

Charles Brent Abolafia

Principal & Curriculum Designer

Highly innovative professional with extensive experience advancing learning and development through instructional coaching, curriculum design, and effective education service management. Renowned for integrating innovative teaching methodologies and technologies to enhance educational delivery and outcomes.

Adept at fostering and designing systems for school districts, fostering collaborative learning environments, and driving continuous improvement in teaching practices to drive significant advancements in student engagement and educator professional growth. Instrumental in orchestrating the learning management systems deployment, such as Canvas and Moodle, streamlining educational delivery, enhancing the digital competency of educators, and improving the school's online learning infrastructure. Track record of formulating education/mentorship programs adopted by multiple schools, pioneering professional development initiatives, improvising teaching methodologies, and maximizing student engagement. A solid history of designing engaging curricula with multimedia resources, nurturing students' learning experiences for complex subjects, and promoting cultural awareness, sensitivity, and community involvement in educational processes.

Areas of Expertise

- Instructional Coaching
- Curriculum Design & Implementation
- Learning Management Systems
- Professional Development
- Teacher Evaluation & Feedback
- Educational Technology Implementation
- Administrative Management
- Learning Infrastructure Improvement
- Education Program Development
- Student Engagement & Learning
- Mentorship Program Development
- Team Building & Leadership

Educational Background

Master of Education: Educational Leadership, University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, AK (Completion date - 5/2024)

Bachelor of Arts: Secondary Social Science Education, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

Associate of Arts: Associates Business Administration, Florida Community College, Jacksonville, FL, 1990

Principal Certification: Alaska, Type B (Temporary)

Teacher Certification: Alaska, Type A, 6-12 Endorsement

Professional Experience

Bethel Regional High School
Assistant Principal/Principal Intern

2023 - Current

Facilitate professional development workshops to enhance instructional practices and foster a collaborative learning environment. Conduct comprehensive teacher evaluations using district-specific protocols, contributing to educators' professional growth. Engage in special education, disciplinary procedures, and recruitment efforts to ensure a well-rounded educational team. Guide instructional staff through goal-setting and reflective practices to promote effective teaching strategies and positive student outcomes.

- ▣ Spearheaded the development and implementation of a pioneering Behavior Policy, significantly enhancing Social and Emotional Learning supports for students within the school community.
- ▣ Demonstrated exceptional leadership in fostering a collaborative educational environment, uniting staff and stakeholders towards a cohesive and supportive framework.
- ▣ Efficiently managed resources and budget allocations, ensuring optimal utilization for educational advancements.
- ▣ Accumulated over 270 hours of hands-on administrative experience in a high school setting, reinforcing a robust connection between school operations and community engagement.

Lower Kuskokwim School District

2020 — 2023

Education Specialist | Canvas LMS Administrator | Data Analyst for Student Success | Alaska Certified Facilitator | Instructional Coach | K-8 District Science Lead Teacher | Moodle LMS Team | Canvas LMS Project Manager

Developed comprehensive education programs to enhance teaching methodologies and improve student outcomes. Delivered professional development sessions to educators and administrative staff, fostering a culture of continuous learning and skill advancement. Cultivated a collaborative environment within the school district by promoting goal-setting, open communication, and collective problem-solving. Designed and implemented systems to streamline administrative processes and support instructional goals. Assessed and integrated innovative solutions based on reflective practices to drive educational excellence.

- ▣ Designed and led professional development initiatives that resulted in enhanced instructional strategies district-wide.

- ▣ Developed and executed programs that addressed diverse educational needs and improved student engagement.
- ▣ Fostered a community of collaboration, leading to a more cohesive and supportive educational environment.
- ▣ Designed interactive online courses for high school students across remote locations, utilizing online learning technology.
- ▣ Delivered an Introduction to Teaching course using Canvas, enhancing the digital competency of educators.
- ▣ Facilitated the onboarding process for Moodle, improving the school's online learning infrastructure.

Anchorage School District, Chugiak, AK

2019 - 2020

9th Grade Alaska Studies | 10th Grade Seminar World History | 11th Grade American History | 9th Grade Class Sponsor

Developed engaging curriculum focused on Alaska's history, culture, and environment. Facilitated interactive classroom discussions to deepen students' understanding of Alaskan heritage. Constructed a chronological study of American history, emphasizing key figures and milestones. Promoted analytical skills through primary source analysis and historical interpretation.

- ▣ Integrated multimedia resources to enhance learning experiences.
- ▣ Designed comprehensive lesson plans covering significant global historical events.
- ▣ Fostered a collaborative learning environment for exploring diverse cultures and societies.

Anchorage School District, Anchorage, AK

2017 - 2019

K-12 Social Studies Coordinator

Directed the evolution of the K-12 social studies curriculum in line with state standards and pedagogical excellence. Spearheaded collaborative efforts with educators across various grades to weave interdisciplinary methodologies into the social studies framework. Led professional development seminars aimed at equipping teachers with cutting-edge instructional strategies specific to social studies. Managed departmental functions with a keen focus on upholding educational norms and achieving district goals. Emphasized community outreach and collaboration, fostering partnerships that enriched the curriculum with real-world perspectives and community engagement initiatives.

- ▣ Advocated for the inclusion of diverse perspectives in the social studies curriculum, promoting cultural awareness and sensitivity.
- ▣ Championed curricular reforms to inclusively represent the diverse histories and cultures of the student population, enriching educational content and fostering a broader understanding among students.
- ▣ Orchestrated and directed professional development programs, achieving district-wide improvements in instructional methodologies through strategic budget management and resource allocation.
- ▣ Cultivated a vibrant community of collaboration, significantly strengthening the educational environment by promoting unity and support among educators, students, and the wider community through targeted outreach initiatives and partnerships.
- ▣ Organized annual social studies fairs to showcase student projects and research, fostering community engagement with students' work.
- ▣ Implemented assessment strategies to measure student understanding and application of social studies concepts.
- ▣ Served as the district representative in state-level educational committees focused on social studies education reform and innovation.

Lower Kuskokwim School District, Bethel, AK

2008 - 2017

K-12 Social Studies Specialist | Distance Delivery Teacher (VTC) HS US History, US Government, World History, Economics and Tribal Government | Summer LKSD Student Culinary Arts Coordinator | Multiple Curriculum Reviews in Social Studies

Developed culturally responsive social studies curriculum tailored to the unique demographics of the Lower Kuskokwim School District. Facilitated district-wide professional development sessions on effective social studies instruction and content integration. Collaborated with indigenous communities to incorporate local history and perspectives into the K-12 curriculum. Led professional development sessions, equipping educators with the tools for effective instruction and leadership.

- ▣ Designed and led professional development initiatives that resulted in enhanced instructional strategies district-wide.
- ▣ Facilitated collaborative workshops that resulted in the implementation of new teaching methodologies.
- ▣ Orchestrated a training and mentorship program for "new" to the district teachers, providing guidance and resources for effective teaching.
- ▣ Managed cross-functional teams to develop and revise district-wide educational policies.
- ▣ Designed interactive online courses for high school students across remote locations, utilizing video conferencing technology.
- ▣ Adapted teaching strategies to meet the diverse needs of distance learners, ensuring equitable access to high-quality education.
- ▣ Organized summer culinary arts programs for students, emphasizing nutrition, local ingredients, and traditional cooking methods.
- ▣ Recommended curricular adaptations to better reflect the diverse histories and cultures represented within the student population.
- ▣ Implemented innovative social studies curriculum enhancements, incorporating project-based learning to engage students.

Professional Training & Development

2023 - Big Data for Education (Harvard Online, 4/2023)

2021 - Canvas Essential Implementation

2021 - Google Educators Certification
2020 - 4Cs of Digital Learning (Anchorage, AK)
2020 - Strategies to Intensify Instruction (Anchorage, AK)
2019 - Paideia Seminar Introduction and Advanced Hybrid Workshop (Chugiak, AK)
2019 – Adaptive Schools (Anchorage, AK)
2017 – Gilder Lehrman Workshop – “Literacy Through History: World War I” – (Anchorage, AK)
2016 – Foundation for Teaching Economics “Economics for Leaders (Seattle, WA)
2015 – Powerful and Authentic Social Studies Institute (PASS) (Santa Clara University)
2013 – CORE Literacy Training (Bethel, AK)
2012 - Dual Language Trainer of Trainers Institute (Anchorage, AK)
2010 – 11 Alaska Statewide Mentor Project – Academies 1-8
2010 - Curriculum Mapping Institute – Atlas Rubicon (Portland, OR)
2009 -10 EED Curriculum Alignment Institute (Anchorage, AK)
2009 –Library of Congress - Facilitators’ training for teaching with primary sources
2008 – Teacher’s Curriculum Institute Workshop - District implementation and training
2008 – 17 National Social Studies Supervisors Association annual national conference
2006 and 2009 – National Council for the Social Studies annual national conference
2006 – James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation – “Institute on the Constitution” at Georgetown University (Washington, DC)
2005 – Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History – “Lincoln” (Gettysburg, PA)
2005 – “Educating on Law and Democracy” (Fairbanks, AK)
2005 – “Teaching About Controversial Issues” (Fairbanks, AK)
2004 – National Endowment for the Humanities “Landmarks in American History” – “Remembering Pearl Harbor: History, Memory and Memorial” (Honolulu, HI)
2004 - National Endowment for the Humanities “Landmarks in American History” – “The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson, and America 1801-1861” (Murfreesboro, TN)
2004 – National Endowment for the Humanities “Landmarks in American History”- “Spanish St. Augustine: Between Columbus and Jamestown” (St. Augustine, FL)
2004 - National Endowment for the Humanities “Landmarks in American History” – “A View from Mount Vernon” (Alexandria, VA)
2004 - Alaska Advanced Placement Institute for U.S. History (Fairbanks, AK)
2003 – Literacy Institute (Fairbanks, AK)
2003 – Reinventing Schools Initiative (Bethel, AK)
2002 – Standards Based Schools Institute (Valdez, AK)
2002 - Creating Independence Through Student-Owned Strategies (CRISS) training (Tampa, FL)

Professional Affiliations

Alaska Council for the Social Studies, 2011 to present

Honors & Awards

Nominated for the ASD School Business Partnership Educator of Tomorrow Award, 2018

Alaska Council for the Social Studies President, 2016 – 2020

Bethel Advisory School Board (Elected Position), 2012-16

Alaska Council for the Social Studies Secretary, 2011-16

National Social Studies Supervisors Association, Mel Ott Leadership Award Nominee, 2009

Commencement Speaker for Bethel Regional High School, 2009

Lower Kuskokwim School District Social Studies Curriculum Committee, 2006 - 2008

Senior Fellow for the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, 2005

Lifetime Fellow of the East-West Center, University of Hawaii, 2004