



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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Alaska Public Media To Broadcast PBS Educational Content for Kids Pre-K Through Grade 12 on KAKM TV During School Closure Beginning Monday, March 30

For downloadable artwork, please email [minalaco@alaskapublic.org](mailto:minsalaco@alaskapublic.org)

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA – March 26, 2020 – The **Anchorage School District (ASD)**, the largest district in the state, has announced a plan in partnership with **Alaska Public Media (AKPM)**, Alaska’s PBS station that reaches 83 percent of all Alaskans, to provide for continuity of learning beginning on Monday, March 30.

This measure will provide more than 46,000 local Anchorage School District students educational resources via television in light of recent school closures. The plan is for all students to have access to free educational resources at home provided by the local public media organizations on-air regardless of their broadband access. From 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Alaska Public Media will broadcast on KAKM content specifically targeted to students in Pre-K through grade 12.

“ASD is grateful to Alaska Public Media for its continued commitment to students across Alaska. Their age-appropriate, educational programming provides a great resource to teachers and parents to keep our kids’ minds engaged and learning during this extended school closure,” said Dr. Deena Bishop, ASD Superintendent.

The Anchorage School District offers more than 130 programs and schools spread across nearly 2000 square miles. The District is one of the most diverse in the nation with more than 100 languages spoken by ASD families.

“Education is at the core of the PBS mission. By implementing the power of public media in this way, we assist teachers and students during these unprecedented school closures and mandates for social distancing,” commented Alaska Public Media President and CEO, Ed Ulman.



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“Alaska Public Media connects and informs Alaskans. We are here to serve the educational needs of children and families,” said Stephanie McFadden-Evans, Director of Education and Engagement at Alaska Public Media. “We hope that this tremendous catalog of PBS educational content can be used for distance learning by other Alaska schools.”

According to 2020 Nielsen Data, Alaska Public Media reaches 125,510 television households in the Anchorage, Mat-Su, and the Kenai Peninsula Boroughs. This broadcast service is also seen on KTOO-TV in Juneau and throughout the Southeast, KYUK-TV in Bethel, and it is fed by satellite through the Alaska ARCS system.

“Alaska Public Media is working closely with PBS and the Anchorage School District to program content that matches curriculum needs during the weekday 12-hour block,” Linda Wei, Chief Content Officer at Alaska Public Media said. “One teacher expressed her gratitude with us about PBS for being willing to be so flexible to fit programming to best meet our needs, and for generally making the world a better place.”

- KAKM, Alaska Public Media’s TV channel (7.1, GCI 7 & 657, MTA 7 & 807, Dish 6 & 7, YouTube TV) will air Monday-Friday from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. special programming blocks to serve Pre-K through 12th grade starting March 30. See the current schedules at alaskapublic.org/athomelearning. Each Monday, the next week’s TV schedule will be posted in advance.
- A robust digital toolkit for educators and students will include: standards-aligned PBS video content, associated lesson plans and support materials. PBS LearningMedia materials will be offered in conjunction with the on-air content and will be available online at alaskapublic.pbslearningmedia.org.
- Additional educational programming is on Alaska Public Media’s PBS KIDS 24/7 channel, available on air (7.4, GCI 97, MTA 14, Dish 10, YouTube TV) and online on at pbskids.org/video/livetv.
- Alaska Public Media’s KAKM-TV primetime schedules will remain the same PBS programs and original local content that viewers expect.
- Alaska Public Media content also streams on the free Alaska Public Media app, the PBS Video app (available on Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, the App Store and Google Play), as well as on YouTube TV.
- For updates, follow [@anchorageschooldistrict](https://twitter.com/anchorageschooldistrict) and [@alaskapublic](https://twitter.com/alaskapublic) on social media



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About Alaska Public Media

Alaska Public Media (AKPM) is a shared Public Broadcasting System (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR) member and a 501(c)(3) organization supported in large part by community members, corporate sponsors, foundations, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Committed to meeting the needs of our community and state, AKPM produces and presents news and content that provides lifelong learning opportunities in public affairs, health and leisure, science and nature, economic and social development, civic engagement and world events. AKPM television programming is available free over the air, and through the Alaska Public Media app, accessible on cable and satellite dish, and via connected TV services Android TV, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, and YouTube TV. AKPM provides early education camps and family learning workshops and collaborates with community partners to produce video resources for workforce development. The company is located in Southcentral Alaska and is comprised of KSKA radio, KAKM-TV, Create TV, PBS KIDS 24/7, 360 North, and alaskapublic.org. Alaska Public Media also operates the Statewide News network and a shared television service with KTOO in Juneau and KYUK in Bethel.

About Anchorage School District

Student learning, achievement, and lifelong success are the focus of the Anchorage School District. ASD educates more than 46,000 students through 130 unique programs and schools. One of the top 100 largest school districts in the nation, more than 100 languages are spoken by ASD families. Within the District, families have many academic choices to meet a variety of student needs. Equitable access and opportunity are keys to building a successful learning path for each student. ASD celebrates our differences and is committed to inclusion of all our community's languages, cultures, and perspectives.

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