

K-12 Outreach

News & Events

Our Mission

Lifting up Educators and Students

February 2023 • Vol. 5 No. 2

K-12 Outreach at the University of Alaska Fairbanks is committed to partnerships that support quality education for all of Alaska. We endeavor to do this by:

- Helping to grow our own educators

- Supporting educational agencies to recruit quality educators
- Providing individualized support to new teachers
- Supporting place-based education
- Helping to increase the effectiveness and retention of teachers

Our programs include the **Alaska Statewide Mentor Project (ASMP)**, **Alaska Teacher & Personnel (AT&P)**, **Educators Rising Alaska (EdRising AK)**, and **Place-Based Education**, with the current curriculum project **Teacher Ambassadors Sharing Knowledge (TASK)**.



Alaska Teacher & Personnel

Exciting News: Alaska Teacher Placement is transitioning to Alaska Teachers & Personnel (AT&P) Our new name better describes the services we provide to school districts, and our statewide partners, while removing potential misunderstandings about the word "Placement". We will not change any of our core services and will continue to innovate new and exciting ways to support teachers, students and stakeholders throughout Alaska.

AT&P continues to host the online application and job bank, where candidates apply for jobs and districts reach out to candidates directly. In addition to teacher and administrative positions, AT&P's online job bank (posts or lists) all school related jobs, such as those in the human resources, business, and facilities management offices. Updating "Placement" to Personnel" reflects the work AT&P does for job candidates and school districts. We



AT&P hosted Job Fair in Anchorage, 2022. Photo: Toni McFadden.

Anchorage. The K-12 Outreach office will hold an information gathering meeting and the Teacher Certification office will give us updates on teacher certification requirements. Candidates and School District Personnel will meet on February 24.

Our virtual event will be April 1st. Districts and candidates can connect online. More information about these events can be found on our website or by emailing the AT&P office.

AT&P staff have been busy traveling to colleges and universities across the Lower 48 to engage with education students on the benefits of living and teaching in Alaska. Additionally AT&P staff will travel to 10 states to attend Teacher job fairs. Specific dates and locations can be found on our website under Campus visits in the "Quick Links".

continue to be the foremost resource for candidates seeking employment in Alaska's schools, with our job banks, Applitrack, and other new teacher resources. And, we are still "ATP".

Our Spring events are scheduled and preparations are in full swing. The in-person Educator Expo will start with informational meetings on February 23 in

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AT&P has a brand new informational video, highlighting teachers and students all across the state. You can view the video by following this link:

<http://bit.ly/3XIfs0T> or use this QR code:



And you can always find out more information about AT&P on our



AT&P Job Fairs are a great place to recruit people who are already living in Alaska.
Photo: Toni McFadden.



Place-based Education



Hawai'i and Alaska teachers gathered in Nome, fall of 2019 to meet their counterparts and for the HI teachers to learn about the local culture, flora and fauna and more. *Photo: K-12 Outreach Staff.*

Teacher Ambassadors Sharing Knowledge (TASK) has completed its four-year program of fostering cultural exchange between Hawaiian and rural Alaskan teachers.

TASK staff developed 29 Science, Technology, Art, and Math (STEAM) lessons focused on blending STEAM concepts and Native ways of knowing. To complement these STEAM lessons a digital catalogue of 75 resources and a best practices document were developed. These lessons and classroom resources were designed to support teachers new to Alaska as well as veteran educators who are looking for new ideas on how to incorporate local place-based learning into their teaching.

TASK also produced 8 short career videos to help introduce students to different careers and educational training. Local professionals were interviewed about what they do for a job or career and the types of knowledge they use.

In collaboration with ABR – environmental research & services, TASK developed interactive digital maps using modern satellite imagery from and early aerial photography from the 1950s. Students and teachers will use these interactive maps of Western Oahu and the Nome region to compare community and environmental changes and learn how the landscape has changed and may further change in the future.



Nome & Wai'anae students, work together to repair a historic fish pond. *Photo: K-12 Outreach Staff.*

While the TASK project is completed the K-12 Outreach Office is always looking for collaborators and opportunities to develop place-based and culturally relevant curriculum and resources with partners across Alaska.

Find out more on our K-12 Outreach website, or to contact us:

www.alaska.edu/k12task



The Alaska Statewide Mentor Project (ASMP) is a two-year program that pairs new-to-the-profession teachers with intensively trained veteran Alaskan educators. This year, 15 mentors are serving 140 new teachers in 78 schools in 70 communities of 33 Alaskan districts. Since its inception in 2004, ASMP has been invited to serve all 54 school districts in the state.

It's remarkable that despite pandemic challenges since March 2020, our mission and vision were effectively fulfilled and revealed by our data. Our job has always been to assist early career teachers in achieving their goals. Being adaptive and innovative, ASMP continued to fully support, through instructional mentoring, Alaska's valuable and vulnerable resource: our newest teachers.



ECT Patricia Houser poses with her 1st grade class in Deering. *Photo: Mentor Hal Neace.*

Validated, research-based outcomes of ASMP include: (1) Improved quality of instruction; (2) increased teacher retention; and (3) improved student achievement.

ASMP continues to innovate and improve. Under the U.S. Department of Education's Education and Innovation Research (EIR) Program, the STARR grant (Supporting Teachers Across Rural Remote Regions) seeks to expand ASMP's validated mentoring model by combining distance communication technologies with on-site mentoring.

These outcomes will allow ASMP to serve even more new teachers across the state while

being as cost-effective as possible and improving long-term sustainability.

The STARR grant also examines how culturally-responsive teaching facilitates social emotional learning for students in remote rural schools that serve largely Alaska Native communities. Cultural specialists Martha Gould-Lehe and ASMP consultant Dr. Janice Littlebear are guiding mentors to examine cultural competency, its mindsets, and effective practices. ASMP is anchored in the Alaska Cultural Standards for Educators.



Mentor sleeping quarters: Hal Neace sets up a cot in the Deering school library. *Photo: Hal Neace.*

How can we partner with you? ASMP trains district groups with our validated mentoring model and provides staff development on a variety of topics. We are interested in expanding our mentoring reach beyond 1st and 2nd year "new to the profession" teachers. Please share your ideas for partnering with your school or district. Contact us now to get in on our cost-sharing program for mentoring teachers for the 2023-24 school year.

Sue McIntosh, suemcintosh.asmp@gmail.com.

For more information about ASMP please visit: www.alaska.edu/asmp



Educators Rising Alaska

Middle and high school students from across Alaska will be participating in the **2023 Educators Rising Alaska State Leadership Conference** at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in February. It is the first time the conference has been held in-person since 2020.

We've experienced overwhelming interest this year with over 200 students registered to attend. Participants will compete in performance-

based events that include: Creative Lecture; Lesson Planning (Arts, Humanities, or STEM); Children's Literature (Pre-K or K-3); Public Speaking; Inside our Schools; and Job Interview (paraprofessional). Competitions are virtual and are taking place February 15th-16th.

We will provide competitors with professional video recordings of their performances to help them improve and prepare for National Competitions in Orlando, Florida in June, 2023.

After competitions, a live and live-streamed conference will take place February 19th-20th on the UAF campus. The conference will kick off Sunday the 19th with Certified Speaking Professional Kent Julian, Alaska Teacher of the Year Harlee Harvey, UAF School of Education Dean Amy Vinlove, and a video-montage of Education focused motivational videos provided by UA Advocate Chad Hutchison, Rep. Löki Tobin, U.S. Sen. Murkowski, U.S. Rep. Peltola, Sen. Scott Kawasaki, and Rep. Dibert. The evening will

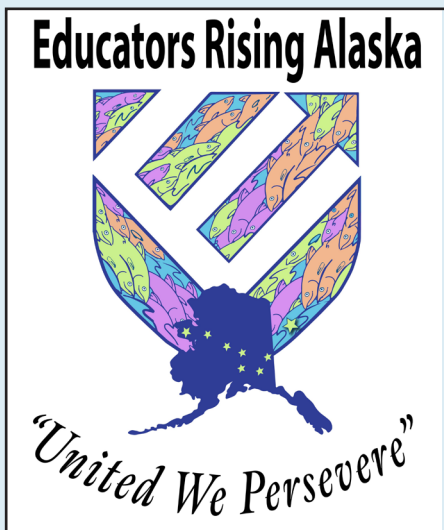


Alaska Teacher of the Year Harlee Harvey will be speaking at the conference. Ms. Harvey has also been named one of 5 finalists for the National Teacher of the Year award. *Photo Credit: DEED.*

end with the Pavva Iñupiaq dancers performing.

On the second day of the Conference, students will have a chance to choose their own breakout sessions, including a School of Education informational, campus tours, Rob Prince "Storytelling Techniques", a behind the scenes Museum of the North tour, a science lesson "Qanniksuq: It is Snowing!", Rural Student Services informational, testing options, Association of Alaska School Boards, workforce development session, as well as other informative and helpful sessions.

For more information, please contact us at: uaf-edrisingak@alaska.edu or www.alaska.edu/educatorsrising



EdRising Student Officers decided upon this year's conference theme, "United We Persevere", and designed the logo theme.

Donating to K-12

Contributions may be made in support of the K-12 Outreach Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks online at: <https://engage.alaska.edu/> Please note the K-12 Outreach Program (20419) when prompted for gift designation. Checks may also be mailed to:

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c/o UA Foundation
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