 3:30 in the Butrovich Room to hear presentations by the University of Alaska Board of Regents, Jerry Covey on behalf of the Citizens for the Education al Advancement of Alaska's Children, and Ty Mase, superintendent of the Lake & Peninsula School District.

All presentations will focus on methods to train and retain quality teachers in Alaska.

You may find the presentations at the following link:

[http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get\\_documents.asp?chamber=SEDC&session=29&bill=&date1=20150310&time2=1530](http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?chamber=SEDC&session=29&bill=&date1=20150310&time2=1530)

Hope everyone remembered that Daylight Savings Time began this morning.

See you on Tuesday afternoon.

**Sheila Peterson**

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*If you would like to receive updates from Senator Dunleavy, simply make a request via email to [Sen.Mike.Dunleavy@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Mike.Dunleavy@akleg.gov) or call 907-376-3370*

Follow Senator Dunleavy on social media by clicking below!

