

THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Date: February 11, 2021
To: Lake and Peninsula School Board
From: Ty Mase
Re: Superintendent's Report – February, 2021

Cares Act Funds – The silver lining to arguably our most challenging school year has been the monies that have flowed into our region/district. The most recent allocation to LPSD is \$508,000 which will help us balance our FY21 budget and hopefully there will be enough left over to replenish our depleted Construction Fund.

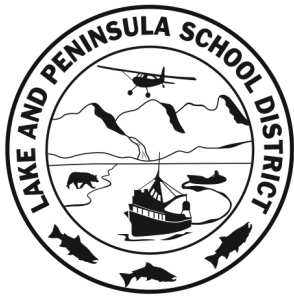
Newhalen Enrollment – While districts across the State have struggled with decreased enrollment, LPSD's remoteness and ability to offer in-person school has stabilized our enrollment. Newhalen is currently at 83 students (+17 preschoolers) and is starting to run out of room. While we have housing, we are running out of instructional space. This will be a topic of discussion for administration and the Board as we look toward the future.

Igiugig Duplex – Now our 5th largest site, Igiugig is in need of a third teacher and more classroom space. Currently the district has one housing unit and a small itinerant in IGI (we also rent a small house from the village). In order to house another teacher, we first will have to find additional housing. LPSD has been awarded an AHFC housing grant (\$500,000) for a new duplex. Our plan will be to begin construction this spring.

Graduations – As vaccinations make their way into our region and case counts start to drop, it seems that we might be able to pull off graduations this spring. Mitigation strategies will depend on the severity of the pandemic in April, but if things continue to improve, we may be able to have a more traditional graduation season.

Funding – The Governor's budget, for the most part, has held education harmless. It is speculated that this may be due to requirements to receive federal Covid funds. We will still be on the lookout for backdoor cuts to education, but hopefully we shouldn't have to deal with catastrophic educational cuts (knock on wood).

Spring Break – It has been decided that for schools with vacation days this spring, they can work these days and end their school year early according to days worked. For example, if a site has a full week spring break scheduled and they would like to have school instead, they could finish their school year on April 23rd. These will be site-based decisions involving LSACs.



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Preschool – Unfortunately, we are coming off a nice run of preschool grants. We are applying for an ANE Grant for next year, but if unsuccessful, we will need to plan to scale back this program until funding can be secured.

May Leadership Retreat – Just a reminder that we are planning a Spring Leadership Retreat/Teacher Literacy Retreat (Pandemic Pending) at Alyeska Resort on May 5-7. Please mark your calendars.

Library Update – Just an update on this project... Our school sites will be receiving a library makeover this May. Each site has \$20,000 (grant funded) to spend on books, furniture and library supplies. In May libraries will be weeded, refreshed with new books and reorganized. This is well past due – very exciting.

SNAP – While we don't see a traditional SNAP Meet being held this spring, we are going to watch our situation closely and if possible, we will try to plan a culminating experience (along w/prom) at the end of the school year for our students.