



association of  
**ALASKA**  
school boards



# Pathways

## Long-Range Plan

2025-2028

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# AASB Board of Directors



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# Pathways Introduction



Lon Garrison  
Executive Director

## Welcome to *Pathways* – The Long-Range Plan 2025-2028!

A hallmark of any successful organization is regularly assessing its performance against its strategic plan and preparing for the future. Astute organizations embrace strategic planning as an ongoing process to align their mission and vision with evolving needs. *Pathways* is our roadmap for the years ahead.

Since 1988, the AASB Board of Directors has undertaken this planning process every three years, embedding it into the association's culture. This approach ensures a continued focus on serving school boards and districts with the ultimate goal of improving student outcomes in Alaska's K-12 public education system.

In this latest iteration of *Pathways*, we remain committed to empowering boards and fostering strong partnerships, with thoughtful refinements to better serve Alaska's students. **Goal #1** maintains its emphasis on culturally grounded educational systems, now with a more individualized approach to help every student achieve their life goals. **Goal #2** continues to prioritize strong relationships among districts, boards, families, and communities, reinforcing our belief that these partnerships are key to creating the conditions for learning. **Goal #3** has evolved to focus on sustaining AASB's mission through strategic partnerships, financial stability, and advocacy for locally governed public education centered

on student achievement. These updates reflect our dedication to advancing equity and academic success while staying true to our core values and vision.

Through a continuous improvement model that reassesses our goals every three years, the Board and staff ensure that AASB remains forward-thinking and responsive. The 2025-2028 *Pathways* plan builds on the journey we began 36 years ago. As a living document, it charts a course for progress and adaptation, ensuring we meet the evolving needs of our members and Alaska's public education system. Together, through bold vision and commitment, we will continue shaping a future where every Alaska student has the opportunity to thrive - because their success is our mission, and the best is yet to come.

Lon Garrison  
Executive Director, AASB

# AASB's Goals for 2025–2028

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## **Culturally Grounded Learning**

Empower our boards and districts to identify and prioritize educational systems that are culturally grounded so our students are provided with individualized academic opportunities to ensure all students are able to succeed in their life goals.

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## **Relationships for Student Success**

Strengthen relationships among member districts, boards, students, families, and communities to support our youth and promote positive conditions for learning.

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## **Strengthening Public Education**

Sustain AASB's mission by fostering strong partnerships, ensuring financial and organizational stability, and effectively advocating for locally governed public education focused on student success.

*The mission of AASB is to advocate for children and youth by assisting school boards in providing quality public education, focused on student achievement, through effective local governance.*



# Focus Area / Goal 1

1

## Culturally Grounded Learning

2

## Relationships for Student Success

3

## Strengthening Public Education

Empower our boards and districts to identify and prioritize educational systems that are culturally grounded so our students are provided with individualized academic opportunities to ensure all students are able to succeed in their life goals.

### Objective 1.1

Foster strong partnerships between school districts and tribal entities to embed culturally informed governance structures and innovative educational programs to create meaningful and relevant learning environments for students to thrive.

### Objective 1.2

School districts will better understand existing and new data points to increase access, opportunities, and resources while removing barriers to create culturally grounded and relevant educational systems for students to succeed.

### Objective 1.3

Students are prepared for life after high school. Students are ready for enrollment, employment, enlisting, and subsisting.

### Objective 1.4

Early learning students and their families have the information, support, and experiences they need to thrive in school.

*Scheduled for consideration after year one.*

# Focus Area / Goal 2

1

Culturally  
Grounded Learning

2

**Relationships for  
Student Success**

3

Strengthening Public  
Education

Strengthen relationships among member districts, boards, students, families, and communities to support our youth and promote positive conditions for learning.

## **Objective 2.1**

Support districts and schools to build positive, two-way relationships with families, students, and communities.

## **Objective 2.2**

Support districts and schools to build a positive School Climate where students feel safe, supported and connected.

## **Objective 2.3**

Support youth, districts, and schools to build support and skills for Youth.

# Focus Area / Goal 3

1

Culturally  
Grounded Learning

2

Relationships for  
Student Success

3

**Strengthening  
Public Education**

Sustain AASB's mission by fostering strong partnerships, ensuring financial and organizational stability, and effectively advocating for locally governed public education focused on student success.

## **Objective 3.1**

AASB will foster strong partnerships.

## **Objective 3.2**

AASB will work to ensure financial and organizational stability.

## **Objective 3.3**

AASB will work to effectively advocate for nonpartisan locally governed public education.

## **AASB Mission Statement**

To advocate for children and youth by assisting school boards in providing quality public education, focused on student achievement, through effective local governance.

## **Child Advocacy Mission Statement**

The advocacy role of school board members is to promote parental, public and social service commitment to the shared responsibility of educating all children and youth in public education while creating an environment that supports children to thrive and be empowered to choose a path to success in their future.