Alaska Educator Standards

Philosophy of Education

- Describes the teacher's philosophy of education and demonstrate its relationship to the teacher's practice.
- Practices an educational philosophy and examines their practice with others
- Embeds the teacher's belief in the teacher's practice

Applies Student Learning

- Understands how students learn and develop, and applies that knowledge in the teacher's practice.
- Identifies and teaches to developmental abilities of students
- Applies practice to accommodate differences in how students learnt

Engaging Environment

- Creates and maintains a learning environment that engages all students.
- Maintains an environment that is stimulating, inclusive, and safe
- Communicates high standards and clear expectations for student performance
- Uses a variety of classroom management techniques
- Assists students in sharing responsibility for their learning

Knows Content Area

- Knows the teacher's content area and how to teach it.
- Demonstrates knowledge of content area using characteristics of the local community culture
- Can assess the development of and apply strategies to enhance student learning related to the content
- Uses multiple strategies to teach content
- Connects to other content areas and practical situations in- and outside school
- Stays current with new trends in content area

Stakeholder Partners

- Works as a partner with parents, families, and the community.
- Maintains regular and meaningful communication between the school and home
- Works with home to support and promote student learning
- Participates in school-wide efforts to better communicate with the community
- Connects school and classroom activities with student homes, cultures, and the community
- Involves parents and families in setting and monitoring student learning goals

Respects Culture

- Teaches students with respect for student individual and cultural characteristics.
- Uses characteristics of student's and local community's culture
- Identifies instructional strategies and resources appropriate to all individual and special needs of students
- Applies knowledge of Alaska to the selection of instructional strategies, materials, and resources

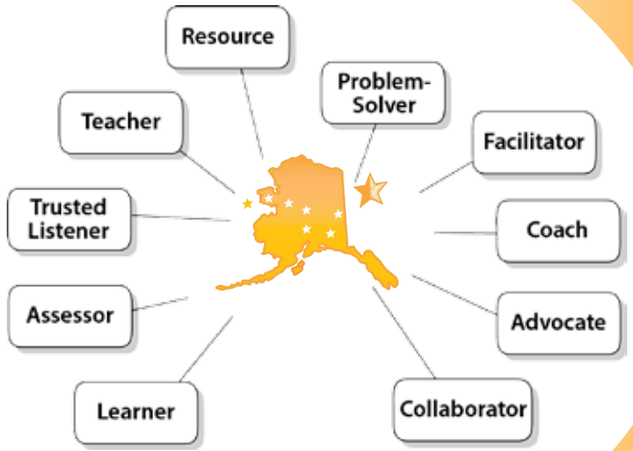
Develops Profession

- Participates in and contributes to the teaching profession (develops as a professional).
- Maintains a high standard of professional ethics
- Stays current with best teaching practices
- Engages in instructional development activities
- Maintains a professional relationship with colleagues

Assess Student Learning

- Facilitates, monitors, and assesses student learning.
- Organizes and delivers instruction based on student characteristics and curricular goals
- Uses a variety of instructional strategies to facilitate student attainment of curricular and performance goals
- Uses a variety of assessment strategies to enhance student learning and self-reflection
- Keeps records and communicate student's progress to students, parents, and administrators
- Reflects on assessment to create more effective teaching practices

What are the roles of the Alaska Statewide Mentor?



Your Mentor is not here to evaluate you.

Your Mentor is a support to help you become a more effective teacher more quickly!

I needed to set goals

My mentor did a great job identifying my weaknesses in classroom mangement and gave me excellent advice about how to correct it. She also helped me set goals and strategies to improve my time management. Perhaps most importantly, she was attentive to my emotional well-being, providing support and a listening ear when I felt overwhelmed or defeated.

—Beginning Teacher, 2014
Alaska Statewide Mentor Project

Have you met your

Alaska Statewide Mentor?

I was *ready*.

I knew my science content. I had a great internship with a very effective veteran teacher. I could relate to middle school kids and I really cared about them. I wanted to make a difference, but I soon found out I didn't have all the skills I needed to be successful in my own classroom. My mentor was my lifesaver. Having someone to guide me saved me from many failures. I benefited and so did my students.

—Beginning Teacher, 2004
Alaska Statewide Mentor Project

Teaching is the only profession where entry-level personnel are expected to do the same job and perform at the same level of competence as experienced practitioners. There is typically no staged entry through residency, internship, or apprenticeship.

— Richard Ingersoll,
Professor of Education and Sociology,
University of Pennsylvania

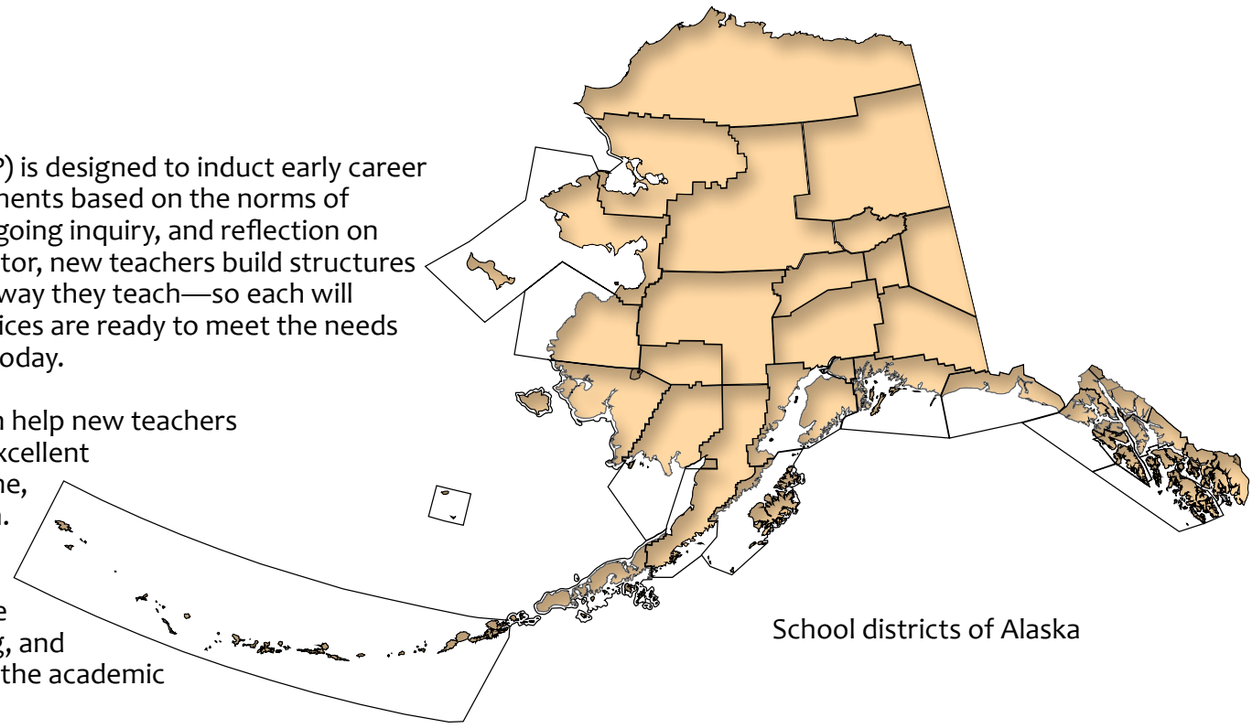
Alaska Statewide Mentor Project

The **Alaska Statewide Mentor Project** provides individualized support to first- and second-year teachers, helping them become part of an effective teaching force that responds to the diverse academic needs and cultural backgrounds of all students.

How does Mentoring work?

The Alaska Statewide Mentor Project (ASMP) is designed to induct early career teachers into professional learning environments based on the norms of collaboration, high expectations, equity, ongoing inquiry, and reflection on practice. Working in partnership with a mentor, new teachers build structures that influence the way they learn—and the way they teach—so each will become the teacher whose classroom practices are ready to meet the needs of tomorrow's children, as well as those of today.

But Alaska Statewide Mentors do more than help new teachers survive—they help them understand that excellent teachers build their practice one day at a time, from the first day they step into a classroom. Mentors encourage novices to set high expectations for themselves and their students, convey a belief in the power of the classroom teacher to affect student learning, and hold themselves personally accountable for the academic success of their students.



School districts of Alaska

Who are the Alaska Statewide Mentors?

Alaska Statewide Mentors are master teachers from across the state who work full-time with early career teachers. They are trained to induct early career teachers into professional learning environments based on the norms of collaboration, high expectations, equity, ongoing inquiry, and reflection on practice. Above all, Alaska Statewide Mentors are guides to help you find inspiration in your new profession, and to stay energized as you meet new challenges!

Who gets an Alaska Statewide Mentor?

First- and second-year beginning teachers hired in participating districts have the opportunity to work with an Alaska Statewide Mentor. Unlike the induction models of many professions, the mentoring relationship is not evaluative: your Alaska Statewide Mentor is a sounding board, problem solver, advocate, and even an extra set of hands.

Looking for more information about the Alaska Statewide Mentor Project, including the latest videos? Visit http://asmp.alaska.edu/