

Superintendent Report May 2026

Hiring Updates

We have officially completed certificated staff hiring for the 2026–2027 school year.

We have hired Shalie Dahl-Moore to serve as our secondary PE and Health teacher. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Shalie will not be able to begin until January 2027. In the meantime, Mr. King has been coordinating with several retired teachers who have graciously agreed to support our PE and Health program during the first semester until Shalie is able to transition into the role.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to Ginger Evans, Dino Brock, and Rick Brock for their willingness to coordinate with Shalie and help ensure that students continue to receive a strong PE and Health program throughout this transition period.

We have also hired Eric Wolford to fill our secondary English Language Arts position. The applicant we had previously offered the contract to later informed us that she would no longer be able to accept the position. As a result, we reopened the position, conducted additional interviews, and successfully filled the vacancy.

We do anticipate a number of classified positions opening later this summer, and we intend to post those openings in late June or early July.

In facilities and maintenance, Aaron Buller has completed the hiring process for the custodial and maintenance vacancies resulting from Carla and Juan's departures. We have hired Ryan Nelson to serve as our custodian and Keith Anderson to serve as our maintenance technician. Both individuals will overlap with Carla and Juan for several weeks to help support a smooth transition.

Capital Improvement Projects

We have officially closed out the roof project. CBC returned to complete all remaining punch list items, and the roof warranty inspector conducted the final inspection. I'm pleased to report that the roof passed with flying colors.

This week, we completed the closeout documentation process, and Shannon is now working with the State on final payments.

The campus security upgrades project also continues to move forward. We anticipate contractors beginning mobilization and setup at the school district within the next few weeks as the project gets underway.

At the end of April, I attended a two-day Capital Improvement Project planning workshop hosted by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in Anchorage. The workshop focused on the six-year CIP planning and submission process. I was fortunate to spend much of the workshop seated next to David Landis from SERRC, who works extensively with districts on grant writing and CIP applications. I left with a significantly stronger understanding of the process, how projects are scored, and steps we can take to improve the competitiveness of our future applications.

Professional Development and Grant Work

The Raising the Bar for Alaska Schools (RTBAK) grant, which has supported our professional

development work over the past three years, will officially conclude at the end of the federal fiscal year on September 30.

These grant funds have played a substantial role in supporting professional learning opportunities across the district, and I'm pleased to share that Petersburg has been invited to continue participating as the Alaska Council of School Administrators prepares the next iteration of the grant, which will be known as the Alaska Teacher Workforce Advancement Initiative (ATWAI).

Petersburg, Kodiak, and Kuspuk will serve as returning partner districts and will work alongside six additional districts that will be participating in the grant for the first time. The work will continue to focus heavily on professional development, human capital management (a practical way of describing how we build leadership capacity with the resources we have), and performance-based compensation, all of which align closely with the systems and practices we have already established.

As we continue these instructional shifts and transitions, Jamie Cabral will be working closely alongside me to help lead the broader vision of our Visible Learning professional development efforts across both the elementary and secondary levels. This will also support the work connected to our CLSD (Comprehensive Literacy Statewide Development) grant and leadership teams, helping ensure that our literacy work continues to integrate seamlessly into the common instructional language and Visible Learning framework we have already established.

Closing

As the school year wraps up, I want to once again congratulate our graduating seniors on a successful year and wish all of our students, staff, and families the very best as we head into summer break.