



PASSAGES for Academic Success

Alaska Native Education Program

What is PASSAGES for Academic Success?

Alaska Cultural Standards for Educators: PASSAGES for Academic Success is an Alaska Native Education Program (ANEP) grant partnering SERRC with 8 school districts, local Alaska Native community leaders, Sealaska Heritage Institute, Modern Teacher, and Teaching Channel TEAMS to bring professional learning with a culturally proficient mindset to teachers.

What is PASSAGES Purpose?

The purpose of PASSAGES is to implement a solid program of professional development that will provide teachers with access to resources for building culturally responsive classrooms and instruction. This will be accomplished using blended professional learning technology, digital cultural resources, and video-based professional learning communities that educators will contribute to and learn from.

PASSAGES Outcomes

- 1) Technology platforms, methods, and systems for increasing teacher growth and development are operated by teachers for self-directed learning.**
- 2) Language and cultural resources are accessible through 21st Century technology to teachers and students.**
- 3) Culturally responsive instruction becomes the norm and supports increased student engagement and achievement.**
- 4) Teachers work collaboratively to design blended instruction that incorporates culturally responsive teaching practices with content.**
- 5) Community engagement and support for schools and teachers increases as collaborative relationships form between communities and teachers.**

How will **PASSAGES** be evaluated for effectiveness?

- 1) Teachers will use web-based culturally responsive strategies/resources in their instruction.
- 2) Teachers achieve proficient ratings of their observations by applying AK Cultural Standards in their instruction.
- 3) Increase in student engagement, motivation, proficiency, and graduation among AK Native and mixed race students.
- 4) Decrease drop-out rates among AK Native and mixed race students.

What are some activities that will happen in this project?

- 1) Workshops for teachers and curriculum writers from each district on how to use AK Cultural Standards and Indicators for planning lessons and units.
- 2) Online coaching for teachers in helping them use digital tools and access resources.
- 3) Digitize existing cultural resources from *Sealaska Heritage Institute* and provide cultural orientation trainings.
- 4) Partner with local Alaska Native community leaders to identify local cultural resources and provide guidance to teachers about using those resources in their teaching.
- 5) Create a web-based platform through *Modern Teacher* for cloud-based storage for all professional development and teacher-produced digital units using digital pedagogy.
- 6) Workshops for teachers and administrators include:
 - planning for the cultural standards/indicators into instruction
 - implementing the cultural standards/indicators using research-based instructional strategies
 - using cultural indicators to assess instructional effectiveness and identify areas for improvement
 - engaging students in helping them make connections between their education, their home, and their world
- 7) Build a video-enhanced professional learning library for self-reflective practice, coaching, and feedback through *Teaching Channel's TEAMS* platform for continuous growth and improvement.