

K-12 Outreach News & Events

Lifting up Educators and Students September 2019 • Vol. 3 No. 3

Our Mission

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**

Placement (ATP), **Educators Rising Alaska (EdRising AK)**, and **Place-Based Education**, including **Raising Educational Achievement through Cultural Heritage Up (REACH Up)** and our newest award, **Teacher Ambassadors Sharing Knowledge (TASK)**.



Place-based Education

While Alaska and Hawaii seem very different at first, they are similar in that they have large Indigenous populations who are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers. The Teacher Ambassadors Sharing Knowledge (TASK) Project seeks to increase Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian student interest and readiness in STEM careers by providing a place-based, culturally relevant STEM curriculum and by strengthening cultural knowledge exchange between schools in rural Alaska and Hawai'i.

TASK will be kicking off its first TASK Institute this October. We'll meet Hawai'ian teachers in Anchorage for a day of exploring unique Alaskan learning models and learning about local solutions (and hopefully see a glacier or a moose or two).

TASK participants will then head off to Nome for a taste of rural Alaskan life and learning.



Spring melt at the Northwest Campus in Nome. Photo: UAF NW Campus.

At the University of Alaska Northwest campus, Alaskan and Hawai'ian educators will engage in hands-on activities based on the themes of Local Solutions, Changing Lifestyles, and Changing Landscape. These activities will keep at their core culturally-relevant, place-based learning curriculum development.

After three full days of sharing culture and meeting collaborators, TASK participants will return home full of ideas of what they have

learned and experienced to create STEM lessons to engage and excite their students. Back in their schools, these teacher ambassadors can use TASK's online collaborative platform to develop and share ideas and projects with their TASK colleagues.

Tune in to future newsletters for updates on the status of the TASK project.

Find out more on our K-12 Outreach website:

<https://www.alaska.edu/>



Black sand on this beach in Hawai'i is evidence of old volcanic activity. Photo: Keiko Herrick.



k12reach.org



TASK



Educators Rising Alaska

Educators Rising Alaska congratulates two 2019 Educators Rising National Finalists: Anna Joseph (Tuntutuliak, AK) took 6th in Public Speaking and Caprice Damon (Wasilla, AK) took



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9th in Creative Lecture. Students who competed in these categories addressed hot topic issues such as school safety and educational equity. Students from across Alaska traveled to Dallas, Texas

in June to compete and attend the Educators Rising National Conference.

Educators Rising Alaska is offering a 3-credit professional development (PD) opportunity for teachers for the 2019-2020 school year. The PD kicks off at the Alaska Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) conference on

October 13, 2019.

This training course is primarily for teachers who are or are planning on implementing an education pathway course in the

2019-2020 school year.

Participants will explore and select one of the micro-credentials in the Educators Rising credential stack to complete as a course requirement. Teachers will participate in hands-on lesson creation and sharing, and agree to implement an individualized version of Educators Rising in their classroom.

Course participants will receive guidance and instruction for preparing students for state and national Educators Rising CTSO competitions. Limited travel funding assistance is available to those enrolling in the course and able to teach the material in their classroom. For more information, please email: uaf-edrisingak@alaska.edu.



facebook.com/EducatorsRisingAlaska/



educatorsrisingalaska.org



Alaska Teacher Placement

Alaska Teacher Placement is excited to announce our 2020 Event dates:

- Anchorage Educator Expo March 13-14, 2020*
- The Hotel Captain Cook*
- TP Hosted Minneapolis, Minnesota Job Fair April 2, 2020*
- ATP Hosted Portland, Oregon Job Fair April 8*
- ATP Hosted Houston, Texas Job Fair June 18*

More details will be available on the ATP website at www.alaskateacher.org.

November is the month for renewal of service contracts. ATP will send service forms to the primary and secondary contacts indicated from last year's forms. Please contact the ATP office if personnel has changed. Our service year is from January 1 through December 31 each year.

Alaskan School Districts welcomed 27 educational candidates looking for positions for the 2019-2020 school year at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel. Candidates traveled from Hawaii, Kansas, Florida, Indiana and well as all over Alaska to attend the one-day job fair.

As the national teacher shortage continues to grow, finding teachers for our Alaska schools becomes more difficult. ATP continues to grow our online presence to introduce and encourage educators from all over the nation to consider making Alaska their new home.



Toni McFadden (right), Program Manager for ATP, assists a job fair attendee with filling out her application. Photo Yuri Bult-Ito.

 alaskateacher.org

 facebook.com/AlaskaTeacher/

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Alaska Statewide Mentor Project

As we begin our 16th year of mentoring early career teachers across Alaska, ASMP has much to share. Last year our cadre of 14 mentors served 21 districts, 70 communities, 73 schools, and 151 teachers. We were blessed by partnerships with DEED and districts to secure additional funding for a total of 12 districts able to cost-share and help us provide these mentoring services.



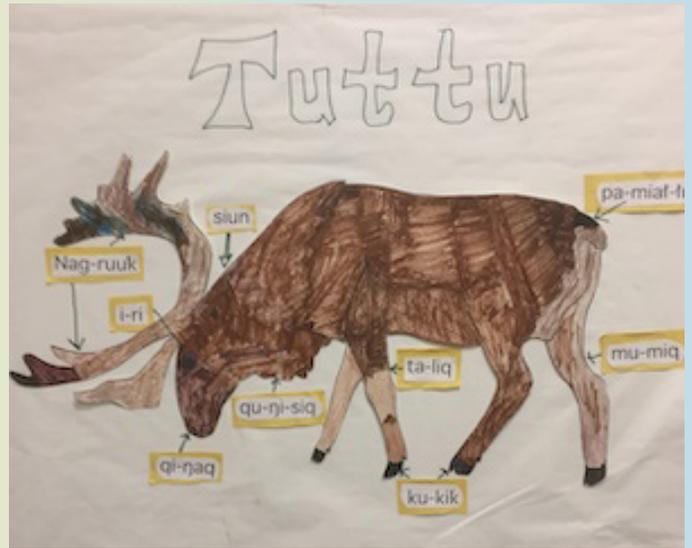
Mentor (current Program Manager of ASMP) Sue McIntosh, joins students she worked with in Fort Yukon at a Fairbanks theatre.

An induction course was created last year that provides credit to those teachers taking part in the mentoring—and feedback from participants was nothing but positive. To meet the reality of current fiscal issues in our state, we've created three delivery methods for the identical quality mentoring model: in-person, distance, and a mix of both we call hybrid.

Ideally, down the road we would like to extend our mentoring to three years, instead of two, delivering in person Year 1, a hybrid mix during year 2, and totally by distance year 3. In that way, we can stretch the dollar further, while extending our services by a year—win-win. Currently we are trying to find a grant that lets us measure the efficacy of our distance method of mentoring with our in-person mentoring. Quality mentoring matters.

Our 2019-20 cadre of 14 mentors met for Start-Up training in early August. We are excited about using our high-leverage tools with early career teachers around the state.

Find out more on our website (below) or by contacting us at uaf-asmp@alaska.edu



Inupiat word for caribou, and the different names for the caribou parts. Poster in Shungnak school. Photo: Christine Walker.



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*Great teachers help
Alaska's future
generations*

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.