



Notice to Certified Staff:

Be reminded that you are responsible for keeping your Alaskan Certification current. New teachers to Alaska are also responsible for obtaining Alaska Certification in order to teach in Alaska. It is also your responsibility to keep track of the date of expiration of your certificate. The District Office and the Alaska Department of Education are not responsible for providing reminders of your certification expiration dates. You, as a professional, are responsible for tracking and maintaining the necessary certifications for employment as a teacher in Alaska.

To assist certified staff with this responsibility, the State of Alaska maintains a website you may access to check the status of your Alaskan Certification. I encourage each staff member to become familiar with the website.

<https://education.alaska.gov/TeacherCertification/TeacherSearch/ApplicantLogin.cfm>

Title fourteen, Chapter twenty of the Alaska Statutes on education deals with "Teachers and School Personnel." Article One of the Chapter deals specifically with **Teacher Certification**, this article states....

AS 14.20.010. Teacher Certificate Required.

A person may not be employed as a teacher in the public schools of the state unless that person possesses a valid teacher certificate except that a person who has made application to the department for a teacher certificate, including a preliminary teacher certificate under AS 14.20.015, or renewal of a teacher certificate that has not been acted upon by the department may be employed as a teacher in the public schools of the state until the department has taken action on the application, but in no case may employment without a certificate last longer than three months. A person who has made application for a certificate under this section may teach for an additional 60 days beyond three months without a certificate if the department grants a written extension. An extension may be granted under this section for not more than 60 days to the person solely due to delay in the department's receipt of criminal justice information under AS 12.62 or a national criminal history record check under AS 12.62.400 .

Kuspuk Certified staff that require an Alaska teaching certificate need to know that when the District is notified by the State that an individual is non-compliant (Not Certified) with Teacher certification, the individual in question shall be placed on substitute pay until at which time the

individual in question obtains Alaska Certification. As per the Kuspuk School District teachers contract which states, Part D...

That this contract may be terminated without liability to the District.

- A. Should Employee fail to discharge the duties imposed, either through incapacity or inability;
- B. For cause as defined under Alaska Statutes 14.20.170;
- C. Should it become necessary to eliminate the position because of a decreased enrollment upon not less than thirty (30) days written notice and providing that under hardship cases the District may afford such compensation as it considers necessary not to exceed twenty (20) days compensation at Employee's daily salary rate; or
- D. Should Employee fail to maintain a valid Alaska Teacher's Certificate as required herein;**

The only exception to this shall be when a certificated staff member has made application to the State and the application has not been acted upon by EED. In these cases the individual will need to present to the district that the State is in receipt of the necessary information to issue a certification or certification renewal.

If you have questions concerning your Alaska Certification you can do a search for your name on the website provided above. You are also welcome to contact the District Office.

Sincerely,

Bernard Grieve
Superintendent

Kuspuk School District
Adopted: ___/___/2018