

## **Hydaburg City School District Request for Proposals (RFP) For Independent Evaluation for the Safe Climate for Alaska Native Students Grant (SCANS)**

The Hydaburg City School District (HCSD), in partnership with Hoonah City Schools (HCS), and Kake City Schools (KCS) are in the process of implementing The SCANS Project: Safe Climates for Alaska Native Schools. In these three rural Alaskan villages, the populations struggle with cultural disintegration which manifests as unemployment, declining familial connection, very high rates of alcoholism and an epidemic of community drug use. These challenges extend to community schools where it has become to apply appropriate local solutions to supporting students as they navigate educational environments while also managing struggles related to trauma. Developing a positive school climate is key to effectively providing a variety of supports, improving academic results, and engaging in community change efforts.

The SCANS Project proposes to achieve the three following goals through a variety of focused activities that address staff--through professional development and hiring, students--through engaged learning processes such as service learning projects, student voice, and focused curriculum-based lessons, and community--through empowering school-family communication, student contribution and recognition.

- Diminish disruptive behaviors through improved relationships and increased engagement.
- Develop student civic skills such as perseverance, resilience, problem solving and self-regulation.
- Reduce the impact of substance abuse in the community and give students the skills to resist drug use, in particular, opioids.

The SCANS Project proposes that local solutions, developed by educational teams trained in strategies for positive behavior and climate development will result in improved student outcomes. The SCANS Project will provide resources to ensure school level counseling is available to students who are struggling, that creative outlets for music and art are offered, and that systems are put in place to encourage and reward positive behaviors. These systems are exemplified by MTSS/RTI, Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS), and trained teams of educational professionals working together to examine student data, develop strategies, and implement solutions. Additionally, The SCANS Project empowers community engagement through supporting local artists to participate in instruction at the school, sponsoring school and community wide sharing of educational success, and supporting service learning in the community that both lifts up community members while engaging students in processes that enhance connectedness.