

Alaska Plan for Education

Alaska should have a comprehensive plan or blueprint for education that answers these basic questions:

- Where have we been?
 - What have we learned teaching and learning in Alaska?
 - What do we know works in Alaska?
 - What doesn't work?
- Where are we now?
 - What are the challenges facing our state, our communities, our schools and our families?
 - What resources are available to meet daily operational goals?
 - What are all the individual actions of the department and how do they fit the direction of the goals?
 - What more do we need to maintain or increase progress?
 - More knowledge?
 - Reallocation of resources?
 - Blueprint adjustments?
- Where are we going?
 - What is our vision as a state?
 - What are the challenges on the horizon?
 - How can education meet these challenges?
 - How can we maximize our resources?
 - How can all Alaskans become involved in our direction?
- How will we know we are there?
 - What are possible measures that can be used to define success?
 - Standards Based Assessment results in grades three-ten
 - High School Graduation Qualifying Exam
 - Drop-out tracking to work force
 - Post-secondary enrollment
 - Participation in parent engagement
 - Meeting workforce needs
 - How can the evaluation be placed in the hands of the people?

Alaska needs a clear plan for education. An Alaska Education Plan will:

- Ensure that every expenditure, activity, initiative or regulation be directed toward and support Alaska's vision for children by:
 - Increasing financial efficiency by targeting resources toward specific needs.
 - Reducing parallel activities, gaps in services.
 - Eliminating programs that are measured to be ineffective.
- Provide the public with a clear picture of Alaska's education vision.
- Ensure that effective solutions, research and educational innovations are used to further achievement of educational goals
- Allow the public to measure performance against specific goals.
- Encourage all Alaskans to participate and own education.
- Provide a basis for continued review, dialogue and revision.