

PRESS RELEASE

Alaska School District AYP results for 2010-2011

Soldotna, September 8, 2011: The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District received a *Does Not Meet AYP* (Adequate Yearly Progress) rating for the 2010-2011 academic year, however, the district remains at Level 1 of this federal designation because the *Does Not Meet AYP* criteria do not apply to all of KPBSD's tested students.

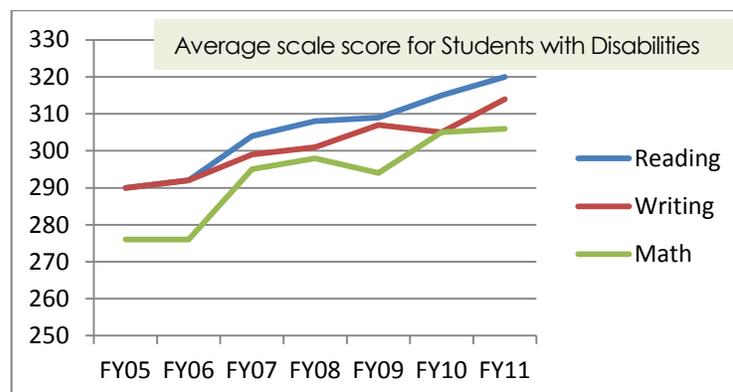
KPBSD met AYP in grade spans 3-5 and 6-8 in 2010-2011. The district did not meet AYP requirements in five categories (from thirty possible) and in the graduation rate. *Students in grade span 3-5 again made AYP and have done so since 2005-2006.* The district also showed improvement with its students in the 6-8 grade span meeting the AYP requirements. The vast majority of KPBSD students continue to reach proficiency despite the increasing AMOs. Sean Dusek, KPBSD assistant superintendent, explains:

"What is great for KPBSD is that grades 3-8 made AYP which is the vast majority of kids and schools. We have work to do with our graduation rate and need to continue our work with subgroups, especially at the secondary level, but overall we are improving."

A contributing reason for KPBSD growth and success: Several years ago KPBSD incorporated a Response To Intervention (RTI) program into general education. RTI is an early intervention response program to support students who need extra assistance with their learning. With early identification, our students are able to receive the help they need with greater immediacy. Thus, a learning gap is prevented, and student success increases.



Use caution when labeling a specific subgroup as failing AYP. Prior to this year, KPBSD made AYP every year with the exception of one subgroup. This subgroup continues to demonstrate impressive success and growth. Our standard based assessment (SBA) tests for "Students with Disabilities" track a rising trend. KPBSD is very proud of the excellent progression.



Superintendent Steve Atwater said, “Although I am disappointed that the district as a whole did not make AYP, I am pleased that this designation cannot be viewed as a defining label for KPBSD. The improvements made by the majority of our students demonstrate that we are moving in the right direction.”

AYP Background

- **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)** is the cornerstone of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act. AYP is measured annually for school districts and individual schools.
- States created a graduated timeline of proficiency marks called Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO). **Every year the AMOs rise toward 100% proficiency (2014) in language arts and math.**
- **Measuring Accountability:** School districts and schools are held accountable for student scores in language arts and math, and for their students' participation rate. They also are held accountable for attendance and 12th grade graduation rates.
- **To meet AYP, school districts (and individual schools) are rated in 31 categories of accountability.** Assessed students are categorized in ten ways: school or district wide; and in nine subgroups: African-American, Alaska Native/American Indian, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Multi-Ethnic, Economically Disadvantaged, Students with Disabilities, and Limited English Proficient Students. Multiply the three fields—language arts scores, math scores and participation rate—by the ten ways to categorize students and the result is 30 categories of accountability. The 31st category is the graduation rate for schools with a 12th grade, or the attendance rate for other schools.

Links

[Understanding AYP](#)

[Alaska Department of Education & Early Development](#)

KPBSD [Communications](#): Pegge Erkeneff; 907-714-8888; Pegge@kpbsd.org | www.kpbsd.org