

## Mid-year CIS Update

Name: Bev Thornburg

Department: Grants

### School Board Goal:

*All Students will graduate from high school college and career ready.*

*Education will reflect 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning*

### Initiative:

Grants planning and proposal writing for the Alaska Secondary Engineering Academies initiative, led by the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC). This partnership of Alaskan industries, higher education, public education, and state agencies has, as a core purpose, building and sustaining an educational pipeline to create workers for Alaskan process industries. High school engineering academies, based on such exemplary curriculum as Project Lead the Way, are designed to motivate and prepare students to become the engineers and highly-trained technicians needed to for our economic base. This initiative is to build high school engineering academies statewide. The group is identifying potential funding sources and looking at elements of a modular proposal.

### Signals of achievement:

The group has received input from APICC's working group and is preparing a logic model for a proposal template. We have determined some of the important fundamental elements of a sustainable statewide plan and administrative infrastructure for a network of engineering academies.

### Who collaborates with you to make this happen?

This is an APICC initiative. I represent ASD on one aspect. Collaborators include ISER at UAA, the UAF Engineering Department, and private consultants.

### How does this incorporate Cultural Proficiency, Technology Infusion (especially Web.2.0), Data engaged instruction, other?

The statewide initiative is targeted especially to rural schools. The project design must be culturally responsive and geographically plausible. Project Lead the Way and other well-conceived models are highly tech-infused and tech-based. Engineering Academies that are rigorous and relevant are suffused with technology. In order to meet math, science, and language arts standards, they must draw from, link to, and contribute to student achievement data.

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### Progress to date:

APICC and its partners have completed a historic MOU, have created a vision for engineering academies in schools across Alaska, and have formed sub-committees such as the working group and proposal-writing committee. A series of facilitated meetings and work sessions have been scheduled; APICC's executive director reaches out regularly to industry and state partners. The proposal writing team has uncovered potential areas of grantmakers and has developed a draft logic model.

### Next steps:

The pressure is on APICC to find funding for this multi-million dollar expectation. The group must build a model proposal.

### Comments:

A very worthy vision, good for the state, good for kids. However, there are no "magic bullets" sources of money.

Bev Thornburg