

# 10 Assets with “Alaskanized” definitions

The ideas laid out in the pages of *Helping Kids Succeed – Alaskan Style* were chosen from over 4,000 examples offered by people from 114 communities throughout Alaska. They came from workshops, retreats and interviews from regions all across the state. We intentionally asked for and incorporated examples from Alaska Native communities. Additionally, we sought out the wisdom of Elders and rural village residents to better understand how each asset might be defined, traditionally. As a result, 10 of the assets were slightly modified, from the Search Institute definition.

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**Asset #5. Caring school climate:** School provides a caring, encouraging environment.  
*Traditional Ways* definition: “School provides a caring, encouraging environment that respects the community’s culture.”

*Asset Category: Support*

**Asset #6. Parent involvement in school:** Parents are actively involved in helping child succeed in school.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Parents and community members are actively involved in helping child succeed in school.”

*Asset Category: Support*

**Asset #11. Family boundaries:** Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors youth’s whereabouts.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Family has clear rules, roles, and consequences, and monitors youth’s whereabouts.”

*Asset Category: Boundaries and Expectations*

**Asset #13. Neighborhood boundaries:** Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring youth’s whereabouts.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Community shares the responsibility for the safety and well-being of the children.”

*Asset Category: Boundaries and Expectations*

**Asset #16. High expectations:** Parents and teachers encourage youth to do well.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Parents, community members and teachers encourage youth to do well.”

*Asset Category: Boundaries and Expectations*

**Asset #20. Time at home:** Youth is out with friends “with nothing special to do” two or fewer nights per week.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Child chooses to spend quality time at home.”

*Asset Category: Constructive Use of Time*

**Asset #27. Equality and social justice:** Youth places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Youth respects self and others; places high value on sharing and cooperation.”

*Asset Category: Positive Values*

**Asset #28. Integrity:** Youth acts on convictions and stands up for beliefs.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Youth stands firm and acts on his or her beliefs, as well as respects others beliefs.”

*Asset Category: Positive Values*

**Asset #34. Cultural competence:** Youth knows and is comfortable with people of different cultural, racial, and ethnic backgrounds.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Youth has knowledge of own and other cultures, and feels comfortable with people from other backgrounds.”

*Asset Category: Social Skills*

**Asset #38. Self-esteem:** Youth reports having high self-esteem.

*Traditional Ways* definition: “Youth feels a connection to family and culture and has knowledge and pride of customs and traditional ways.”

*Asset Category: Positive Identity*