Superintendent's Report

November 2026

Fall OASIS Count and Special Education Staffing

Our Fall OASIS student count has been submitted to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), reflecting an increase of two students over our projected enrollment. We are pleased that our projections closely aligned with actual enrollment.

Fall OASIS Enrollment Summary

School	Reported Enrollment
Preschool	6
Stedman Elementary School (K–5)	191.25
Mitkof Middle School	116.4
Petersburg High School	148.75
Total Reported Enrollment	456.4

Students Identified with Intensive Special Education Needs: 28

One area of notable growth is the number of students identified with intensive special education needs. We projected 23 students in this category but reported 28, an increase of five. These students require significant individualized support, with student-to-staff ratios ranging from 1:1 to 3:1, depending on individual needs.

The majority of these students are at Stedman Elementary School, creating increased demands on our special education and support staff. We continue working to fill vacant positions while evaluating how best to meet student needs.

Special Education Director Cyndy Fry and Principal Heather Conn are reviewing current staffing and service delivery models. As we plan for next school year, we are considering an additional special education teacher and a dedicated classroom/resource room setting to better support students with intensive needs while maintaining appropriate services for all students with disabilities.

To help address the immediate needs at Stedman Elementary, we are also pursuing a partnership with the University of Alaska's Principal Registered Apprenticeship Program. The district is working to become an approved apprenticeship site, allowing aspiring administrators to complete 2,000 hours of supervised experience aligned with specific administrative competencies.

Proposed 2027–2028 School Calendar

Included in this month's Board packet is the proposed 2027–2028 school calendar. The calendar was developed using feedback from district staff and community surveys, followed by

additional review and input from the administrative team and the Associated Teachers of Petersburg (ATP).

The proposed calendar reflects a combination of the preferences expressed throughout the feedback process while balancing instructional needs, staff considerations, and calendar requirements.

Key Dates in the Proposed Calendar

Month	Important Dates
August 2027	Aug. 17 – Teacher workday; Aug. 24 – First day for students
September	Sept. 6 – Labor Day; Sept. 24 – District in-service
October/November	Oct. 29 and Nov. 1 – Fall parent-teacher conferences
November	Nov. 23 – Early release; Nov. 24–26 – Thanksgiving break
December	Dec. 17 – Early release; Dec. 20 – Winter break begins
January 2028	Jan. 4 – Teacher workday; Jan. 5 – Students return; Jan. 24 – District in-service
February	Feb. 21–22 – Parent-teacher conferences
March	Mar. 9 – Early release; Mar. 10–17 – Spring break; Mar. 20 – Students return
April	Apr. 21 – District in-service (may be converted to a student day if needed due to weather-related school closures)
May	May 26 – Last day for students; May 29 – Memorial Day; May 30 – Teacher workday

The proposed calendar has been developed to meet the State of Alaska's instructional requirements and the provisions of the negotiated agreement with ATP.

Associated Teachers of Petersburg (ATP) Negotiations

The Associated Teachers of Petersburg (ATP) has notified School Board President Sarah Holmgrain of its interest in beginning contract negotiations during the last week of November.

We look forward to a respectful and collaborative negotiations process as we work toward a mutually agreeable contract that supports our employees while remaining mindful of the district's financial and operational responsibilities.

FY28 Capital Improvement Projects

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) has released its FY28 Capital Improvement Projects Major Maintenance priority list. Petersburg has two projects included in the statewide rankings:

- #23 – Petersburg Campus Security Upgrades: This project is currently in the final phases of completion.

- #34 – Petersburg Gym Sewer Line Repair: This project has been completed, and any state funding awarded would reimburse the Petersburg Borough for project expenses.

With a new governor and incoming legislature, we are hopeful that school infrastructure and major maintenance funding will receive renewed attention. Funding for these projects would help offset significant local investments already made to maintain and improve our school facilities.