

BP 3522 District Data Protection Program (Board Policy)
AR 3522 District Data Protection Program (supporting Administrative Regulation)

The Data Protection Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulation (AR) were created through a joint effort between AASB (Association of Alaska School Boards) and the Alaska Schools Data Protection Working Group.

AASB put together a task force that included the AASB Executive Director, various Superintendents, ALASBO (Alaska Association of School Business Officials), and various school business officials to revise all BP/ARs in Article 3 Business and Noninstructional Operations. This group then realized the need to create a new model policy that addressed Data Protection. The AASB task force developed a draft model BP and AR that primarily originated from the Mat-Su Borough School District (MSBSD) Information Security Program's BP & AR due to their successful data protection implementations and refinements.

At the same time, Alaska School Technology Directors recognized the hole in school operations and policies and began a working group to address the issue. The Alaska Schools Data Protection Working Group was then created to incorporate the knowledge and needs of large-small, rural-urban school Districts across the State by continuing to build on the foundation of the successful Information Security Program at MSBSD and make a final product accessible to all districts regardless of size, staffing, budget or location.

The working group (see contacts below) is ongoing and comprised of:

1. Four Alaskan technology administrators representing large/small, remote/urban School districts
 - a. 2 Technology Directors
 - b. A cyber-security officer of one of Alaska's largest Districts
 - c. A MSBSD Technology Program manager who helped create, refine, and is still currently using the original BP/AR
2. A cybersecurity expert with 30 years of experience at the State and Federal Government levels
3. An ALASBO Director with 30 years of experience in the State

The working group reached out to AASB to see if any work on Data Protection had ever been done. At this point, AASB and the working group joined forces.

The working group used the drafts that AASB had created from MSBSD and combed through them to improve and refine them more. The working group then took the drafts to Alaska School District Technology Directors and asked for input. Written and verbal feedback was received from everyone from Anchorage School District to our small and more remote districts.

Final drafts of the BP/AR were then passed back to AASB for the last review.

AASB released the model BP-3522 and AR-3522 in May 2022 as a courtesy to all Alaskan school districts. The collaboration between AASB, the working group, and the Alaska Technology Directors made these working model documents possible to protect the data of Alaskan students and educators.

RESOURCES for DISTRICTS:

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

(CISA) <https://www.cisa.gov/audiences/educational-institutions>

CISA is the Nation's risk advisor, working with partners to defend against today's threats and collaborating to build more secure and resilient infrastructure for the future.

- Information / Threat Indicator Sharing
- Cybersecurity Training and Awareness
- Cyber Exercises and "Playbooks"
- National Cyber Awareness System
- Vulnerability Notes Database
- Information Products and Recommended Practices
- Cybersecurity Evaluations

Alaska Schools Data Protection Working Group

The Alaska Schools Data Protection Working Group is a standing committee committed to refreshing data protection content in an ever-changing cyber security environment.

Contact information is provided should a District have questions, concerns, or need support:

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