



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Academic Year 2021-22

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT, EQUITABLE EDUCATION IN A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT SO ALL STUDENTS WILL SUCCEED AND CONTRIBUTE TO A DIVERSE AND CHANGING SOCIETY.

2020-25 STRATEGIC GOALS

- ▷ **Student Success:** Increase academic achievement and social emotional well-being for all students.
- ▷ **Equity & Inclusion:** Provide equitable opportunities and an inclusive environment where all students and staff are respected and feel welcome, safe, and supported.
- ▷ **Communication & Engagement:** Ensure students, staff, families, and the community are informed, connected, and engaged with the district.
- ▷ **Workforce & Organizational Excellence:** Create an environment that supports the strengths and needs of staff so they can create a safe climate where students thrive.

RESILIENCE IN A YEAR OF COVID-19



- 48% growth in eLearning enrollment to 1000+ students
- 6,500 distributed devices to families
- 260% increase in BEST Homeschool enrollment to 1,000+ students
- 1,400 individual staff trainings in social emotional support practices and 2 all-staff events
- 450+ teachers trained in online/remote teaching strategies since March
- 172,400 meals delivered spring 2020 by Nutrition Services and Transportation
- Districtwide Design team of administrators, teachers, and support staff developed Green, Yellow and Red Zone school access plans for 9300+ students

Social Emotional Learning Needs & Supports

- Increased family outreach to gather parent/guardian feedback about gaps in learning opportunities
- Student needs identified at schools through a combination of:
 - Professional Learning Community meetings
 - Staff meetings
 - Parent-teacher conferences
 - Student Support Team meetings
- District level identification and monitoring of student subgroups at higher risk for dropout
 - Early Warning System tracks students based on a variety of risk factors including graduation, dropout and attendance rates, GPA, NWEA MAP growth, and PEAKS proficiency
- Project AWARE Grant - \$3.16 million over five years
 - Expand social emotional learning, restorative practices, and trauma-engaged practices
 - Increase capacity to meet the mental health challenges through additional staffing
- School mental health providers at West Valley HS, North Pole HS, North Pole MS, and Tanana MS
- Social service managers, counselors, support staff connecting families with resources

Staff Recruitment & Retention

- Team Optimizing Project: Proactive approach to leadership, workforce engagement, and employee retention that provides invaluable feedback to individual schools.
- Supplemental Retirement Benefit
 - District matches up to 1% of the certified teacher's annual salary into a supplemental 403b retirement account
 - Tier III teachers may cash in sick leave to contribute to 403b
 - Certified staff may cash in personal leave to contribute to 403b plans
- Human Resources Outreach
 - Support Staff Job Fairs: Ft. Wainwright, UAF, Education Week Virtual, Dept. of Labor Virtual, and more!
 - Resume, Interview and Application Assistance, Dress for Success Clothing Drive
 - Substitute employee recruitment events



Medical Advisory Team

Thanks to a partnership with Foundation Health Partners and Public Health, the superintendent convened a Medical Advisory Committee that meets frequently to advise district leadership and the Board of Education regarding COVID-19 health and safety data and protocols.

#1 BUDGET PRIORITY: COVID-19 RECOVERY

Estimated Enrollment and Fiscal Impacts as of January 22, 2021

\$22 MILLION LOSS OF REVENUE

- Enrollment **Loss: 1,962 Students** (14.8% Reduction)
- FY21 General Fund Revenue **Loss: \$6.0 million**
- FY21 Transportation Fund Revenue **Loss: \$2.3 million**
- FY21 Nutrition Services Fund Revenue **Loss: \$1.0 million**
- FY22 General Fund Revenue **Loss: \$13.0 million**

FUNDING NEED: Include homeschool students fully in the Foundation Funding Formula.

CAPITAL PROJECTS & DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

NEED: Create a statewide deferred maintenance fund for healthy and safe facilities conducive to learning.

- \$265+ million deferred maintenance, expected to exceed \$300 million by 2023
- Funded by the school district: Ben Eielson Jr/Sr roof replacement \$4.6 million
- Fairbanks North Star Borough contributed \$3.9 million to finish Barnette Elementary in 2022
- Surplus bonds funds currently being repurposed:
 - \$2.9 million exterior renovations at Tanana Middle School
 - \$359,000 complete interior renovations at Two Rivers Elementary
 - \$2.2 million exterior renovations at North Pole Middle School

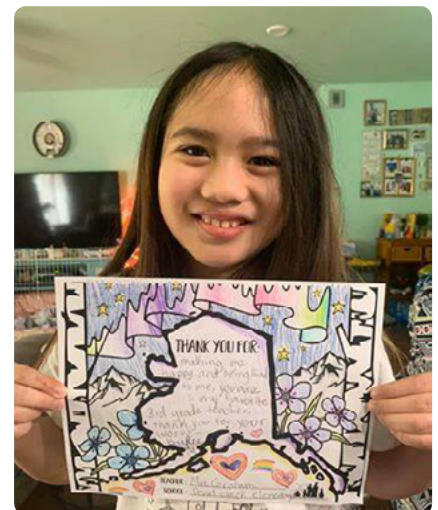
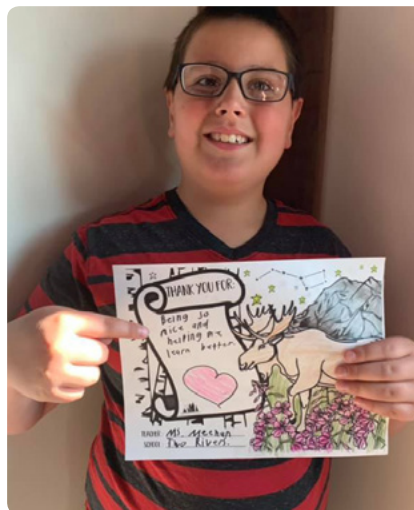
INTERNET CONNECTIVITY & DEVICES

NEED: Provide high speed internet access to all students and staff throughout the Borough.

- 150+ (1.6%) of district families have no internet connectivity
- 27% of families say internet access is a challenge that makes learning at home difficult
- 6,500 district devices provided to students to support remote learning needs - as well as additional devices provided to support professionals to allow working from home
- Poor internet connectivity geographically impacts employee effectiveness and student learning

CARES ACT I FUNDS USED FOR:

- Smart Start Planning
- Student Devices
- Paraprofessional Devices
- Summer School
- Social Emotional Learning Assessment Tool
- Digital Content
- Online Textbooks and Licenses
- Occupational Health Nurse
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Cleaning Supplies
- Professional Development



FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



- **NEA Alaska 2020 Outstanding District Practice Award** (national award) and **2021 Alaska Teacher of the Year:** Amy Gallaway
- **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Award:** Demonstration of the highest commitment to hiring people with disabilities.
- **Alaska High School Principal of the Year:** Robyn Taylor
- **Alaska After School Champion Award:** Dr. Karen Gaborik
- **Alaska High School Assistant Principal of the Year:** Clarice Mingo
- **Alaska Afterschool Superhero:** Wendi Raygor and Billy Smith
- **2020 Alaska History Teacher of the Year:** Jayme Gafford
- **Northwest Director of the Year:** Amy Rouse
- **Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence**

18 Elementary Schools • **8** Secondary Schools • **10** Schools of Choice

ENROLLMENT

Grade	2020-21
Elementary (Pre K-6)	5,677
Middle/Jr High (7-8)	1,355
High School (9-12)	4,228
Total	11,260

TARGET CLASS SIZE

Grade	2020-21
Kindergarten	22.5
1st - 3rd	24.0
4th - 6th	26.0
7th - 8th	27.0
9th - 12th	29.5

FAST FACTS

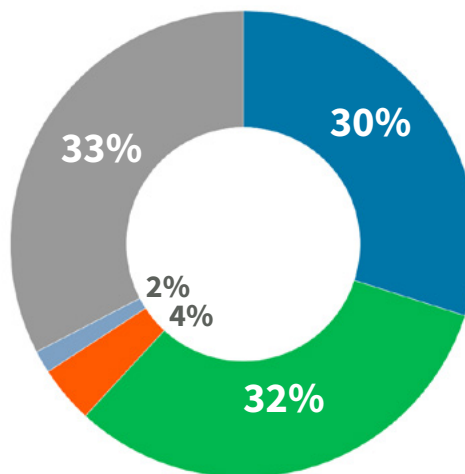
- 2,774 students, or 24.6%, are economically disadvantaged
- Over 21% of students are military connected
- The 2019-20 4-year graduation rate is 78.4%
- The 2019-20 5-year graduation rate is 86.8%
- Districtwide attendance is 92%
- 87% of the district's operating fund is spent on employee salaries and benefits

ETHNICITIES

Includes students who identified as an additional race or ethnicity.

- **78.1%** - Caucasian
- **25.0%** - Two or More Races (*includes students who also identified as Hispanic*)
- **20.7%** - Alaska Native/American Indian
- **10.4%** - African American
- **9.6%** - Hispanic
- **8.9%** - Asian/Pacific Islander

DISTRICT STAFF AS OF FALL 2020



- Fairbanks Educators Association
- Education Support Staff Association
- Fairbanks Principals Association
- Non-Represented
- Substitutes & Temporary Staff

Total Staff: 2,742

LANGUAGES

There are **over 69 different heritage languages** spoken in our students' families across the school district. Approximately 10% of all students have a heritage language.



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is an equal employment and educational opportunity institution, as well as a tobacco and nicotine-free learning and work environment.