



Superintendent Search Service

Wrangell Public Schools Superintendent Vacancy Wrangell, Alaska



The Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) is facilitating a superintendent search for the Board of Education of the Wrangell Public Schools. The School District is located on the northwest corner of Wrangell Island (approximately 750 miles north of Seattle in the Southeast Alaska panhandle) on the ancestral lands of the Tlingit people. The district is located in the breathtakingly beautiful Tongass National Forest, the largest forest in the nation (16.7 million acres). The school district serves ~200 students. Fishing, marine services, and adventure tourism are several industries in the community.

Applications are sought from those candidates with successful experience as an administrator or principal, with superintendent experience preferred. The Board is seeking a candidate dedicated to providing an education that engages students, maintains high academic proficiency, and prepares them well for any post-secondary educational opportunity. The new superintendent is expected to start employment on July 1, 2021.

A salary range of **\$110,000 - \$125,000** with an attractive benefits package is being offered to the successful candidate. Rental housing is available in the community, and moving expenses are negotiable.

Timetable

Application deadline:	February 15, 2021
Selection of finalists:	February 20, 2021
Interviews with Board:	Week of March 3-6, 2021
Selected candidate site visit	TBD (March)
Employment begins:	July 1, 2021

The Association of Alaska School Boards uses an online application system. Please visit the Association's website at <https://aasb.org/superintendent/> for more information about this search and guidance on applying through the Revelus online application system (aasb.myrevelus.com). Visit the Wrangell Public School District web site at <http://www.wpsd.us> for more details on this unique Alaskan school district.

Candidates who do not possess an Alaska Type B certificate with a superintendent endorsement should begin the process.

Wrangell City School District

DISTRICT BROCHURE

The City of Wrangell and the school district are 700 air miles southeast of Anchorage and 756 miles from Seattle. Located on Wrangell Island, the City of Wrangell is in the heart of Southeast Alaska. Wrangell supported a commercial sawmill in the past, but with the decline of the timber industry has become a commercial and sport fishing port primarily. Wrangell has also developed a portion of its economy around the marine service industry with its capability to serve larger fishing vessels for haulout and repairs. Wrangell is surrounded by the Tongass National Forest and is located close to the Stikine River, an important salmon producing river and recreational draw.



Wrangell Public Schools has three sites serving approximately 200 students. These include Evergreen Elementary, Stikine Middle School, and Wrangell High School. The district has a reputation for high performing schools. Wrangell High School offers a full range of college prep and career technical courses with a robust extra-curricular program.

Many of the staff are long term employees with minimal turnover. The community and the district have low transiency rates, and the district has been able to maintain a low pupil/teacher ratio. Visitors are welcomed into Wrangell's schools, and volunteerism by families and community members is routine.

Mission Statement

The Wrangell City School District's mission is to educate and inspire every student.



Application Process

The Association of Alaska School Boards is facilitating this superintendent search. The closing date for all application material is **February 15, 2021**. The finalists will be invited for possible onsite interviews depending on the status of the pandemic or virtual interviews with the Board the week of **March 3-6, 2021**. If the interviews are carried out virtually, the Board may require the successful candidate to visit the district and community before finalizing the contract.

AASB utilizes an online application system. To complete your candidate profile, you will need to include:

- Your work history (minimum of 3),
- Educational experience,
- College degrees (transcripts required),
- Applicable licenses and certificates,
- Confidential reference requests (minimum of 3),
- Agreement to undergo a thorough background check.

Background checks will include a national criminal records search, sex offender list search, SSN trace, and verifications of employment, education, and licenses or certificates. Candidates who do not possess an Alaska Type B certificate with a superintendent endorsement should begin the process.

Compensation

The Board is offering an annual salary in the range of **\$110,000 to \$125,000 DOE**. A health and life insurance benefits package available to all district employees is provided. The Board offers professional membership dues and a negotiated moving expense reimbursement.

Qualifications of the Candidate:

The Board of Education recognizes that the selection of the superintendent is one of its most important decisions. The Board is committed to a selection process that is fair and open to all qualified candidates. Priority will be given to candidates whose experience and background closely matches the following characteristics:

Professional Experience – Qualifications:

- Hold, or be able to obtain a Type B administrative certificate with a superintendent endorsement in the State of Alaska.
- Have demonstrated successful experience as an administrator or principal, with superintendent experience preferred.

Desired Background:

- Experience in school finance, budget development, and implementation.
- Experience with curriculum mapping, alignment, oversight, and implementation.
- Experience identifying grant opportunities and grant administration
- Experience in all aspects of personnel management
- An approachable and effective communicator, both publicly and privately.
- Understand the importance of the effective use of a variety of instructional methods and technologies.
- Experience in providing effective staff development and continued professional growth
- Able to work effectively with the Board, staff, and community in support of students
- Demonstrated experience in supporting creative and innovative ways to achieve the goals identified in the strategic plan
- Demonstrated experience with increasing student achievement and success
- Demonstrated experience with State and Federal Programs

Personal Characteristics:

- A creative problem solver who is a critical thinker and had decisive decision-making skills
- A visionary educational leader
- A person of the highest integrity, professionalism, and principles in dealing with staff, communities, and students
- A holistic approach to student achievement
- Willing to become an active and invested member of the Wrangell community
- A person that comprehends and appreciated the uniqueness of our small, isolated, and uniquely diverse community and its challenges and rewards that this creates
- A deliberative, patient, collaborative leader that understands and practices active listening

Board Identified Priorities for the New Superintendent:

The Board has identified the following priorities to guide the new superintendent in their work. These will be used as a basis for the future superintendent performance evaluation.

1. Developing a comprehensive budget and resource allocation plan which promotes clarity and transparency
2. Student Learning
 - a. Provide a standards-based curriculum
 - b. Increase student achievement across all content areas
 - c. Deliver a diverse curriculum
3. Stakeholder Satisfaction
 - a. Strengthen the school/community relationship
 - b. Increase and strengthen partnerships
4. Employee Development
 - a. Provide relevant professional development for all staff
 - b. Sustain a positive work environment
5. Administrative Support Systems
 - a. Ensure the integrity and sustainability of support systems
6. Fiscal Responsibility
 - a. Ensure financial integrity

District Profile: Wrangell Public Schools District

District Profile

# of Communities	1
# of Schools	3
Number of Students	199

Number of Employees

Administration	6
Instructional Staff	22
Non-instructional Staff	25

Budget

Current Budget	\$ 5.9m
Capital Budget	\$ ---
Special Programs/Grants	\$ 0.65m
Operating Budget	\$ 5.2m

Administrative and School Organizational Structure

District Administration

Superintendent	1
Asst. Superintendent	0
Technology Coordinator	1
Maintenance Director	1
Financial Officer	1
Special Education	0
Human Resources	1

Revenue

Local	\$ 1.5m
State	\$ 4.5m
Federal	\$ 0.5m

Fund Balance

Appropriated	\$ 1.13m
Unappropriated	\$ 0.79m

School Administration

Principals	0
Assistant Principals	2
Dean of Students	0

Expenditure per pupil \$ 20,762

Average Teacher Salary \$ 70,230

City of Wrangell

Wrangell, an island community with approximately 2400 residents, is strategically located in central southeast Alaska, in the heart of the Inside Passage and the Tongass National Forest. Wrangell is easily accessible to all other major southeast communities and 2 ½ hours by Alaska Airlines jet from the key



hub of Seattle, WA, two hours from Juneau, AK, and 3 ½ hours from Anchorage, AK.

Transportation: Primary access to Wrangell is through the Alaska Airlines daily jet service or the Alaska Marine Highway System. Small fixed-wing and float plane companies in Wrangell offer transportation between communities. Most boat charter companies can also provide water taxi services to nearby communities.

Transportation within Wrangell is relatively easy. Many facilities are within walking distance of the downtown commercial area. The community offers a full range of amenities, including a health center and hospital. A recent downtown revitalization project has made Wrangell one of Southeast Alaska's most picturesque communities.



Wildlife abounds in the area. A variety of excursions get you up close to glaciers, black and brown bears, eagles, sea lions, harbor seals, whales, salmon, and halibut, to name a few. The Anan Bear and Wildlife Observatory is a favorite spot to view brown and black bears feasting on salmon.

Attractions History and cultural influences can be viewed at the Tlingit Chief Shakes Island and Tribal House Historic Monument, and the Petroglyph Beach State Historic Park. The Stikine River provides access to the places where gold miners camped and garnets were mined. The protected waters in Southeast Alaska provide excellent sea kayaking and opportunities for exploration by wildlife charter tours. Fishing is spectacular. Halibut and all five species of salmon, steelhead, and trout are key targets by visiting fishers. Muskeg Meadows Golf Course is a USGA regulation course and has tournaments during the summer. Recently, a disc golf course has also been created.



Wrangell Island has over 100 miles of forest roads that offer mountain bikers, hikers, RV'ers, and other explorers access to remote lakes, rivers, campsites, trails, and scenic overlooks. If you prefer a bird's eye view of the surrounding area, flightseeing is available to glaciers, fjords, or cabins on remote lakes. Flight to Telegraph Creek in British Columbia are possible.



From its earliest period of occupation, perhaps as far back as 8,000 years ago, people have taken advantage of Wrangell's unique setting. Petroglyphs can be found concentrated in the Wrangell area, giving evidence of early occupation. In Wrangell, Petroglyph Beach has the highest concentration of petroglyphs in Southeast Alaska and is easily accessible for exploration. The beach area was designated a State Historic Park in 2000. Access via a boardwalk to a scenic deck

overlooking Petroglyph Beach, the Stikine River, and Zimovia Straits is a pleasant excursion.

Replicas of several designs are displayed on the deck for visitors to make rubbings. Access to the beach is available directly from the overlook.

Wrangell is the only community in Alaska to have been governed by four nations and under three flags: the Tlingit Nation, Russia, Britain, and the United States. Other cultures have influenced Wrangell, including the Chinese who were imported to work in the fish canneries and the Japanese active in the timber industry.

Service: The Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium owns the Wrangell Medical Center hospital. The Wrangell Medical Center has Emergency care, inpatient care, imaging, lab, and physical therapy are provided by the center. Visiting specialists in internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, optometry, pediatrics, ophthalmology, podiatry, orthopedics, rheumatology, and dermatology compliment local services. SEARHC is currently constructing a new hospital that will be opened in 2021.

SEARHC also operates the local healthcare clinic and includes mental health services, disability and senior services, primary care, dental services, and a pharmacy department. As a federally qualified health center, all services are provided on a sliding fee discount scale based on federal guidelines.

Economy A primary industry in Wrangell is fishing and marine services. A commercial fishing fleet is harbored in Wrangell, and several sports fishing guide services operate here. Many of these services also take tourists and wilderness adventurers to remote locations on the great Stikine River, branching eastward into British Columbia. Boatyards have increased in scale, allowing storage and repairs of larger vessels.

Getting to Wrangell

By Plane

[Alaska Airlines](#) provides daily services from Seattle and Anchorage, as well as Juneau, Petersburg, and Ketchikan. Sunrise Aviation, a local air charter service, offers flights to and from other Southeast Alaska communities.

By Ferry

Traveling via the Alaska Marine Highway System is a possibility during part of the year but is dependent on state funding, weather, and the availability of the ferry itself. The AK State ferries service Wrangell monthly throughout the year with service from Bellingham WA and many Southeast Alaska Communities such as Ketchikan, Petersburg, Juneau, Haines, and Skagway. Contact the Alaska Marine Highway System for rate and schedule information at 1-800-642-0066.

Wrangell Public School District 2020/2021 School Board

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