



ALASKA'S DIGITAL SANDBOX

RESOURCES / ARTIFACT SHARING AND/OR REVIEW PROCESS

Welcome to Alaska's Digital Sandbox. This online repository of resources is meant to provide tools educators can use in their classrooms, grades K-12, for free. Users may upload, download, revise, and use as their own anything posted. All 54 Alaska school districts have free access to this site through their education technology coordinator.

Users may follow other members, make buddies, initiate discussions through the Group Discussion Boards, and request professional reviews of artifacts. Full information is posted online: www.aklearn.net/resources

The Sandbox has 3 tiers for Alaska:

Tier 1 = play in the sandbox (open to all Alaskan educators)

Tier 2 = Review of artifacts (objects) that the owner requests (by choice).

Tier 3 = Artifacts that are 1 in 100 model that we are looking for to share out with other states

Objects are vetted using a rubric when requested for a professional review (Tier 2). In order to do this, you 'add to group' an object that you have uploaded into the Sandbox. This triggers an automatic review of the object by content experts in that area. This is a service to Alaskan educators, free of charge, thanks to the gracious willingness of Alaskan educators to give their time.

For more information, or assistance, please contact:

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EED

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ACCESS:

EED has purchased one access point for each district for free (and a few more for some of the larger districts). EED also negotiated a price of 75cents per user annually for districts, so they may add teachers and/or students at a rate that is sustainable over time.

EED has also encouraged individuals and groups to share objects in the Sandbox, including:

- Content Reviewers (experts in the fields) – see the attached list in the rubrics
- Chick Beckley, open-source goodies he found that might be useful
- Brett Dillingham – digital storytelling podcasts he has done with many rural students
- Frank Odasz – rural education goodies
- Special Education Service Agency – useful tools for districts
- Shari Paul, Alaska Performance Scholarship – information and tools counselors find useful
- Christina Hum – iPad tools for high school classrooms

Since we are just starting this, it will take a while for objects to be loaded and shared. You can look up individuals and 'buddy' with them, so it makes social networking easier. I am also working at collaborating with other states, and hope to have more to share soon.

Have fun playing in Alaska's Digital Sandbox.

BTOP (Broadband Technology Opportunities Program)

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