

Spring 2026 AK STAR & Science Assessment Results

Dear Petersburg Families and Community,

I am pleased to share some positive results from our Spring 2026 AK STAR assessments. **Petersburg students performed above the State of Alaska median scale score in every tested grade level, grades 3–9, in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. On the Science SBA assessment, Petersburg students also achieved median scale scores above the state average in Grade 8 (634 vs 595) and Grade 10 (589 vs 579).**

A median scale score helps us understand how a group of students performed overall. Think of it as the middle score: half of the students scored above it and half scored below it. Looking at the median allows us to compare the overall performance of Petersburg students directly with students across Alaska.

Petersburg students also showed strong proficiency results across the board. In ELA, our students scored above the state proficiency percentage in five of seven tested grades. In Math, Petersburg students scored above the state average in six of seven tested grades.

Our 8th-grade students had especially strong results. An impressive 67.6% scored Proficient or Advanced in Science (compared with 35.2% statewide) alongside a 634 Science median scale score (+39 points over the state). This group also posted median scale scores above the state in both ELA and Math, with more than 50% of students achieving Proficient or Advanced status across all three tested subjects.

AK STAR Median Scale Score Comparison (ELA & Math)

The median scale score represents the midpoint of tested performance for Petersburg students compared to the State of Alaska average across Grades 3–9.

Grade Level	ELA Petersburg	ELA Alaska State	ELA Diff	Math Petersburg	Math Alaska State	Math Diff
Grade 3	1577	1569	+8	1530	1512	+18
Grade 4	1576	1575	+1	1535	1527	+8
Grade 5	1592	1587	+5	1541	1535	+6
Grade 6	1601	1591	+10	1557	1545	+12
Grade 7	1610	1589	+21	1551	1549	+2
Grade 8	1616	1596	+20	1581	1558	+23
Grade 9	1696	1596	+100	1578	1554	+24

Science SBA Median Scale Score Comparison

Median scale score comparison for the Science Standards Based Assessment across tested grades (Grades 5, 8, and 10).

Grade Level	Petersburg Science Median	Alaska State Science Median	Difference
Grade 5	604	608	-4
Grade 8	634	595	+39
Grade 10	589	579	+10

English Language Arts Proficiency Comparison (% Proficient or Advanced)

Percentage of students scoring Proficient or Advanced in ELA on the Spring 2026 AK STAR.

Grade Level	Petersburg % Proficient	Alaska State % Proficient	Difference
Grade 3	34.2%	28.7%	+5.5%
Grade 4	26.7%	33.7%	-7.0%
Grade 5	33.3%	39.1%	-5.8%
Grade 6	42.1%	35.6%	+6.5%
Grade 7	50.0%	29.5%	+20.5%
Grade 8	51.3%	31.9%	+19.4%
Grade 9	56.3%	31.2%	+25.0%

Mathematics Proficiency Comparison (% Proficient or Advanced)

Percentage of students scoring Proficient or Advanced in Math on the Spring 2026 AK STAR.

Grade Level	Petersburg % Proficient	Alaska State % Proficient	Difference
Grade 3	60.5%	33.7%	+26.9%
Grade 4	43.3%	34.9%	+8.5%
Grade 5	43.6%	39.9%	+3.7%
Grade 6	36.8%	31.7%	+5.2%
Grade 7	32.3%	32.3%	-0.1%
Grade 8	53.8%	33.3%	+20.5%
Grade 9	21.9%	17.9%	+4.0%

Science SBA Proficiency Comparison (% Proficient or Advanced)

Percentage of students scoring Proficient or Advanced on the Spring 2026 Science SBA Assessment.

Grade Level	Petersburg % Proficient	Alaska State % Proficient	Difference
Grade 5	41.0%	44.0%	-3.0%
Grade 8	67.6%	35.2%	+32.4%
Grade 10	40.5%	33.0%	+7.5%

Individual Student Reports & Next Steps

Individual student testing data will be provided directly to parents of elementary students at their upcoming parent-teacher conferences on September 24th and 25th. Assessment reports for middle and high school students who were assessed will be mailed directly to parents.

We encourage parents to talk with their students and their teachers about these assessment results and their student's growth across each subject area. Working together, these conversations help us celebrate achievements and identify areas for continued growth.

Additional information for parents on how to read and interpret individual student reports can be found on the NWEA Family Toolkit:

nwea.org/familytoolkit

Complete statewide AK STAR and Science SBA assessment results can also be accessed through the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/akstar/results>

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robyn Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robyn Taylor M.Ed., Ed.L.

Superintendent