



association of
ALASKA
school boards

Superintendent Search Service

Iditarod School District Superintendent Vacancy McGrath, Alaska



The Iditarod Area School District Regional Board (IASDRB) of Education is seeking a superintendent for its 300-student district. Iditarod Area School District is located close to the center of Alaska. The Iditarod Area School District has 40,382.59 square miles of land area, and 547.91 square miles of water area. The schools also host the famous Iditarod Race, run through the villages of Nikolai, McGrath, and Takotna on a yearly basis; and Grayling, Shageluk, and Anvik on alternate years. The district has seven brick and mortar schools located in the Athabascan Villages of McGrath, Takotna, and Nikolai on the Kuskokwim River side, as well as Grayling, Holy Cross, Shageluk, and Anvik on the Yukon River side of the district.

Applicants are being sought with a good understanding of school finance, experience not only in the classroom but someone with experience living in remote areas, and the desire to work with communities of a diverse variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

A salary range between \$105,000 - \$115,000 for a 260-day contract with an attractive fringe benefit package is being offered to the successful candidate.

The Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) is facilitating the search. Closing date for all application material is **March 5, 2021, 11:59 pm AST**. The IASD Board of Education will select finalists during the

week of March 9th. Finalists will be interviewed virtually (due to COVID restrictions) on **March 25th, 2021**. The position starts July 1, 2021 in McGrath, Alaska.

Timetable

Application deadline: **March 5, 2021**

Selection of finalists: **Week of Marcy 9, 2021**

Interviews with Board: **March 25, 2021**

Employment begins: **July 1, 2021**

The Association of Alaska School Boards uses an online application system. Please visit www.aasb.myrevelus.com to create a candidate account and complete an online profile in order to apply for this position. For additional information and guidance in using Revelus, the online application system, visit our webpage at:

Visit the Association's Web Site at www.aasb.org for more information about this search. Visit the IASD web site at <https://www.iditarodsd.org/> for more information about this unique Alaskan school district.

Iditarod School District

The successful candidate for the Iditarod Area School Districts Superintendent will have strong educational leadership skills, and will be able to manage and support a highly motivated and talented educational team. The new superintendent will work to implement and oversee Board priorities and policies, and manage district staff, operations, and finances. Additionally, they will be expected to routinely travel to all school locations and work with constituent groups to develop consensus, develop meaningful partnerships, and become known as the regional educational leader. The new superintendent is expected to begin work on or before July 1, 2021

Application Process

The Association of Alaska School Boards is conducting this superintendent search. Closing date for all application material is March 5, 2021. The finalists will be invited for interviews on March 25th, 2021. Because of the pandemic and Alaska's travel restrictions all interviews will be held virtually.

AASB utilizes an online application system. Please visit www.aasb.myrevelus.com to complete your candidate profile, which will include:

- Your work history,
- Educational experience,
- College degrees (transcripts required),
- Applicable licenses and certificates,
- Confidential reference requests
- 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.

Visit the Association's Web Site for more information about this search at <https://aasb.org>

Compensation

The board is willing to offer a competitive salary in the range of \$105,000 to \$115,000 DOE for a 260-day contract. In addition, the same health insurance benefits package available to all other district employees is provided. Also included is a life insurance package and use of a district vehicle for the superintendent's use.

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:

Minimum Professional Experience – Qualifications:

- Hold, or be able to obtain, an Alaskan Type B administrative certificate.
- Superintendent endorsement or ability to obtain Alaskan endorsement within 2 years.
- Successful experience as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, central office staff, principal, or teacher in a remote school district is desired.

Desired Professional Background and Experience:

- Background and experience with fiscal planning and oversight.
- Demonstrated experience of collaborative leadership leading to improved student achievement.
- Proven experience working with diverse populations.
- Demonstrated leadership skills with the board, staff, and community in support of students.
- The superintendent is visible in the schools and communities.
- Experience with leading education in a rural or remote school system.

Personal Characteristics:

- Willing to become an active and invested member of the community.
- Values and engages in opportunities for innovative education delivery.

- Strong communication skills with a wide variety of audiences to include, families, communities, businesses, and Tribes to focus on the educational process of all students.
- A willingness to frequently travel to remote school sites via small bush aircraft.
- Supportive & respectful of traditional language and traditions.

Board Identified Priorities for the New Superintendent:

- Work on filling open district staff positions, including Business Manager and continuously work on retention of all staff.
- Help on development and implementation of place-based curriculum with a focus on Traditional Communities.
- Prepare students for life after graduation including CTE options.
- Focus on engaging parents to be supportive of student's education.
- Work to increase activities in all schools to increase incentives for students to stay engaged in the academic side of school.

School District Brochure:

District Headquarters

The Iditarod School District is located in the interior of Alaska and the student enrollment is 99% Alaska Native with most being Athabascan. The District headquarters are in McGrath. The only way to get there is by airplane, unless you're crazy enough to drive a snow-machine or mush your dog team on the Historic Iditarod Trail.



The community of McGrath has a lot to offer if you are looking for the real Alaska experience with its true, cozy, rustic atmosphere. McGrath has a safe, friendly small-town feeling and the added benefits of a café, coffee shop, public library, public radio, hotels/lodges/bunkhouse, churches, grocery store, museum, health clinic and today's basic utilities - running water, steady electricity, internet, and cell phone

service provided by Alaska owned company GCI. There are 15 miles of dirt road with some of the most beautiful scenery anywhere. You can see majestic Denali on clear days.



McGrath is located on an oxbow of the Kuskokwim river, which means it is a piece of land that is almost surrounded by river. McGrath is not heavily developed. Natural Alaska is right outside the front door. A lot of the times you will see beautiful moose right in town. (If you

do see them please keep back they are can be extremely dangerous.) By being so close with nature it does allow people easy access to viewing wildlife in their natural habitat. Not many places are as close to the habitat and have the variety of animals as we do.

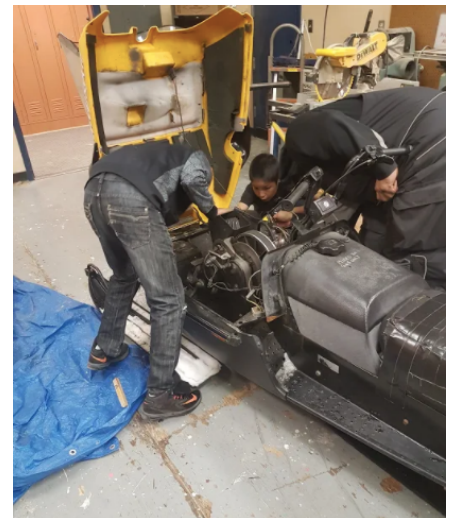
There are SO many different things to do all involving a love for the land. During our long-lasting sunset summer days, you can go boating, kayaking, canoeing. You can go hunting for great wooly mammoth bones, or whatever else that lays deep in the bountiful earth. We have many trails that go nowhere, but you can see many animals that live here from the lucky Ermines to bears.

During our short days in winter months, we enjoy scenic snow machine rides to the neighboring villages, the gold mining community of Takotna and Native Village of Nikolai rich with culture. Nothing like the feeling of rosy cheeks and the smell of snow machine exhaust freshly stuck to your snow clothes! On late night rides you get to watch the northern lights dance overhead, while the stars and moon light your way.

If you're looking for a life where rush hour is a 5 minute walk, where you can go to the store and home in 15 minutes without hitting a red light, if you have an insane love all four seasons and can stand some cold, if you would love for your children to know what freedom feels like, if you would like to go somewhere and truly be alone, if you would like to live off the land or live in a small town, then McGrath Alaska may be the place you want to visit or call home. (~from city of McGrath home page).

Though the District home office is in McGrath, the district represents schools in Anvik, Grayling, Shageluk, Holy Cross, Takotna, and Nikolai. A distance Learning Correspondence school is housed in Eagle River.

The district is spread out over 40,382 miles and along both the Kuskokim River and the Yukon River. The District serves approximately 300 students in seven brick and mortar schools and the distance learning center with 22 teachers, and 45 support staff. There is a seven person School Board elected by designated seats within the region. The district budget is \$8,661, 268.



[Community Information for Iditarod Area School District Region](#)

www.tananachiefs.org

Anvik is located on the Anvik River, west of the Yukon River with a population of 85. It was established by Episcopal Missionaries.

Grayling is located on the Yukon River with a population of 178 and an annual average snowfall of 110 inches.

Holy Cross has a population of 181 and is located 420 miles southwest of Fairbanks on the Yukon River. It was established as a Catholic Mission School in 1880. IT is an Athabascan village with subsistence related activities which are important to the residents.

Shageluk is an Athabascan village and has a population of 69 and is located on the east bank of the Innoko River, which is a tributary of the Yukon River.

McGrath is located on the Kuskokwim River 221 miles northwest of Anchorage with a population of 343. It was established as trading post for the local villages and gold mines in 1904.

Takotna has a population of 53 and is 17 miles west of McGrath on the Takotna River. It was established as a supply post for gold mines in the area.

Nikolai is Athabascan village on Kuskokwim River with population of 94. It was established as a winter trail between Cook Inlet and Ophir gold mines in the late 1880's.

Another beneficial link to visit is <https://www.doyon.com/>

District Profile: Iditarod Area School District

Current Total Budget 8,661, 268

Operating Budget \$8,661, 268

Number of Employees

Instructional Staff 22 certified teachers

Non-Instructional Staff 45 classified staff

Site Administrators 8 principal teachers

District Administrators 1

Average Teacher Salary 60,000

Number of Students 300

2020/21 Administrative and School Organizational Structure

District Administration

Superintendent..... 1

Special Education Coordinator 1

Director of Personnel and Student Services 1

Director of Technology 1

Director of Operations..... 1

School Administration

Site Administrators..... 8

IASD 2020/2021 Regional School Board Members

I Anvik, Flat, Grayling, Holy Cross, Iditarod, Lime Village, Shageluk	Ann Short
I Anvik, Flat, Grayling, Holy Cross, Iditarod, Lime Village, Shageluk	Kathy Walker- Chase
I Anvik, Flat, Grayling, Holy Cross, Iditarod, Lime Village, Shageluk	Rudy G. Hamilton
I Anvik, Flat, Grayling, Holy Cross, Iditarod, Lime Village, Shageluk	Ken Chase
II Lake Minchumina, Medfra, Nikolai, Ophir, Takotna, Tataline Station, Telida	Walt Maakastad
III McGrath	Alice Dale
III McGrath	Kevin Welch

