

Superintendent Search Service

Application Deadline:

March 31, 2023

Timeline

Selection of Finalists:

April 20, 2023

Interviews with the Board (In Anchorage):

May 1-5, 2023

Employment Begins:

July 1, 2023

School Board

Alice Dale - Board Chair

Ann Short

Kevin Welch

Rudy Hamilton - Vice
Chair

Ken Chase

Kathy Chase - Treasurer

Walt Maakestad

Iditarod Area School District

McGrath, Alaska

The seven-member Board of Education of the Iditarod Area School District is conducting a search for a Superintendent. The board is especially interested in applicants with outstanding leadership skills. Candidates should have successful experience working with diverse communities, deploying resources strategically, and an appreciation and desire for rural living. The new superintendent is expected to begin work on July 1, 2023.

A salary range of \$108,000-115,000 with an attractive benefits package is being offered to the successful candidate. Housing and a district vehicle are also provided.

The Board of Education recognizes that selecting the superintendent is one of the most important decisions it will make and is seeking a candidate that can help the Board meet its established mission and achieve a quality education for all students in attendance.

The district's mission is: *The Iditarod Area School District recognizes the unique and distinctive nature of each student with regard to character, capacity, ability, and heritage. In doing so, we are committed to providing individualized, comprehensive, and sequential programs to all students in an atmosphere which reflects their cultural heritage; and will, through an organized, efficient and effective school program designed and dedicated to incorporating a variety of learning opportunities, assure them of successful achievements as adults in the 21st Century.*

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 desired characteristics.

Candidates who do not possess an Alaska Type B certificate with a superintendent endorsement should begin the process in order to be considered for this position.

Application Process

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).

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Iditarod Area School District Profile

McGrath – District Headquarters

The Iditarod Area School District is located in the interior of Alaska and the student enrollment is 99% Alaska Native, with most being Athabascan. The District serves approximately 300 students in seven brick and mortar schools and the distance learning center.

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 basic utilities - running water, steady electricity, internet, and cell phone service. There are 15 miles of dirt road with some of the most beautiful scenery anywhere you look. You can see majestic Denali on clear days.

What is the Environment Like?

McGrath is located on an oxbow of the Kuskokwim River, which means it is a piece of land that is almost entirely surrounded by river. The district is spread out over 40,382 miles and along both the Kuskokwim River and the Yukon River.

During the short days in winter months, residents enjoy scenic snow machine rides to neighboring villages; the gold mining community of Takotna and the Native Village of Nikolai, rich with culture. On late-night rides, the northern lights dance overhead.

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 live off the land or live in a small town, then McGrath Alaska may be the place you want to visit or call home.

District Data

School Sites: 7
School Facilities: 8
Students: 283
District Administration: 5
Principals: Primary-22/
Secondary-19
Non-instructional staff: 24

Budget

Special Programs/
Grants: \$2,779,386
Operating Budget:
\$8,476,826

Revenue

Local: \$35,000
State: \$7,728,822
Federal: \$390,196

Fund Balance

Unappropriated: \$53,237
Expenditure Per Pupil:
\$39,775
Average Teacher Salary:
\$80,700

Please visit our district site for more information.

www.iditarodsd.org

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Overview of Communities

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. Community Information for Iditarod Area School District Region: www.tananachiefs.org. Another beneficial link to visit is www.doyon.com.

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.

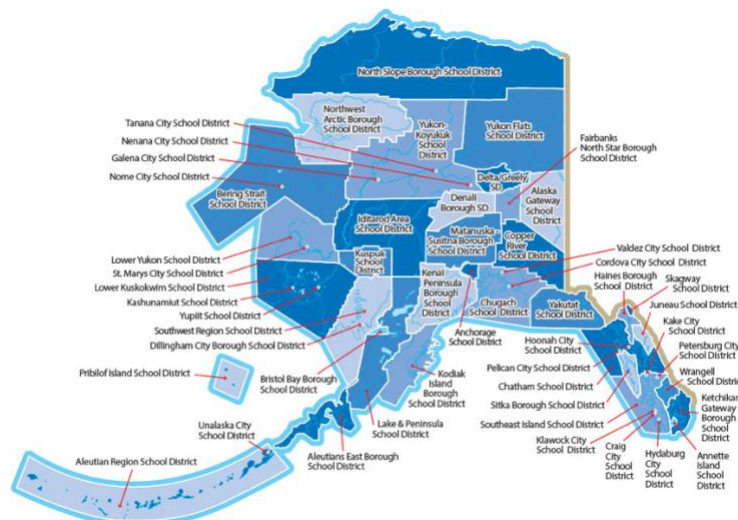
Holy Cross has a population of 181 and is located 420 miles southwest of Fairbanks on the Yukon River. It was established as a Catholic Mission School in 1880. It is an Athabascan village with subsistence related activities which are important to the residents.

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 1880s.





IDITAROD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT **Iditarod, The Heart of Alaska**

Additional Information

Board Priorities for the Coming Year

- Demonstrate clear, effective and honest communication between the board, staff, students, and communities.
- Ensure the district is financially healthy and develop a budget that is aligned to the needs of students and district priorities.
- Study achievement data and educate the board to make appropriate decisions based on results.
- The board expects the superintendent to visit every community several times each year.

Professional Experience Minimum Qualifications

- Hold, or be able to obtain, a Type B administrative certificate with a superintendent endorsement in the State of Alaska.
- Prefer an individual with Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent experience and a minim of 3 years as principal or district-wide administrative experience.

Desired Professional Background and Experiences of Candidate

- Background and experience with fiscal planning and oversight.
- Experience in school finance, budget development and implementation.
- Skilled in personnel management.
- Experience with grants and grant administration.
- Demonstrated leadership skills with the board, staff, and community in support of students.

Desired Personal Characteristics of Candidate

- Passionate about improving the educational experience for ALL students to succeed.
- Strong communication skills with a wide variety of audiences to include, but not limited to the Board, staff, families, communities, businesses, and nonprofits.
- Uphold the highest integrity and principles.
- A willingness to frequently travel to remote school sites in small bush aircraft.