

Alaska Council of School Administrators (AK) - S374A20018

Recommended Funding: \$5,647,437

The applicant is the non-profit Alaska Council of School Administrators, in a partnership with four high needs school districts: Alaska Gateway, Nenana, NorthWest Arctic Borough, and Yukon-Koyukuk. Four rural Alaska high needs school districts and the Alaska Council of School Administrators have come together to create a strategic partnership resulting in the *Increasing Performance and Retention in Alaska's Rural Schools (IPRARS)* project. Districts differ greatly in geography but what they share in common is a pressing need to improve the academic success of the students they teach, primarily because they suffer from their inability to attract and retain highly quality teachers and school administrators.

IPRARS begins with an examination of the effectiveness and quality of each Districts Human Capital Management Systems (HCMS). A major effort tied to improving the HCMSs will address the professional development and support needs of teachers, principals, principal/teachers, instructional aides and other school leaders in High-Need Schools who are in the best position to close the achievement gap between high- and low-performing students.