29th Annual Scholarship Competition

Win a $1,500 Scholarship

Application Deadline: midnight on Monday March 16, 2020

The Association of Alaska School Boards is proud to announce its 29th Annual Scholarship Award Competition. The June Nelson Memorial Scholarship is named in honor of the late June Nelson, longtime school board member from Kotzebue. June contributed much to the cause of education, and will be remembered for her outstanding service on behalf of Alaska’s children.

This 2019-2020 school year, AASB will award fifteen $1,500 scholarships to apply toward post-secondary education. Thirteen of these scholarships are available for graduating seniors and two may be awarded to returning college sophomores.

Scholarship Information

The winners of the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Awards will be announced after March 28, 2020.

The June Nelson Memorial Scholarship is funded by individual contributions of school board members and administrators from across the state.

Two scholarships will specifically be given to students planning to attend trade/vocational schools.

Essay Topic

Some skills essential to civic engagement include critical thinking and an ability to listen to other perspectives. Speaking and writing on issues of importance to you and comfort with the give-and-take process of consensus building is often necessary.

Please describe a situation where you have used one or more of these techniques in your school or community to address an issue of civic or social importance.

This year, students wishing to apply for the JNMS use the online application form at (click link below):

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020JNMS

Please note: students must submit all documentation together in a PDF format

Once an application has been submitted completely, the student will receive a confirmation e-mail.
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Descriptions of the Traits

- **Ideas/Content**: This trait addresses the writer’s theme along with the supporting details that develop and enrich that theme. Ideas should be clear, complete, and well developed.

- **Organization**: This trait addresses the structure of a piece of writing including the thread of central meaning and the patterns that hold the piece together. A well-thought out order of ideas should be apparent with a consciously planned opening and closing.

- **Voice**: The type of voice will vary according to the purpose and type of piece, but it should be appropriately formal or casual, distant or intimate, depending on the audience and purpose.

- **Word Choice**: This trait reflects the writer’s use of specific words and phrases to convey the intended message in an interesting, precise, and natural way appropriate to audience and purpose.

- **Sentence Fluency**: This trait addresses the rhythm and flow of language. Sentence structure should be strong and varied.

- **Conventions**: This trait addresses the mechanics of writing, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraph breaks. It also includes proper format.

An average of 6 or 5: Exceeds the Expectation
An average of 4: Meets the Expectation
An average of 3: Approaches the Expectation
An average of 2 or 1: Falls Far Below the Expectation

Scholarship Guidelines

1. **Fifteen $1500 AASB Scholarships** will be awarded this 2019-2020 school year.

2. **Qualifications**
   a. The student must be graduating this 2019-2020 school year.
   b. The student must be accepted as a full-time student by either a business/trade/college institution.
   c. Only students graduating from AASB’s member school districts will be considered for the scholarship award. Students attending private schools are not considered.

3. **Application**
   The student shall complete and submit the following to AASB by **using the online application**:
   a. Student and school information
   b. Response to the essay question up to 750 words in length
   c. Student involvement and activities history
   d. Copy of your high school transcript with cumulative GPA
   e. Acceptance letter* from a business, trade or college institution. (if you haven’t been formally accepted, you may submit your application package to AASB without the acceptance letter, but don’t forget to submit it by March 16, 2020)
   f. Two letters of recommendation (one from a community member and one from a teacher)
   g. SAT or ACT scores

   **College Acceptance letters - if the student does not receive an acceptance letter from their institution of choice, one from another school or a housing agreement (anything that shows the student has been accepted) will suffice.

Six Trait Writing Rubric
Readers for the scholarship essay will use the Six Trait Writing Rubric. This rubric identifies and evaluates six traits, or characteristics, of effective writing on a six point scale, with 6 the highest score and 1 the lowest. The rubric is designed to provide a consistent scoring method based on recognized characteristics of effective writing.

The scholarship package must be submitted by midnight on **March 16, 2020**.

http://www.aasb.org