

# Alaska Reads Act Funding Alaska's Reading Priority

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Division of Innovation and Education Excellence

Susan McKenzie, Director

May 11th, 2023




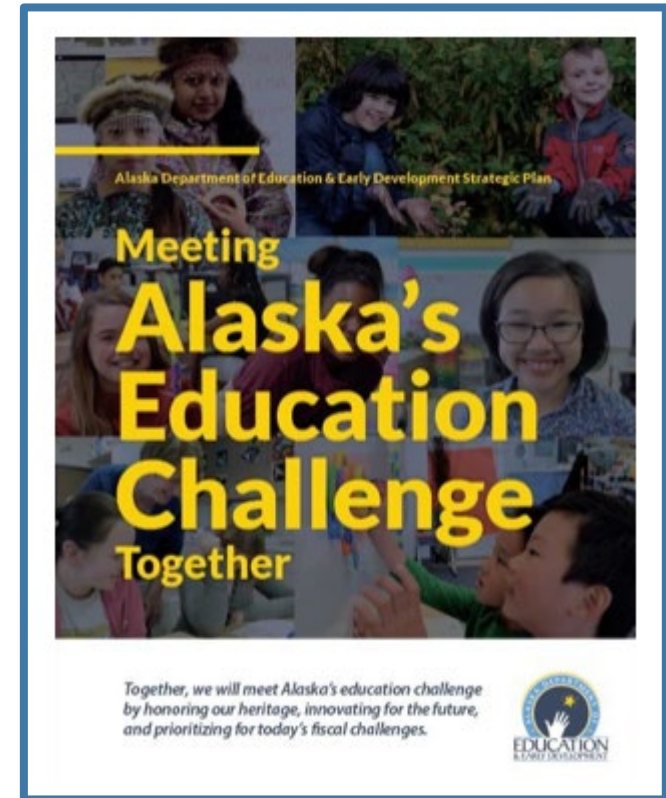
# Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
An excellent education for every student every day.	All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them. - Alaska Statute 14.03.015	DEED exists to provide <b>information, resources, and leadership</b> to support an excellent education for every student every day.

# Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

## Five Shared Priorities:

- 
1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
  2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
  3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
  4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
  5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.



[education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge](http://education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge)

# Agenda

- Details of Alaska Reads Act webinars
- Alaska Reads Act Overview
- COVID 19 Funding Options
- ESEA Federal Programs Funding Options
- School Improvement Funding Options
- CLSD Grant Funding Options
- SPED Funding Options
- Questions



**Alaska Reads**  
#akreads



# Details

# Alaska Reads Act Webinar Schedule:

*Weekly on Thursdays or Fridays from 3:15-4:15*

Reads Act Focus:	Dates:	Leader and Presenter:
District Reading Intervention	January 12 to February 2	Susy McKenzie
Teacher Certification	February 9	Sondra Meredith
Department Reading Program	February 16 to March 2	Susy McKenzie
Early Learning	March 9 to March 23	Deb Riddle
Data Collections	March 30	John Jones
Virtual Education	April 6 to <del>April 20</del> April 13	Kelly Manning
District Reading Intervention: Revisited	April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Susy McKenzie
SOR Symposium Pre-Conference	April 28	Susy McKenzie
District Reading Intervention for World and Native Language Programs	May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Susy McKenzie
Funding Alaska's Reading Priority	May 11	Susy McKenzie and Team



# Alaska Reads Act Timeline and Resources

## TIMELINE

- Regulations
  - August 2022 – December 2022
- Preparation
  - September 2022 – March 2023
- State Board of Education regulation package
  - January 25, 2023
- Public Comment
  - February 2023 – March 2023
- Adopted
  - April 19, 2023
- Virtual Education Regulations
  - Two Rounds – June 2023 and June 2024

## RESOURCES

<https://education.alaska.gov/akreads>:

- Webinar schedule and registration
- Recordings of webinars
- Slide decks
- Draft documents shared during webinars
- One-page supports
- FAQ



# Communication

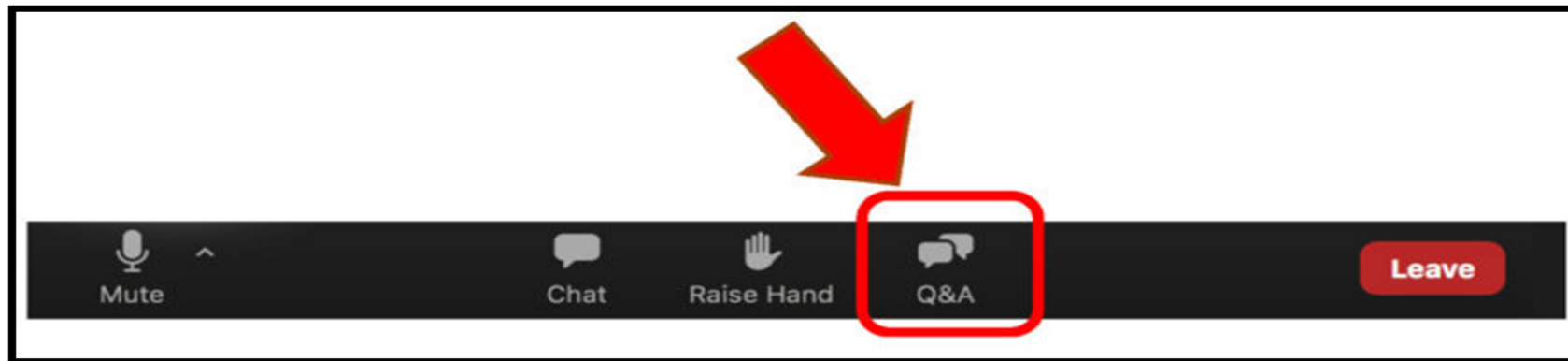
- There will be an FAQ document posted after this webinar
- Send questions to [akreads@alaska.gov](mailto:akreads@alaska.gov)
- Request presentation for your district
- Reading Newsletter
- Alaska Reads Website ([education.alaska.gov/akreads](http://education.alaska.gov/akreads))
  - Weekly updates
- Planning in-person meetings around the state





# Questions?

- Please put questions into the Q&A tab
- Do not put questions in the chat
- Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation, time permitting



# Alaska Reads Components:



**Alaska Reads**  
#akreads

## Reads Act Programs:

- 1) Early Learning & Parents as Teachers (**VOLUNTARY**)
- 2) Department Reading Program (**VOLUNTARY**)
- 3) Virtual Education (**VOLUNTARY**)
- 4) District Reading Improvement (**REQUIRED**)

## Other Requirements:

- 1) Reporting/Data Collections
- 2) Educator Preparation

# COVID-19 CARES, CRSSA, ARP

Staff Contact: Joel Roylance



**Alaska Reads**  
#akreads

# Flexibility of Funds from COVID

- Can be used for ongoing, current and planned district initiatives
- Can be used for current staff members
- CRRSA funds must be spent by September 2023
- ARP funds must be spent by September 2024
- Supplement not supplant does not apply
- General grant expenditure guidelines apply including reasonable and necessary

# Funding Uses

## District Initiatives

Curriculum including assessment and implementation of the Reads Act

District staff, working with students during the school day, after school and during summer school, supporting these programs and planning for these programs

Mental health support for students

Learning Loss due to COVID mitigation or redress

# ESEA Federal Programs: Staff Contact: Courtney Preziosi



**Alaska Reads**  
#akreads

# Funding Uses – Supplement, not Supplant

- ESEA funds have a [Supplement, not Supplant provision](#) – Supplanting is presumed if either of the following are true:
  - A district uses federal funds to provide services that are required under other federal, state, or local laws
  - A district uses federal funds to provide services that the district provided with non-federal funds in the prior year.
- For Title I-A, compliance with SNS is measured by whether the district has a written methodology.

# Funding Uses – Considerations

- **Title I-A** funds could only be used for Title I-A schools.
- **Title I-C, Title I-D, and Title III-A** can only support certain populations of students. Title I-C funds can only be used for identified migratory children. Title I-D can only be used for neglected and delinquent children. Title III-A can only be used for identified English learners and has 3 required spending areas.
- **Title II-A** funds cannot directly impact students. This funding can only be used for the educator professional development portion of reading improvement.
- **Title IV-A** can be used for any school, but Title IV-A does have spending requirements based on the amount of funding a district receives. If a district receives \$30k or more they need to spend a minimum of 20% on well rounded education, 20% on safe and healthy students, and a portion on technology.
- **Title IV-B 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)** funding can only be used at schools that receive a competitive grant and operate a 21st CCLC program.



# Funding Uses - Examples

- **Title I-A:** building classroom libraries of decodable texts and phonics-based books, virtual reading intervention programs, instructional coaches to support the RTI process, establish early literacy program, professional development in assessment literacy, literacy nights
- **Title I-C:** handing out leaflets to migratory families on available reading programs as part of an effort to increase the reading skills of migratory children, support literacy activities that increase family engagement
- **Title II-A:** professional development in RTI/MTSS model, coaching and training in small group instructional practices in intervention

# Funding Uses – Examples, continued

- **Title III-A:** parent training and aides or paraprofessional support for reading interventions for identified English learners
- **Title IV-A:** professional development in purchased diagnostics or interventions, reading intervention small group materials
- **Title IV-B (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC):** individual reading intervention services during summer school, evidence-based reading support to students that is in alignment with and an extension of the school day curriculum

# School Improvement

## Staff Contact: Brittnay Bailey



**Alaska Reads**  
#akreads

# Funding Uses – Supplement, not Supplant

- School Improvement funds have a [Supplement, not Supplant provision.](#)
- For School Improvement, compliance with SNS is measured by whether the district has a written methodology.
  - For School Improvement, compliance with SNS is not measured by looking at individual school improvement expenditures. It is measured by whether the district has a written methodology to ensure that each school receives all the state and local funds that it would have received if it were not a school improvement school.

# Funding Uses

**School Improvement 1003(a)** funds support designated schools that have completed a comprehensive needs assessment with community input.

Interventions can include but are not limited to:

- Literacy-based professional development
- Extra staffing (paraprofessionals, interventionists, coaches, etc.)
- Literacy-based materials, tutoring, interventions, and supplementary materials for evidence-based curriculum

# Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant

Staff Contact: Hollins Emili



**Alaska Reads**  
#akreads

# CLSD Funding Uses

- **Supplemental** early education, elementary, and secondary programs with literacy materials and reading interventions **outside of the core program**
- Literacy/evidence based professional development and RTI/MTSS training. Coaching for reading teachers and paraprofessionals on evidence-based reading strategies
- Hiring literacy coaches, reading specialists/interventionists, and paraprofessionals to support literacy efforts

# CLSD Funding:

- Building classroom libraries of decodable texts and phonics-based books and buying additional decodable books a child can read/access at home
- Family literacy nights, parent intervention supplies and parent training on reading, and **small** incentives for parents to attend literacy events
- Virtual reading intervention programs, reading intervention small-group materials, coaching and training in small group instructional practices in reading interventions



# Special Education

## Staff Contact: Don Enoch



# Special Education Program

## - *Use of Funding*

Special Education funding for the federal government comes in two sources:

- Federal 619 Special Education funding (identified for 3 to 5 year olds with disabilities)
- Federal VI-B Special Education funding (identified for 5 to 22 year olds with disabilities)

This funding has a ***supplement, not supplant*** rule in addition to being dedicated for use with students with or suspected of having a disability. This includes requirements to:

- Support requirements of the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)
- Ensuring students with disabilities receive FAPE in the least restrictive environment
- Provide for guidance and supervision regarding special education compliance requirements
- Develop and support programs for school districts in recruiting, training, and retaining Special Education Staff

# Special Education Funding

**EARLY EDUCATION** – Support for Child Find activities to identify students with disabilities may be funded with Special Education 619 (3 to 5 year-old programs) funds. This may support early ed programs for students with disabilities. Additionally, VIB Special Education funds (3 to 22) may be used.

**DISTRICT READING PROGRAM** – Within the scope of students with disabilities, State and Federal Special Education funds may be used for program support and screeners for potential disabilities identification.

**INTERVENTIONS** – Areas including phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, oral language skills, and reading comprehension may be supported with Special Education 619/VIB (3 to 5 and 3 to 22 year olds) funds.

**STAFFING** – Within the scope of students with disabilities, Paraprofessionals or interventionists may be support to supplement existing services with Special Education 619/VIB (3 to 5 and 3 to 22 year olds) funds.

# Special Education Funding - continued

**CLASSROOM MATERIALS** – Supplemental materials supporting students with disabilities may be purchased using Special Education 619/VIB (3 to 5 and 3 to 22 year olds) funds.

**SMALL GROUP TRAINING/MATERIALS** - Special Education 619/VIB (3 to 5 and 3 to 22 year olds) funds may be used to supplement the training for small group instruction and supporting materials for students identified with disabilities.

**SUMMER PROGRAMS AND PARENT TRAINING** – Summer Programs (NOT a special education based Extended School Year (ESY) program) are eligible for supplemental student instruction and parent training for students identified as having a disability supporting Special Education 619/VIB (3 to 5 and 3 to 22 year olds) as a funding source.

# Questions

---



# Contact Information

## **Susan McKenzie, Director**

Susan.mckenzie@alaska.gov  
(907) 269-4583

## **Joel Roylance, COVID 19 Administrator**

Joel.roylance@alaska.gov  
(907) 269-7976

## **Courtney Preziosi, ESEA Administrator**

Courtney.preziosi@alaska.gov  
(907) 465-2888

## **Brittnay Bailey, School Improvement Administrator**

Brittnay.bailey@alaska.gov  
(907) 269-6754

## **Hollins Emili, CLSD Grant Manager**

Hollins Emili@alaska.gov  
(907) 269-6757

## **Don Enoch, SPED Administrator**

Donald.enoch@alaska.gov  
(907) 465-2972



# AK Reads Contacts

akreads@alaska.gov



**Susy McKenzie**  
IEE Director/Chair



**Kristi Graber**  
Academic Support Team  
Administrator



**Jenn Miller**  
Academic Support Team



**Tracy Parker**  
Reading Specialist

# Stay Connected



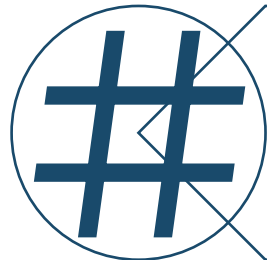
## Website

- [education.alaska.gov](http://education.alaska.gov)



## Phone

- Main Line: (907) 465-2800



## Social Media

- @AlaskaDEED