Frequently Asked Questions About the
Alaska Digital Literacy Standards

Q: What *is* digital literacy?

A: Digital literacy refers to an individual's ability to find, evaluate, and compose clear information through writing and other mediums on various digital platforms. It is an essential skill for all 21st Century students.

Q: Why does Alaska need digital literacy standards?

A: The *Alaska Digital Literacy Standards* provide a framework for leveraging technology tools for learning and participating in a digital society. Every student in Alaska needs to know how to use and interact with digital technology in a responsible and productive manner. The new standards help students understand the benefits and drawbacks of technology, how to maximize its use in constructing knowledge, and how to promote collaboration and communication using technology.

Q: How were these standards developed?

A: The *Alaska Digital Literacy Standards* are based on the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) student standards (2016 edition). K-12 educators from around the state, institutions of higher education, as well as industry were engaged as part of the standards creation process.

Q: Was there an opportunity for the general public to submit feedback on the standards during the development process?

A: Yes. The *Alaska Digital Literacy Standards* had a public feedback period prior to their finalization. The standards were made available via the State Board of Education's website. Public comment and feedback was gathered from direct emails, in writing, and via oral testimony. In addition to the public feedback, teachers, scientific and educator organizations, higher education faculty, scientists, and business community members reviewed drafts at specific intervals.