


Kenai Peninsula Borough
Office of the Borough Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Wayne Ogle, Assembly President
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

FROM: Charlie Pierce, Mayor 

DATE: April 5, 2018

RE: Notice of Proposed Amendment to Ordinance 2017-19-21, Providing for an Exception to KPB 5.20.080 Transferring \$3,000,000 from the Land Trust Fund to the General Fund as Part of the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Appropriation (Mayor)

A major concern raised by members of the public and the school district during numerous recent assembly meetings has been the retention of teachers. On April 4, 2018, I met with the school district administration to discuss options available to help address those concerns. In our discussion, we learned that appropriating an additional \$1.5 million beyond the initially discussed "flat funding" to the school district would make it possible to maintain existing teacher staffing formulas and possibly alleviate a significant reduction in teaching staff around the school district. The School Board would be able to work with school district administration and make decisions on how this funding is utilized at their May 7, 2018 meeting.

This is to notify you that I plan to propose an amendment to ordinance 2017-19-21 at the May 1, 2018 assembly meeting that would increase the funds to be transferred from the land trust fund from \$3,000,000 to \$4,500,000. Hopefully this additional funding will enable the school district to avoid reducing teachers in the classrooms and to first maintain existing staffing formulas. The school board, not the administration, makes that decision.

This is intended to be a one-time only transfer from the land trust fund. My office recognizes the importance of teachers in the classroom and also the importance of maintaining the integrity of the borough's general fund and land trust fund. We are continuing to develop plans to maintain the integrity of those funds.

Your support of this amendment when presented would be appreciated.