Aleutians East Borough School District

Sand Point, Alaska

The seven-member Board of Education of the Aleutians East Borough School District is conducting a search for a Superintendent. The board is especially interested in applicants with outstanding central office and/or school level administrative experience. Candidates should have successful experience working with diverse communities, deploying resources strategically, and an appreciation and desire for rural living. The new superintendent is expected to begin work on July 1, 2023.

A salary range of $120,000-130,000 with an attractive benefits package is being offered to the successful candidate. A housing stipend and district vehicle are also provided.

The Board of Education recognizes that selecting the superintendent is one of the most important decisions it will make and is seeking a candidate that can help the Board meet its established mission and achieve a quality education for all students in attendance.

The district’s mission is: The Aleutians East Borough School District will provide a quality education; skills and opportunities to meet all students’ needs; encouraging life-long learning through committed community involvement within a safe environment.

The Board is committed to a selection process that is fair and open to all qualified candidates. Priority will be given to candidates whose experience and background closely matches the following characteristics.

Candidates who do not possess an Alaska Type B certificate with a superintendent endorsement should begin the process in order to be considered for this position.

Application Process

The Association of Alaska School Boards uses an online application system. Please visit the Association’s website at https://aasb.org/superintendent/ for more information about this search and guidance on applying through the Revelus online application system (aasb.myrevelus.com).
Aleutians East Borough School District Profile

Sand Point – District Headquarters

Sand Point is located on Humboldt Harbor on Popof Island, off the Alaska Peninsula, 570 air miles from Anchorage. Sand Point was founded in 1887 by a San Francisco fishing company as a trading post and cod fishing station. Aleuts from surrounding villages and Scandinavian fishermen were the first residents of the community. Sand Point served as a repair and supply center for gold mining during the early 1900s, but fish processing became the dominant activity in the 1930s. Today, it is home to the largest fishing fleet in the Aleutian Chain. The City government was incorporated in 1966.

Sand Point is characterized as self-sufficient and progressive, with commercial fishing activities at the heart of the local culture. There is a large transient population for fishing and cannery work. The State provides regional services through public safety, fish and game, and the court system. Trident Seafoods operates a major bottomfish, pollock, salmon and fish meal plant, and provides fuel and other services. Peter Pan Seafoods owns a storage and transfer station. 116 residents hold commercial fishing permits. Locals participate in subsistence consumption of seafood and caribou. Local businesses include a hotel, general store (Alaska Commercial), restaurants, auto shop, bed and breakfast and toy store.

What is the environment like?

Aleutians East Borough School District comprises the westernmost portion of the Alaska Peninsula, and two of the Aleutian Islands, from which the borough name is derived. There are five (5) incorporated cities and one unincorporated village within the district boundaries.

Temperatures range from 10 to 76 degrees Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation is 33 inches and annual snowfall is 52 inches.

Overview of Communities

Communities with operating schools include: Akutan, False Pass, King Cove, and Sand Point. The warmth of its people and the natural beauty of the area make business and leisure visitors welcome in all the communities of the Borough.
Wildlife viewing, hiking, touring the harbors, sport fishing and hunting are some of the recreational opportunities offered in the region.

Cold Bay and Sand Point are connected to Anchorage by Ravn Alaska Airways and Lake Clark Air. Passengers whose final destination is False Pass, or King Cove travel by Ravn Alaska and Grants, through the hub community of Cold Bay. Travelers on Lake Clark Air often make several stops on their trip home.

Akutan residents must travel through Unalaska/Dutch Harbor then on to Akutan by small plane and the final leg involves a 5-minute helicopter ride to Akutan using a seaplane ramp landing rather than a conventional rural Alaskan airstrip.

**Getting to the District**

Sand Point offers a new State-owned airport with a 4,000' long by 150' wide paved runway. Direct flights to Anchorage are available. Marine facilities include a 25-acre boat harbor with four docks, 134 boat slips, a harbormaster office, barge off-loading area, and a 150-ton lift. Regular barge services supply the community year-round. The State Ferry operates between May and September.
Additional Information

Board Priorities for the Coming Year

- Oversee an update of the district-wide Strategic Plan.
- Demonstrate clear, effective and honest communication between the board, staff, students and communities.
- Ensure the district is financially healthy and develop a budget that is aligned to the needs of students and district priorities.
- Study achievement data and educate the board to make appropriate decisions based on results.
- The board has an expectation that the superintendent will visit every community several times each year.

Professional Experience Minimum Qualifications

- Hold, or be able to obtain, a Type B administrative certificate with a superintendent endorsement in the State of Alaska.
- Superintendent experience desired.
- Have at least 3 years as principal or district-wide administrative experience.

Desired Professional Background and Experiences of Candidate

- Demonstrated leadership skills with the board, staff and community in support of students.
- A willingness to frequently travel to remote school sites by aircraft or boat.
- Demonstrated history and experience with successfully increasing student achievement.
- Experience in Human Resources.
- Capital project oversight.

Desired Personal Characteristics of Candidate

- Approachable in demeanor and has an ‘open door’ philosophy.
- Passionate about improving the educational experience for ALL students to succeed.
- Able to lead and support staff members in their professional growth.
- Strong communication skills with a wide variety of audiences to include, but not limited to the Board, staff, families, communities, businesses and nonprofits.
- Uphold the highest integrity and principles.
- Sense of adventure.
- Curiosity and willingness to learn about and respect diverse communities, cultures and traditions.