

Alaska Reads Act Webinar Series:

Weekly: January 12 – May 11, 2023

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Susan McKenzie, Director of Innovation and Education Excellence

March 2, 2023




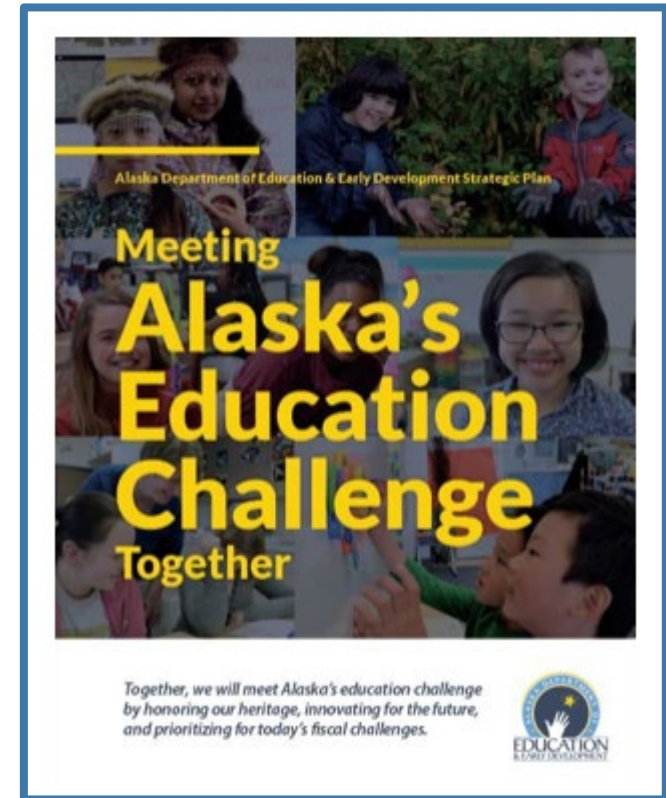
Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
<p>An excellent education for every student every day.</p>	<p>All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them.</p> <p>- Alaska Statute 14.03.015</p>	<p>DEED exists to provide information, resources, and leadership to support an excellent education for every student every day.</p>

Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

Five Shared Priorities:

- 
1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
 2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
 3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
 4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
 5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.



education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge

Agenda

- Details of Alaska Reads Act webinars
- Alaska Reads Act Overview
- Department Reading Program Overview
- Department Reading Program: Roles and Responsibilities
- Questions





Details

Alaska Reads Act Webinar Schedule:

Weekly on Thursdays or Fridays from 3:15-4:15

Reads Act Focus:	Dates:	Leader and Presenter:
District Reading Intervention	January 12 to February 2	Susy McKenzie
Teacher Certification	February 9	Sondra Meredith
Department Reading Program	February 16 to March 2	Susy McKenzie
Early Learning	March 9 to March 23	Deb Riddle
Data Collections	March 30	John Jones
Virtual Education	April 6 to April 20	Kelly Manning
SOR Symposium Pre-Conference	April 28	Susy McKenzie
Office Hours	Feb. 10, March 10, April 7, May 4, May 11	ALL



Alaska Reads Act Timeline and Resources

TIMELINE

- Regulations
 - August 2022 – December 2022
- Preparation
 - September 2022 – March 2023
- State Board of Education regulation package
 - January 25, 2023
- Public Comment
 - February 2023 – March 2023
- Anticipated Adoption
 - April 2023

RESOURCES

<https://education.alaska.gov/akreads>:

- Webinar schedule and registration
- Recordings of webinars
- Slide decks
- Draft documents shared during webinars
- One-page supports
- FAQ



Communication

- Communicating during the Zoom webinar meetings:
 - Place questions in the Q & A area of Zoom
 - Comments are to be placed in the chat box
 - Communication will be through chat and Q & A in Zoom: microphones muted
 - Questions addressed as time permits
 - FAQ document
- Send questions to akreads@alaska.gov
- Request presentation for your district
- Reading Newsletter
- Planning in-person meetings around the state



*Please
remember...*

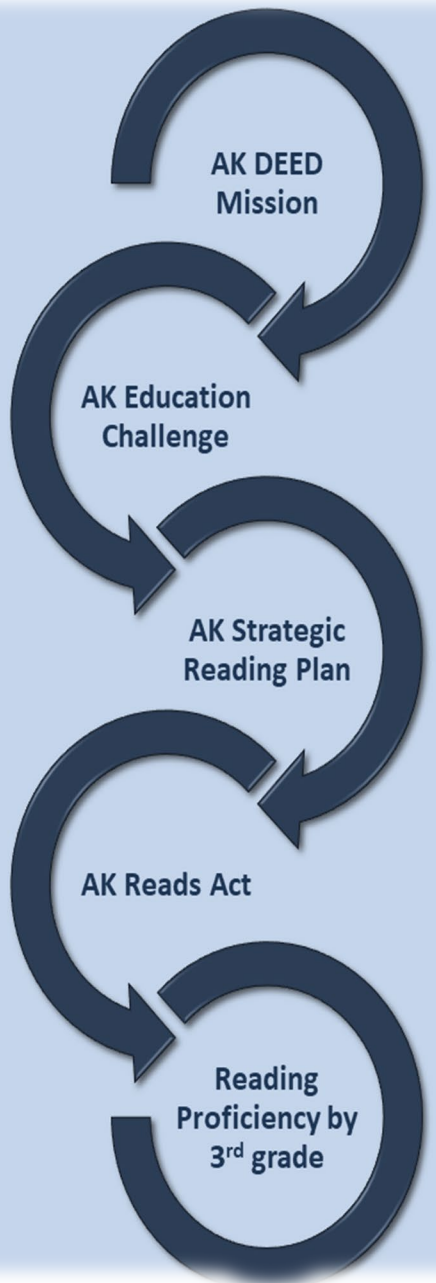
Regulations are in draft form. The final adopted regulations may result in some changes to what will be presented in each webinar. Thank for your patience as we work to balance processes with stakeholder communication.

DRAFT.



Alaska Reads Act Overview

Alignment



Alaska Reads Act Components



Alaska Reads
#akreads

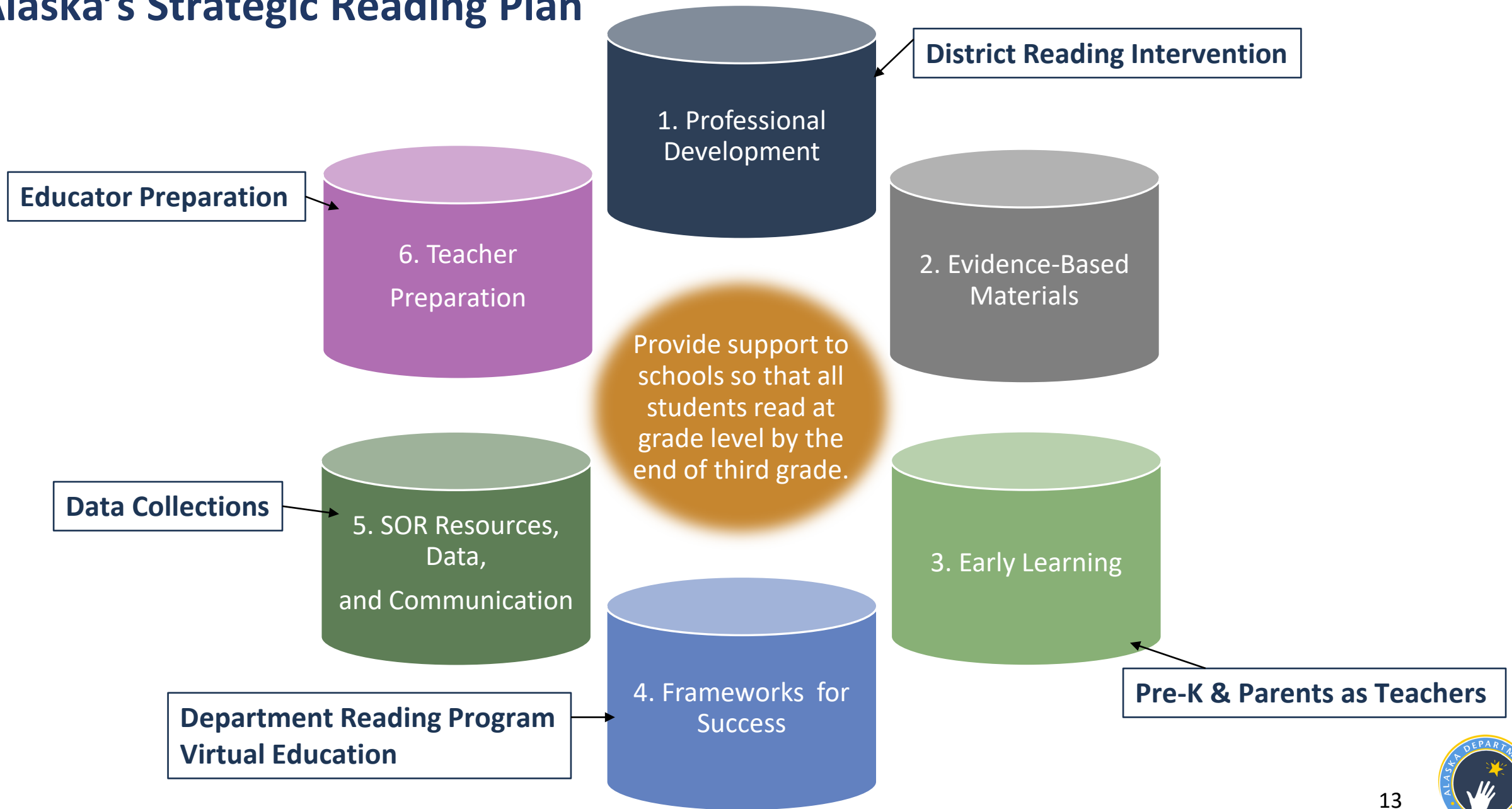
Reads Act Programmatic Elements:

- 1) District Reading Improvement
- 2) Department Reading Program
- 3) Pre-K and Parents as Teachers
- 4) Virtual Education

Other Components:

- 1) Educator preparation requirements
- 2) Reporting and data collections

Alaska's Strategic Reading Plan



Department Reading Program:

-Overview

-Roles and Responsibilities

Webinar 3 of 3 of Department Reading Program

Presented by: Susan McKenzie, Director of IEE

March 2, 2023

Department Reading Program: Overview



Alaska Reads
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House Bill 114, Section 14.30.770

Department Reading Program Language:

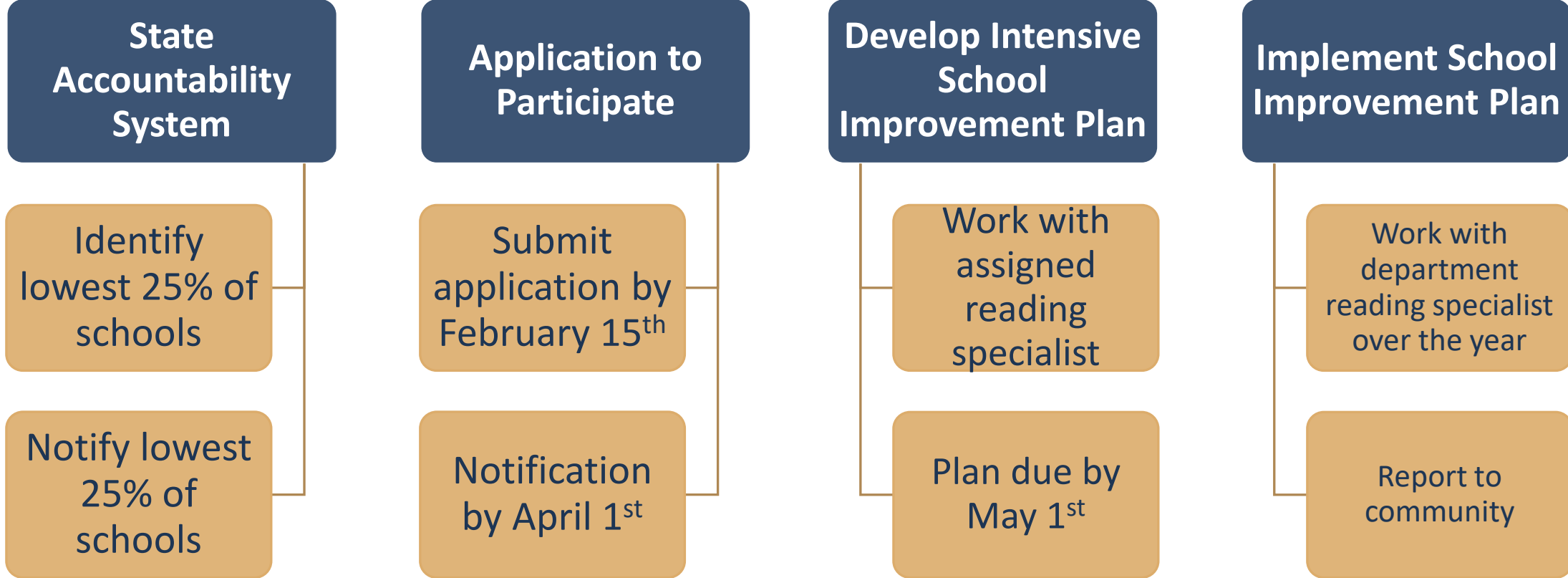
“The department shall establish a reading program to provide direct support for and intervention in intensive reading intervention services annually in the lowest-performing 25 percent of schools serving students in grades kindergarten through three as determined under 21 AS 14.03.123.”

House Bill 114: Section 14.30.770

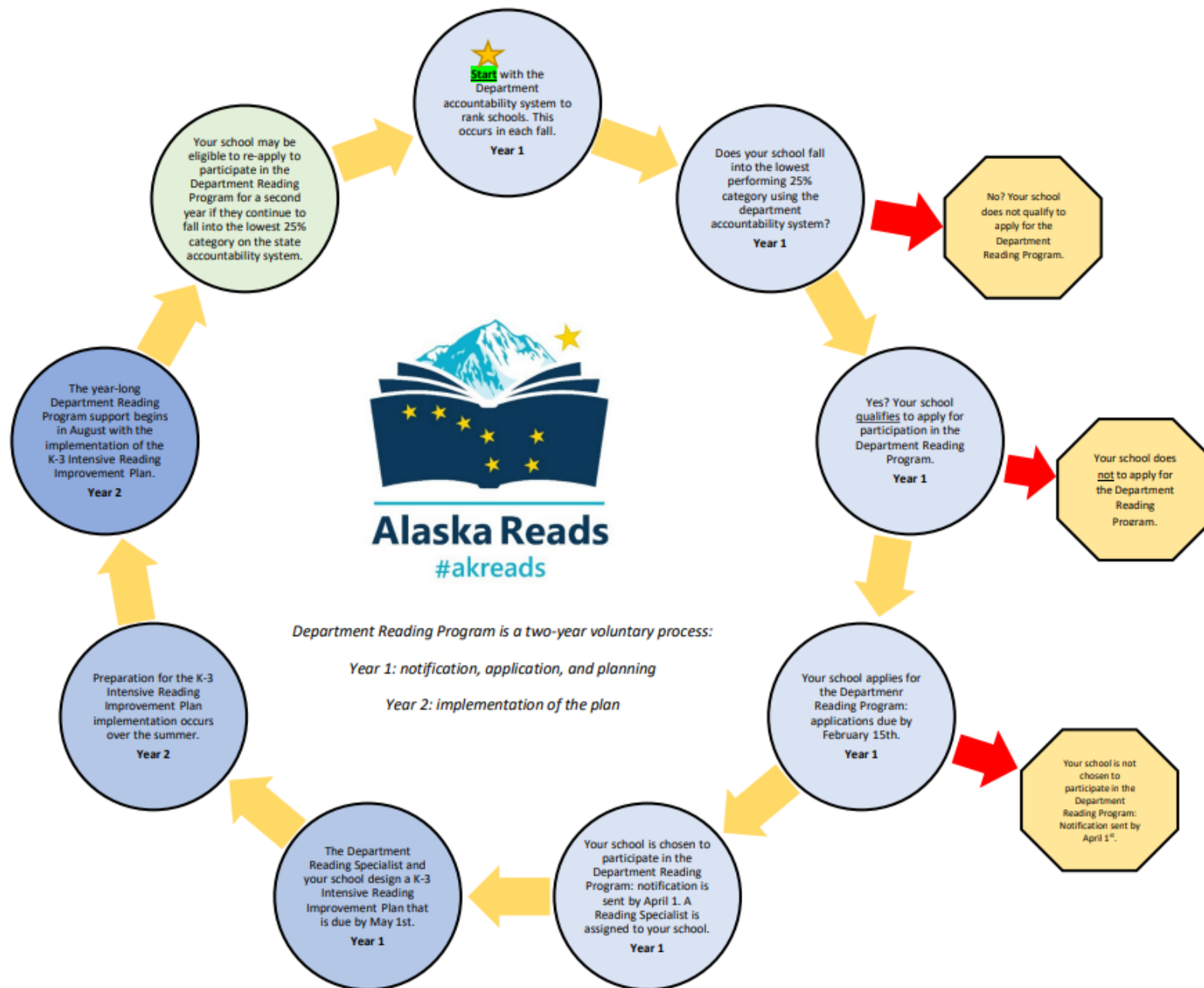
“In conducting the program, the department shall

- (1) use the accountability system established in AS 14.03.123 to identify low performing schools;
- (2) establish an application process for school districts to apply to Enrolled HB 114 participate in the program;
- (3) select low performing schools from the schools that apply to participate in the program;
- (4) employ and assign reading specialists to direct the implementation of the intensive reading intervention services established under AS 14.30.765”

Department Reading Program Overview



Department Reading Program Flowchart



Department Reading Program

Roles and Responsibilities



Is Your School Ready for Change?



Planning ahead...

Department Reading Program Participation

- Notification: April 1st
- Communicate with assigned Department Reading Specialist
- Plan development between April 1st and May 1st
 - Gather the team
 - Schedule time for meeting in April
 - Review K-3 MTSS Plan
 - List strengths
 - List needs
 - Plan for a month of meetings to prepare
 - List strengths
 - List needs



Responsibilities: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

- Identify lowest 25% of schools
- Invite schools to participate with application process
- Select schools to participate in the Department Reading Program
- Assign reading specialist to each school to support improvement plans
- Establish a reporting process for each reading specialist to submit updates to the department
- Support travel to each school at least once each year
- Select and purchase additional reading material to support reading intervention



Responsibilities: Participating Schools

- Avoid assigning duties to the department reading specialist that divert from department-assigned responsibilities
- Work with the department reading specialist to implement the improvement plan, including a possible redesign of the school's daily schedule
- Present the reading plan at a public meeting (with at least 7 days notice)
 - Data the department used to identify the school
 - Overview of the reading plan and intervention services
 - Implications of the program for students, families, educators
- Present an annual update on the school's implementation of the reading program
- Create partnerships between the school and community that promotes reading and increasing amount of time spent reading





Questions:

Send questions to akreads@alaska.gov

March 9, 2023: Reads Act- Early Learning



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WEBINAR REGISTRATION ON [HTTPS://EDUCATION.ALASKA.GOV/AKREADS](https://education.alaska.gov/akreads)

TIME: 3:15-4:15

District Reading Intervention Committee

akreads@alaska.gov



Susy McKenzie
IEE Director/Chair



Deb Riddle
Division Operations
Manager



Jenn Miller
Academic Support Team



Kristi Graber
ELA Content Specialist



Tracy Parker
Reading Specialist



Brittney Bailey
Admin: SRS Team



Kristen Spencer
Early Learning Specialist

Contact Information

Susy McKenzie, Director, Innovation and Education Excellence

Susan.McKenzie@alaska.gov

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Stay Connected



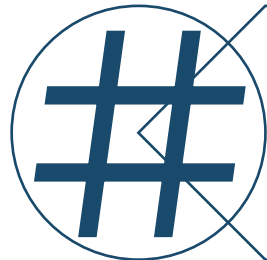
Website

- education.alaska.gov



Phone

- Main Line: (907) 465-2800
- Teacher Certification: (907) 465-2831



Social Media

- @AlaskaDEED