

# **SUPERINTENDENT**

## **North Slope Borough School District**

Utqiagvik, Alaska

### **ABOUT THE DISTRICT**

The District is comprised of eleven schools located in seven villages plus Utqiagvik, formerly known as Barrow, and encompasses 88,000 square miles, an area roughly the size of Minnesota! Schools are modern and well-maintained, teacher housing is excellent, and the full-time staff of roughly 450 are dedicated to serving our approximately 2,000 students. We offer universal K3/K4 along with K-12 programs. We provide outstanding activities, and are especially proud of our substantial progress in ensuring our schools are culturally relevant and centered.

North Slope schools and communities are linked to the rest of the world by excellent communications systems. We have internet and distance education at each site, and each community also receives telephone and cable television by satellite.

The District Central Office is located in Utqiagvik, Alaska, a bustling community of approximately 4,400 residents. Utqiagvik is the largest city of the [North Slope Borough](#) in Alaska and is located above the Arctic Circle. Despite the northern location, temperatures at Utqiagvik are moderated by proximity to the Chukchi and Beaufort seas, along with relatively flat tundra that stretches some 200 miles to the south.

We are led by a visionary board. Their mission for our district calls for every child to become proficient in reading, writing and mathematics while gaining an understanding of and appreciation for the values, culture, history and language of the Iñupiat.

### **Board of Education**

Qaiyaan Harcharek  
Deborah Edwardson  
Roxanne Brower  
Eva Kinneeveauk  
Raymond Nashookpuk  
Heidi Ahsoak  
Nora Jane Burns

### **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY**

Located at the "top of the world" we are fortunate to live and work in a place that is not common in the world.

Our communities are populated predominantly by Iñupiat, "real people," as we call ourselves. Today, as in many thousands of years past, we live the Iñupiaq way while having embraced modern amenities that make life easier. We continue to practice our hunting and sharing traditions and very much value the structure that those activities bring into our lives.

The region has gone through tremendous change in the last few decades, with increasing populations of our friends from other parts of the world. In addition to the Iñupiat, the North Slope's population includes Caucasians, Filipinos,

Pacific Islanders, other Alaska Natives, Native Americans, and other ethnic groups.

More than three-fifths of the region's population lives in Utqiagvik, the commercial and transportation hub. Inupiat have inhabited the Arctic for thousands of years, traditionally following animal migrations and subsisting on whale, caribou, walrus, seal and birds.

In one of the earth's most challenging and changing environments, we developed a rich culture and dynamic array of traditions. Our survival depended on close family ties, a strong sense of community and a deep respect for nature. Today, we still look to the land for cultural and economic sustenance. Despite changes in technology and lifestyle, we depend on whaling, hunting and fishing for cultural identity and much of our food supply.

#### **ABOUT THE POSITION**

The North Slope Borough School District (NSBSD) is searching for a new Superintendent to provide leadership to our students, staff, schools and communities. Compensation includes a competitive starting salary beginning at \$160,000. The Board will consider experience and evidence of qualifications in determining the final salary and duration of the initial contract.

#### **DESIRED SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

The Board seeks candidates with desired skills and qualifications:

- Demonstrated success working with a diverse student population.
- Understanding of challenges tied to cultural transition and willingness to employ innovative solutions to meet these challenges
- Good communicator with strong listening skills.
- Willingness to be highly visible in schools and the community.
- Collaborative.
- Humble, honest and approachable, with a good sense of humor.
- An innovator who understands how to lead change.
- Superintendent or central office experience required. Teaching experience preferred.

#### **SALARY**

\$160,000

#### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Please submit the following materials immediately. The district reserves the right to accept applications until the position is filled.

- A formal letter of application.

- A completed application form (requested from associate consultant listed below).
- A current resume.
- Three to five letters of recommendation.
- A written statement explaining how you plan to lead the NSBSD.

**Letters of interest and resumes, as well as any questions, can be sent to:**

NSBSD Superintendent Search  
c/o Alaska Council of School Administrators  
[lparady@alaskaacsa.org](mailto:lparady@alaskaacsa.org)  
234 Gold St.  
Juneau, AK 99801