



SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 19569, 1010 Sandy Beach Road, Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919
(907) 828-8254 Fax: (907) 828-8257 E-mail: sisd@sisd.org

Resolution 2026-03

A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY DUE TO THE FAILURE OF THE FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM AT THORNE BAY SCHOOL GYMNASIUM AND DIRECTING IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT STUDENTS, STAFF, AND FACILITIES

WHEREAS, The Southeast Island School District has operated the Thorne Bay School gymnasium with a failed fire suppression system for an extended period, and despite repeated submissions through the State of Alaska's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) process for seventeen (17) consecutive years, funding has not been approved; and

WHEREAS, The District has identified this project as a life-safety necessity critical to the protection of students, staff, and facilities, yet less urgent projects such as flooring and siding replacements have been funded ahead of this request; and

WHEREAS, The District formally requested on August 14, 2025, that unexpended funds from the Hollis K-12 School Replacement Project (GR-20-002) be reallocated to address this urgent need, and the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) denied that request on August 26, 2025, citing statutory restrictions; and

WHEREAS, The District has implemented Fire Impairment Plan #2025IMP0005 in consultation with the State Fire Marshal as an interim mitigation measure, but such a plan does not provide the permanent protection necessary to ensure the safety of students and staff; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Rod Morrison has formally requested that DEED and the State of Alaska assume liability for any damages, injuries, or loss of life resulting from this long-unaddressed hazard, with a required written response no later than September 5, 2025, at 5:00 PM.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southeast Island School District Board of Education hereby:

1. Declares the failure of the fire suppression system at Thorne Bay School gymnasium to be an emergency life-safety hazard requiring immediate resolution.

2. Affirms its support for Superintendent Morrison’s formal request to the State of Alaska for assumption of liability and a release of liability for the District until a permanent replacement is installed.
3. Directs the Superintendent to pursue all necessary actions—including legal remedies, formal complaints, and public communications—to protect students, staff, and facilities should the State of Alaska fail to respond by the stated deadline.
4. Requests immediate engagement by local, state, and federal elected officials to secure emergency funding and support for this critical project.
5. Authorizes the Superintendent to bring forward funding and operational options at the next regular or special meeting of the Board should state action not be forthcoming.

ADOPTED September 17, 2025, at a duly convened meeting of the Southeast Island School District Board of Education at which a quorum was present and voting.

Anthony Lovell
SISD Board President

Attested: _____
Molly Kimzey
SISD Board Clerk