

North Slope Borough School District



RESOLUTION 25-04

NSBSD MEMBERSHIP IN VOICE OF THE ARCTIC IÑUPIAT

WHEREAS, the North Slope Borough School District Board of Education (“NSBSD”) is a regional organization formed under the laws of the North Slope Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat is a not-for-profit corporation formed under the laws of the State of Alaska and pursuant to Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States internal revenue law) (the “Code”); and,

WHEREAS, as recently as December 20, 2024, the North Slope Borough Board of Education resolved to be a member of the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat; and,

WHEREAS, the decision to be a member of the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat was based on the stated purposes of the organization which include to establish a “unified Voice of the Arctic Inupiat.”; and,

WHEREAS, the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat has stated its purpose is to “join together to speak as one on issues that affect our well-being.”; and,

WHEREAS, The VOICE of the Arctic Iñupiat’s Mission Statement is “Preserving and advancing North Slope Iñupiat cultural and economic self-determination.”; and,

WHEREAS, the NSBSD Board of Education’s mission is to support “students who are empowered, culturally rooted, bilingual, healthy, critical, creative, life-long learners”; and,

WHEREAS, at the March 19, 2025 Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat Annual Board meeting, the District was invited to share a report, after which the Superintendent was subjected to questions, accusations and comments from board members which were openly hostile, targeted District staff, questioned the transparency of the District and questioned the integrity and leadership of the Superintendent personally; and,

WHEREAS, the comments, accusations, and questions created a climate of disrespect which is inconsistent with Iñupiat values and the fundamental value of unity espoused by the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat; and,

WHEREAS, neither the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat nor any director of the Board of the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat called a point of order or otherwise took effective action to stop the disrespectful verbal attacks and accusations; and,

WHEREAS, since March 19, 2025, the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat has not taken any formal action that would underscore its purpose, and has not clearly communicated that the conduct displayed at the meeting of March 19, 2025 did not reflect the organization or the Iñupiat values at the foundation of all members of the Voice of the Arctic,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. The North Slope Borough School District Board of Education requests that the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat Board of Directors provide an explanation of the conduct and control of the meeting of March 19, 2025 and, further, provide an appropriate written statement of apology to the District and its Superintendent.
2. The Fifth Amended Bylaws of the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat provides that a member may withdraw from the organization upon resolution of the governing body “and upon reasonable notice given to the Board of Directors.” Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat Bylaws, Article II, Section 4. The North Slope Borough Board of Education, by the adoption of this Resolution, hereby gives notice of withdrawal from the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat which withdrawal will be effective as of the close of business on the date of the Voice of the Arctic Iñupiat Board of Directors’ next meeting or August 14, 2025 (the first day of school), whichever occurs first.

CERTIFICATION

I, Frieda Nageak, do hereby certify that I am the clerk of North Slope Borough Board of Education; and that, at a meeting of the Board of Education, duly held on April 25, 2025, at which meeting a quorum of the Board of Education attended and participated, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, by order of the North Slope Borough School District Board of Education thereof, this 25th day of April 2025.


Frieda Nageak (May 6, 2025 14:25 AKDT)

Frieda Nageak, Clerk

Attest:


John Hopson Jr. (May 7, 2025 16:31 AKDT)

John Hopson Jr., President