



Welcome!

December 4, 2014

It is truly my pleasure to welcome you to Alaska's annual CEFPI conference. The planning committee has developed a diverse program and trade show that will appeal to our varied statewide interests in school facilities. As you review the schedule, you will find a range of relevant issues from new policies at the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, to design topics such as award winning Trillium Creek Primary School, to technical mechanical/electrical topics. We are fortunate to have several sessions that will be led by educators who are certain to inspire us and help us better understand what happens day to day in the facilities we create and care for. We will hear about several exciting educational programs in our schools, and have the unique opportunity of a guided tour of the new UAA Alaska Airlines Sports Arena.

A special thanks goes to the Anchorage School District and to King Career Center for again allowing us the use of their school facility. It's more than a venue – it reminds us firsthand of the work we do, and why we do it. Please be aware that school is in session during much of our conference, and be cautious to observe pedestrians in the parking areas.

There are many people to thank for developing this year's conference. Rather than listing names and identifying specific tasks, I prefer to say it this way: Thank you for enriching my life by sharing your time and your talents as we developed this conference. Thank you to every individual, firm, and school district who paid to attend, volunteered to make a presentation, participated in our trade show, or donated to our chapter to support what we do.

If you have not yet taken the opportunity to work with your CEFPI colleagues to plan a conference, serve on the Board, or work on a special project, I sincerely urge you to give it a try. I will not deny that it takes some work – it requires creative thinking, patience, and follow through. But, it is through meaningful engagement with others that we grow – personally and professionally. Hey, isn't that what we tell our kids? Step forward to serve. You won't regret it!

I hope that your holiday season is joyously memorable, and that the coming New Year is prosperous for business, family, and community. Enjoy the Conference!

Warm Regards,

Catherine Fritz
President, Alaska Chapter CEFPI