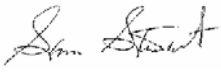




KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sam Stewart, Assistant Superintendent
148 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7553
Phone (907) 714-8858 Fax (907) 262-5867
Email: sstewart@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Education
From: Sam Stewart 
Re: Application for QS2 Services
Date: April 27, 2007

Enclosed is a proposed letter of application for QS2 Services from the Alaska School Boards Association. The application will only be submitted if the Board passes the proposed Resolution # 06-07-2.

AASB cannot provide this service to the entire District but has agreed to consider applications for specific communities and schools. Therefore the administration has proposed the schools named in application due to the school's AYP status or based on conversations with the school administrators about having the conversation about improving student achievement in the community.

There will be a worksession to review the application and to discuss the QS2 Services. In addition to the application package, you will find information on QS2 attached.

Attachment: Proposed Letter of Application
AASB website re QS2 (www.aasb.org/QS2.html)



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Email: sstewart@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

To: Bruce Johnson

From: Sam Stewart, Assistant Superintendent

Re: QS2 Service Application

Date: April 26, 2007

DRAFT

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is expressing interest in and commitment to participating in AASB's QS2 Service for the following schools and communities:

1. Tebugna School-Tyonek
2. Seward Elementary School-Seward
3. Seward Middle School-Seward
4. Seward High School-Seward
5. Ninilchik School-Ninilchik
6. Nanwalek School-Nanwalek

The following information is provided for your consideration.

- Staffing sheets for each of the schools
- A copy of the District's most recent negotiated agreements with KPEA, KPESA, and KPAA.
- Board member names and contact information
- District office administration information
- Student assessment information
- District Report Card to the Public
- School Report Cards for the schools making application
- Most recent strategic plan
- KPBSD Board of Education Resolution in support of QS2 Services

If additional information is desired, please contact me by phone at 907-714-8857 or email at sstewart@kpbsd.k12.ak.us. Thank you for your consideration.



QS2 Partners

Year 3
Districts
[Chatham](#)
[Sitka](#)

Year 2
Districts
[Dillingham](#)
[Southeast Island](#)
[Unalaska](#)
[Yukon Flats](#)

Year 1
Districts
[Delta/Greely](#)
[Lower Kuskokwim](#)
[Petersburg](#)

AASB
[Workshops](#)
[Academies](#)
[Annual Conference 2007](#)

QS2 Staff
[Director](#)
[Community Engagement Facilitation](#)
[eMail](#)

Search



Technical Assistance For School Districts
AASB's QS2 Quality Schools/Quality Students

[What is QS2?](#)

[How QS2 Works](#)

[Participating Districts](#)

[Partnership with Alaska ICE](#)

Taking Aim on Results — Focused Reform
Education reform in Alaska has taken many forms. Quality Schools/Quality Students (QS2) is designed to help districts re-engineer schools by focusing on the achievement gap. Where the School Is vs. Where the School Wants to Be. Closing this gap is guided by informed decisions focused on:

- Examining student achievement.
- Aligning curriculum and instruction to standards.
- Building staff and school capacity.
- Developing community engagement and support.
- Redirecting and securing resources.
- Holding systems accountable for results.

What is QS2?

QS2 is a comprehensive school improvement service that assists school districts and their local communities in raising student achievement to meet or exceed state standards by linking a shared vision for education with successful practices. This is made possible through careful examination and ongoing development in four major areas – leadership, programs and staff, community, parents, and students, and resources.

A tailored community-based strategic planning process is utilized that brings all improvement efforts under one umbrella.

Investing in Alaska's Future



Supporting Student Learning
Building on Standards-Based Learning,
Engaged Communities, and Informed Decisions



[Click here to apply for QS2 Partnership](#)

Comprehensive School Improvement
[Investing in Alaska's Future](#)
QS2 Brochure



Through the strategic planning process and follow-up implementation of action plans, school communities engage in deep introspection about student learning and factors that influence learning. AASB believes strongly in local control and that the best outcomes for all students are strengthened through strong partnerships with parents and community members.

Once selected as a QS2 partner, districts are eligible to negotiate a contract with AASB for funds to support community engagement. Thanks to a multi-year federal grant, Alaska Initiative for Community Engagement (Alaska ICE), QS2 partner districts are eligible for contract funds to support community involvement in the development of its youth. These contracts range in size, depending on student enrollment and geographic issues, from \$36,000 to nearly \$70,000. These contracts are accompanied by required participation in AASB's February Boardsmanship Academy during which each QS2 partner will develop and nurture plans for how best to positively impact community engagement.

How QS2 Works

Step 1 – District Application

Districts interested in the QS2 partnership apply during the early spring. Following conditional acceptance, an AASB staff member will brief the board at a public meeting on the intent of QS2 and all contractual and partnership requirements.

Step 2 – Data Collection

The QS2 partnership is guided by data collection and analysis. Data gathering efforts include:

- Grading Grown-Ups – a telephone survey of constituents.
- District Inventory – developed from structured, on-site interviews.
- Attitudes & Behaviors – a survey for students.
- School Climate & Connectedness – a survey for students and teachers.

The Grading Grown-ups survey is designed to help determine community members' current and desired support for youth. The District inventory is conducted by AASB staff using a structured interview process that is designed to identify customer satisfaction as well as target areas for improvement. Both the Attitude & Behaviors and School Climate & Connectedness surveys help provide valuable baseline information as well as identify areas for potential growth.



Southeast Island Strategic Plan meeting

Step 3 – Strategic Planning

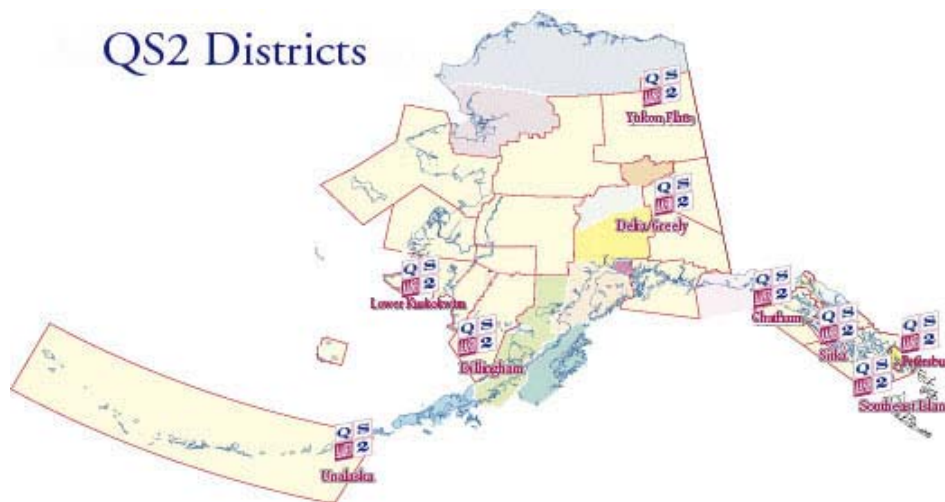
Strategic planning is an essential step for the QS2 process. Strategic planning clarifies a vision for the district and the communities being served. Specific action plans, based on an analysis objective data, are developed to guide improvement efforts. Through an annual renewal process, the plan remains aligned with needs identified by the district.

Step 4 – Community Engagement Contract

Each QS2 partner has the opportunity to receive financial support from AASB's federally funded Alaska Initiative for Community Engagement (Alaska ICE). Alaska ICE will distribute nearly \$500,000 in contract funds during 2005 to assist QS2 partners with approved community engagement activities.

Step 5 – Implementation

Identified targeted areas, unique to each partner, will form the district-specific customized plan of professional assistance and guidance facilitated by AASB staff. All activities undertaken will be determined by the district, will be research based, and will be continuously evaluated for effects on students. QS2 is intended to facilitate measurable improvement in student achievement.



QS2 Districts

2006-2007 Participating Districts

District	Partnership Term
Chatham	2004-2007
Delta/Greely	2007-2009
Dillingham	2006-2008
Lower Kuskokwim	2007-2009
Petersburg	2007-2009
Sitka	2005-2007
Southeast Island	2006-2008
Unalaska	2006-2008
Yukon Flats	2006-2008

AASB will work with a maximum of nine districts at any one time. AASB's involvement with QS2 school districts focuses on activities directed at improving learning for all students. Strategic plans currently developed include objectives that focus on students acquiring the skills necessary to enjoy rich lives following high school, including the demonstration of proficiency on the state assessment program involving benchmark exams and the high school graduation qualifying exams. These targeted objectives are backed by solid processes included in the action steps – alignment of curriculum, involvement of parents and community members as partners in the education of the community's youth, and the focus of resources toward this outcome of increasing student learning

Partner districts must agree to ongoing participation in a variety of training activities offered by AASB including:

- attendance at the Annual Conference,
- participation in AASB Boardsmanship Academies,
- on-site school board training, and
- other development and planning activities appropriate to the unique needs of the district.

All Alaskan districts will ultimately benefit from QS2 activities. AASB's website incorporates QS2 and Alaska ICE information so that other districts can read firsthand what is working in QS2 districts and potentially replicate the QS2 process or initiative for themselves. Partner district activities will be regularly reported via the monthly AASB Commentary and at AASB events such as academics and annual conference.

Partnership with Alaska ICE

QS2 partner districts enjoy a close alliance with AASB's federal grant Alaska's Initiative for Community Engagement. This initiative provides the support and resources to give Alaskans, at the local level, the information, tools, and assistance to work collectively in preparing Alaska's youth for the future. An Alaska ICE staff liaison is assigned to each QS2 partner district to directly support families, communities, and various other school constituencies to promote measurable increases in healthy behaviors and a reduction in the number of Alaskan youth who engage in unhealthy behaviors. It is AASB's strong belief that reduction in risky behaviors will lead to higher numbers of students demonstrating proficiency on required state academic assessments. The overarching approach is one of building on a community and school's strengths and growing additional supports for youth.



ICE Berry picking activity in Dillingham

During 2005-2006 the Alaska ICE grant will provide \$500,000 to QS2 partner districts. Through a contract process each district qualifies for funds to support community engagement activities in their school communities. In addition, teams for each district will come together at the AASB Fall and Spring Academies to learn, share, and celebrate the journey in creating greater community ownership and engagement for youth.

It is anticipated that contract funds from the Alaska ICE grant will continue to be available in future years as AASB lends support to the parent, community, and youth quadrant of QS2.

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