ABOUT TEACHING & LEARNING

The Teaching and Learning Department provides support to both students and educators, and the department encompasses a variety of areas, including the following areas highlighted in this pamphlet.

- The research, revision, and implementation of new curriculum.
- K-12 curricula and textbooks/materials.
- Alternative credit options for students, such as Challenge Exams and Outside Credit.
- Coordinating and providing support for districtwide and state assessments.
- Instructional Coaches
- Instructional Technology
- Library Media Services
- Professional Learning
- Coordinating some districtwide student events and highlighting other opportunities available to students.
- Student Supports such as early learning programs, support for military families, and programs funded through STEM and STEAM grants.

Additional information is located on the Teaching and Learning website at www.k12northstar.org/TeachingAndLearning.
WHO TO CONTACT?

Teaching & Learning Department
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11422
https://www.k12northstar.org/TeachingAndLearning

Curriculum & Instruction

- Michelle Dam
  - Curriculum Coordinator (Elementary)
  - Ext. 11419
  - Curriculum, instruction, & textbooks
  - MTSS & AIMSweb Plus
  - MAP Reports
  - AK Developmental Profile

- Rachel Reilly
  - Curriculum Coordinator (Secondary)
  - Ext. 11477
  - Curriculum, instruction, & textbooks
  - MAP Reports
  - Alaska Performance Scholarship
  - Outside Credit

- Mackenzie Staiger
  - Instructional Coach (Elementary)
  - Ext. 11436

- Vacant
  - Instructional Coach (Elementary)
  - Ext. 11284

- Tara DeVaughn
  - Instructional Coach (Secondary Math & Science)
  - Ext. 11282

- Rhonda Harvey
  - Instructional Coach (Secondary Literacy)
  - Ext. 11203

- Curtis Jensen
  - Instructional Coach (Secondary ELA & Social Studies)
  - Ext. 11283

Instructional Technology & Library Media Services

- Cathleen Edwards
  - IT/ LMS Coordinator
  - Ext. 11428
  - Instructional Technology Library Media Services
  - Destiny ClassLink

- Eric Rush
  - IT Coach
  - Ext. 11241

- Galina Bell
  - IT Coach
  - Ext. 11241

- Megan Douglas
  - IT System Support Specialist
  - Ext. 11267

- Jim Hameister
  - LMS Technician
  - Ext. 11243

Professional Learning

- Alica Unruh
  - Professional Learning Coordinator
  - Ext. 11424
  - Districtwide Professional Development

Student Support

- Georgia Sandgren
  - Military Student Support Coordinator
  - Ext. 11340

- Sarah Robinson
  - Step Up to STEM Coordinator
  - Ext. 11404

- Shauna Shores
  - Preschool Partnership Program Coordinator
  - Ext. 11472

Teaching & Learning Support

- Jen Morgan
  - Materials Development Specialist
  - Ext. 11421
  - Curriculum Revision & Documents
  - Board Curriculum Committee
  - Course Catalogs
  - MAP, AK STAR, & AK Science tests
  - T&L website

- Flora Rody
  - Admin Secretary
  - Ext. 11422
  - First Contact for T&L Munis & Payroll Time Clock Plus
  - Admin Secretary Duties
The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District’s curriculum process is on a six-year cycle, as outlined in Administrative Regulation 910. In year one, the research and review stage begins with community input and a research group meets to complete an in-depth study of the adopted curriculum, research trends in curriculum content and pedagogy, and develop competencies. Then, during the develop and define stage, a group of writers revise the curriculum. Drafts go out for public comment, and the writers review and consider all comments and suggestions. The Board Curriculum Committee also reviews each draft and provides input. After there is a general consensus on the proposed curriculum, a final draft is submitted to the committee for their recommendation, and then it is presented to the School Board for consideration for adoption.

Once the curriculum is adopted, it enters the implementation stage and professional development is provided to assist with the transition to the new curriculum. During the last three years of the process, the curriculum goes through the measuring, revising, and refining stage. Steps are taken to ensure the curriculum is implemented as intended. If needed, revision or refining are considered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area</th>
<th>2022-2023</th>
<th>2023-2024</th>
<th>2024-2025</th>
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<th>2026-2027</th>
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<td>Develop &amp; Define</td>
<td>Implement</td>
<td>Measure, Revise, &amp; Refine</td>
<td>Measure, Revise, &amp; Refine</td>
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<td>Math</td>
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<td>Measure, Revise, Revise</td>
<td>Research &amp; Review</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who to Contact:
Chane Beam  
Exec. Director of T&L  
chane.beam@k12northstar.org  
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11263

Jen Morgan  
Materials Development Specialist  
jennifer.morgan@k12northstar.org  
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11421
The district’s curriculum goal is to provide all students with an excellent educational program that not only meets the basic academic needs, but also sets high expectations and provides opportunities for each student to excel and develop individual talents. Through the adopted curricula, students are provided a guaranteed and viable curriculum that sets high expectations, provides supports for students’ learning needs, and flexible and adaptive options. Adopted curricula are based upon state and national standards, including the Alaska English/Language Arts and Mathematics Standards adopted in 2012 and the Alaska Science Standards adopted in 2019. These academic standards clearly outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level, and build a foundation for college and career readiness.

To view the adopted curricula and materials, visit the district website at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8852.

During the 2021-22 school year, the district revised its Mathematics Curriculum for grades 6-12, and the School Board adopted the new curriculum on June 7, 2022. Teaching and Learning will assist with the implementation of this new curriculum in 2022-23. Also during the 2022-23 school year, the research and review stage of the curriculum process will begin for Health, Physical Education, and Science.

**Parent’s Guide to Elementary Curriculum**

The parent’s guide can be found at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8829. It provides a general overview of the district’s elementary curriculum for grades K-5. Information for each subject area is presented by grade level.

**Textbooks and Materials**

A list of adopted textbooks and materials can be found at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8838. In 2021, the district adopted the iReady Classroom Mathematics program for grades K-8. More information about this can be found on the Curriculum Associates website at www.curriculumassociates.com/review/fairbanks-north-star-borough-sd.

**Who to Contact:**

Michelle Daml  
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michelle.daml@k12northstar.org  
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Rachel Reilly  
Curriculum Coordinator (Secondary)  
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(907) 452-2000 ext. 11477

Jen Morgan  
Materials Development Specialist  
jennifer.morgan@k12northstar.org  
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11421
CREDIT OPTIONS

The FNSBSD offers students several options for earning credit; Teaching and Learning provides support for the following options.

Secondary Courses Catalogs
The Middle and High School Course Catalogs list all current courses adopted by the School Board. To view these catalogs, visit www.k12northstar.org/Page/8878.

Challenge Exams
Students currently enrolled in the FNSBSD who have completed 8th grade and those in grades 9-12 may challenge courses for high school credit. This option is designed to provide students the opportunity to demonstrate mastery through exam. (It is not a process for credit recovery or course retakes.) Exams are administered several times a year at Teaching and Learning, and students scoring 80% or higher can earn high school credit. More information about these exams and how to register can be found at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8824.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Exam</th>
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<th>Exam Date</th>
<th>Start Times</th>
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<td>#1</td>
<td>Friday, July 15, 2022</td>
<td>Friday, July 29, 2022</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>FNSBSD Admin Center Check-in at Teaching &amp; Learning (2nd Floor) 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99701</td>
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<td>#2</td>
<td>Friday, October 21, 2022</td>
<td>Monday, October 31, 2022</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Check the website at <a href="http://www.k12northstar.org/Page/8824">www.k12northstar.org/Page/8824</a> for the most up-to-date information.</td>
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<td>Tuesday, November 1, 2022</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 21, 2023</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Wednesday, February 22, 2023</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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Outside Credit
Students interested in taking courses outside of the FNSBSD for high school credit may do so with prior administrative approval. Some examples of Outside Credit are courses taken at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, online classes taken from an accredited institution, or martial arts, music, or dance classes taken locally. A list of pre-approved courses and the process for submitting a request for Outside Credit is located at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8880.

Who to Contact:
Rachel Reilly
Curriculum Coordinator (Secondary)
rachel.reilly@k12northstar.org
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11477
ASSESSMENTS

Teaching and Learning coordinates the districtwide and state assessments listed below, provides support during test windows, and facilitates professional development opportunities for educators to learn how to administer the tests and use reports to inform instruction. For more information about these assessments, visit the district website at [www.k12northstar.org/Page/8730](http://www.k12northstar.org/Page/8730).

**iReady Diagnostic**
The FNSBSD has adopted *iReady Classroom Mathematics* materials for grades K-8. The diagnostic assessment provides data teachers can use to target instruction where it is needed most. For more information about this assessment and iReady materials, visit [www.k12northstar.org/Page/8729](http://www.k12northstar.org/Page/8729).

**AIMSweb Plus**
The FNSBSD uses AIMSweb Plus as an universal screening and progress monitoring tool for grades K-2. These are done by classroom teachers with a combination of one-on-one with students and computer-based tests (second grade). It is given three times a year (fall, winter, and spring), and provides comprehensive reporting for educators to use.

**Alaska Developmental Profile**
ADP is completed for each child entering kindergarten, as required by state law. The purpose is to identify, record, and summarize the skills and behaviors students demonstrate at the beginning of their kindergarten year, based on teacher observations. It provides summary information to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), and the results may be used to inform policy decisions made by DEED, other state agencies, and the Alaska State Legislature.

**Alaska Innovative Assessment System**
DEED is developing a new approach to statewide assessments that better reflects learning throughout the school year and helps educators target instruction to students’ needs. It streamlines testing by connecting the fall and winter interim tests with the spring summative assessment. It helps amplify student learning by giving educators, students, and families meaningful insights on student strengths and areas to support students in reaching their highest academic potential, and it increases the opportunity for students and schools to show growth. Under this new assessment system, the interim assessment (MAP Growth) is given in the fall and winter, and the summative assessments (AK STAR and AK Science) are administered in the spring.
Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)
MAP Growth is administered to students in grades 3-9, with the option for grades 10-12. It is a computer-based assessment that creates a personalized exam by adapting to each student’s learning level. It provides information about what each student knows and is ready to learn in the areas of English Language Arts and Math.

Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) & Alaska Science Assessment
In the spring of 2023, AK STAR will be administered to students in grades 3-9, and it will assess their understanding of the Alaska English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards adopted 2012. Students will receive a report with the results from the summative assessment, as well as a spring MAP score in order to provide the opportunity for students to show growth between the fall, winter, and spring test windows. Additionally, the Alaska Science Assessment will be administered to students in grades 5, 8, and 10, and it assesses their understanding of the Alaska Science Standards adopted in 2019.

Who to Contact:
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(907) 452-2000 ext. 11477

Jen Morgan
Materials Development Specialist
jennifer.morgan@k12northstar.org
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11421
FNSBSD Instructional Coaches help teachers do the challenging work of meeting the needs of all students. Below are some examples of how they help support teachers.

### Instructional Coaches

#### Classroom support
- Co-planning or supported planning
- Co-teaching
- Lesson or technique modeling
- Observation with feedback
- Supportive and encouraging listening
- Data-informed instruction
- Classroom management
- Assessment
- Technology integration
- Navigating the evaluation process
- Coaching cycles
- Engage in reflective practices

#### Instructional support
- Train on materials, technology, and curriculum
- Gather instructional resources
- Provide research based strategies and/or content area best practices

#### Districtwide support
- Facilitate PLCs
- Connecting teachers with potential collaborators
- Identify and share success
- Facilitate cross district collaboration

### Instructional Technology Coaches

Instructional Technology Coaches support the professional growth and development of teachers to facilitate learning and independent integration of district supported technologies. They assist teachers in the use of:

- Power Teacher Pro gradebook,
- Google Classroom and other Google apps,
- Class Link, and
- Other district supported instructional technologies.

Instructional Technology Coaches collaborate with teachers to design student experiences that focus on authentic learning and curricular objectives, promote and model digital citizenship and responsible tech use, and explore and pilot new and emerging technologies. Would you like help with Google Classroom, Power Teacher, or other district supported instructional technology? Reach out to Galina Bell or Eric Rush for assistance.

### Who to Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Galina Bell</td>
<td>Instructional Technology Coach</td>
<td><a href="mailto:galina.bell@k12northstar.org">galina.bell@k12northstar.org</a></td>
<td>(907) 452-2000 ext. 11241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara DeVaughn</td>
<td>Secondary Math &amp; Science</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tara.devaughn@k12northstar.org">tara.devaughn@k12northstar.org</a></td>
<td>(907) 452-2000 ext. 11282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Harvey</td>
<td>Secondary Literacy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rhonda.harvey@k12northstar.org">rhonda.harvey@k12northstar.org</a></td>
<td>(907) 452-2000 ext. 11203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curtis Jensen</td>
<td>Secondary ELA &amp; Social Studies</td>
<td><a href="mailto:curtis.jensen@k12northstar.org">curtis.jensen@k12northstar.org</a></td>
<td>(907) 452-2000 ext. 11283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Rush</td>
<td>Instructional Technology Coach</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eric.rush@k12northstar.org">eric.rush@k12northstar.org</a></td>
<td>(907) 452-2000 ext. 11241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie Staiger</td>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mackenzie.staiger@k12northstar.org">mackenzie.staiger@k12northstar.org</a></td>
<td>(907) 452-2000 ext. 11436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>(Elementary)</td>
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</table>
Library Media Services provides support to staff and students by:

- Maintaining a professional library collection for educators and families.
- Selecting and maintaining outstanding online resources.
- Providing on-going professional development to school library media staff.
- Participating in curriculum development, facility planning, personnel staffing, and task forces at the administrative level.
- Managing technical services for acquiring, processing, maintaining, and circulating district-owned materials and equipment.

LMS provides access to over 400+ STEAM, cultural, literacy, and art kits for use in the classroom. Above, LMS Technician Jim Hameister is holding a raven puppet from a puppet kit. Patrons may reserve kits through the Destiny catalog to be delivered to their school site, and they are also welcome to contact Jim and make arrangements to preview kits. Visit [www.k12northstar.org/Page/8698](http://www.k12northstar.org/Page/8698) for more information.

**Birch Bark Basket Collection**
LMS has several kits with birch bark baskets, each featuring examples of beautifully constructed baskets. Also included in the kits are interviews with Native Elder basket makers and photos showing the process of harvesting materials and producing baskets.

**When Will the Salmon Come?**
The goal of this kit is to engage students, teach them about traditional ecological knowledge of salmon, and provide an opportunity for teachers to invite Elders into their classrooms.

**Who to Contact:**
Cathleen Edwards  
IT/ LMS Coordinator  
cathleen.edwards@k12northstar.org  
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11428

Jim Hameister  
LMS Technician  
jimmy.hameister@k12northstar.org  
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11243
The purpose of professional learning in the FNSBSD is to provide comprehensive and sustained learning opportunities to improve effectiveness of teachers, principals, and all staff, with the ultimate goal to increase student achievement and teach them skills needed for 21st century jobs. Professional learning activities are guided by the Standards for Professional Learning, developed by Learning Forward.

Teaching and Learning, in collaboration with other departments, coordinates the districtwide professional development sessions. Throughout the year, the Professional Learning Coordinator also highlights other learning opportunities available to educators, both within the district and through other organizations.

For more information about professional learning opportunities, visit the district website at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8665.

Who to Contact:
Alicia Unruh
Professional Learning Coordinator
alica.unruh@k12northstar.org
(907) 452-2000 ext. 11424
STUDENT EVENTS

Teaching and Learning assists with the organization of and provides support for the following student events:

- **Battle of the Books** is a statewide reading incentive program sponsored by the Alaska Association of School Librarians. This districtwide event is usually held in February.
- **College and Career Fair** is held in October, with the goal to provide high school students and families with a wealth of college and career training information, allow them to learn about different institutions, and provide the opportunity for them to ask questions of admissions counselors.
- **Interior Alaska Spelling Bee** is held in February and is open to all interior Alaska schools, public and private.
- **Interior Alaska Science Fair** is usually held in March for students in grades K-8.
- **Kids Voting** provides students with the opportunity to cast their own ballots in a mock election. They can also enter the Kids Voting Poster Contest.

Students also have opportunities to participate in other events. For more information, visit the website at [www.k12northstar.org/Page/8732](http://www.k12northstar.org/Page/8732).

**Who to Contact:**

- Michelle Daml, Elementary Curriculum Coordinator
  - michelle.daml@k12northstar.org
  - (907) 452-2000 ext. 11419
- Rachel Reilly, Curriculum Coordinator (Secondary)
  - rachel.reilly@k12northstar.org
  - (907) 452-2000 ext. 11477
- Flora Roddy, Administrative Secretary
  - flora.roddy@k12northstar.org
  - (907) 452-2000 ext. 11422

Cathleen Edwards
LMS/IT Coordinator
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STUDENT SUPPORTS

Teaching and Learning manages the following grants and the programs that result from the funding.

Alaska Pre-Elementary Grant promotes school readiness and positive outcomes for four and five year old children participating in the Ready Raven summer program. Funds from this grant also support several early learning programs. For more information, visit www.k12northstar.org/Page/9902 or contact Shaunna Shores, the Preschool Partnership Program Coordinator.

Military Student Support
The FNSBSD is a military-friendly school district and strives to help families transition in to schools as smoothly as possible. Georgia Sandgren, the Military Student Support Coordinator, provides guidance and support to military families in the district. More information about resources available to military families can be found at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8637.

DODEA Grants
Teaching and Learning also manages two Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) grants:

- Step Up to STEM – The main purpose of this grant is to enrich the STEM curriculum for grades 4-8 at three target schools: Arctic Light Elementary, Ladd Elementary, and Tanana Middle School. Sarah Robinson, the grant coordinator, assists with this goal by creating a database of STEM field trips and guest speakers, providing support for before and after school STEMtastic clubs, facilitating professional development in STEM areas, creating makerspaces/ STEM labs, and developing local STEM partnerships with businesses, nonprofit agencies, military units, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. More information is available at www.k12northstar.org/Page/8797.

- STEALTH Sciences – The main purpose of the grant is to sponsor science, technology, engineering, arts, math (STEAM), and health science extracurricular activities. Some examples are clubs, competitions, and summer programs to spark students’ interest in subjects linked to high demand and high wage college and career pathways. For more information, visit www.k12northstar.org/Page/11059 or contact Georgia Sandgren.

Who to Contact:
Sarah Robinson
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Georgia Sandgren
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