

Youth Leadership & Youth Voice



Student voice in decision-making

Effective youth leadership programs have well-trained caring adult allies to support students as they serve on school boards, participate in decision-making, or engage in youth leadership committees. AASB offers training, tools and protocols to improve youth engagement in schools.



School Climate

Students can be an essential part of improving the climate and working on school improvement. Students can use their own student school climate data to transform their school climate alongside school staff and other community partners.



Bridge to the Future

Students have better outcomes after high school when they have consistent and holistic planning throughout their school careers. The Bridging to the Future guide and facilitated conversations helps schools, students and families to look at the strengths and opportunity gaps that can help students prepare for life after high school.



Supporting District Youth Leadership

AASB offers comprehensive youth leadership support to mentor and grow our next generation of leaders. Districts contract with AASB to help plan and host regional youth leadership events and follow up activities.

CONDITIONS FOR LEARNING TEAM

YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND YOUTH VOICE



YOUTH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Association of Alaska School Boards offers three statewide youth leadership opportunities.



YLI

Youth Leadership Institute (November)

Alaskan students and their chaperones come together to strengthen and build each student's unique style of leadership. With inspiring speakers, leadership-boosting activities, and home community preparation, students can take the next step towards leadership. Chaperone workshops focus on relationship-building and mentoring.

YAI

Youth Advocacy Institute (February)

Students learn about policy, legislation, and have real experiences to share their voice on important education and community issues.

YB

Youth on Boards (April)

When youth representation is intentional and supported, Alaskan boards can deeply benefit from youth member's points of view, creative thinking, direct questions and open-mindedness. YB engages youth leaders to understand governance processes and decision-making.

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Youth Leadership: The Research

- Meaningful youth leadership has positive academic and health outcomes.
- Youth leadership has a direct relationship to improved school climates and positive perceptions of schools.
- Youth leadership has positive impacts on the community well-being and the work force.
- Youth leadership can be a central piece to being prepared for life after high school.

Youth Leadership Access/Audit

Not all students are accessing youth leadership and youth enrichment opportunities evenly. Find out more about who is accessing and how to reach more students through your programs. Develop a plan to work with students not actively involved in leadership opportunities.

In-District Youth Leadership Opportunities

More and more school districts, tribal entities, non-profits and special projects are seeking input from students and younger community members. There are health and academic benefits for students who hold meaningful roles, but how do we prepare students and our boards for this?

Peer Support, Natural Helpers & Youth Mental Health First Aid

Holding meaningful roles and supporting student mental health are a growing priority for many school districts. Find out more about districts that are using youth mental first aid, have peer educators and support, and other youth leadership structures to support student well-being.