



Legislative & District Updates

Representative Julie Coulombe - District 11 - Lower Hillside

October 19, 2023

Dear friends and neighbors,

Happy Alaska Day yesterday! October 18th was the 156th anniversary of Alaska becoming a territory of the United States after the formal transfer from Russia. The U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million in March of 1867, although the formal transfer did not officially occur until October of that same year. You can view Governor Dunleavy's Alaska Day proclamation [here](#).

With the change of seasons, we find many of our smallest constituents returning to school. I have been spending time looking for ways that we can support education for all of our students. I have been talking to the principals, administrators and the school district about how we can support them better. Further down in this newsletter is a look at all the wonderful things we have noticed!

I continue to stay busy with my work on the [Alaska Postsecondary Education Commission](#), the [Governor's Task Force on Child Care](#), the [Behavioral Health Roadmap Steering Committee](#), and the multiple tours and site visits of the State's infrastructure, facilities, agencies and organizations. I am constantly learning how our systems work and function together, and what I, as a member of the [Legislature](#), can do to help improve our state.

I will be hosting a "Coffee with Coulombe" event on Saturday, October 28th! Please join me from 8:00-10:00 am at SteamDot's [10950 O'Malley Centre, Suite E](#) location. I would love to chat with you!

Continue reading for information on events occurring around our [city and district](#), and [take a moment to take my District 11 Constituent Survey by scanning the QR code below!](#) I will be walking the district a lot this interim and hope to hear from you on issues important to you.

If you have comments or questions, you can always call me at (907) 269-0222, or email me at rep.julie.coulombe@akleg.gov. You can also follow me on [Facebook](#) or [X](#) - I look forward to hearing from you!

Best,

Representative Julie Coulombe
[House District 11](#)

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email him at gov.alaska.gov

Visit the state website:

www.alaska.gov

Track Legislation:

www.AKLeg.gov

Committee Membership

Chair: (H) Administration
(Fin Sub)

Chair: (H) Public Safety
(Fin Sub)

Chair: (H) Education and
Early Development (Fin
Sub)

Member: (H) Finance

Member: (H) University of
Alaska (Fin Sub)

Boards and Commissions

Governor's Task Force on
Child Care

State Council for Interstate
Adult and Juvenile
Offenders Supervision

GO COUGARS!



[Service High School](#) Boy's Basketball Coach Jocquis Sconiers and his starters visited me at the office last week. I can't wait to watch and cheer on these outstanding young men and their teammates this season! I toured the high school last February, and look forward to meeting with the administration and teachers again soon.

Alaska Vocational Technical Center Tour



The Alaska Vocational Technical Center ([AVTEC](#)) is a vocational training center in Seward, operated by the [Department of Labor and Workforce Development](#). The program duration is 90-180 days and during that time students with no work experience,

[Alaska Commission on
Postsecondary Education](#)

[Behavioral Health
RoadMap Steering
Committee](#)

[Community Councils &
HALO](#)

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President: Bruce Roberts
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President: Carmela
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[Huffman/O'Malley](#)
President: Gretchen
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[HALO](#)
President: Katie Nolan
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employability or technical skills advance to entry level work and beyond in the **oil and gas, business and health care, mining, marine transportation, tourism and hospitality** industries. Students who complete training enter the workforce, the military, or an apprenticeship program.

Chugach Electric Site Visit



I toured the plant in late September and learned so much about the services [Chugach Electric Association](#) provides to Southcentral Alaska and the power grid. If you are interested in participating in a webinar on October 26th to learn how to monitor and manage your electric use, and to get information on resources and incentive program, you can register [HERE](#).

COFFEE WITH
COULOMBE

*Coffee
Meet*



October 28, 2023
8AM-10AM
SteamDot Coffee & Espresso Lab
10950 O'Malley Centre D

Come grab coffee
and chat with Julie

Constituent Event!

Please join me for
coffee Saturday,
October 28th at
[SteamDot Coffee &
Espresso Lab](#).

I would love to hear
from you and talk about
what policymakers can
do to help Alaskans!

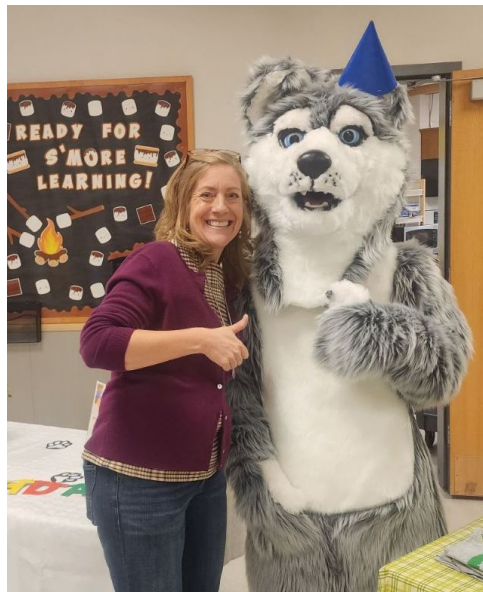




[O'Malley Elementary](#) is a unique school in that it provides a French immersion program in our district! I thoroughly enjoyed all the positive energy from the teachers and students. Principal Galloway, the teachers, and support staff are doing an amazing job!



Who goes to school to party? I do! [Huffman Elementary School](#) celebrated fifty years of educating students. It was so fun to talk to former principals and current Principal Molly Hickox share the history and learn from students about their education experience.



[Hanshew Middle School](#) is the only public middle school in the district. I was able to

visit some classrooms on a tour led by a student ambassador. It was great to hear Principal Dr. Nikki Hodge's thoughts on how she is excited to welcome the sixth graders next year and partner with the parents.

Beginning next school year, middle schools across the district will absorb the 6th graders currently attending elementary schools. For more information, visit [ASD's](#) website.



[Spring Hill Elementary School](#) just had their fall festival last Friday, and the principal, Lena Brower, was so excited and pleased at how well the parents and community were involved. It is great to have schools in our district that are providing such great community outreach.



Anchorage is the home to our [Chugach School District's](#) residential Voyage School where students spend 2-4 weeks studying intensive career paths that help them develop themselves, personally, academically, and socially. Current phases being offered include, culinary training, ETT certification, construction trades, outdoor leadership, and private pilot training.



The principal of [Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School](#), Kathy Gustafson, was thrilled to show off her beautiful, engaging classrooms and share with me how this school provides a more traditional approach to learning. Each teacher that I met was excited to share with us why they loved to teach.



Principal Laurie Hoefler gave me a wonderful tour of how they [Pacific Northern Academy](#) is contributing to our community with their unique approach to learning as a group. They also provide a robust licensed childcare to help families be able to secure a safe environment for all ages.





I toured [William L. Bowman Elementary School](#) with ASD [School Board member Kelly Lessens](#), and was impressed with the fact that they are almost 100% fully staffed, which makes a huge difference for our kids' learning!

It was great to hear their principal Patrick Freeman tell us how this large school is serving our community. This is our largest elementary school that provides lots of services such as Special Education, Pre-K, and the optional 5-6 program.



The [Alaska Military Youth Academy](#) hosted a legislative luncheon and tour of their facilities last month. This state-operated program is outstanding for students who may need some more structure and direction. Their results are also amongst the best in our state. AMYA partners with youth ages 16-18 to develop self-confidence, discipline, leadership skills, and life coping skills to assist youth with their academic and future success.

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

SNOW SUMMIT 2023

On Friday, October 20th, Alaska DOT&PF will be hosting the first Snow Summit. This gathering is intended to bring together winter maintenance stakeholders from across Anchorage and around the state to share and discuss snow strategies, coordination, and planning. Holding this snow summit will allow all stakeholders to enter the 2023/2024 winter season with mutual coordination and partnering toward improvements. The summit is from 9:00am-4:00pm at the Atwood Building. [RSVP here.](#)

Presentations and conversations planned:

- Keeping Alaska Winter Roads Clear - Road Priorities (DOT&PF)
- Winter Maintenance Priorities for Sidewalks & Paths (Jackson Fox, FAST Planning)
- Designing Complete Streets for Northern Climates (DOT&PF)
- 511 Innovations and RWIS (DOT&PF)
- Winter Snow Removal Operations (DOT&PF)
- Extreme Events - how DOT&PF responds (DOT&PF)

- Avalanche Innovations (drones) and Protocols (DOT&PF)
- Seasonal and Ice Road, From Manuals to Miles of New Road (Billy Conner, UAF Artic Infrastructure Development Center)
- Snowtrails: Snowmachine Grant Program (DOT&PF)
- Innovations: Winter Operations Dashboard and, Mobile RWIS (DOT&PF)
- Contest: Name a Plow (DOT&PF)
- Denali Award Presentation (DOT&PF)



In this homage to the famous longtime Alaskan senator, the audience is taken on a journey through his pivotal life moments. The play examines the reputation, as well as the rise and fall of Senator Ted Stevens, told by the man himself. A world premiere play written by Senator Gary Stevens and directed by Kalli Denali Randall.



Thank you to Gretchen Stoddard for inviting me to see this inspiring play!

You can see it at [Cyrano's Theatre Company](https://www.cyranotheatre.com) until October 22nd.



The event brought together community leaders, teachers, administrators, advocates,

I attended the Anchorage School District's Community Convening at the University of Alaska's [Alaska Airlines Center](#) last week.

private and business sector folks, and elected officials to talk about career readiness and what the [Anchorage School District](#) plans to implement to help our students succeed after graduation.

The ASD is implementing [Academies of Anchorage](#) to better prepare students for a career path that suits them. They are partnering with private and federal entities to assist with this project.



District 11 Constituent Survey!

If you live in House District 11, I want to hear from you! Please take a few minutes to fill out the questionnaire and let me know what is important to you!

[If the QR code doesn't work for you, please click here!](#)

HALO and Community Council Schedule

The [Abbott Loop Community Council](#) generally meets on the last Thursday of each month and the meetings usually run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please check the schedule on the web page.

The [Hillside Community Council](#) generally meets on the first Wednesday of each month and the meetings usually run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please check the schedule on the web page.

The [Huffman / O'Malley Community Council](#) generally meets on the third Thursday of each month and the meetings usually start at 7:00 p.m. Please check the schedule on the web page.

[HALO](#) generally meets on the first Thursday of each month and the meetings usually start at 7:00 p.m. Please check the schedule on the web page.

[Send Us A Message](#)



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