

A N C H O R A G E   S C H O O L   D I S T R I C T

*A Parent's Guide*

# What Your Child Will Learn

Kindergarten to Grade 6



*Families and Educators Working Together*

***We are pleased to recognize the artists featured in this booklet:***

Cover art by Clarissa Heath, grade 2, Rogers Park Elementary School  
Page 3, Matrika Kitchen, grade 1, Bayshore Elementary School  
Page 5, Arriel Kowaluk, grade 1, Ursa Minor Elementary School  
Page 7, Selena Graves, grade 5, Bowman Elementary School  
Page 9, Princess Vincent, grade 4, Muldoon Elementary School  
Page 11, Jacqueline Wood, grade 3, Campbell Elementary School  
Page 13, Marisabel Esparza, grade 2, Kasuun Elementary School  
Page 15, Shaquetta R., middle school student



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Anchorage School District  
4600 DeBarr Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6614  
(907) 742-4000

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# A Parent's Guide to K-6 Curriculum

## *A Message from the Superintendent*

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Anchorage School District offers a strong academic program for all students. “What Your Child Will Learn,” is an introduction to the elementary school curriculum and student expectations for each grade level, beginning in kindergarten and continuing to grade 6. The information in this booklet specifies the knowledge and skills we expect students at each grade level to know and be able to do. Students who meet these standards will be prepared for the next grade level and ultimately for passing the required Alaska High School Graduation Qualifying Exam.

As you read through this guide, you will probably have questions or comments that you can address with your child's teacher or principal. Parent conferences are scheduled in the fall and spring at every school to give you an opportunity to discuss your child's progress.

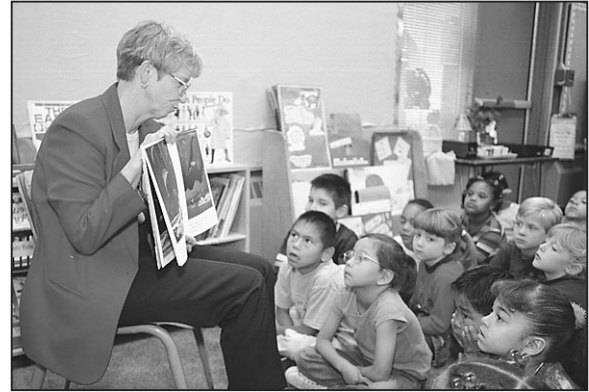
More helpful information about the District's curriculum is available on our Web site, [www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org). You will find information about each subject area and a complete listing of both the state and local standards.

Our goal is to provide a challenging, academic curriculum built on state-mandated performance and content standards and to assist students in meeting these standards. The Anchorage School District is staffed with professionals dedicated to success for every child. We look forward to working with you to achieve our goal of success for every child – your partnership with us is essential to that success.

Sincerely,

*Carol*

Carol Comeau, Superintendent



David Prudeger

# Kindergarten Curriculum Guide

## READING

### Comprehension

**The student will understand what is read.**

***Your child will:***

- make predictions about stories from shared reading.
- retell stories in sequence with prompting.
- show understanding of stories through art, music, play-acting, and writing.
- follow simple directions.

### Phonics/ Decoding

**The student will understand that letters have sounds.**

***Your child will:***

- begin to learn common sight words.
- learn letters of alphabet.
- learn consonant sounds.
- begin to identify some vowel sounds.
- recognize rhyming words.

### Attitudes/Behaviors

**The student will view self as a reader.**

***Your child will:***

- identify cover, title, and author.
- learn that print is read from left to right.
- enjoy listening to stories and books.
- explore and show interest in books.

## WRITING

### Oral Language

**The student will listen and speak to develop writing skills.**

***Your child will:***

- listen to stories and poems.
- recite poems, rhymes, songs, and stories.
- begin to use words to describe people, places, and things.
- talk to friends, take turns, and listen to others.
- identify words that rhyme.

### Writing Process

**The student will begin to write.**

***Your child will:***

- be introduced to formation of letters.
- write own name.
- use letter sounds to spell and write words.
- write simple words.
- draw pictures, and use sound spelling to write a story.

## MATH

**The student will know essential mathematics.**

***Your child will:***

- count 20 or more objects
- read and write numbers to 20.
- read a calendar and tell time to the hour.
- make reasonable estimates of “how many” and “how much.”
- use objects to show fact families to a sum of ten ( $2 + 4 = 6$ ,  $4 + 2 = 6$ ,  $6 - 4 = 2$ ,  $6 - 2 = 4$ ).
- use objects to identify and describe the fraction  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- measure with nonstandard units (paper clips, beans, etc.).
- identify repeating patterns.
- learn basic shapes, colors, and sizes.
- sort and organize information into simple graphs.

**The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.**

***Your child will:***

- identify questions and statements that are about math.
- discuss logical ways to apply math skills to everyday life.
- explain verbally how to solve mathematical problems.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

**The student will study their home, school, and neighborhood.**

***Your child will:***

- examine the past and the present.
- learn about diverse people and events.

### Civics

**The student will investigate civic understanding.**

***Your child will:***

- participate cooperatively.
- develop problem solving skills.
- explore the governance of the school community.

### Geography

**The student will study the geography of home, school, and neighborhood.**

***Your child will:***

- explore basic map and globe skills.
- apply map and globe skills to the school setting and the neighborhood.

*Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.*

## SCIENCE

**The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Characteristics.”**

***Your child will:***

- observe human characteristics of him/herself and others.
- explore the characteristics and motion of balls and their interaction with ramps.
- sort earth materials by various characteristics.
- study a unit of interest focusing on characteristics, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results.

## HEALTH

**The student will learn critical knowledge.**

***Your child will:***

- memorize name, address, and phone number.
- name feelings.
- identify healthy and less healthy foods.
- name body parts and five senses.
- know to call 911 for emergencies.

**The student will take responsibility for self.**

***Your child will:***

- use proper hand washing.
- use hats/mittens in winter and helmets and seatbelts to prevent injury.
- recognize harmful substances and learn to tell an adult.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**The student will use fundamental movements.**

***Your child will:***

- change directions quickly and travel without bumping into others or falling.
- run and kick a stationary ball.
- throw underhand and overhand.

**The student will explore developmental gymnastics.**

***Your child will:***

- continuously jump a rope held by others.
- roll sideways without stopping.

**The student will experience individual, dual and team activities.**

***Your child will:***

- learn safety on ice and snow.
- recognize that physical activity is good for personal well-being.

**The student will explore rhythms and dance.**

***Your child will:***

- move in different directions at different speeds.
- move as different shapes.

## MUSIC

**The student will learn fundamental music concepts.**

***Your child will:***

- recognize steady beat in music.
- learn that music is made up of a variety of sounds.
- learn that notes move up, down or repeat.

**The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.**

***Your child will:***

- maintain steady beat through movement and echo simple rhythmic patterns.
- sing and play high, low and repeated notes.
- sing a variety of folk and composed songs.
- listen with good concert manners to classical music and music of other cultures.

## ART

**The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Art and Me.”**

***Your child will:***

- recognize basic shapes.
- recognize pattern as a regular repetition of line, shape or color.
- explore a variety of art forms.
- explore careers in art.

**The student will understand and show appreciation for self and others through art culture and heritage.**

***Your child will:***

- create original works of art.
- learn about major artists.
- look at and respond to significant works of art.



# First Grade Curriculum Guide

## READING

### Comprehension

**The student will understand what is read.**

***Your child will:***

- predict story events and endings.
- retell sequence of events with prompting.
- relate stories to personal experiences and to other stories, with prompting.
- identify fiction and non-fiction.
- identify main idea, character, and setting in stories.

### Decoding/Phonics

**The student will use a variety of decoding strategies.**

***Your child will:***

- build sight word vocabulary.
- begin to read out loud with confidence.
- use decoding strategies to read. (picture clues, letter clusters, beginning consonants, letter sounds)
- use sentence and story meaning (context) to decode words.

### Attitude/Behaviors

**The student will view self as a reader.**

***Your child will:***

- choose to read.
- talk with others about what was read.
- begin to use table of contents.
- identify author, illustrator, and title page.

## WRITING

### Writing Process

**The student will write.**

***Your child will:***

- write to communicate ideas.
- use descriptive words.
- write complete sentences.
- use beginning capital letters and end punctuation.
- correctly spell frequently used words.
- share work with others to improve writing.
- print legibly to form words and write sentences.

### Oral Language

**The student will listen and speak for various reasons.**

***Your child will:***

- listen and respond to stories and information.
- hear and identify beginning, middle, and end sounds in words.
- rhyme words orally.
- give and follow 2 or 3 step oral directions.
- talk to peers and adults; take turns, listen to others, answer questions.
- expand speaking vocabulary.
- tell and retell stories in a logical order.
- speak in complete sentences.

## MATH

**The student will know essential mathematics.**

***Your child will:***

- estimate the results of simple addition and subtraction problems.
- memorize all addition and subtraction facts to 20.
- compare numbers to 100.
- use objects to compare  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\frac{1}{3}$ .
- measure using inches and centimeters, identify temperature, and tell time to the half hour.
- recognize number patterns (2's, 5's, 10's) and find missing addends ( $6 + ? = 10$ ).
- draw and build basic shapes.
- use simple bar graphs and charts for comparing.
- collect data and make predictions.
- conduct a survey and tally results.

**The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.**

***Your child will:***

- make up problems using objects.
- use everyday language to explain math thinking.
- explain verbally how to solve mathematical problems.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

**The student will study their home, school, and neighborhood.**

***Your child will:***

- examine the past and the present.
- learn about diverse people and events.

### Civics

**The student will investigate civic understanding.**

***Your child will:***

- participate cooperatively.
- develop problem solving skills.
- explore the governance of the school community.

### Geography

**The student will study the geography of home, school, and neighborhood.**

***Your child will:***

- explore basic map and globe skills.
- apply map and globe skills to the school setting and the neighborhood.

*Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.*

## SCIENCE

The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Interrelationships.”

**Your child will:**

- explore interrelationships of animals and their habitats, and determine the similar characteristics of all animals.
- begin to recognize the relationship of mass and volume.
- explore properties of water.
- study a unit of interest focusing on interrelationships, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results.



## HEALTH

The student will learn critical knowledge.

**Your child will:**

- recognize signs for poison.
- name basic effects of pollution.
- identify major body systems.

The student will take responsibility.

**Your child will:**

- care for own cuts and nose bleeds.
- express feelings in a socially acceptable way.
- identify personal benefits of exercise and good nutrition.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The student will use fundamental movements.

**Your child will:**

- throw and catch a ball using different techniques.
- strike a ball toward a target.
- skip, hop, gallop, and slide.

The student will explore developmental gymnastics.

**Your child will:**

- jump and land using a combination of one- and two-footed takeoffs and landings.
- roll forward.

The student will experience individual, dual and team activities.

**Your child will:**

- use appropriate behavior in group activities.
- try seal hop and stick pull from Native Youth Olympics.

The student will explore rhythms and dance.

**Your child will:**

- combine movement patterns to music.
- travel changing speed, direction, and rhythm.

## MUSIC

The student will learn fundamental music concepts.

**Your child will:**

- identify beats in sets of two or three.
- identify melodic direction (up, down, repeated).
- identify by sight and sound various classroom instruments.

The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.

**Your child will:**

- create simple rhythm patterns.
- sing and play simple accompaniment patterns.
- move to fast, slow and changing tempos in music.
- explore loud and soft sounds through singing and playing instruments.
- learn the Alaska Flag Song and the Star Spangled Banner.

## ART

The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Art in My World.”

**Your child will:**

- mix secondary colors from three primary colors.
- learn to thread a yarn needle, tie a knot, and use a running stitch.
- identify basic art form.
- investigate careers in art i.e., book illustrator.

The student will understand, appreciate and develop attitudes of respect and value for self and others through art cultures and heritage.

**Your child will:**

- explore the vocabulary of art terms.
- create original works of art.
- learn about major artists.
- develop an awareness of history in art.

GRADE 2

# Second Grade Curriculum Guide

## READING

### Comprehension

The student will understand what is read.

**Your child will:**

- retell stories in sequence.
- relate stories to personal experiences and to other stories.
- read for understanding in non-fiction texts.
- identify main idea of story.
- read and follow directions.
- use expression in oral reading.

### Decoding/Phonics

The student will continue to use a variety of strategies to read unknown words.

**Your child will:**

- build sight vocabulary.
- practice reading to build confidence.
- use prefixes, suffixes, and word roots to decode words.
- use sentence, story meaning (context) strategies, and phonics to decode words.
- use contractions and compound words.

### Attitude/Behaviors

The student will view self as a reader.

**Your child will:**

- read a variety of literature.
- talk with others about what was read.
- use table of contents, index, and glossary.
- identify copyright and dedication page.

## WRITING

### Writing Process

The student will improve writing skills.

**Your child will:**

- write stories with beginning, middle, and end.
- identify qualities of good writing.\*
- write complete sentences.
- use the basic rules of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling in written work.
- spell frequently used words and words that are spelled as they sound, correctly.
- begin to revise and edit.

### Oral Language

The student will listen and speak for various reasons..

**Your child will:**

- participate in group discussions.
- give and follow 3 - 4 step directions.
- speak to describe and explain.
- ask important questions.
- expand speaking vocabulary.
- create oral stories to share with others.

\*The qualities of good writing can be found on page 16.

## MATH

The student will know essential mathematics.

**Your child will:**

- add and subtract to a sum of 100.
- read and write simple fractions.
- use manipulatives to compare  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\frac{1}{3}$ .
- measure with feet, yards, and meters.
- continue number patterns to 100 (by 5's, by 10's etc.).
- use appropriate vocabulary and correct signs to indicate greater than ( $>$ ), less than ( $<$ ), and equal to ( $=$ ).
- demonstrate symmetry by completing the mirror image of a pattern block design.
- write number sentences to solve problems ( $8+7=15$ ).
- compare and describe similar geometric shapes as larger, smaller, or the same.
- collect, record, organize, display, and explain data.

The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.

**Your child will:**

- develop and apply strategies to solve a variety of problems.
- explain why a prediction, estimation, or solution is reasonable.
- explain answers verbally and in writing.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

The student will study the Municipality of Anchorage.

**Your child will:**

- learn about Anchorage past and present.
- study diverse people and events.
- explore political, cultural, and economic factors.

### Civics

The student will build civic understanding.

**Your child will:**

- work and live cooperatively with others.
- expand problem solving skills.
- explore local government.

### Geography

The student will study the geography of Anchorage.

**Your child will:**

- expand basic map and globe skills.
- apply map and globe skills to the study of Anchorage.
- identify various locations within Anchorage.

*Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.*

## SCIENCE

The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Cycles.”

**Your child will:**

- observe, measure, and record the stages of a plant’s life cycle from planting to harvesting seeds.
- use measurement to study shadows and change.
- identify three types of soil and how each affects plant growth.
- study a unit of interest that focusing on cycles, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results.

## HEALTH

The student will learn critical knowledge.

**Your child will:**

- know the difference between prescription, over-the-counter, and illegal drugs.
- know the importance of sleep, food, and exercise.
- differentiate between body systems.

The student will take responsibility.

**Your child will:**

- know where to go for help.
- practice safe ways to deal with disasters, personal injuries, and strangers.
- avoid name calling and put downs.
- choose not to pollute or litter

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The student will use fundamental movements.

**Your child will:**

- chase, flee, and dodge to avoid others.
- continuously dribble a ball with hands or feet.
- skip, hop, gallop, and slide.

The student will explore developmental gymnastics.

**Your child will:**

- jump and land using a combination of one- and two-footed takeoffs and landings.
- move joints through a full range of motion.

The student will experience individual, dual and team activities.

**Your child will:**

- use appropriate behavior in group activities.
- try seal hop and stick pull from Native Youth Olympics.

The student will explore rhythms and dance.

**Your child will:**

- combine movement patterns to music.
- travel—changing speed, direction, and rhythm.

## MUSIC

The student will learn fundamental music concepts.

**Your child will:**

- identify basic rhythm symbols (quarter, half, and eighth notes and rests).
- identify by sight and sound various orchestral instruments.
- learn music vocabulary words that describe tempo.

The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.

**Your child will:**

- create and reproduce more complex rhythm patterns.
- sing and hear music of different styles from many different countries.
- listen with good concert manners to classical (European tradition) music and be introduced to jazz.

## ART

The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Creating From Within Myself.”

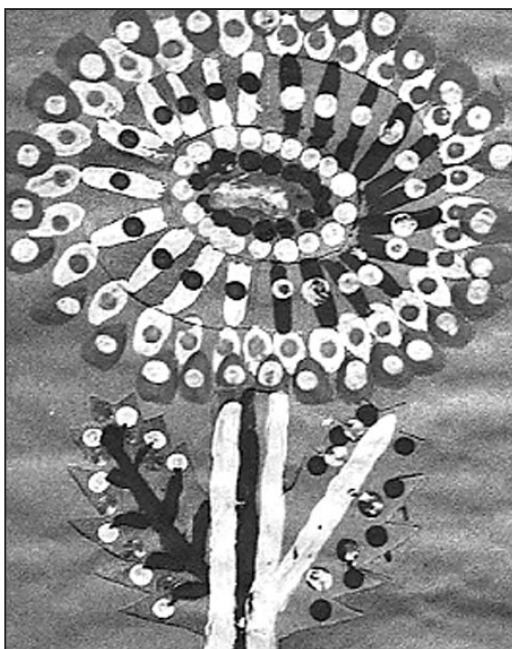
**Your child will:**

- increase the vocabulary of art terms.
- explore a variety of art media and the safe use of appropriate tools.
- Distinguish between two and three dimensional art forms.
- investigate careers in art i.e., pottery maker.

The student will understand, appreciate and develop attitudes of respect and value for self and others through art cultures and heritage.

**Your child will:**

- learn about major artists including contemporary Alaskan artists.
- create own art in the style of another artist.
- express opinions about art, supported with reason.



GRAND

# Third Grade Curriculum Guide

## READING

### Comprehension

The student will understand what is read with increasing proficiency and confidence.

**Your child will:**

- relate personal experiences to text.
- read for a purpose; tell fact from opinion, compare different texts, recognize cause and effect, and recognize point of view.
- recognize and discuss main idea(s).
- read fluently with expression.
- begin to summarize.
- continue to expand vocabulary.

### Decoding/Word Structure

The student will continue to use a variety of strategies to read unknown words.

**Your child will:**

- recognize possessives (’s), comparatives (er, est), and compound words as aides to decode new words.
- use syllable patterns to help decode words.
- use context and phonics to decode new words.

### Attitudes/Behaviors

The student will view self as a reader.

**Your child will:**

- read a variety of literature.
- choose to read and share ideas with others.
- use table of contents, keywords, and index, to access information.
- read independently for extended periods of time.

## WRITING

### Writing Process

The student will begin to write for a reason.

**Your child will:**

- write stories, letters, and simple explanations.
- identify the qualities of good writing. \*
- use the basic rules of spelling, punctuation, grammar and sentence structure in final works.
- share work with others for revision and editing.
- use resources such as technology, dictionaries, software, and thesaurus when writing.
- write in cursive.
- give credit for others’ ideas.

### Oral Language

The student will expand listening and speaking skills.

**Your child will:**

- participate in group discussions.
- understand and follow directions.
- speak to describe, explain, and inform.
- ask important questions.
- speak clearly, at proper volume and at reasonable rate when making presentations.

\*The qualities of good writing can be found on page 16.

## MATH

The student will know essential mathematics.

**Your child will:**

- estimate to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000.
- add and subtract with regrouping to a sum of 1,000.
- learn the process of multiplication and division.
- show fractions and decimals using real world examples.
- explain the addition and subtraction of fractions with common denominators and decimals that represent money.
- write number sentences using shapes or letters for missing numbers ( $y + 4 = 6$ ).
- find area and perimeter of rectangles using manipulatives.
- use patterns to make predictions and solve problems.
- identify line segments, mid-point, intersections, parallel, and perpendicular lines.
- identify and create examples of line symmetry.
- describe and interpret data using mean (average), median (middle) and mode (most often).

The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.

**Your child will:**

- read and summarize a problem using math terms and symbols.
- apply mathematical processes to everyday life.
- draw logical conclusions about mathematical situations.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

The student will study the state of Alaska.

**Your child will:**

- learn about Alaska past and present.
- identify Alaska’s Native peoples and study cultural changes over time.
- identify political, cultural, and economic characteristics and describe how they have changed over time.
- learn about selected people and events in Alaska’s history.

### Civics

The student will build civic understanding.

**Your child will:**

- explore the government of the state of Alaska.
- be introduced to the concepts of authority, justice, responsibility, participation, freedom, privacy, diversity, and property.

### Geography

The student will study the geography of Alaska.

**Your child will:**

- use maps and globes.
- apply map and globe skills to a study of the State of Alaska.
- learn the regions of Alaska and describe the physical and cultural characteristics of each.
- examine the use of natural resources.

*Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.*

## SCIENCE

The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Changes of Form.”

**Your child will:**

- recognize ways that changes occur over time.
- investigate the changing states of matter (gas, liquid, solid).
- collect and analyze weather data throughout the year and construct weather instruments.
- study a unit of interest focusing on changes of form, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results.

## HEALTH

The student will learn critical knowledge.

**Your child will:**

- describe effects of disease on body systems.
- know labels provide health information on foods.
- know that the benefits of exercise include thinking clearly and doing well in school.

The student will take responsibility.

**Your child will:**

- identify the purposes of advertising and commercials.
- verbalize choices and consequences in injury prevention.
- use stress reduction techniques.
- take heart rate and see how it relates to exercise.
- understand how peer pressure can affect drug use.
- take responsibility for his/her actions in the community.
- encourage others to care for the environment.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The student will use fundamental movements.

**Your child will:**

- avoid or catch an object while moving.
- throw and catch while guarded.

The student will explore developmental gymnastics.

**Your child will:**

- balance with control.
- transfer weight to hands in handstands and cartwheels.

The student will experience individual, dual, and team activities.

**Your child will:**

- know game rules and fair play.
- try wrist carry and Alaskan high kick from Native Youth Olympics.

The student will experience adventure education.

**Your child will:**

- learn map reading skills to travel.
- participate in trust building activities.

The student will explore rhythms and dance.

**Your child will:**

- combine movements into repeatable sequences.
- support, lift, and control body during activities.

## MUSIC

The student will learn fundamental music concepts.

**Your child will:**

- learn the musical alphabet and increase knowledge of rhythm symbols.
- identify pitch symbols (music staff, treble and bass clef, line notes and space notes).
- learn the four instrument families of the orchestra.

The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.

**Your child will:**

- use rhythm symbols, pitch symbols, and the musical alphabet to create simple melodies.
- identify names and works of various composers.
- sing and hear American folk, Native American (including Native Alaskan) music, and music of other cultures.

## ART

The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Art and the Environment.”

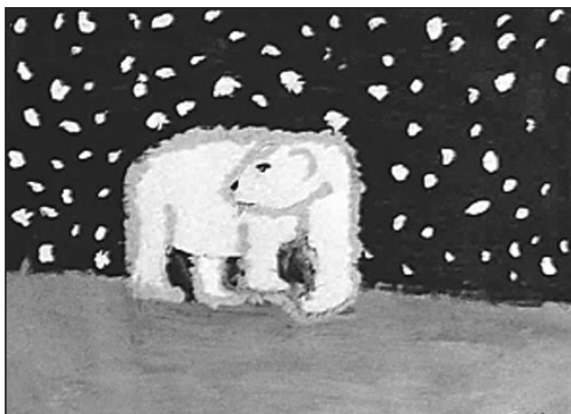
**Your child will:**

- use lines grouped to create patterns, textures, or designs.
- Learn to draw from memory, observation, and imagination.
- expand vocabulary of art terms.
- investigate careers in art i.e., fabric designer.

The student will understand, appreciate and develop attitudes of respect and value for self and others through art cultures and heritage.

**Your child will:**

- create original works of art.
- expand learning about major artists and cultures.
- select a favorite work of art and explain the choice.



# Fourth Grade Curriculum Guide

## READING

### Comprehension

**The student will use strategies to read with a purpose.**

**Your child will:**

- retell in correct sequence.
- read and follow multi-step directions to complete a simple task.
- make connections to culture, knowledge and personal experience.
- scan for specific information.
- identify main idea and supporting details.
- summarize information and draw conclusions.
- understand the difference between fiction and non-fiction.
- increase and use new vocabulary.

### Decoding/Structural Analysis

**The student will continue to use a variety of strategies to read unknown words.**

**Your child will:**

- use phonics, word structure, and context to decode unknown words.
- use sentence structure and punctuation to gain understanding.
- understand author's use of language to gain meaning.

### Attitudes/Behaviors

**The student will view self as a reader.**

**Your child will:**

- read for pleasure and identify favorite authors.
- talk with others about what has been read.
- seek information from a variety of sources and references.
- read independently for extended periods of time.

## WRITING

### Writing Process

**The student will write for a reason.**

**Your child will:**

- write short reports to inform.
- identify the qualities of good writing.\*
- use the basic rules of spelling, punctuation, and sentence and paragraph structure in final works.
- revise and edit own work.
- use technology, a dictionary, software, and a thesaurus when writing.
- give credit for others' ideas.

### Oral Language

**The student will expand listening and speaking skills for a variety of reasons.**

**Your child will:**

- participate in group discussions.
- give good directions.
- speak to explain, describe, inform, and clarify.
- ask questions to clarify and build understanding.
- speak clearly and at proper rate when presenting.
- listen to and summarize information.
- cite evidence to support opinions.

\*The qualities of good writing can be found on page 16.

## MATH

**The student will know essential mathematics.**

**Your child will:**

- make reasonable estimates to 1,000,000.
- memorize multiplication/division facts to a product of 100.
- develop multiplication skills using 2-digit multipliers.
- develop division skills using 1-digit divisors.
- use, show, and identify place value positions from 0.001 to 1,000,000.
- show and explain addition and subtraction of fractions with common denominators.
- estimate and measure using metric and standard systems.
- name and classify 2- and 3-dimensional geometric shapes.
- convert between inches, feet, and yards.
- solve number sentences with missing addends and factors.
- distinguish between area and perimeter; find both using a variety of methods.
- conduct simple probability experiments and show results using fractions.

**The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.**

**Your child will:**

- solve problems using a variety of strategies.
- draw logical conclusions about mathematical situations.
- explain answers using written language.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

**The student will study specific historical time periods up to 1776.**

**Your child will:**

- study an ancient civilization(s).
- study the Age of Exploration (1000 to 1600).
- study the colonization of North America.
- learn about selected people and events in history up to 1776.

### Civics

**The student will continue to build civic understanding.**

**Your child will:**

- apply civic ideas to specifically selected historical periods up to 1776.
- build on the concepts of authority, justice, responsibility, participation, freedom, privacy, diversity, and property.

### Geography

**The student will make and use maps, globes, and graphs to gather, analyze, and report geographic information.**

**Your child will:**

- begin a study of world maps, globes, graphs, and timelines.
- apply map, globe, graphing, timeline, and problem solving skills to historical studies.
- build geographic vocabulary.
- explore how human and natural resources are used.
- explore the geographic concepts of location, place, human environment, relationships, movement, and regions.

*Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.*

## SCIENCE

**The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Systems.”**

**Your child will:**

- explore how skeletons function as a system.
- test predictions by changing one variable in a system.
- explore geological systems that change the earth’s surface.
- study a unit of interest focusing on systems, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results.

## HEALTH

**The student will learn critical knowledge.**

**Your child will:**

- describe how body systems are related.
- identify the effects of smoking, drugs, and pollution on body systems.
- describe the difference between communicable and non-communicable diseases and the effects of being sick.

**The student will take responsibility.**

**Your child will:**

- demonstrate safety rules specifically related to Alaskan wild animals and cold water.
- compare food labels and describe a balanced meal for yourself.
- identify choices and practice decision making for good health.
- use positive communication skills in interactions with others.
- look for ways to improve health and safety at school.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**The student will use fundamental movements.**

**Your child will:**

- strike a ball back to a partner.
- dribble a ball with hand or foot while traveling.

**The student will explore developmental gymnastics.**

**Your child will:**

- leap, leading with either foot.
- transfer weight to hands in handstands and cartwheels.

**The student will experience individual, dual and team activities.**

**Your child will:**

- know game rules and fair play.
- try wrist carry and Alaskan high kick from Native Youth Olympics.

**The student will experience adventure education.**

**Your child will:**

- learn map reading skills to travel.
- participate in trust building activities.

**The student will explore rhythms and dance.**

**Your child will:**

- combine movements into repeatable sequences.
- support, lift, and control body during activities.

## MUSIC

**The student will learn fundamental music concepts.**

**Your child will:**

- identify and use the 6/8 meter sign.
- be introduced to the pentatonic scale and its use in folk melodies of many different cultures.
- identify and use introductions, interludes, and codas.

**The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.**

**Your child will:**

- play simple tunes on recorder, bells, and other pitched classroom instruments.
- say, sing, and play simple accompaniments to melodies.
- use dynamics and tempo as expressive tools in singing, playing, and moving to music.

## ART

**The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Art From Many Cultures.”**

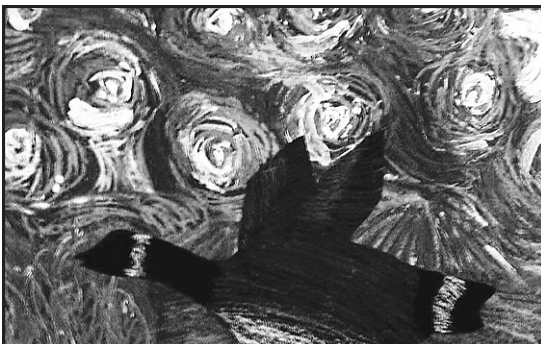
**Your child will:**

- mix secondary colors to make intermediate colors.
- paint a landscape showing foreground, middle ground, and background.
- expand understanding and use of art materials and vocabulary.
- investigate careers in art i.e., museum curator.

**The student will understand, appreciate, and develop attitudes of respect and value for self and others through art cultures and heritage.**

**Your child will:**

- develop original works of art.
- learn about major artists and the qualities of art works from other cultures.
- examine “clues” for determining what is and what is not art.



3  
GRADE

# Fifth Grade Curriculum Guide

## READING

### Comprehension

**The student will continuously check for understanding while reading. *Your child will:***

- use inference, draw conclusions, and make generalizations.
- read and follow multi-step directions to complete tasks.
- connect what is read to personal experience, culture and other written material.
- use evidence from reading to support opinions and facts.
- identify main idea or conflict, supporting details and conclusion.
- use prior knowledge and text to interpret meaning.
- use graphs, pictures, italics, bold print, and tables to gain meaning.
- increase and use new vocabulary.
- recognize and self-correct errors that affect meaning while reading.
- explain characteristics of poetry, short story, drama, fiction, and non-fiction.

### Structural Analysis

**The student will use a variety of strategies to read unknown words.**

***Your child will:***

- use word origins, word structure and word parts to determine meaning.
- use context to decode words and to gain meaning.

### Attitudes/Behaviors

**The student will view self as a reader. *Your child will:***

- choose reading materials based on personal preferences.
- recommend books and other reading materials to others.
- use a variety of sources and references to seek information.
- read independently for extended periods of time.

## WRITING

### Writing Process

**The student will write for a reason.**

***Your child will:***

- write stories, letters, explanations, and short reports across subject areas.
- identify the qualities of good writing.\*
- use the basic rules of spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence and paragraph structure in final works.
- revise and edit own work.
- use technology, a dictionary, software, and a thesaurus.
- identify and credit sources.
- write legibly in cursive.

### Oral Language

**The student will expand listening and speaking skills for a variety of reasons.**

***Your child will:***

- take part in discussions.
- speak to explain, describe, inform, clarify and persuade.
- ask questions to clarify and build understanding.
- speak clearly and at proper rate when presenting.
- use facial expressions and gestures to convey meaning when speaking.
- give planned presentations (organize, summarize, etc.).
- listen to and summarize information.

\*The qualities of good writing can be found on page 16.

## MATH

**The student will know essential mathematics.**

***Your child will:***

- apply and explain a variety of estimation strategies.
- use addition, subtraction, multiplication, division skills with accuracy.
- find the factors of a number (factors of 12 are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12).
- write and solve problems involving fractions and decimals.
- know that numbers such as 2, 3, 5, 7, 11 etc. are prime numbers.
- use a variety of measuring tools to draw and measure shapes (protractor, pencil compass).
- write and solve simple number sentences that contain variables.
- locate points on a grid (map).
- describe the data from tables or graphs, and predict outcomes.

**The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.**

***Your child will:***

- solve an extended problem and verify solution.
- use logical conclusions to explain real life math situations.
- use math vocabulary, symbols, and notation to show information in a problem.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

**The student will study United States history from 1776-1900.**

***Your child will:***

- consider the political, cultural, and economic factors of the period.
- examine historical events and how they influence the present.
- study diverse people and events.

### Civics

**The student will continue to build civic understanding.**

***Your child will:***

- apply civic ideas to United States history from 1776-1900.
- build on the concepts of authority, justice, responsibility, participation, freedom, privacy, diversity, and property.
- explore Democratic ideas as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

### Geography

**The student will make and use maps, globes, and graphs to gather, analyze, and report geographic information.**

***Your child will:***

- expand map, globe, graphing, timeline, and problem solving skills.
- expand geographic vocabulary to include terms such as latitude and longitude.
- learn how human and natural resources are used.
- apply the geographic concepts of location, place, human environment, relationships, movement, and regions.

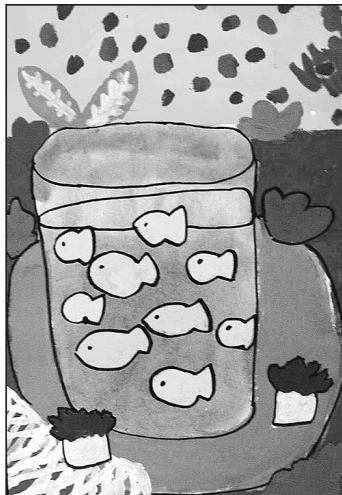
***Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.***

## SCIENCE

The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Energy Flows.”

**Your child will:**

- examine how food provides energy for living organisms.
- test the mechanical advantage of using simple levers and pulleys.
- develop a beginning understanding of the flow of energy through an electrical circuit.
- study a unit of interest focusing on energy flows, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results.



## HEALTH

The student will learn critical knowledge.

**Your child will:**

- identify six essential nutrients and their importance.
- be introduced to endocrine and reproductive systems and hormonal effects on development.

The student will take responsibility.

**Your child will:**

- identify precautions you can take to stay free of disease.
- use proper safety gear to protect body.
- establish personal goals for health.
- know appropriate reactions to emotional situations.
- practice refusal and good decision making skills with regard to drugs.
- identify a community action group that promotes health.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The student will use fundamental movements.

**Your child will:**

- design and play small group games using offensive and defensive strategies.

The student will explore developmental gymnastics.

**Your child will:**

- design and perform gymnastics routines.
- know that extreme movements presented in the media should not be imitated.

The student will experience individual, dual and team activities.

**Your child will:**

- try scissor broad jump and one arm reach from Native Youth Olympics.

The student will experience adventure education.

**Your child will:**

- know how to use a map and compass.

The student will explore rhythms and dance.

**Your child will:**

- design and perform dance routines.
- use body in movement activities to communicate ideas and feelings.

## MUSIC

The student will learn fundamental music concepts.

**Your child will:**

- distinguish between major and minor scales.
- learn how to construct simple chords.
- study careers in music.

The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.

**Your child will:**

- play rhythms and melodies from notation and by rote.
- compose simple melodies and rhythm patterns.
- participate and listen to music of various countries, ethnic groups, and periods of history.

## ART

The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Art As Communication.”

**Your child will:**

- create a design using complementary colors.
- learn basic watercolor painting and contour drawing techniques.
- explore a wide variety of two and three-dimensional art materials.
- investigate careers in art i.e., architecture.

The student will understand, appreciate and develop attitudes of respect and value for self and others through art cultures and heritage.

**Your child will:**

- create original works of art which express ideas gained from observations.
- expand learning about major artists and cultures.
- interpret and respond to significant cultural artworks.

# Sixth Grade Curriculum Guide

## READING

**Comprehension** The student will expand critical thinking skills.

**Your child will:**

- demonstrate understanding by drawing conclusions and making inferences.
- read and follow multi-step directions to complete more complex tasks.
- connect what is read to personal experience, culture, and other written materials.
- compare and contrast a variety of texts.
- identify and discuss main idea or conflict, supporting details, and conclusion.
- use prior knowledge, text, and author's purpose to interpret readings.
- use text organizers (graphs, bold print, tables) to understand non-fiction.
- increase and use new vocabulary.
- identify and discuss themes.

**Structural Analysis** The student will rely on a variety of strategies to read and understand.

**Your child will:**

- use reference materials to determine the meaning of new words (dictionary, thesaurus, glossary).
- use context to decode words and gain meaning.

**Attitudes/Behaviors** The student will view self as a reader.

**Your child will:**

- read independently for extended periods of time.
- recommend books and sources of information to others.
- use a variety of resources, including the library and the internet.
- initiate and participate in discussion groups with peers.

## WRITING

### Writing Process

The student will write for a reason.

**Your child will:**

- write detailed explanations and reports.
- identify the qualities of good writing.\*
- use the basic rules of spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence and paragraph structure in final works.
- revise and edit own work.
- use technology, software, a dictionary, and a thesaurus.
- give credit for others' ideas using a given format.

### Oral Language

The student will expand listening and speaking skills for a variety of reasons.

**Your child will:**

- take part in discussions.
- speak to explain, describe, inform, clarify, persuade, and entertain.
- ask questions to clarify and build understanding.
- speak clearly and at proper rate when presenting.
- give planned presentations (organize, make visuals, summarize points, etc.).
- listen to and summarize information, make predictions, and draw conclusions.

\*The qualities of good writing can be found on page 16.

## MATH

The student will know essential mathematics.

**Your child will:**

- estimate the fractional part or percent of a whole.
- convert between fractions, decimals and percents.
- add and subtract positive and negative numbers.
- find the volume of 3-dimensional figures.
- expand computation skills using exponents.
- use a compass and straight edge to construct a figure from a given set of directions.
- find a pattern, explain its rule, and extend the pattern.
- complete a graph or table using a formula.
- compare and contrast 2 and 3 dimensional shapes.
- evaluate data to determine reasonableness, validity, propaganda, and prejudice.

The student will use math knowledge for problem solving.

**Your child will:**

- explain and verify results of problem solving and apply results to new situations.
- organize and explain multi-step math problems and justify answers.
- analyze and summarize a problem using known facts and unknown information.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### History

The student will study United States history from 1900 to the present.

**Your child will:**

- consider the political, cultural, and economic factors of the period.
- examine historical events and how they influence the present.
- study diverse people and events.

### Civics

The student will understand the role of a citizen.

**Your child will:**

- apply civic ideas to United States history from 1900 to present.
- build on the concepts of authority, justice, responsibility, participation, freedom, privacy, diversity, and property.
- examine events such as the Civil Rights Movement and immigration in relation to the U.S. Constitution.
- complete a community action project.

### Geography

The student will make and use maps, globes, and graphs to gather, analyze, and report geographic information.

**Your child will:**

- expand map, globe, graphing, timeline, and problem solving skills.
- use geographic vocabulary.
- solve issues of resource use.
- expand the geographic concepts of location, place, human environment relationships, movement, and regions.

*Your child will be tested using state and national exams in the areas of reading, writing, and math in grades 3 through 6.*

## SCIENCE

**The student will explore hands-on science units focusing on the concept of “Scale and Structure.”**

**Your child will:**

- study the interrelationship of the living and non-living parts of an ecosystem.
- examine the relationship of form and function in structures, and explore the properties of the building materials used.
- study the scale and structure of our universe and solar system.
- study a unit of interest focusing on scale and structure, including scientific inquiry and process skills such as observing, collecting data, and communicating results

## HEALTH

**The student will learn critical knowledge.**

**Your child will:**

- list some effects of disease on the immune system.
- recognize eating disorders.

**The student will take responsibility.**

**Your child will:**

- practice basic first aid procedures.
- describe issues related to adolescent with an emphasis on sexual abstinence.
- identify effects of addiction and know where to go for help.
- use responsible decision making when selecting friends and activities.
- identify telephone hotlines to help with health problems.
- look for ways to improve the health and safety of the community.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**The student will use fundamental movements.**

**Your child will:**

- use appropriate form for various movements.

**The student will explore developmental gymnastics.**

**Your child will:**

- know that extreme movements presented in the media should not be imitated.
- know and use proper warm-up, conditioning, and cool-down techniques.

**The student will experience individual, dual and team activities.**

- Your child will:**
- monitor heart rate before, during and after activity.

**The student will experience adventure education.**

**Your child will:**

- design and play small group games that involve cooperation and problem solving.

**The student will explore rhythms and dance.**

**Your child will:**

- design and perform dance routines.
- use body in movement activities to communicate ideas and feelings.

## MUSIC

**The student will learn fundamental music concepts.**

**Your child will:**

- identify and explain the meaning of additional musical symbols – the dotted quarter note and rest, sixteenth note and rest, and triplets.
- identify whole and half steps.
- identify American music styles: folk, country, bluegrass, spirituals, ballads, blues, and jazz.

**The student will use music knowledge in many activities – listening, performing and creating.**

**Your child will:**

- compose more complex melodic and rhythmic patterns.
- participate and listen to music of various countries, ethnic groups, and periods of history.
- have the option to participate in beginning band and orchestra.

## ART

**The student will study the essential elements and principles of art focusing on “Art’s Impact on the World.”**

**Your child will:**

- create a sculpture using modeling, constructing or carving techniques.
- recognize abstraction and distortion of shapes.
- explore the effects of color variations.
- recognize art as both an avocation or vocation i.e., folk art/ animator.

**The student will understand, appreciate and develop attitudes of respect and value for self and others through art cultures and heritage.**

**Your child will:**

- exercise problem solving skills to create original artworks.
- expand learning about major artists and cultural works of art.
- learn to distinguish between statements of preference and those of judgment.



# Appendix

## Qualities of Good Writing

### Ideas

- Clarity
- Focus – a small, easy to manage topic
- Good information – from experience, imagination or research
- A fresh perspective
- Important, helpful details that go beyond the obvious

### Organization

- An interesting lead that gets the reader’s attention
- Order and logic
- Clear connections to a main idea
- In tech or business writing – gets to the point
- Easy to follow – but not too predictable
- A graceful ending – does not just stop

### Voice

- Has the mark of this particular writer
- Brings the topic to life
- Is appropriate for the audience, topic, purpose
- Shows conscious concern for reader’s interests, informational needs

### Word Choice

- Strong verbs, precise nouns – no modifier overload
- Word pictures
- “Just right” language – suits the topic, the audience, the purpose
- Simple language used well – not written to impress
- Minimal redundancy
- Technical terms defined as needed

### Sentence Fluency

- Rhythmic
- Easy to read aloud – inviting
- Varied sentence length – some long, some short
- Purposeful sentence beginnings: now, after a while, because of this, nevertheless, as a result, consequently, however, therefore

### Conventions

- Looks clean, edited, proofread
- Easy to decode and follow – conventions enhance meaning
- No big, glaring errors that distract the reader or distort the message
- Examples include proper spelling on simple words, punctuation correct, paragraphs for new topics, capitals on all proper nouns and sentence beginnings

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## Other Learning Opportunities

*Career Awareness* –Your child will become aware of many careers through the core curriculum. Some of the ways teachers may connect learning with careers include field trips, assemblies, classroom guest speakers, school business partnerships, and Junior Achievement.

*Technology Literacy* – Technology literacy includes learning to use a computer both for communication and to get information. Other kinds of technology your child may learn about include transportation, construction, and agriculture.


*Library Resources* – Your child will have access to a variety of library learning materials, both print and non-print. Every elementary school has a librarian to assist and teach students.

## Elementary Schools

Abbott Loop . . . . .	742-5400
Airport Heights . . . . .	742-4550
Alpenglow . . . . .	742-3300
Aurora . . . . .	753-6223
Baxter . . . . .	742-1750
Bayshore . . . . .	349-1514
Bear Valley . . . . .	742-5900
Birchwood ABC, K-8 . . . . .	742-3450
Bowman . . . . .	 110
Campbell . . . . .	742-5560
Chester Valley . . . . .	337-9502
Chinook . . . . .	742-6700
Chugiak Elementary . . . . .	742-3400
Chugach Optional . . . . .	742-3730
College Gate . . . . .	742-1500
Creekside Park . . . . .	742-1550
Denali . . . . .	742-4500
Eagle River . . . . .	742-3000
Fairview . . . . .	279-0671
Fire Lake . . . . .	742-3350
Girdwood . . . . .	742-5300
Government Hill . . . . .	742-5000
Homestead . . . . .	742-3550
Huffman . . . . .	742-5650
Inlet View . . . . .	277-7681
Kasuun . . . . .	349-9444
Kincaid . . . . .	245-5530
Klatt . . . . .	 1080
Lake Hood . . . . .	245-5521
Lake Otis . . . . .	 3536

Mt. Iliamna . . . . .	753-8235
Mt. Spurr . . . . .	753-9225
Mt. View . . . . .	742-3900
Muldoon . . . . .	742-1460
North Star . . . . .	742-3800
Northern Lights ABC . . . . .	563-2439
Northwood . . . . .	742-6800
Nunaka Valley . . . . .	333-6511
O'Malley . . . . .	742-5800
Ocean View . . . . .	742-5850
Orion . . . . .	753-2151
Ptarmigan . . . . .	337-9589
Rabbit Creek . . . . .	742-5700
Ravenwood . . . . .	742-3250
Rogers Park . . . . .	742-4800
Russian Jack . . . . .	742-1300
Sand Lake . . . . .	243-2161
Scenic Park . . . . .	742-1650
Spring Hill . . . . .	742-5450
Susitna . . . . .	742-1400
Taku . . . . .	349-4453
Trailside . . . . .	742-5500
Tudor . . . . .	742-1050
Turnagain . . . . .	 226
Tyson, William . . . . .	 018
Ursa Major . . . . .	742-1600
Ursa Minor . . . . .	428-1311
Williwaw . . . . .	742-2000
Willow Crest . . . . .	742-1000
Wonder Park . . . . .	337-1569
Wood, Gladys . . . . .	742-6760


## Middle Schools

Central Middle School of Science . . . . .	742-5100
Clark Middle School . . . . .	742-4700
Goldenview Middle School . . . . .	348-8626
Gruening Middle School . . . . .	742-3600
Hanshew Middle School . . . . .	349-1561
Mears Middle School . . . . .	349-3332
Mirror Lake Middle School . . . . .	742-3500
Romig Middle School . . . . .	 541
Wendler Middle School . . . . .	742-7300


## High Schools

Bartlett High School . . . . .	742-1820
Chugiak High School . . . . .	742-3050
Dimond High School . . . . .	742-7000
East High School . . . . .	742-2100
Service High School . . . . .	742-8100
West High School . . . . .	274-2502

## Alternative Schools

AK State School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing . . . . .	742-4243
Alternative Career Education . . . . .	742-3950
AVAIL 9-12 . . . . .	742-4930
Benson Secondary, 7-12 . . . . .	 600
King Career Center, 11-12 . . . . .	742-8900
McLaughlin Secondary 7-12 . . . . .	742-1120
Polaris K-12 School . . . . .	742-8700
SAVE High School, 9-12 . . . . .	742-1250
Steller Secondary, 7-12 . . . . .	742-4950
Whaley School . . . . .	742-2350


## Charter Schools

Aquarian Charter, K-6 . . . . .	742-4900
Family Partnership Charter, K-12 . . . . .	742-3700
 ge Charter, K-8 . . . . .	742-3728

## Curriculum Area Contacts

Art . . . . .	742-4845
Assessment & Evaluation . . . . .	742-4425
Bilingual/Multicultural Education . . . . .	742-4452
Career Technology . . . . .	742-8942
Health/Physical Education . . . . .	742-4853
Indian Education . . . . .	742-4443
Literacy . . . . .	742-4852
Mathematics . . . . .	742-4840
Migrant Education . . . . .	742-4280
Music . . . . .	753-0350
Science . . . . .	742-4854
Slingerland . . . . .	742-4880
Social Studies . . . . .	742-4839
World Languages . . . . .	742-4848

### Anchorage School District Curriculum and Evaluation

 V 6th Ave., 4th Floor  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 742-4464

### Anchorage School District Training & Professional Development

5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd  
Anchorage, AK 99504  
742-3866