

K-12 Outreach

Quarterly

Lifting up Educators and Students

September 2018 • Vol. 2 No. 4

Our Mission

Great teachers help Alaska's future generations

K-12 Outreach at the University of Alaska Fairbanks is committed to partnerships that support quality education for 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 Placement (ATP)**, **Educators Rising Alaska (EdRising AK)**, and **Raising Educational Achievement through Cultural Heritage Up (REACH Up)**.

Raising Educational Achievement through Cultural Heritage Up

REACH Up develops place-based and culturally relevant supplementary STEM curriculum and offers professional development support to teachers and paraprofessional educators in rural Alaska through workshops, courses and scientist site visits.

Last school year, many UAF and other scientists and researchers visited rural classrooms through the REACH Up site visit program. Scientists and REACH Up staff worked with students, teachers and community members on a range of



The REACH Up development team completed the final series of curricular thematic units focused on place-based science for middle and high school students. Teachers and students have been using REACH and REACH Up lessons for nearly six years and have appreciated both the relevant Alaska Native vocabulary and place-based science examples.



Presenters Tyler Ivanoff, Adrienne Aakaluk Titus and Sam Demientieff lead the panel discussion in April's workshop. Photo: Yuri Bult-Ito.

local topics, including sea bird ecology, indoor air quality and properties of snow and ice.

Over the spring and summer, REACH Up offered several science and culture teacher professional development workshops. In the spring teachers learned about Indigenous and western approaches to science education, including a National Weather Service presentation and a climate panel with Alaska Native Elder and Cultural Knowledge Bearers. Held several miles outside of Unalakleet, Alaska, the summer workshop featured presentations and

hands-on lessons on weather observation and measurements, cold climate engineering, cultural knowledge activities such as skin sewing, akutaq making, and storytelling.

Development of place-based and culturally relevant supplementary STEM curriculum and professional development resources are valuable sources for rural educators. The K-12 Outreach Office and the REACH Up team are always looking for new partners to help teachers engage in place-based



Para-professional educator Pauline Richardson of St. Michael demonstrates how to make a parka ruff. Photo: Yuri Bult-Ito.

culturally relevant education. If your District is interested in potential partnerships, please contact our office.



k12reach.org



Educators Rising Alaska

Educators Rising Alaska is offering a 3-credit professional development (PD) opportunity for districts and teachers at the Alaska Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) conference on October 22, 2018. This training course is primarily for teachers who are implementing Educators Rising in the 2018-2019 school year. Participants have the opportunity to earn UA credit.

Course participants will take place in hands-on lesson creation and sharing, and plan to implement Educators Rising in their classroom. They will receive guidance and instruction for preparing students for state and national Educators Rising competitions. Limited travel funding assistance is available to those enrolling in the course and able to teach the material in their classroom. Mark your calendars,



Sean Topkok and his dance troupe perform during the 2018 Educators Rising Alaska. Photo: Yuri Bult-Ito.

the Educators Rising Alaska Student Leadership Conference will be March 7-10, 2019 in Juneau. For more information, please email: uaf-edrisingak@alaska.edu.



educatorsrisingalaska.org



[facebook.com/
EducatorsRisingAlaska/](https://facebook.com/EducatorsRisingAlaska/)

Alaska Teacher Placement



The Northwest Arctic Borough School District had a table at a recent ATP sponsored job fair. Photo: Toni McFadden.

Dates and Locations for the 2019 job fair season have been confirmed based on district feedback.

2019 Job Fairs:

Anchorage Educator Expo

March 15-16

Portland, OR April 3

Minneapolis, MN April 11

Houston, TX June 13 (THIS IS A NEW LOCATION)

Job fairs hosted by ATP, as always, follow a local teacher job fair,

so participants can attend both fairs with one trip—a cost savings to school districts and attendees. Find more information about ATP hosted job fairs at alaskateacher.org and click on the job fair link.

ATP is always looking for ways to increase teacher recruitment and has recently started networking with colleges and universities in the Lower 48 to place their student teachers into Alaska classrooms. ATP is helping to facilitate the identification of each university's programmatic requirements for student teaching in Alaska and to match student teachers with interested school districts.

ATP hosts a data bank of interested Lower 48 student teachers and gives them informational resources regarding the different climate regions, cultures and lifestyles they may experience in the state. In

addition, ATP supplies information regarding school districts that are hosting student teachers during their internship in Alaska, including support for housing and stipends.

If you are a school district and want to host a student teacher, look for the “host a student teacher” link in our monthly newsletter. For more information on all services, go to:

 alaskateacher.org

 www.facebook.com/AlaskaTeacher/

 twitter.com/AK_ATP

ATP continues to look for new ways to recruit teachers. If you have new ideas, please send them our way: uaf-atp@alaska.edu.



Alaska Statewide Mentor Project

ASMP has launched its 15th school year of serving students, districts and educators across Alaska by mentoring those newest to the teaching profession. Our vision has never changed: Every student in Alaska has the benefit of a great teacher. Our research-based work has produced evidence of our success in three areas: 1) teacher retention; 2) quality of instruction; and 3) student achievement.

One of the goals of the past couple years is striving for ASMP sustainability—while always keeping our vision at the forefront. Research and money efficiencies have caused us to look at working with teachers in new ways, resulting in three delivery methods for mentoring: 1) in-person, 2) hybrid (distance & in-person), as well as 3) distance. Distance delivery utilizes virtual technology for recording

classroom instruction. This technology has provided a new and unique method for moving a teacher's practice forward by allowing teachers to review themselves in the moment, and then dialogue with their mentors whether in person or from afar, and together improve classroom instruction. In fact, these recordings have been so successful that many in-person mentors are now using the

recordings with their teachers. The SWIVL equipment also permits experienced mentors to create and share model lessons in multiple classrooms. This distant mentoring innovation has proven value-added for the teachers and mentors as they discuss components of best classroom instruction.

Collaborative partnerships between teacher and mentor are solid relationships that provide a safe, nurturing climate in which teachers can accelerate their classroom instructional practices. This year 14 mentors are serving 140+ new teachers in 67 villages and 19 districts.

Thank you to the 13 district partners that cost-share, as well as to ASMP's experienced, resilient Alaska mentors. Mentors work smarter and in creative, innovative ways as they combine their excellent mentoring skills with virtual technology of the day in order to reach across Alaska and deliver on the shared vision of every student in Alaska having the benefit of a great teacher!



www.asmp.alaska.edu

Donating to K-12

Contributions may be made in support of the K-12 Outreach Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks online at: uaf.edu/giving/gift/giving-form/. Please note the K-12 Outreach

Program (20419) when prompted for gift designation.

Checks may also be mailed to:
UAF Development
c/o UA Foundation
P.O. Box 755080
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775

Please make checks payable to UA Foundation, and include K-12 Outreach Program (20419) in the note.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Development Office at 907-474-2619.



K-12 Outreach

P.O. Box 755400
2025 Yukon Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99775
907.450.8400

www.uaf.edu/soe/k12_outreach



Typical method of travel for the Alaska Statewide Mentors.
Photo: ASMP Mentor.