



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Superintendent

Sean Dusek, Superintendent of Schools

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March 6, 2018

President Wayne Ogle
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
144 N. Binkley St.
Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear Mr. Ogle,

As you know, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District has been working closely with the Kenai Peninsula Borough Administration and Assembly throughout the FY19 budget development process. As this work has progressed, it is clear that both the District and Borough will suffer a revenue shortfall that will require the use of both entities savings to balance their respective budgets. This is something the District has had to do for the past few years in an attempt to mitigate any negative impacts to student learning. Our savings have allowed us to phase in personnel reductions over the years and still provide a high level of service to our students and community.

Unfortunately, the District is now being forced to plan for significant reductions that will negatively impact student learning and continue to harm our Borough's economy. We believe that it is imperative that the Borough Administration and Borough Assembly work to find sustainable, long-term revenues that will allow our citizens to continue to experience a high quality education system, high quality governmental services and a safe, productive Borough that will attract and retain the best and brightest citizenry.

The School Board and the School District are not able to raise funds to support schools. This is the responsibility of the Borough. With that in mind, the School Board and School District support the Borough's efforts to implement new revenue generating measures that will allow the Borough and School District to continue to thrive. The District has demonstrated its willingness to be a part of the economic solution to get through tough economic times by becoming more efficient. We are also at the point where cuts will only harm students and the borough at-large.

The School Board and School District support the Borough in leading our communities through this tough fiscal situation by using all means at its disposal to implement a long-term solution through finding more efficiencies and more revenues. These will be tough decisions, but reductions and use of savings alone will not lead to prosperity.

Sincerely,

Sean Dusek
Superintendent of Schools