
From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 8:22 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Twyla G Mundy

Your Email: tmundy66@gmail.com

Subject: Full funding for education

Message:

Our teachers and students need to be supported to the maximum amount!!!
Public education should be our number one priority!!! Unfortunately our State legislature is being held hostage by our misguided Governor!!!

Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Response to conflict of interest opinion.
Attachments: Conflict_Response_Derkevorkian_Opinion (2).pdf

From: Richard <derkevrs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 12:16 PM
To: Baisden, James <jbaisden@kpb.us>; Tunseth, Ryan <rtunseth@kpb.us>; Ribbens, Peter <pribbens@kpb.us>; Morton, Leslie <lmorton@kpb.us>; Ecklund, Cindy <CEcklund@kpb.us>; Johnson, Brent <bjohnson@kpb.us>; Cooper, Kelly <kcooper@kpb.us>; Dunne, William <wdunne@kpb.us>; Mayor Peter Micciche <pmicciche@kpb.us>; G_Notify_AssemblyClerk <G_Notify_AssemblyClerk@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Response to conflict of interest opinion.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I disagree with legal's opinion of Tyson's conflict and have attached some of my thoughts against that email.

I hope that you all do the right thing for public perception and don't allow him to vote on funding the school district.

Richard Derkevorkian
(907)398-6256

Response to Borough Legal Department's Conflict of Interest Opinion

Date: May 14, 2025

NOTE: The views expressed in this document represent the personal opinion of the undersigned and are not legal conclusions.

To: Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly and Mayor Peter Micciche

Subject: Response to Borough Legal Department's Conflict of Interest Opinion - Assembly Member Voting on School Funding While Spouse Serves on Teachers' Union Executive Board

Dear Assembly Members and Mayor Micciche,

This letter serves as a formal response and counterargument to the May 13, 2025 memorandum issued by the Borough Legal Department concerning conflict of interest standards for Assembly members voting on school funding. Specifically, I believe the legal opinion underestimates the severity and implications of an Assembly member voting on school funding while their spouse actively serves on the executive board of the Kenai Peninsula Education Association (KPEA) during contract negotiations.

1. Financial Benefit to the Household Is Not Attenuated

While the memorandum frames the Assembly's vote as an 'industry-wide' decision, the reality is that increasing the school district's funding during contract negotiations directly strengthens the negotiating position of the union and, by extension, financially benefits the household of the Assembly member in question. The public official's spouse holds a leadership role in advocating for a 22% raise, and this creates a direct personal financial stake in the Assembly's funding decision.

2. Appearance of Impropriety and Public Trust

Even if the legal threshold for a statutory conflict isn't met, the appearance of self-dealing is undeniable. Borough Code KPB 22.40.140 recognizes the importance of avoiding a 'serious appearance of impropriety.' The public's trust in the Assembly erodes when decisions that affect tax allocation appear to benefit members' own households.

3. Narrow, Non-Generalized Benefit

Legal's assertion that the member's spouse belongs to a 'large class of persons' is not applicable when the individual in question is part of the union leadership negotiating the financial terms. This is not a generalized benefit; it is a specific one. The leadership position distinguishes the spouse from general employees and invalidates the 'large class' exemption.

4. Funding Decisions Influence Negotiation Outcomes

The Assembly may not negotiate salaries directly, but its decision to fund 'to the cap' unequivocally impacts what the district can offer. Increased funding gives the union leverage. This makes the Assembly member's vote materially connected to his spouse's union efforts.

5. Legislative Intent Is Misapplied

No one disputes that district employees have the right to serve in elected office. The issue is voting on financial matters where a direct or household financial interest exists. KPB Code clearly states that such officials must recuse themselves from matters in which their household stands to benefit financially.

Conclusion

Allowing this vote not only violates the spirit of the Borough's Code of Ethics but sets a dangerous precedent of accepting household-level conflicts as mere abstractions. I respectfully urge the

Assembly to revisit this issue, uphold ethical governance, and require recusal in this case.

Sincerely,

Richard Derkevorkian

Kenai, Alaska

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 3:34 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Mindy Hunter

Your Email: erik.mindy@gmail.com

Subject: Funding KPBSD to the cap

Message:

Every year inflation proofing the Base Student Allocation and forward funding is skipped over by our state government, particularly by our current governor. This year is looking no better. Education is the most important asset to support that will grow our economy in the future. I live in Homer, Alaska, and for 50 years I have lived in this beautiful state. I have watched our government put our children last, over and over, and it shows. Please fund KPBSD to the cap, and support our future.

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 5:21 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Kristie Cotroneo

Your Email: kris8cotro@yahoo.com

Subject: Funding to the Cap

Message:

Please fund education to the cap!

Thanks!

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 6:00 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Taryn Bryan

Your Email: Tbryan@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

Subject: Funding

Message:

Please fund education to the cap. Our students deserve the best we can offer.

From: Nina Faust <aknina51@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 8:17 AM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Schools Funding to the Cap

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

P.O. Box 2994
Homer AK 99603

Dear Borough Assembly Members:

Our schools are extremely important to our communities. Funding has been below par for so many years, schools are struggling to keep up with deferred maintenance, retain teachers, and provide full educational programs.

We must, as a Borough, fund to the cap now. Waiting to find out what the State is going to provide will mean we will lose more teachers who will have to be given pink slips. Each year that we have gone through funding issues we have lost good personnel and then have to hire and train replacements costing the district more money. It is a vicious, expensive, and wasteful process.

If we go ahead and fund to the cap now, will help districts avoid having to cut programs, dial back more maintenance, and so much more that is not helpful for our schools to stay on a stable footing. Yes, the state will provide some level of BSA, but we do not need to wait to learn how much. Funding now will allow us to retain people, plan for next year, and save money by retaining experienced people.

Please move forward and pass funding for our schools to the cap.

Thank you,
Nina Faust

From: cody mcgahan <codymcgahan@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 12:21 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Conflict of interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward to all assembly members-

Dear Assemblyman Cox,

The KPBSD budget vote is a significant financial decision, involving millions in public funds. To maintain integrity in the process, it's essential that these choices remain free from potential conflicts of interest. Given your wife's leadership role in the KPEA and the union's stake in increased funding, there is a concern that your vote could be seen as influenced. Choosing to abstain would demonstrate a commitment to ethical governance and transparency.

Cody

From: Austin Druce <atdgeneralcontracting@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 1:29 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Conflict of interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS -

Dear Assembly Member Cox,
With your wife in a top position at KPEA, voting on school funding becomes a personal matter. I ask that you respect the public process and step back from Tuesday's vote.
Respectfully, Austin Druce

From: Daniel S Dykema <ddykema@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 1:45 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Request for Assembly Member Tyson Cox to Abstain from School Funding Vote

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Borough Assembly Clerk,

I am writing to express my concern regarding Assembly Member Tyson Cox's potential participation in the upcoming school funding vote scheduled for this Tuesday at the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly.

I believe there may be a significant conflict of interest in this situation. Mr. Cox's wife serves as the Vice President of the KPEA teachers' union, which is currently negotiating a 22% pay raise at a time when the school district is grappling with a \$17 million deficit. Given that Mr. Cox has previously voted in favor of increased school funding—decisions that directly impact his household—I feel it would be inappropriate for him to participate in this vote.

To uphold public trust and ensure ethical governance, I respectfully request that Assembly Member Cox abstain from voting on this matter. I believe this step is necessary to avoid any perception of bias or conflict of interest.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust the Borough Assembly will prioritize transparency and fairness in its decision-making process.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dykema

36080 Tremolo Cir

Soldotna, AK 99669

Sent from my iPhone

From: Megan Starr <meganmstarr@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 2:33 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Re: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Vote conflict

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Please fwd to all assembly members.

Thank you !

Megan Starr Maurer
Triton Alaska Inc.
907-350-3312

Sent from my iPhone

On May 15, 2025, at 14:19, Turner, Michele <MicheleTurner@kpb.us> wrote:

Thank you for your email. Your comments have been forwarded to Assembly Member Cox.

Michele Turner - CMC

Borough Clerk

Office: (907) 714-2160

<image001_71bbeddf-0055-408a-99d6-04a790de112e.png>

<image005_037b1a6c-

7f24-45ce-8e1a-

cedc27814251.png>

Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 N. Binkley St. Soldotna, AK 99669

kpb.us

PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be considered a public record under the law.

-----Original Message-----

From: Megan Starr <meganmstarr@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 2:16 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk <G_Notify_AssemblyClerk@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Vote conflict

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Assembly Member Cox,

With your wife in a top position at KPEA, voting on school funding becomes a personal matter. I ask that you respect the public process and step back from Tuesday's vote.

Respectfully,

Megan Starr Maurer
Triton Alaska Inc.
907-350-3312

Please forward to all assembly members

Sent from my iPhone

From: Crystal Lee <leecrystal13@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 4:55 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Unethical

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Tyson Cox should not be able to vote on school funding. His wife is vice president of KPEA teachers union. It is a conflict of interest & absolutely unethical!

Thank you,
Crystal Lee

From: Sarah DesOrmeaux <ss_hawkins@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 5:29 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Please Forward to all assembly members ~ Conflict of Interest ~

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please Forward to all assembly members

Mr. Cox,

You may genuinely believe you can remain impartial, but perception matters in public service. When your spouse helps lead a union negotiating millions in pay increases, any vote you cast on funding will be seen as biased. Please recuse yourself.

Regards,

Sarah DesOrmeaux
Soldotna, AK

From: mary griswold <mgrt@xyz.net>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2025 11:35 AM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Public comment: Johnson budget amendment to fund to the cap

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(Please include this public comment for the next assembly meeting)

Please support Brent Johnson's budget amendment to increase education funding by \$4.7 million. I urge funding to the cap, especially in this time of state funding uncertainty. We risk losing good teachers, support staff, and great programs because the state cannot get its act together to adequately forward fund education. The least our borough can do is show its dedication to education funding. This bump in borough funding won't save teacher positions but it is a step in the right direction. If the state legislature and governor see that we take quality education seriously, maybe they will too.

Thank you for your consideration.
Mary Griswold
Homer

From: Danielle Cooper <dmcooper907@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2025 12:24 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Conflict of Interest

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PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS;

Mr. Cox,
I'm asking you not to vote on the school funding issue due to your family's direct involvement in union negotiations. Whether intentional or not, it creates a breach in the public's trust. Please do what's right.

Thank you,
Cooper Family

From: Mandy <mandylanderson.ma@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2025 10:06 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>A Simple Request To Abstain Your Vote Due To Conflict Of Interest -

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****PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS****

05/17/2025

Dear Assembly Member Cox,

As a resident of the Kenai Peninsula and a mother of a KPBSD student, I hope you will take the time & consideration to listen to the public's voice on this matter to please abstain from voting on Tuesday's school funding vote. As a Representative, I would hope you would uphold yourself to a higher ethical standard & recognize that your vote would be inappropriate on this matter. Given your wife's VP leadership role in the KPEA, your participation in the upcoming vote on school funding clearly compromises our community's trust.

There's no shame in acknowledging a conflict of interest by stepping down on this particular vote. But there is significant shame in ignoring it.

With this being said, I respectfully request you to please abstain from Tuesday's school funding vote to avoid undermining our community's faith in the Assembly.

Thank you kindly.

Sincerely,

Mandy Anderson
Kenai Peninsula Resident
& Mother Of A KPBSD Student

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2025 11:35 AM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Therese

Your Email: thereselew@gmail.com

Subject: Funding Education

Message:

KPB Assembly Members,
After skimming over the comments on Resolution 2025-021 funding ed to cap, it's hard to believe it won't be. Virtually everyone agrees it should.
And after reading Jake Dye's article on the draft budget proposal to lower property tax mil rate, I don't get it. Not funded to cap and lower property tax?
I see a lot of brand new homes going up around Homer, I see public education funded to the cap.

Thank you all so much,
Therese Lewandowski

From: Amie Smithwick <amie.smithwick@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2025 2:52 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Open letter to Assemblyman Cox (Clerk: please forward to all Assembly Members)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Assembly Member Cox,

This letter serves as a formal and respectful request that you recuse yourself from any votes related to KPBSD budgetary allocations. Your wife’s executive leadership within the Kenai Peninsula Education Association—who are currently advocating for increased compensation—creates a clear and material conflict of interest.

Regardless of the legal opinion rendered, public officials are expected to uphold the highest ethical standards. Your direct connection to an organization with a vested interest in the outcome understandably raises concerns about impartiality.

Recusing yourself from these proceedings would not only affirm your dedication to ethical governance but also help restore and reinforce public confidence in the integrity of the Assembly. In service to your constituents and the credibility of our local government, I respectfully urge you to step back from these decisions.

Amie Hagen

From: calvin w <calvinwilliams21@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2025 1:46 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Please Preserve the Integrity of the Assembly

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Mr. Cox,
As a resident of the Kenai Peninsula, I expect my representatives to uphold high ethical standards. Given your wife's leadership role in the KPEA, your participation in the upcoming vote on school funding clearly compromises public trust. Please abstain.
Sincerely,

Calvin Williams.

PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Sent from my iPhone

From: Patricia Truesdell <PTruesdell@KPBSD.k12.ak.us>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2025 10:39 PM
To: Cox, Tyson; G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Funding our Schools to the Cap

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I am writing to the KPB Assembly members and our Borough Mayor to address the possibility of funding our local schools to the CAP. As a member of the our local KPBSD Board I certainly understand the hard decisions you are having to make. I also have to say, I agree with our Borough Mayor that the State has not been funding our schools the way they should. But in the end, it brings it back to those of us that live here and send our children to school here to try to find a solution. .

I need to make a couple of points, and I will try to be succinct.

1. Public education is expensive: No doubt that is true. I have been in Alaska 54 years, and everything in Alaska is more expensive than things outside. We all know that. Our State Constitution requires that the State fund our schools so our children can have the best education possible. Now it may fall to us locally to do the best we can to fund our schools. My four children and grandchildren attended our local schools and received a good education. Education is the best investment we can make for our community. Hard to put a price tag on that!
2. Students are failing: We are told that our schools are failing and students are falling behind. Totally not true. We had COVID and it set us back without a doubt. But here is something you may not know. I got on the school board shortly before COVID hit in March of 2020. Teachers came back from Spring Break and walked right into COVID. Imagine .. all of a sudden we were in the middle of a pandemic. Ultimately, our students were out of school and totally home schooled. When our schools re-opened (we were so excited), I immediately went down a signed up to volunteer. I began volunteering three days a week at my local school. What I noticed first thing out ..Make a note here: Our students were so excited to be back in school with their teachers and friends. You should have seen their faces! You could see it and know it. Sadly, they still had all those COVID rules about having to go home if they came in contact with another student with COVID. I use to watch the little guys get called down to the office and have to come back to get their books and go home. It was so sad. But now they are back and in their classrooms. Yes they fell behind but the truth is, our students are coming back strong. The new reading program (CKLA) , is doing what we wanted it to do. Test scores are coming up. If you don't believe me, check the District web page and look up test scores for 2024. Have Keri or Clayton find them for you. The scores are coming up. Don'r listen to those who

say our kids are failing. They are not.!! Personally, I think they test too much but hey ..I attended Redoubt Elementary School a few weeks ago and they were doing a WAX Museum project. It was in the gym and students did some truly excellent projects. Check out your local schools, and you will be proud of the learning that is happening.

3. Here is what I know: Our students are NOT failing and we need to have funding. To quote a line from a movie. In my opinion, our students should attend school in mansions. This is my community and I want my children to have the best schools. I do not want to have to close schools or discontinue important educational programs .. worse yet, we do not want to have to fill up a classroom with more students and make it harder for them to get the education they deserve.

Wrapping up: We need the funding. You all know that we do. I am a retired teacher who spends a lot of time in our local classrooms. Just a couple of things to keep in mind. Our teachers are working hard. Sadly, for the last year or so, they have been working hard with less and less support. We are having trouble finding and keeping our teachers, and you all know that is true. It's not right for our community. It just is not.

If there is something I did not address or a question you might have, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your service to our community and the hard job that you all do.

God Bless You all.

Patti Truesdell,
KPBDS District 1
907-394-4497

From: LaDawn Druce <ladawn_druce@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2025 4:04 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Please forward to all Assembly Members

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly,

I am writing to you today to express my support for the proposed increase to public education for our public schools for the 2025-2026 school year.

I am in favor of the suggested amendment by Assembly Member Johnson for an increase in funding from \$57,634,015 to \$62,359,080.

My husband Mike and I have lived on the peninsula in the Soldotna/Sterling area for 32 years this August. Mike began teaching at Soldotna High School in August of 1993. We are both retired educators of the school district. However, we are both currently serving as "retired" educators at Susan B. English in Seldovia. Like many Alaskans, moving to the peninsula was a decision we made for "quality of life" for our three sons.

Our boys had a wonderful education in our schools, and each graduated in turn from Soldotna High School. Our grandchildren are now in public schools in Anchorage and Wasilla.

I appreciate and understand Mayor Micciche's concerns regarding the local increase, given the State's unwillingness to do their part to fund our schools. I too am increasingly frustrated by the Governor for holding our students, teachers, and district "hostage," when he should be supporting our students.

Thank you for your consideration. There is nothing more important to our community than the continued support of our public schools.

Sincerely,
LaDawn Druce
38240 Robinson Loop Rd.
Sterling, AK 99672

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: Walter Woods <myrararocks@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2025 7:32 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>School funding

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To all Kenia Assembly Members

I am writing to all Assembly Members to strongly request that Tyson Cox abstain from all voting in regard to school funding. He has a definite conflict of interest in this process and the ethical thing for him is to not be involved in this.

Sincerely

Walter Woods

Anchor Point, AK

From: Becky Woods <noahsarkmom1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2025 7:34 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Tuesday's school funding vote

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PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Tyson Cox should abstain from any votes regarding school funding. As his wife is VP of the KPEA teachers' union, it would be a severe conflict of interest for him to be involved in the vote!!

Thank you for your consideration.

Becky Woods
Anchor Point

From: Larry Zuccaro <l.l.zuccaro@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 8:51 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Tyson Cox Vote on Teacher's Pay Raise

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

We are hereby requesting that Tyson Cox **abstain voting** on the KPEA teacher's pay raise due to a **direct conflict of interest** - his wife is VP of the KPEA Teacher's union. This is a call for ethical governance.

Mr. Cox please do what is right ethically and show the citizens of the borough that you are a person of good moral character.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ALL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS.

Respectfully,

Larry and Lonnie Zuccaro
Homer, AK

From: Kathy Toms <kathytomsalaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:29 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Tyson Cox abstain from Tuesday's vote

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I am writing to ask that you ask Tyson Cox to abstain from voting on the school funding bill. He clearly has a conflict of interest and should not be voting on this bill.



Kathy Toms

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 8:15 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Margaret Zerbinos

Your Email: mzerbinos@gmail.com

Subject: school budget

Message:

I support the funding to the cap for education in the 2026 borough budget. I support assembly member Johnson's amendment to increase the borough's contribution to the KPBSD from \$57,634,015 to \$62, 359,080 for FY26. I believe additional funding should be decided now and not wait. Waiting creates a hardship for staff in not knowing if they will have a job this fall, or not. This could result in them leaving our school district. It also makes it difficult to plan programs, and hire staff when a decision on the budget is postponed.
Thank you

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 8:19 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Margaret Zerbinos

Your Email: mzerbinos@gmail.com

Subject: budget

Message:

I support the funding to the cap for education in the 2026 borough budget. I support assembly member Johnson's amendment to increase the borough's contribution to the KPBSD from \$57,634,015 to \$62, 359,080 for FY26. I believe additional funding should be decided now and not wait. Waiting creates a hardship for staff in not knowing if they will have a job this fall, or not. This could result in them leaving our school district. It also makes it difficult to plan programs, and hire staff when a decision on the budget is postponed.
Thank you

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:17 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sherri Burt <sherriburt@yahoo.com>
Date: May 18, 2025 at 2:30:26 PM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>, Elizabeth Diamant <lizdiamant@gmail.com>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>SRSA input on .25 mill increase

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I have been a resident of Seldovia since 1991, when I came to teach Susan B. English, and served as a lifeguard for over 25 years now. Clearly, I love to swim and see the benefits of having our pool for all our community members. I hope we can work toward a permanent solution to be able to keep it open (as well as our school).

I have also served on the board at the SOCC, as well as having participated in a multitude of various activities over all the years we have had it in our beautiful community and appreciate all the good it provides in our diverse community.

Whatever, our communities wish, I hope both entities will be able to be utilized to the max that we can provide in people power and finances.

Though I do not have an expensive property or high income, I will certainly donate equal to the 1.0 mill rate that would help keep the pool going.

Thank you to all who are working for and researching for these difficult financial situations we find ourselves in.

Sincerely,

Sherri Burt

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:20 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Vivian Rojas <vivianrojas05@gmail.com>
Date: May 13, 2025 at 9:13:38 AM AKDT
To: Lisa Stanish <seldoviasocc@gmail.com>, Liz Diament <cityclerk@cityofseldovia.com>, "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Re: Seldovia Recreational Service Area call for input on future of SBE pool

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to write in about this issue.

I am very much in favor of the .25 increase in the mil rate to support the SBE Pool through the SRSA.

The concept of supporting youth through swim lessons and water safety is essential living on the water. Having a pool available to the community is supporting recreation activities to the area and is showcasing what the SRSA is all about-providing recreational opportunities for all.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion.
Vivian Rojas

On May 8, 2025, at 3:53 PM, Lisa Stanish <seldoviasocc@gmail.com> wrote:

Good day Seldovia Rec residents,

Please see the attached request for comment from your SRSA board on the proposed increase to the SRSA mill rate. If you are no longer a member of the SRSA please disregard this email.

Thank you for your time,

Lisa Stanish

Facility Coordinator
Sea Otter Community Center
Seldovia, AK
907-234-4110

"Community is much more than belonging to something;
it's about doing something that makes belonging matter." -Brian Solis

<SRSA Pool Input (2).pdf>

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:21 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tom Mortensen <tom@mortensen.com>
Date: May 11, 2025 at 4:12:09 PM AKDT
To: Elizabeth Diamant <lizdiamant@gmail.com>
Cc: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Proposed SRSA Mill Rate increase to 1.0

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I received an email notice on May 8th from Lisa Stanish, the Facility Coordinator for the Sea Otter Community Center in Seldovia.

The notice requested comments prior to May 19, 2025.

As a property owner within the SRSA boundary, I believe it is appropriate to increasing the annual mill rate by an additional 0.25 to provide temporary funding for the High School pool facility.

However, temporary taxation tends to become permanent.

Therefore, I further believe that if alternate funding is not acquired, that continuing the temporary 0.25 mill increase is Not appropriate in this matter.

If alternate funding is not acquired in a reasonable period of time, then the budget shortfall for the pool should be covered by appropriate service fees for the pool use.

Thereby decreasing the annual SRSA mill rate back to the current 0.75.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Regards,

Tom Mortensen
907-229-7400

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:21 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: DAVE BARNES <davebarnes@mtaonline.net>
Date: May 11, 2025 at 9:14:24 AM AKDT
To: lizdiament@gmail.com, "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Seldovia pool

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

My wife and I have a home in Seldovia at 250 Fulmore Avenue. We are in support of the proposed 0.25 mill rate increase to support funding of the Seldovia pool while long-term funding is sourced. Thank you.

Dave Barnes
(907) 354-2079

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:21 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: damara burnett <damaraburnett@gmail.com>
Date: May 10, 2025 at 9:01:41 PM AKDT
To: lizdiament@gmail.com, "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>SRSA mil increase for SBE pool

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hi Liz & Willy,

As a Seldovia property owner I support utilizing the 1 mil SRSA tax if it goes directly to keeping the pool open. I would actually place emphasis on the pool over anything else the SRSA does, including operation of the SOCC.

Thank you for communicating support of this option!

Damara

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:22 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary Anne Wilson <anmw48@gmail.com>
Date: May 10, 2025 at 7:30:08 PM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Seldovia Pool

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hi Willy,

Count me as a pool supporter. You can even increase the mill rate for it!
It's too important a community asset to let go.

Mary Anne Wilson
Seldovia

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:22 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jon Goltz <jkgoltz@icloud.com>
Date: May 10, 2025 at 11:43:42 AM AKDT
To: lizdiamant@gmail.com, "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Support for SRSA increase for pool

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Liz and Willy -

I support increasing the Seldovia Recreational Service Area tax by 0.25 mils to make funds available for the Seldovia swimming pool.

Jon Goltz
jkgoltz@icloud.com
907-632-4204

261 Airport Ave.
PO Box 101
Seldovia AK 99663

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:23 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: hedgehop@alaska.net
Date: May 9, 2025 at 9:56:20 PM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>, lizdiament@gmail.com
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Seldovia pool closure

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Representative Dunne:

Please do all you can to support our school pool. We have a large number of kids who go into fishing jobs. They need swim lessons. Lessons save lives. My husband & I are in the Seldovia Recreational Service Area. We are property owners here and would like the Borough to consider a .25 mill rate increase to support our pool.

Thank you for your time & efforts.

Linda Hedgecoth
Jim Hopkins
P.O. Box K
258 Lipke Lane
Seldovia
AK 99663

From: Leah V <leahvik@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:23 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Budget Vote

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward to all assembly members

Dear Mr. Cox,

As a property owner who contributes to the borough's education funding through taxes, I have serious concerns about your participation in the school funding vote. Given your wife's role as a union leader in active negotiations, it is inappropriate for you to influence a vote that may increase her compensation. I expect my elected representatives to uphold the highest standards of integrity by avoiding potential conflicts of interest—not vote on them.

-Leah Vik

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:24 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ila Dillon <iladillon@gmail.com>
Date: May 9, 2025 at 11:43:51 AM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>SRSA mill rate

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I'm a property owner in the SRSA area. I also love our school pool. I feel it is vital that Seldovia residents, who are surrounded by water, are able to learn to swim.

I'm happy to pay an increase of .25 mill rate to keep our pool open.

Thank you, Ila Dillon

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:25 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Keith Swick <swick21@hotmail.com>
Date: May 9, 2025 at 9:20:16 AM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>, lizdiament@gmail.com
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>SBE pool

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hello,

I'm writing in regards to the impending closure of our school pool and use of SRSA funds to bridge these ugly times. I'm a lifelong resident of Seldovia and raising children here. I have never been a fan of the service area from the start because I felt it only served few for which many are taxed. However, I am in full support of SRSA funds being used for pool funding. Something has to give. You don't need a building for chess club or to play legos like you might need a gym to play basketball or a pool to swim. While the facility coordinator has done great trying to create programs I don't feel the attendance is there. Which is unfortunate because I feel the effort was. My son attends these programs but they are nothing compared to the pool for him, or us as parents and our younger children.

As a side note, I am not in support of Seldovia Village Tribe gaining any kind of control of borough facilities. While I can't deny they do some good. I feel it is only to be perceived as good so they can collect on the admin fees for their pockets. Always lots of picture taking to verify grants of which a fraction is going to where it should. Thank you

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:25 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ashley Keithley <ashley@seldoviafishingadventures.com>
Date: May 8, 2025 at 8:17:23 PM AKDT
To: elizabeth diament <lizdiament@gmail.com>, "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Seldovia Pool-Mill Rate Increase

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Liz & Willy,

I wanted to reach out with my support as a property owner in the Seldovia Recreational Service Area to increase the Mill Rate and additional .25mills in order to give the SRSA funds needed to keep the pool open with current staffing until a long term solution is found. I have also attached the letter previously sent to Willy in support of keeping the pool open and why it is so important.

Cheers,



Ashley Keithley

Owner/Manager

425-770-3594

PO Box 121

226 Watch Point Dr Seldovia, AK 99663

Ashley@seldoviafishingadventures.com



<Willy Dunne-Potential Seldovia Pool Closure- A Request to Reconsider-Ashley Keithley.pdf>

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:26 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Darlene Crawford <dc@dcrawford.org>
Date: May 8, 2025 at 4:31:58 PM AKDT
To: lizdiament@gmail.com, "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Additional mill rate increase for SRSA

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hello, I've sent this email to you both combined, to show you both our support for a .25 mill rate increase to SRSA in order to keep the school pool open. John and I have lived in Seldovia since 1945 and 1957, and we spoke up and lobbied for that pool, before it was built, informing the Borough Assembly of the several children and adults in Seldovia who had died by drowning as no one knew how to swim.

We were so happy to get the Borough Assembly's and School Board's approval and Seldovia was the first Borough school to get a pool. Since that time, there have always been swimming lessons in that pool, teaching even babies on up, to swim and no children of Seldovia have died by drowning since getting the pool. The Seldovia Village Tribe has given lessons and Seldovia Sea Otter Center also, and lessons are still going on now...but there are a steady line of babies and new kids coming up who are getting lessons now and still need to learn to swim. Adults also are able to use the pool, and hone up on swimming...

So for our waterfront community the pool is a very important part of our lives, that the pool can continue and swimming instruction can continue. So if increasing the mill rate will help the Pool, it will be welcomed in Seldovia.

Sincerely,

Darlene and John Crawford

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:26 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Douglas Giles <brkft00@yahoo.com>
Date: May 8, 2025 at 9:19:58 AM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Seldovia pool.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hello,
My name is Doug Giles and am a life long Alaskan and a life long Seldovian, born in 1959.

When I was in grade school the town was booming, fishing was robust and logging was just getting started.
The school at the time was bursting at the seams, so a new school was built. This was before the Permeant Fund was established, Where did the funds come from? Were they more fiscally responsible back then?

Seldovia is just a place to live now, very few jobs available, fishing has gone by the wayside and logging is no more. I, like a lot of residents commute for our jobs.

I learned how to swim at the pool. My grand kids are learning how to swim in that pool.
It also, in case of a natural disaster acts as an emergency water supply.

So do we keep it up and running just during the school year or some other modified schedule?
Funding seems to always be the problem, do we rob Peter to pay Paul? Are the few that live here expected to fund the whole thing? I don't have the answer but the pool is vital for a community that is built next to the water.

My property taxes keep going up every year. Looking at the 2025 assessment brochure, \$3.3+ million for recreation and \$66+ million for education. There must be a few dollars there to keep the pool open.

Respectfully,
Doug Giles

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:27 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jennifer Swick <jrswick14@gmail.com>
Date: May 6, 2025 at 12:36:33 PM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>SRSA mil increase

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Good Afternoon,

I am in support of the mil increase of the .25 for the SRSA to help fund the pool, furthermore I am in support of using more of the SRSA mil as a long term solution as well. There is this thought that we must pick between the SOCC or the pool if this is the way the community chooses to go, but there should be a way to have both. I do not believe that the building and all the current programming should be eliminated, nor should things like the pottery studio or the new ice rink- these things can all still be supported through volunteer efforts, which some of them already are. The ice rink was put up and taken down by volunteers, as well as flooded, shoveled, etc during its season. Morning workouts and yoga can easily be volunteer lead, as well as Science Fridays if these are things that the community is interested in continuing.

It was stated in the meeting last night that the majority of the SRSA budget is Lisa's salary, which creates a difficult conversation when you are talking about a friend, but if her position is morphed back into what it used to be as more of an admin position at reduced hours, not as her running programming, then things could possibly still carry on. The after school programming that is being run right now, is not always well attended and there is alternative programming happening at the same time as well. It is nice for kids to have options, sure, but the elimination of these programs would not necessarily leave a gap in family's schedules. Programs can absolutely continue as well, if volunteers are willing to step up. This spring, for example, we had a mom volunteer her time to put on a K-3 cheer club after school at the SOCC. I also was looking into putting on a volleyball camp, volunteering my time and running it as a SRSA program in order to gain access to the gym.

Lisa is doing her best to try and offer different things, she reference last night her two music camps she is setting up, and that is great and those things should continue, again those are budgeted separately (I believe the pottery classes operate similarly as well) and are not part of the contractual services that make up the majority of the budget.

I do not want to see assets eliminated, and I hate to suggest cutting back Lisa's position, but at this time until we know more about the pool funding options, this seems like something that is going to have to be explored.

Thank you for listening to the community's wants and needs.

Jen Swick
397 Rocky St
Seldovia

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:28 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paul Cziko <pcziko@gmail.com>
Date: May 6, 2025 at 2:19:59 AM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Seldovia Pool & SRSA
Reply-To: pcziko@gmail.com

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hi Willie,

I am a younger, property-owning resident in the SRSA, living a bit outside of Seldovia City limits with my wife and 2 kids.

I am fully supportive of the proposed 0.25% increase in the mill rate as an interim solution and in order to demonstrate community support for keeping the pool open.

Though currently proposed as a short-term increase in the mill rate, I would not be opposed to a permanent increase to support the pool's annual operating costs. However, a recurring increased mill-rate should be thoughtfully considered against the benefits it would bring us.

If reasonable proposals were advanced, I would also support and contribute to other creative and collaborative efforts to maintain current service levels or, preferably, expand the pool's availability and offerings.

Furthermore, the SOCC and its staff are such a fantastic resource for our community, and I would be strongly opposed to any reduction in SOCC services or staffing.

Thank you for advocating for us and for working to find creative and sustainable solutions to maintain and improve our community services and facilities.

Respectfully,
Paul Cziko
1451 N. Boone Ln,
Seldovia

From: Dunne, William
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:28 PM
To: Turner, Michele
Subject: Please forward to Assembly members

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Randi Sweet <randisweet252@gmail.com>
Date: May 5, 2025 at 6:30:36 PM AKDT
To: "Dunne, William" <wdunne@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Support for .25 mil rate to keep Seldovia pool open for short term and develop long term solution

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Support for .25 mil rate to keep Seldovia pool open for short term and develop long term solution

Randi Sweet
351 Lake St, Seldovia, AK 99663
PO Box 804 Seldovia AK 99663
907.360.1459

From: Virginia Morgan <tommyginny@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 11:44 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Funding Education

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

(Please forward to all Assembly members, Thank you.)

Dear Borough Assembly Members,

Thank you for your service to our borough. I know serving in positions like yours can be very challenging, and I appreciate having thoughtful, caring people making the difficult decisions.

Today Governor Dunleavy vetoed HB57, the education bill today that was recently passed after much compromise on everyone's part. Though the veto will hopefully be overridden by legislators, it appears likely that Dunleavy will also veto the funding this summer, leaving school districts in the lurch.

Right now, it is essential to retain as many staff members as possible, and as soon as possible. A guarantee that the borough will fund to the cap would make this possible. Though I appreciate the recent arguments regarding not funding to the cap right now, and putting pressure on the state to fund education appropriately, we don't have time to wait. School districts across the state are bleeding out. Our borough should provide an example of prioritizing education, even when the governor and state is/has not. Our children deserve more.

Thank you,
Virginia Morgan
Cooper Landing, AK

From: Beth Mishler <bmishler12@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 8:55 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Assembly member Tyson Cox

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

You should NOT be voting on the school district budget....

Your Wife holds a leadership position in the very union that stands to benefit from increased school funding. The KPEA is negotiating for a 22% raise while the district faces a \$17 million dollar deficit. if additional funds are approved, her income, and by extension, your household income, could directly increase. That is a conflict of interest whether the Borough wants to admit it or not.

When an elected official has a direct personal stake in the outcome of a vote, public trust is eroded. The Assembly's refusal to address this issue does not make it go away. It only reinforces public frustration with government insiders looking out for themselves.

Do the right thing!!!!

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Mishler

From: Brad Brown <bradbrownre@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 11:12 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>School District Funding - Conflict of Interest

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Assembly Clerk,

Please forward this message to all assembly members.

Assembly Members,

It has come to my attention, and concerns me greatly that there seems to be a conflict of interest within the Borough Assembly as it regards an upcoming vote on KPBSD funding. I believe the only allowable solution to this conflict of interest is that Assembly Member Tyson Cox should recuse himself from the upcoming vote, and arguments on KPBSD funding.

Due to the fact that his wife holds a leadership position within the KPEA and the union stands to benefit from additional funding, this would functionally be a vote for Assembly Member Cox to be putting Borough dollars into his own household.

It is in the best interest of the residents of the Borough and the Borough Assembly for Assembly Member Tyson Cox to sit this vote out. Anything less than this would be a black eye to the entire Borough Assembly and good governance in general.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

--

Lifelong Borough resident,
Brad Brown
907-690-4663
BradBrownRE@gmail.com

From: Cindy Glassmaker <ak08family@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 1:44 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Cc: Cindy Glassmaker
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Tyson Cox | Abstain Vote on School Funding

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please confirm receipt of this email and Please forward to all Assembly Members

Good Afternoon. Tyson Cox is my Representative on the KPB Assembly. I respectfully request that he abstain his vote due to the conflict of interest he has with his wife being the VP of the KPEA. I understand that the borough attorney has drafted reasons as to why there is no conflict, but here is the definition in simple form for those with any common sense or accountability would like to adhere to:

a situation in which the concerns or aims of two different parties are [incompatible](#).

"the conflict of interest between elected officials and corporate lobbyists"

- a situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity.

His wife is basically the local lobbyist of the KPEA. Please explain how there is no conflict correlation? As a resident of the Peninsula, I expect any Representative who holds public office to uphold high ethical standards = honesty and integrity. It is already severely compromised in Juneau. Given his wife's standing, his participation in the upcoming vote on school funding clearly compromises public process.

Please abstain and don't be a part of why the distrust of government is growing.

Sincerely,
Cindy Glassmaker
907-398-4763

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 1:50 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Kate Veh

Your Email: heyoyveh@gmail.com

Subject: Education

Message:

Hi KPB Assembly Members;

I just heard about the AK Legislature's override of the governor's education veto. Nicely done, AK Legislature!

I think they're still in the process of trying to solidify that veto. In any case, I urge anyone reading this letter to contact folks who voted FOR the override and THANK them. Please ask them to make sure the veto goes all the way through to the finalization so that education can be funded at the state level.

For the time being, please make sure KPB is doing all it can to support and fully fund education. I'm not sure what this means during this AK Legislative process, but surely, you can make yourselves useful somehow.

For now, I will ask you to continue to "fund to the cap". Just keep the schools going. Keep them open. Keep everything moving along. You get the idea.

Thank you for everything!

Sincerely,
Kate Veh
Soldotna, Alaska

From: Christiana Smith <kl5bravotango@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 2:05 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Citizen Comment for 5/20/25 Assembly Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward my email to all assembly members.
Thank you

Good Afternoon Assembly Members,

I am writing to you today to express my concern over the Borough Mayor's budget proposal. While the budget looks good overall and to many the lower mill rate would be a welcoming event I feel that the money that would have come in from the mill rate staying the same could have benefited the Borough.

First, funding our school district to the cap could alleviate some of the stress that our schools are facing with a budget shortfall. There is to be an increase to the BSA of \$700 in HB57 which passed, but then vetoed by the Governor, and today the votes were reached to override that veto. However, the Governor has made comments to his intentions of line item vetoing that funding. The Seward Elementary School that my son attended 2012-2017 is not the same elementary school that my daughter, 4th grader, is currently attending. They have lost a position to hire an art or music teacher years ago, are looking at losing the Quest position, and after this coming year losing the counselor position. When my son attended Seward Middle School the 6th graders were kept separate in their own cohort with 2 teachers. It was this way for several years and many felt like it was a great way to transition their elementary aged children to middle school. It recently, in the last few years, transitioned to core subject teachers teaching all grades, 6th - 8th, with a few teachers being shared with the high school to make additional resources available. It is my understanding that the additional few teachers will be cut and leaves only core subject teachers teaching in the middle school. A skeleton crew and a substitute pool that is lacking in availability. I am concerned with this as my youngest will be a student of that school in 2026. Five years ago, my family chose to homeschool my son for high school and if we hadn't then I don't know if he would have graduated or had the same opportunities that he got through Connections. A few years ago the Seward High School lost their art teacher midway through the school year and at the time of the budget conversation it was unknown if that position would be available to hire for the upcoming school year. I was the parent who turned to the Superintendent at the budget meeting at the Seward High School and asked if graduation requirements would be changed to reflect the unavailability of art classes. I was told that was unlikely. I just found out today due to the uncertainty of funding that the art teacher position has been cut. Again, I want to ask; will the graduation requirements be changed to reflect the unavailability of art classes? I am pretty sure I know what the answer will be, but it just means that we are literally letting our children fail. With the recommended cuts to our school district's distance education department and middle college, what are the options for our brick and mortar students to meet graduation requirements?

Second, our borough roads need attention. I do see in the proposed budget that there are continued gravel road projects but do not see specifics for the Bear Creek area. I live on Stoney Creek Ave and I cannot remember the last time there was new gravel put on the road. For the last few years, when the road is graded rocks softball size are pulled up and left. Those who live on the road often move those rocks to the side as they walk up and down the road. The first half

of the road after the asphalt ends becomes pitted due to rain and it seems to get worse for no known reason. I hear similar complaints from residents that reside in the Questa Woods subdivision.

Third, with a bit of additional money the lowest bidder would not have to be the one to win RFPs for Borough projects. While I know there is a rubric and cost is just one of the factors, it often carries the largest weight for determining the winner. Andrews and Sons just won a bid for the Upper Kewchak Sediment Management and Embankment Maintenance. When hearing this I was concerned because of the complaints heard from residents in the Camelot subdivision of the condition of the roads during the time that they were working in Salmon Creek. I have made my concerns known with the Seward Flood Area manager, heard how this project will be managed and what was learned from the Salmon Creek project. I am hopeful Stoney Creek Ave and other roads in Questa Woods will not see the same fate.

I am sure there are many other areas in the Kenai Peninsula Borough that need additional projects and services which having a little bit of a surplus could assist with. We are in unprecedented times where state and federal funding is not being increased to match inflation or even being cut. I just can't see it being the right time to do the same.

Christiana Smith
907-362-4949
kl5bravotango@gmail.com

From: Jennifer Ransom <jenaransom@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 2:10 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Fund to the cap

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward this email to all assembly members.

Dear Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members, This evening you have an important task: to decide how much money the Borough will allocate to the school district. I would like you to know that I fully support funding to the cap. This year schools are making decisions that no one is happy with: closed schools, art programs cut (Seward's only certified art teacher was cut just this week), programs such as enrichment and intervention cut, schools left with unqualified staff to teach core classes such as science, and online classes as an only option for graduation requirements but with no one left to house students needing to take these classes. Pools face closure, theaters will closed for good. These are cuts faced this current year; we've already lost music programs, librarians, principals, and core classroom teachers in previous years, never to return. These new cuts will be felt deep within our communities and across our borough. This isn't just about kids - though I believe supporting them is enough to request this - this is about our whole community.

Tonight I ask you to be part of a solution, not part of a looming disaster. Please vote to find to the cap. I'm happy to increase taxes to do so. The Kenai Peninsula Borough needs to commit to our children's education, for them and for all of us.

Thank you,
Jen Ransom
Seward, Alaska

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jason Leslie <jklstudios@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 5:00 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER> Funding to the Cap

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward to all assembly members.

Dear Assembly Members,

My name is Jason Leslie. I am currently the art teacher at Seward High School. Yesterday I was officially informed that my position has been cut due to budget uncertainty. I believe that at least a dozen other non-tenured teachers in the school district were also informed yesterday that their employment was terminated due to funding shortfalls. Quite honestly, I am exhausted from both pouring my soul into teaching art to our kids and simultaneously having to fight for my job. But really, this is not about "my" job, it is about providing classes taught by qualified teachers for our students. PLEASE FUND OUR SCHOOLS TO THE CAP. Failure to do so literally means providing fewer qualified, caring adults to teach our students. This is not about "gutting the system" or "weeding out corruption," it is about taking care of our kids.

Respectfully,

Jason Leslie

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 5:54 PM
To: BoroughAssembly; Mayor's Department
Cc: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Nicole Jensen

Your Email: nmariejensen@gmail.com

Subject: Funding Education to the Cap

Message:

Please, vote to fund KPBSD Schools to the cap. Children do not deserve to be a line item that is cut continually. I value how our borough reasserts the importance of education. Now is the time that our schools need that support locally. My husband and I have attended KPBSD school and are now raising our son here. We want our children to be educated in the best schools in the state.

Additionally, I am concerned that there is talk of an issue for one of our assembly members voting on education. Tyson Cox should absolutely vote on education. If we don't allow our representatives who support policies to vote on issues that are deeply cared for, then the assembly would not be representing the people. Our community is small. It is not a business that he owns that is being voted on. It is funding for a public institution that benefits our whole community.