

# CONCLUSION



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As evidenced in the Alaska School Broadband Audit report, technology needs among schools are great and the capacity needed for even adequate levels of service is on the rise. With a large majority of schools falling behind the E-rate's long-term benchmark of 1000 Kbps per student and staff, Alaska must make strides to improve the quality of broadband access for its educational institutions.

Accordingly, the state's K-12 public school students need commitment from state and local leaders and educators to take strong action toward improving the broadband capacity, speeds, and costs of the technology students require to ensure even the most remote of villages are connected to world-class educational content. As Connect Alaska learned from Audit travels, interviews, and research, school districts are dedicated to utilizing what technology they do have to guarantee quality learning, however, often schools are facing slow speeds, poor latency, high costs of service, and out-of-date equipment. Through improved funding, research, and E-rate support, Alaska schools can offer students better connectivity and digital learning opportunity helping to close the digital divide across the state.

As discussed above, the complete results, data, and findings of this Audit are publicly available at [www.akbroadbandaudit.org](http://www.akbroadbandaudit.org). These data and findings will be available for the public to review, use, study, and compare. These data and findings do not belong to Connect Alaska, but rather to the educators and school IT staff who filled out forms, answered phone calls, and patiently explained their challenges. These data and findings belong to the network engineers who crossed the state, to visit every school district and who took the time to understand the unique challenge each district faces. And most importantly, these data findings belong to the people of Alaska, who send their children to school every day, in the hope that they will get the best education possible.