

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District



Building Educational Success Together

BEST Handbook

2025-2026

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Welcome Letter from the Head Teacher

Dear BEST Families,

Welcome to a new school year at BEST! I'm so glad you're here.

As the Head Teacher of BEST Homeschool, I have the privilege of working with an incredible and experienced team of educators and a vibrant community of families. Whether you're brand new to homeschooling or have years of experience under your belt, please know you are valued and supported here.

At BEST, we are truly Building Educational Success *Together*. We believe learning should be flexible, meaningful, and uniquely tailored to each child. Our program was designed with that in mind. As a "school without walls," we break down traditional boundaries to help families create an education that authentically fits their students: academically, emotionally, and creatively.

One of the things I love most about leading this program is the relationships we build with students, parents, and one another. BEST is more than just a homeschool program; it's a community built on trust, collaboration, and the shared goal of helping kids thrive. My background as a longtime teacher, homeschool parent, Suzuki violin parent, and educational leader shapes how I approach this work: with empathy, transparency, and a deep belief in the power of partnership.

This handbook is meant to be a helpful guide to the ins and outs of our program. From allotments and curriculum to activities, field trips, and more. If you ever have questions, concerns, or ideas, please reach out. We're here for you.

Thank you for choosing BEST. We are honored to be part of your journey and can't wait to see what this year brings for your family.

Warmest wishes,
Kara Candelaria
Head Teacher, BEST Homeschool

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Important Dates for 2025-2026

Date	Event
July 1	Start of 2025-2026 School Year
July 4-7	OFFICE CLOSED for Holiday
August 13-15	OFFICE CLOSED for Professional Development
August 19	Area Schools Start
September 1	OFFICE CLOSED for Holiday
September 2	Day 10 of Semester 1, the last day to drop classes
September 25-26	OFFICE CLOSED for Professional Development
October 1	Last Day to Enroll to Receive Allotment
October 17	1st Quarter Ends - Grades Due
Oct 30 & 31	Educational Specialist/Parent Conferences
November 27 & 28	OFFICE CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday
December 19	1st Semester/Q2 Ends - Grades Due
December 25 & 26	OFFICE CLOSED for Christmas Holiday
Dec 22 - Jan 2	Area schools closed for Winter Break
January 1	OFFICE CLOSED for New Years Day
January 7	Students return from winter break
January 19	OFFICE CLOSED for MLK holiday
January 21	Day 10 of 2nd Semester: last day to drop classes
February 12 & 13	Education Specialist/Parent Conferences
March 6	3rd Quarter Ends - Grades Due
March 9-13	Area Schools Closed for Spring Break
March 13 & 14	OFFICE CLOSED for Spring Break
March 30 - April 30	State Testing Window for all students in grades 3 through 10
April 24	OFFICE CLOSED - Area Schools Closed
May 1 at 4 pm	FINAL GRADE DEADLINE FOR SENIORS GRADATING MAY 2026
May ____ (TBD)	BEST Graduation at Hering Auditorium 7 pm
May 21	2nd Semester/Q4 Ends - Grades Due
May 25	OFFICE CLOSED for Memorial Day
June 19	Final Grade Deadline for 2025-2026
June 30	Last Day of 2025-2026 School Year - Last Day of Access to Acellus and Edmentum
July 1, 2026	Start of 2026-2027 School Year

Welcome to Fairbanks BEST Homeschool

What is BEST?

Fairbanks Building Educational Success Together (BEST) is a public homeschool program designed for families who believe that learning should be flexible, meaningful, and centered around the unique needs of each child. At BEST, families take the lead in shaping an educational journey that reflects their values, lifestyle, and goals.

As a “school without walls,” BEST offers the freedom to learn beyond the classroom—whether that means reading by the woodstove on a snowy day, exploring the boreal forest, taking classes at UAF, or diving deep into an online course. We support families in crafting personalized learning plans that honor each student’s strengths, interests, and pace.

BEST is a non-sectarian, inclusive community that welcomes students and families from all backgrounds. We believe in strong partnerships—between families, staff, and the broader community—and in creating a learning environment rooted in respect, support, and trust. Families can choose the curriculum and approach that works best for them, including traditional, online, or blended learning options. Students may also participate in district sports and activities with no extra fees, and take up to two classes at their neighborhood school at no additional cost and without any wait.

Throughout the year, we offer a variety of engaging opportunities like Lego Club, Open Gym, Art Classes, Battle of the Books, Science Olympiad, field trips, plus many, many more options that bring learning to life.

Each student receives an annual allotment to support their education, with amounts based on full-time or part-time enrollment. With flexible and comprehensible reimbursement procedures, BEST makes using your educational funds easy and worthwhile.

What is BEST’s Objective?

BEST exists to support families who choose to educate their children at home by offering an alternative to traditional school, one that honors parent and family choice while aligning with Alaska’s educational standards. Through district-funded allotments and support, families can select the teaching methods, materials, and curriculum that best fit their child’s needs, all while meeting state content and performance expectations.

Why Families Choose BEST

At BEST, families find more than just a homeschool program—they find a partner in learning. Families choose BEST because they want flexibility with real support, and the freedom to shape an education that fits their life, their values, and their child.

At BEST, you're not just enrolling in a program. You're joining a community.



What Sets BEST Apart

Our staff know your name, care deeply about your child, and bring decades of experience to the table. We're your neighbors, and we're here to walk alongside your family every step of the way.

- **Flexibility that works for your family**
Whether you're roadschooling, unschooling, learning at home, or blending styles, BEST supports personalized learning at every turn.
- **Freedom to learn your way**
Families choose the curriculum and schedule that work best for them, including traditional, online, or blended options, all while meeting Alaska's state standards. At BEST, families lead the way and we're honored to walk with them.
- **Connection to your community**
As part of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD), BEST students can take up to two classes at their neighborhood school and participate in sports, clubs, and activities, just like any other district student. There are no extra charges beyond the standard activity fees.
- **Access to local resources that stretch your allotment**
BEST is the only local homeschool program directly affiliated with FNSBSD. That means families benefit from district-supported services that many other programs can't offer, including not having to use allotment funds for classes at attendance-area schools. This helps your allotment go further, freeing up more funds for curriculum, materials, and experiences that matter most to your family.
- **A deeply invested, caring team**
Our staff live and work right here in Interior Alaska, and most of us have been with the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District for 20 years or more. We understand the unique joys and challenges of homeschooling in our region because we're part of this community, too. You'll never feel like a number with BEST; our team is here to listen, support, and walk alongside your family every step of the way.
- **Enrichment that brings learning to life**
From Lego Club and Open Gym to Art Classes, Battle of the Books, Science Olympiad, and field trips, BEST offers hands-on experiences that spark curiosity, build friendships, and make learning joyful.
- **Clarity and trust**
With straightforward allotments, responsive communication, and transparent processes, families can focus on what matters most: supporting their child's growth.
- **Inclusive, welcoming community**
BEST is a non-sectarian program that embraces families from all backgrounds, beliefs, and walks of life. Everyone belongs here.

Fairbanks BEST Staff 2025-2026

Name	Position	Extension	Email
Kara Candelaria	Head Teacher	907-452-2000 X11429	kara.candelaria@k12northstar.org
Liz Alexander	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11201	elizabeth.alexander@k12northstar.org
Sam Barney	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11201	samuel.barney@k12northstar.org
Steve Brown	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11204	steven.brown@k12northstar.org
Robin Feinman	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11292	robin.feinman@k12northstar.org
Elizabeth Hilker	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11230	elizabeth.hilker@k12northstar.org
Stephen Martin	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11405	stephen.martin@k12northstar.org
Ashley Patterson	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11211	ashley.patterson@k12northstar.org
Glenda Richard	Education Specialist	907-452-2000 X11216	glenda.richard@k12northstar.org
Crystal Dennis	Special Education Teacher	907-452-2000 x11208	crystal.dennis@k12northstar.org
Kelly Zerbst	Special Education Clerk	907-452-2000 x11201	kelly.zerbst@k12northstar.org
Roz Sandland	Reimbursements, Allotments	907-452-2000 x11209	roslyn.sandland@k12northstar.org
Joni Jackson	Admissions/Transcript Secretary	907-452-2000 x11275	joni.jackson@k12northstar.org
Carolyn Dobbs	BEST Front Desk Secretary	907-452-2000 x11201	carolyn.dobbs@k12northstar.org
Jamie Jones	Academic Tutor	907-452-2000 x11207	jamie.jones@k12northstar.org
Laurie Beam	Executive Director, Educational Options and Opportunities	907-452-2000 x11452	laurie.beam@k12northstar.org


What BEST Homeschool Offers Students

Fairbanks BEST is an innovative program where the structure of the accredited Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD) meets the creativity and customization of homeschooling. Our mission is to build a collaborative partnership between homeschooling parents and the FNSBSD, providing students with a unique learning experience tailored to their needs, interests, and strengths.

2025-2026 Allotments

Grade Level	Student Funding
K-12	\$3,000
Preschool	\$250*

*Scholarship with an older sibling enrolled in BEST full-time. Students must be 3 or 4 years old by Sept 1.

 **Please note:** To receive the allotment, students must be enrolled in BEST Homeschool and have completed their ILP on or before October 1.

See page 24, purchasing guidelines, for information on how to use your allotment.

Technology

It is recommended that students have the technology (e.g., computers, Wi-Fi, cameras, etc.) needed to support their learning experience. The education specialist can help identify any specific technology needs.

Students can purchase technology equipment (including computers or Chromebooks) and receive a reimbursement from BEST for **up to \$499** from their allotment. Please see the purchasing guidelines for more information.

Additionally, BEST has district Chromebooks for students to check out and use.

The Education Specialist's Role

Each student is assigned to a certified education specialist knowledgeable about various curricula, courses, and resources, as well as BEST policies, FNSBSD, state, graduation, and NCAA requirements. They provide information about applying for college scholarships, qualifying for the Alaska Performance Scholarship, high school internships, and access to skilled trade union apprenticeships. The education specialist is a valuable resource in helping families develop and carry out their Individual Learning Plans and academic goals. Your education specialist is here to serve you and help you every step of the way!

In-Person Classes at Local Schools

BEST students can take up to two classes at their attendance area school at no cost and with no waiting; BEST students are treated the same as a student who attends that school. It is important to request classes before the semester begins. Please be aware that there may not always be availability in a requested class or specific class period. Students can only stay at the school for ONE additional study period, either immediately before or after their scheduled classes. Students are eligible for school breakfast or lunch if enrolled in the course period either immediately before or after lunch

Please discuss this option with your education specialist if you want to enroll in any in-person classes.

Withdrawal From In-Person or eLearning Classes

Students may add/drop classes from their attendance area school and eLearning courses within the first 10 days of the semester with no penalty. Withdrawing or transferring from an eLearning course after the 10th day of the semester requires additional permissions. Students will let their Ed Specialist know if they wish to withdraw from a class so the proper paperwork can be submitted.

👉 Please note: If a student withdraws from an in-person class or an eLearning class after the first 10 days of a semester, a WF (Withdraw Fail) grade may be given.

Athletics and Activities at Local Schools

According to district and state guidelines, BEST students can participate in extracurricular activities at their attendance area school. ASAA rules apply to high school students. See eligibility requirements on page 11 of this handbook. Please refer to the district's [Student Activities Website](#) for more information on all things related to sports and activities, including handbooks, contacts, forms, and more. Also, refer to your specific attendance area school's webpage for sport and activity information and schedules. Students can only participate in sports at their attendance area school (unless eligibility was previously established at a different school). There is no application or extra fees; BEST students pay the same fees as traditional students for travel, gear, etc.

Dances at Local Schools

BEST students are welcome to attend dances and special events at their attendance area schools. We strongly recommend contacting the school in advance if your student plans to attend a dance, so they can be added to the list of approved attendees at the door. Please note that outside guests are typically not permitted at regular school dances. This policy applies to all students, including those enrolled full-time, so be sure to check with the school for specific guidelines.

For ticketed formal events like Junior Prom and Senior Ball, BEST students may purchase tickets and sponsor guests according to the same guidelines and policies as traditionally enrolled students.

👉 Please note: In-person classes are **not** required for sports and activity participation.

Special Activities and Events

Certified educators and local experts partner with BEST to provide superior educational opportunities through classes, mini-courses, and private tutoring. Choices change yearly but typically include field trips to performing arts shows, local attractions, science seminars, and art workshops.

Library Media Services

This program, located on the second floor of the FNSBSD office building on Fifth Avenue, offers an excellent resource of materials available on a check-out basis and numerous online subscriptions. Speak with your education specialist to set up an account to view available materials online or in person, or contact Library Media Services at 452-2000 ext. 11241.

Tutoring

BEST offers free tutoring for our students. Our tutor is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please contact us if your student is struggling with a class assignment or homework or needs assistance reviewing for a test. Call 907-452-2000 x11207 to make an appointment to work with the tutor one-on-one. Additionally, our tutor is available to proctor exams by appointment. Tutoring sessions are limited to two hours per day.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

At BEST Homeschool, we know that strong family partnerships help shape a thriving learning community. Our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) brings together parents and staff to support and guide our program. The PAC offers feedback on curriculum choices, helps shape program direction, and provides input on activities, events, and policy decisions that impact our families.

Meetings are held throughout the year, and we welcome all interested parents to participate. If you're passionate about strengthening the BEST community and want to get involved, please contact our office to learn more at (907) 452-2000 x11201.

Enrollment with Fairbanks BEST Homeschool

Who is Eligible?

Any student residing in the State of Alaska who does not have a high school diploma may apply to enroll. Enrollment is free. FNSBSD accepts enrollment from students who have turned five years old by September 1st and are under 20 years old before the start of the school year.

Grade Level Placement Determination

- Kindergarten students must be at least five years old by September 1st.
- Grade-level placements will be based on the last report card or transcript.
- High school students will be placed according to Class Standings per Policy 983.5.

Grade Level Retention or Acceleration

While there can be situations where grade acceleration or retention could be permitted and justifiable, they are very uncommon. In homeschool education, it is common for students to work above or below their traditional grade level in different subjects based on their individual learning needs. This flexibility is a hallmark of personalized learning and is supported at BEST.

Because of this individualized approach, formal retention or grade acceleration is rarely necessary and is considered only in exceptional cases. Students are placed in a grade level, while their instructional levels may vary across subjects.

Grade acceleration or retention for grades K-8 requires cognitive evaluation and consideration of special factors and must be approved by the Head Teacher per Policy 983.3 and 983.4.

Your education specialist can work with you to find curriculum and enrichment ideas to meet your child exactly where they are at any given time.

Enrollment Dates

Regular enrollment for the upcoming school year will begin in March. Enrollment with an allotment will remain open until October 1.

👉 **Please note:** Late enrollments are not eligible for allotments.

👉 **Please note:** If the student withdraws from BEST before November 1st, the family may need to repay BEST for any portion of the allotment used.

Enrollment Process

Enrollment with BEST is easy and free! Anyone residing in Alaska is welcome to join BEST!

- Visit our [website](#) or contact the BEST office to request enrollment information at (907) 452-2000 ext. 11201

- Complete all ONLINE enrollment forms located on our website at <https://register.k12northstar.org/>
- Upload the required enrollment documents, including immunization records and birth certificates. *Immunization records that meet state requirements or an acceptable waiver must be on file for students to enroll in school.*
- Set up an electronic account through Brightways before meeting with your assigned education specialist. best.brightwayslearning.com
- The student, parent or guardian, and education specialist will collaborate to develop an Individual Learning Plan (ILP). At the ILP meeting, the curriculum and materials will be approved for ordering.

The Individual Learning Plan (ILP)

The parent/guardian and education specialist collaborate to design an Individual Learning Plan for the student. The ILP outlines the courses, goals, and objectives and lists instructional materials and methods to be used throughout the school year for each BEST Homeschool student. *All reimbursements are based on ILP content.* Each full-time student must have a minimum of four core classes.

Amending the ILP

The ILP may be revised during the academic year, depending on the student's needs. Students are responsible for completing the classes listed on their ILP. Students who wish to drop courses from their ILP must promptly contact their education specialist before the end of the first grading period to which the class applies or speak with their education specialist for special consideration.

Academic Eligibility for School Activities and Sports

This section refers to ASAA-sanctioned activities. Full-time BEST students must provide proof of physical residence to determine their attendance-area school for activity purposes. A minimum of **2.5 units of credit per semester (2.0 credits for seniors)** for ASAA-sanctioned activities is required. Some courses do not meet ASAA guidelines, such as Work for Credit. Students must complete all coursework within the semester enrolled, show adequate progress, and earn a minimum GPA to maintain eligibility. Transferring in or out of BEST **may** affect eligibility. [Please see the ASAA website for more information.](#)

If students are participating in ASAA-sanctioned activities, it is the parent/guardian and student's responsibility to ensure grades are up-to-date and students are current in their classes. Schools frequently check for eligibility before all games and travel, as well as before competitions such as All-State Music and Solo and Ensemble, sometimes on the day of the event. If a student is found to be ineligible, they will be denied participation by the school, which is outside of BEST's control.

👉 Please note: Missing or late progress reports will impact a student's ability to participate in activities and sports at the middle and high school levels.

Re-enrollment

To be eligible for re-enrollment for the next school year, students must live within Alaska and be in good standing with BEST. Good standing refers to making adequate progress, submitting grades/progress reports on time, and making regular and consistent contact with your education specialist. Students who move outside Alaska must follow district policy and will not be re-enrolled.

Student Withdrawal

Students withdrawing from Fairbanks BEST will receive a withdrawal grade based on work completed and records submitted per school district policy. Students who withdraw from the program must provide grades and work samples for courses per their Individual Learning Plan. Failure to provide grades and work samples will result in failing grades being placed on the student's transcript.

Students withdrawing before November 1 of the current school year must reimburse FNSBSD for the portion of the educational allotment they have used. Elementary students wishing to transfer to an in-district school may do so at the end of a quarter and after speaking with the education specialist to help provide a smooth transition. High school and middle school students wishing to transfer may do so at the end of the semester. All mid-semester transfer requests must be made to the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools. *(Please refer to AR 972.2, 973.1, 974.1)*

👉 Please note: Students who live or move outside of the State of Alaska are not eligible for enrollment with BEST Homeschool.

Under special circumstances, such as a military-based move (PCS), limited extension periods may be pre-approved as long as the student maintains Alaska residency, maintains monthly contact, and submits progress reports. The extension period will not extend beyond the end of the current semester.

Involuntary Withdrawal

Students must make adequate progress in their content areas as determined by the education specialist. Families may be withdrawn/exited at any time during the year based on any of the following situations:

- An extended period of noncompliance with school requirements.
- Lack of response to contact attempts.
- Lack of adequate progress in courses.
- Failure to turn in the required paperwork.
- Failure to provide progress reports and work samples quarterly.
- Failure to abide by any policies or procedures outlined in the BEST Homeschool Handbook.

Academics

Alaska State Standards

At BEST, we support families in choosing curricula that aligns with Alaska State Standards, which outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. These standards help guide meaningful instruction while still allowing for the flexibility of individualized learning.

Alaska has standards in the following subject areas:

English Language Arts, Math, Science, History, Geography, Government & Citizenship, Skills for a Healthy Life, Physical Education, Arts, World Languages, Technology, Employability, Library/Information Literacy, Cultural Standards, Computer Science, and Digital Literacy.

You can learn more about Alaska's standards and view full descriptions at:

<https://education.alaska.gov/akstandards/>

Pre-Approval for Curriculum

All curricula must be aligned to Alaska state standards and listed in the student's ILP with an education specialist's approval. When necessary, supplemental materials may be needed to ensure all standards are addressed.

Art, Music, & Physical Education

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District will reimburse fine arts and physical education instruction that identifies a specific course of study and where the instructor provides direct instruction that leads to measurable growth.

Faith-Based Curriculum

Faith-based curricula and materials cannot be purchased or reimbursed by BEST. However, parents or guardians may privately obtain textbooks or curriculum material not provided by BEST. Programs like Abeka and others are acceptable, and credit can be awarded for these courses as long as the education specialist reviews the courses, they are included in the ILP, and quarterly work samples are received. At least two courses of the student's core classes must be identified as a non-faith-based curriculum as the primary source of instruction.

Individually-Designed Courses

All individually designed courses in all grade levels require approval from your education specialist. This approval will occur during the planning process of the ILP. The course should be aligned with the Alaska State Standards. Parents/guardians should include the tests, books, and all materials used for the course in the ILP. Education specialists are happy to help parents design courses that align with state standards.

Special Education

Students enrolled in BEST who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for special education may receive their services in a variety of ways, as determined by the IEP team. FNSBSD encourages students to participate in their services at their attendance area school. However, parents/guardians may choose to provide the IEP services themselves in the home setting. Parents and guardians also have the right to revoke or decline consent for special education services altogether. If you suspect that your student may have a disability, please contact your BEST education specialist to discuss your concerns.

NCAA Eligibility for Student-Athletes

If your student is planning to compete in college athletics (Division I or II), it's important to start early to ensure they meet NCAA academic eligibility requirements. The NCAA has specific standards for homeschool students, including course approvals and documentation requirements. BEST Homeschool is the only local homeschool program offering a robust selection of hundreds of NCAA-approved courses through our trusted online providers. We support families in creating compliant four-year academic plans to help student-athletes stay eligible and competitive.

Families should:

- Inform their education specialist early.
- Use NCAA-approved courses for core subjects.
- Understand that parents/guardians and student-athletes are responsible for maintaining records and staying up to date on NCAA requirements.

Our NCAA High School Code is **020287**. You can verify our approved courses at the [NCAA High School Portal](#) by entering our code.

Helpful links:

- [NCAA Eligibility Center](#)
- [NCAA Homeschool Toolkit](#)

Please reach out to your education specialist with questions. We're here to help you navigate the process.

Records/Transcripts

If you are transferring to a new school, your new school will request student records as part of the registration process. Once we have received a "Request for Records," we will forward records to the receiving school. Parents may ask for an unofficial copy of transcripts to take with them if they are moving out of the district.

If you would like to receive an unofficial copy of your transcript, please contact the Enrollment and Records Secretary, Joni Jackson, at 452-2000 x11275 or email your education specialist.

Students who need official transcripts for college admissions, scholarships, or other purposes, can order them through Parchment, our official transcript service, at:

<https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/62371/institution>

AKCIS

The Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) is a free resource for Alaska residents. AKCIS is a comprehensive career guidance system that provides information and career exploration tools for people throughout Alaska. AKCIS provides resources to assist your student to engage in education and career exploration to prepare them to be successful in the workforce. The program helps to identify your student's interests, abilities, and lifestyle goals. Students will build a career portfolio, take career assessments, research career options, find colleges and universities, learn about financial aid, and more. For an [AKCIS login](#), please speak with your educational specialist for more information.

Challenge Exams

Students entering grades 9-12 who are currently enrolled in the FNSBSD may challenge courses for high school credit. This option is designed to allow students to demonstrate mastery through examination. **It is not a process for credit recovery or course retakes.** Students may not take a challenge exam for a course they have previously taken or an exam for a course that has already been challenged.

Students may take up to two separate challenge exams on each testing date. Challenge exams are only available for core courses and some world languages. Please contact the Teaching & Learning department for specific course and challenge options. [Click here to go to the website.](#)

Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS)

The Alaska Performance Scholarship offers up to \$7,000 per year to Alaska high school graduates who meet specific academic criteria and attend an approved Alaska college, university, or vocational/technical program. To qualify, students must complete a designated curriculum, earn a qualifying GPA or standardized test score, graduate from an Alaska high school, and submit the FAFSA by the deadline.

If your student is interested in pursuing the APS, be sure to talk with your education specialist early in your high school career to ensure you're on track with the required coursework and to explore your options.

For full details and eligibility requirements, visit acpe.alaska.gov.

Honors Courses

If you wish to have a course on your child's high school transcript designated as an honors course, it must be taken from an accredited institution.

Advanced Placement (AP®) Courses

BEST students may take Advanced Placement (AP®) courses to challenge themselves academically, prepare for college-level work, and potentially earn college credit. To receive the AP® designation on a high school transcript, the course must be taken through a College Board-approved, accredited institution.

While individually-designed or parent/guardian-graded AP-style courses do not qualify for the official AP® label, they can still provide strong academic rigor and valuable preparation for college.

BEST does not administer AP® exams. Students who plan to take an AP® exam **must** contact their attendance area school early in the fall of the school year in which they are taking the course to arrange testing so the school can order their exam. Students must complete this form in August or September to indicate their intent to take an AP Exam: [AP Exam Pre-Registration Form](#)

Are you interested in taking AP® courses? To explore available courses and exam information, visit: www.collegeboard.com/apstudents
Talk with your education specialist for help selecting AP® courses or finding accredited providers.

Dual High School/College Credit

High school students may be eligible to earn college credit while fulfilling high school requirements through programs such as Alaska Advantage from UAF
<https://ecampus.uaf.edu/advantage/>

Pre-approved courses may be found at: [Pre-approved UAF Outside Credit Courses](#)

College Credit Conversion to High School Credit

The determination of academic college course credit versus high school credit is as follows:

University Credit Hour		High School Level Credit
1 - 2	=	0.5
3 - 4	=	1.0
5 - 6	=	1.5

North Star College

North Star College eligibility is available only to full-time students with a minimum 2.5 GPA. BEST sophomores and juniors will be eligible to apply in the spring. Please see the district website for details regarding the lottery and application dates. If BEST students are accepted to North Star College, they will be transferred to that school and will no longer be students in BEST Homeschool.

FNSBSD Graduation Requirements

Class of 2025	Class of 2026 -2027	Class of 2028 & Beyond
English (4 Credits, 8 Semesters)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English 9 (2 Semesters) ● English 10 (2 Semesters) ● American Lit (1 Semester) ● Other Lit (1 Semester) ● Writing Intensive (1 Semester) ● English Electives (1 Semester) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English 9 (2 Semesters) ● English 10 (2 Semesters) ● American Lit (1 Semester) ● Other Lit (1 Semester) ● Writing Intensive (1 Semester) ● English Electives (1 Semester) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English 9 (2 Semesters) ● English 10 (2 Semesters) ● American Lit (1 Semester) ● Other Lit (1 Semester) ● Writing Intensive (1 Semester) ● English Electives (1 Semester)
Health (0.5 Credits, 1 Semester)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health (1 Semester) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health (1 Semester) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health (1 Semester)
Mathematics (3 Credits, 6 Semesters)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebra 1 (2 Semesters) ● Additional Math (4 Semesters) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebra 1 (2 Semesters) ● Statistics (1 Semester) ● Additional Math (3 Semesters) <p><i>Students must earn 3 credits of math in high school*</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebra 1 (2 Semesters) ● Statistics (1 Semester) ● Additional Math (3 Semesters) <p><i>Students must earn 3 credits of math in high school*</i></p>
PE (1.5 Credits, 3 Semesters)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE (3 Semester) <p><i>Students may earn ¼ credit of the PE requirement for each full season of participation in approved interscholastic or intramural athletic competition to not exceed 1.0 credits.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE (3 Semester) <p><i>Students may earn ¼ credit of the PE requirement for each full season of participation in approved interscholastic or intramural athletic competition to not exceed 1.0 credits.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE (3 Semester) <p><i>Students may earn ¼ credit of the PE requirement for each full season of participation in approved interscholastic or intramural athletic competition to not exceed 1.0 credits.</i></p>
Science (3 Credits, 6 Semesters)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical Science (2 Semesters) ● Biological Science (2 Semesters) ● Additional Science (2 Semesters) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical Science (2 Semesters) ● Biological Science (2 Semesters) ● Additional Science (2 Semesters) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical Science (2 Semesters) ● Life Science (2 Semesters) ● Additional Science (2 Semesters)
Social Students (3.5 Credits, 7 Semesters)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alaska Studies (1 Semester) ● World Studies (2 Semesters) ● U.S. Studies (2 Semesters) ● Government (1 Semester) ● Economics (1 Semester) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alaska Studies (1 Semester) ● World Studies (2 Semesters) ● U.S. Studies (2 Semesters) ● Government (1 Semester) ● Economics (1 Semester) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alaska Studies (1 Semester) ● World Studies (2 Semesters) ● U.S. Studies (2 Semesters) ● Government (1 Semester) ● Economics (1 Semester)
General Electives (7 Credits, 14 Semesters)		
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED: 22.5 Credits		

Program Requirements

Required Assessments

Per Alaska State Law, all public school students must participate in required assessments, including:

- **AK STAR**
 - As a public school, BEST is required to have a 95% participation rate.
 - Grades 3 - 9 will be assessed in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics
 - Grades 5, 8, and 10 will be assessed in Science
 - **What data is collected from AK Star**
 - Basic student information and student assessment scores are reported to the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (DEED). DEED does not collect any sensitive information.
 - Individual student data is not reported publicly. DEED collects and summarizes the data for public reporting purposes.
- **Alaska Developmental Profile (ADP)**
 - Kindergarteners and new 1st graders participate.
 - The Alaska Developmental Profile (ADP) is to be completed for each child entering kindergarten as required by state law as part of the statewide comprehensive system of student assessments.
 - The purpose of the ADP is to identify, record, and summarize the skills and behaviors students demonstrate at the beginning of their kindergarten year based on teacher/parent observations.
- **MAP (Measure of Annual Progress) Grades 3 - 9 (twice a year)**
 - Reading
 - Language
 - Math
- **M-Class**
 - Grades K-3
 - Screenings up to three times per year
 - Screening tool to identify students who may need additional reading instruction support

Quarterly Progress Reports & Work Samples

Parents must submit progress reports (grades) and upload work samples to Brightways Learning at the end of each quarter. Samples must include work from each class listed on the ILP. Samples may not be emailed. If you have problems uploading work samples, please contact your education specialist.

Grade reports serve as the historical record of your student's academic progress and, as such, should be completed promptly. If we do not receive the grade report, BEST is mandated by state law to mark failing grades for the quarter, and no credit will be recorded on the student's transcript. Grading guidelines can be found on Brightways under the Resources tab.

👉 Please note: Progress reports that are not completed on time may result in your reimbursements being paused until they are updated.

Incomplete grades

- An Incomplete (INC) *may* be issued during a quarter if the grade is unavailable.
- An "INC" will be changed to an "F" after 10 days if the grade has not been updated.

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Grading Scale

Kindergarten:

C=Consistent **P**=Progressing **N**=Needs Practice

Grades 1-3:

H=Honors **S**=Satisfactory **N**=Needs Improvement

Grades 4-12:

A	=	90-100%	-Excellent
B	=	80-89%	-Above Average
C	=	70-79%	-Average
D	=	60-69%	-Below Average
F	=	0-59%	-Failing

PE:

Elementary and Middle School: A-F

High School: P/F (unless in a graded, accredited course)

End-of-Quarter Dates for 2025-2026

- **Quarter 1: October 17th, 2025**
- **Quarter 2: December 19th, 2025**
- **Quarter 3: March 6th, 2026**
- **Quarter 4: May 21st, 2026**

Required Monthly Contact

Fairbanks BEST Homeschool requires monthly contact between the parent/guardian and their educational specialist. This contact ensures progress is being made and students have the materials needed for their classes. Contact may take place by telephone, email, in person, or via Zoom.

Academic Honesty

Fairbanks BEST expects all students to demonstrate academic honesty. If a parent or student is found to submit work that is not the student's own, no credit will be given, and the student will receive a failing grade. The expectation is that all work and grades should result from the student's effort and understanding. Parents/guardians should discuss plagiarism at the beginning of each school year and explain the importance of creating and submitting original work.

👉 Please note: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH BEST HOMESCHOOL POLICIES MAY RESULT IN AN ALLOTMENT FREEZE, AND YOUR STUDENT(S) MAY BE WITHDRAWN FROM BEST.

Acellus and Edmentum Grading Guidelines

Please see the charts below for grading guidelines (ONLY for those students using Acellus or Edmentum online courses).

Year-Long Courses

Date	Progress through Acellus	Action to be taken by the teacher
Quarter 1 Midterm Progress	12% or more	No action is needed
	Less than 12%	Alert the parents and provide more monitoring/coaching
End of Quarter 1	20% or more	Acellus grade remains as is
	15% - 19%	Acellus grade is reduced by one letter grade
	10% - 14%	Acellus grade is reduced by two letter grades
	Less than 10%	Acellus grade is reduced to an F
Quarter 2 Midterm Progress	35% or more	No action is needed
	Less than 35%	Alert the parents and provide more monitoring/coaching
End of Quarter 2 (Semester 1)	45% or more	Acellus grade remains as is
	40% - 44%	Acellus grade is reduced by one letter grade
	30% - 39%	Acellus grade is reduced by two letter grades
	Less than 30%	Acellus grade is reduced to an F
Quarter 3 Midterm Progress	60% or more	No action is needed
	Less than 60%	Alert the parents and provide more monitoring/coaching
End of Quarter 3	65% or more	Acellus grade remains as is
	60% - 64%	Acellus grade is reduced by one letter grade
	55% - 59%	Acellus grade is reduced by two letter grades
	Less than 54%	Acellus grade is reduced to an F
Quarter 4 Midterm Progress	85% or more	No action is needed
	Less than 85%	Alert the parents and provide more monitoring/coaching
End of Quarter 4 (Semester 2)	90% or more	Acellus grade remains as is
	85% - 89%	Acellus grade is reduced by one letter grade
	80% - 84%	Acellus grade is reduced by two letter grades
	Less than 80%	Acellus grade is reduced to an F

Semester-long Courses

Date	Progress through Acellus	Action to be taken by the teacher
Quarter Midterm Progress	20% or more	No action is needed
	Less than 20%	Alert the parents and provide more monitoring/coaching.
End of Quarter 1	45% or more	Acellus grade remains as is
	35% - 44%	Acellus grade is reduced by one letter grade
	30% - 34%	Acellus grade is reduced by two letter grades
	Less than 30%	Acellus grade is reduced to an F
Quarter Midterm Progress	70% or more	No action is needed
	Less than 70%	Alert the parents and provide more monitoring/coaching
End of Quarter 2 (Semester)	90% or more	Acellus grade remains as is
	85% - 89%	Acellus grade is reduced by one letter grade
	80% - 84%	Acellus grade is reduced by two letter grades
	Less than 80%	Acellus grade is reduced to an F

Edmentum Grading Guidelines

Target Grade is used for quarter grades. Course Grade is used for final semester grades.

Purchasing Guidelines

All purchases must be justified within the Individual Learning Plan (ILP) and be an economical use of district funds. Excessive spending

Purchase Requests must follow these steps:

- First, discuss the purchase with your education specialist to ensure it is appropriate.
- Complete the Purchase Requisition Form, which can be found on Brightways under the Resources tab, or [click here](#).
- Forward the completed order form to your education specialist at the BEST office.
- Funds are not available until July 1st of the academic year and after your ILP has been approved and signed by both the education specialist and the parent.

Reimbursement for Lessons or Courses must follow these steps:

- First, discuss the purchase with your education specialist to ensure it is appropriate.
- You can purchase the service(s) or course(s) with your money or get approval for a Purchase Order.
- Keep your receipts until they total a minimum amount of \$75.00 for submission to request reimbursement.
- Attach the **original receipt(s)** to the Reimbursement Request Form and submit it to your education specialist.

Supplies/Materials Covered

BEST can pay for a wide range of curricular supplies that are educational in nature and complement the student's goals and Individual Learning Plan. Curricular materials may include textbooks, workbooks, CDs or DVDs of an educational nature, art materials, science kits, general and consumable school supplies, online courses, college courses, community-based learning opportunities, performing arts experiences, computer games of an educational nature, and other materials or resources that meet the student's needs. Please discuss this with your education specialist.

Supplies/ Materials Not Covered

BEST cannot purchase or reimburse for any faith-based curriculum. If you are uncertain whether something may or may not be covered, you are strongly encouraged to consult your education specialist *before* purchasing.

- 4 AAC 33.421 (h) A correspondence study program may not pay for or provide money for services or materials that do not reasonably relate to the delivery of the student's instructional needs (i.e., Repair to any curriculum materials, supplies, or technology)
- 4 AAC 33.422 (d) The fund account may not be used by the district or parent to supplant district funds or obligations for IEP services.

Computer/Technology Reimbursement

Students can purchase their technology equipment and receive reimbursement from BEST for up to \$499 per device per student. For example, if you purchase a laptop for school use and it costs \$899, \$499 from your allotment funds will be reimbursed, which would make your cost for the laptop equal \$400. This technology reimbursement can be used for computers, printers, digital cameras, or other computer equipment with the approval of your education specialist. It is understood that students who purchase computer equipment will own that equipment and assume responsibility for maintaining it. Funds will come out of your student allotment.

Internet Access

BEST will reimburse monthly internet costs while a student is enrolled with BEST if using an online learning program in the ILP. Parents are responsible for finding an internet provider and maintaining connectivity. Funds will come out of the student's allotment.

Reimbursement Procedures

- Familis must have a W9 on file in order to receive a reimbursement. The name on the W9 is the person who will receive the reimbursement payment. [Download W9 here.](#)
- The allotment is not considered income and is not reported to the IRS.
- Discuss the purchase with your education specialist to ensure it is an appropriate purchase and aligned with the ILP.
- Purchase the item(s) using your own money.
- Do not highlight or cross out items on receipts.
- Attach the original, itemized receipt(s) from the vendor to the Request for Reimbursement Form from Brightways under the “Resources” tab or [Click Here](#). Complete the form and submit/email it to your education specialist **and** the BEST administrative secretary, [Roz Sandland](#)
- **Please note:** canceled checks and credit card statements cannot be accepted as receipts.
- If the receipt does not list items, please identify specific titles on a separate sheet of paper.
- **We are not able to reimburse without receipts or receipts that are not legible.**
- **Please be aware: If you are refunded for a dropped class or any other education expenses paid for by your allotment, you will be required to pay that money back to your BEST allotment account.**

Receipt Requirements

- Must be an original receipt, not a copy.
- The vendor’s name must be on the receipt.
- How was it paid? (ie. cash, credit card, or check).
- Date of purchase.
- The receipt needs to be itemized.
- Must show the balance has been paid.
- Credit card statements are not receipts.
- Handwritten receipts have the same requirements.
- Do not highlight or mark through line items.

👉 **Please note:** Please allow a minimum of 4-6 weeks for payment reimbursement.



Any time you are in doubt and have questions about your allotment or any reimbursement procedures, please contact Roslyn Sandland at 452-2000 ext. 11209 or via email at roslyn.sandland@k12northstar.org.

Student Immunizations

Alaska State Law requires that schools receive a current copy of every child's immunization record **before** the first day of school. Please obtain these records and bring a copy to your first meeting or upload them to PowerSchool when completing registration.

These shots should include:

- 4 or 5 DtaP, depending on spacing and age
- 3 or 4 Polio, depending on age
- 3 Hepatitis B
- 2 Hepatitis A
- 2 MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- 2 Varicella (Chicken Pox) required for grades K through 6 only

The Director of Nursing Services will review your child's record to determine if any immunizations are needed.

To attend school, the state requires that all students are appropriately immunized or have a valid medical or religious exemption on file with the school district. All FNSB Schools strictly enforce a "No Shots – No School" policy following state regulations.

Public Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by local, state, or federal law.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in the educational programs or activities in which it operates.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This includes admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs, services, and activities.

Individuals requiring further information should contact the designated compliance director:

Sean Ottoson, Employment and Educational Opportunity Specialist

520 Fifth Avenue,
Third Floor, Suite A
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(907) 452-2000 x11466
Fax (907) 451-6008

[Public Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)

BEST Frequently Asked Questions

How is BEST different from other homeschools?

- BEST offers resources from the second-largest school district in the state.
- Up to two free classes at your neighborhood school with no wait and priority access
- Sports eligibility at attendance-area schools without having to take a class there.
- Access to Library Media's resources, including hundreds of educational kits, books, puppets, and DVDs.
- Free eLearning courses for high school students.
- Discounted Acellus courses for K-12. \$300 for unlimited classes/year.
- Discounted Edmentum Courses for grades 6-12. \$140 for unlimited classes/year.
- Nearly 200 NCAA-approved courses you can take directly through BEST!
- Ability to check out a Chromebook for each student that has [Securly](#) installed to keep students safe online.

How do I get started at BEST?

There are three steps:

1. Register at the district website: <https://www.k12northstar.org/enrollment>.
2. Create an account on Brightways:
<https://best.brightwayslearning.com/programs/1/signups/new>
3. Schedule a telephonic, Zoom, or in-person meeting with an educational specialist.

What are the allotment amounts?

- K-12: \$3,000
- Pre-K with an older sibling enrolled in BEST: \$250
- Pre-K w/IEP approved by the district \$3,000

I have a child who is too young to attend school but participates in some of our family's educational activities. Are there any funds for him/her? Yes.

- Younger siblings of BEST enrolled students who are at least 3 years old may be eligible for a \$250 stipend
- Otherwise, students can enroll with BEST as a kindergartener if they are 5 years old on or before September 1st. Also visit: <https://www.k12northstar.org/kindergarten>

What can I use the allotment for?

- Most purchases can be reimbursed as long as the expense can be linked to the student's Individual Learning Plan (ILP).
- Typical expenses include curriculum, educational apps and games, music lessons, musical instruments, tutoring, sports equipment, sports instruction, lab equipment, educational kits, and museum/zoo entries.

Can I buy a computer with my allotment? Yes.

- BEST reimburses for up to \$499 on any one item (excluding curriculum). The student's family is responsible for making up the difference in the cost of the item.
- This allows the student to become the purchase owner instead of returning it at the year's end.

Can I homeschool and take some classes at my Fairbanks neighborhood school as well? Yes.

- Students may take up to 2 courses for free at their local FNSBSD school if space is available.
- An education specialist will make the arrangements with the school.

How does the allotment work?

- An account is created for each student and/or family at BEST.
- Education Specialists can order curriculum and classes for the student and have the money deducted from the student's account.
- Or, the family can purchase a curriculum or supplies and submit a reimbursement form.
- The remaining balance is displayed on the parent dashboard of the Brightways Learning Account.
- There is no deadline to request reimbursements from your allotment, provided money remains, and your student is still enrolled in BEST.
- Any remaining allotment funds roll over yearly until a student graduates or is no longer enrolled in BEST.

What do I need to submit a request for reimbursement?

- All financial forms are accessible in the Brightways Platform under "Resources."
- You will need a W-9 form on file so BEST can reimburse you.
- Complete an Electronic Funds Transfer form to have reimbursements directly deposited into your bank account.
- Complete the reimbursement form and submit original receipts.
- Allotments are reimbursed by family, so you may combine purchases on the same reimbursement request. Simply put each expense on separate lines of the form.
- Documents and digital copies of receipts can be submitted via email to roslyn.sandland@k12northstar.org.
- You may also mail them to BEST Homeschool, 397 Hamilton Ave, Fairbanks 99701
- BEST mails reimbursement checks and makes EFT deposits directly to the family. The name listed on the W-9 must be either printed on the check or listed on the bank account into which allotment funds are being transferred.

Can I use faith-based curricula? Yes.

- Families can use religious curricula, but a non-religious curriculum must be identified as the primary source of curriculum for at least two core subjects.

- Core subjects are Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science, Technology, and Foreign Language.
- BEST cannot pay or reimburse for any religious materials.

There are so many options! How do I choose a curriculum for my student(s)?

Parents may choose curricula from various sources depending upon age and ability/interests. Most curricula fall into 4 basic categories:

- Online
- Book-based
- Combination of the above
- Enrichment/extracurricular activities

To explore some of the many possible options for a homeschool curriculum, click on the following link: [Curriculum Options with BEST](#)

However, your educational specialist is the best resource for helping you choose a curriculum.

They are familiar with various curricula and will help you select one or more that will work best for your child and you.

What goes in an Individual Learning Plan (ILP)?

Once you start working on putting together your child’s Individual Learning Plan (ILP), please consider the following subjects. Full-time homeschool students must have at least four subjects (including at least two core classes) on their ILP. However, six subjects would be considered best practice. For example, an elementary student’s ILP could include the following subjects.

- English Language Arts (core)
- Math (core)
- Science (core)
- Social Studies (core)
- World Language (optional core)
- Technology (optional core)
- PE/Health; (optional but best practice)
- Art Exploration (optional; this could include music, performing, and visual arts)

I am new to BEST, and I want to get a head start. When can I start summer courses? In July.

- The allotment period begins on July 1st each year. If students want to start before that, they can. They need to have registered with Brightways and the PowerSchool parent portal and be enrolled in BEST to receive allotment funds or a Chromebook.
- Keep receipts of materials and curriculum purchased for future reimbursement.

I am moving out of Fairbanks but am staying in Alaska. Can we enroll? Yes.

- BEST serves all of Alaska. We are a state-wide correspondence program.

I am moving out of state. Can we enroll part-time or full-time? No.

No, BEST cannot enroll students who do not have an Alaska residence and do not reside within the state. We must follow district policy regarding students who move out of state.

My child has an IEP. Are they able to attend BEST Homeschool? Yes.

Yes, your child is welcome to attend BEST Homeschool. Your student's IEP services will be provided at their attendance area school unless more specialized services through district-wide special education programs in a different district-assigned school location are required.

While the school district encourages students to participate in their special education and related services at their attendance area school building, the home educator may choose to deliver some or all of their child's special education and related services themselves. Alternatively, it is always your option to revoke or decline consent for special education.

How would it work if I choose to have my child receive services in their attendance area school building?

You will collaborate with the attendance area school building staff and special education providers to establish a schedule for service delivery. You will be responsible for transporting your child to and from any agreed-upon services.

What are my responsibilities if I choose to deliver IEP services myself?

As the home educator, you will be responsible for attending IEP meetings, planning and providing home instruction, collecting data on your child's progress on IEP goals and objectives, and reporting progress data to BEST's special education advisor on a quarterly basis. The BEST special education advisor will receive and compile progress data you provide into quarterly progress reports.

In regard to special education, what are the responsibilities of BEST Homeschool staff?

If your student is participating in special education services at their neighborhood school the BEST special education advisor can help you begin that process.

If you are choosing to provide home instruction for special education rather than access through a neighborhood school location, the BEST special education advisor will maintain and manage all IEP paperwork. They will conduct special education evaluations and hold eligibility meetings. The BEST special education advisor will schedule and hold annual IEP meetings with the parents, education specialist, district representative, and related service providers (as needed).

There are so many curriculum choices out there. How will I know which homeschool curriculum to choose for my special needs child?

As with any student, BEST's education specialists will meet with families to develop a learning plan. That is a home educator's opportunity to ask questions and get information on appropriate and approved curriculum choices based on a child's individual needs.



2025-26 Academic Calendar

WWW.K12NORTHSTAR.ORG • DISTRICT OFFICE: (907) 452-2000 • 520 FIFTH AVE

JULY

3-4 Schools & District Offices Closed

AUGUST

12 Teacher Work Day (No School)
 13-15 Professional Development (No School)
 18 Teacher Work Day (No School)
 19 **First Day of School**

SEPTEMBER

1 Schools & District Offices Closed
 25-26 Professional Development (No School)

OCTOBER

17 End of 1st Quarter (Early Dismissal)
1st Quarter: 46 Days
 30-31 Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)

NOVEMBER

26 Early Dismissal
 27-28 Schools & District Offices Closed

DECEMBER

17-19 Early Dismissal
 19 End of 2nd Quarter/
 1st Semester
*2nd Quarter: 43 Days
 1st Semester: 89 Days*
 22-31 Winter Break (Schools Closed)
 25-26 District Offices Closed

JULY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 2025						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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31						

SEPTEMBER 2025						
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28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2025						
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28	29	30	31			

JANUARY 2026						
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FEBRUARY 2026						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2026						
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29	30	31				

APRIL 2026						
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26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2026						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JANUARY

1 Schools & District Offices Closed
 1-2 Winter Break (Schools Closed)
 5 Teacher Work Day (No School)
 6 Professional Development (No School)
 19 Schools & District Offices Closed

FEBRUARY

12-13 Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)

MARCH

6 End of 3rd Quarter (Early Dismissal)
3rd Quarter: 43 Days
 9-13 Spring Break (No School)

12-13 District Offices Closed

30 Statewide Testing Window Begins

APRIL

24 No School (Schools Closed)

MAY

1 Early Dismissal
 Statewide Testing Window Ends

19-21 Early Dismissal

21 **Last Day of School**
 End of 4th Quarter/
 2nd Semester
*4th Quarter: 48 Days
 2nd Semester: 91 Days*

22 Teacher Work Day (No School), Tentative Make-Up Day for Inclement Weather

25 Schools and District Offices Closed

26-28 Tentative Make-Up Days for Inclement Weather

NUTRITION SERVICES

(907) 451-1004
 (free & reduced meal application, menus, nutrition, and allergy info)
k12northstar.org/food

TRANSPORTATION

Durham Dispatch - (907) 206-7789
 (drop off/pick up issues, late bus, missed stops, lost items, etc.)
 FNSBSD - (907) 452-2000 ext. 4
 (bus stop, route info)
k12northstar.org/bus

Adopted by School Board: May 21, 2024
 Revised: April 15, 2025

SYMBOL KEY

- District Offices Closed
- Early Dismissal
- No School
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)
- Professional Development (No School)
- Teacher Work Day (No School)
- Testing Window

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is an equal employment and educational opportunity institution, as well as a tobacco and nicotine-free learning and work environment.