



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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February 12, 2020

To: Lake and Peninsula School Board
From: Tim McDermott

Re: Maintenance Report

How do you know the depth of character until it is tested? The School District showed an exceptional depth of character during the past two months of serious weather conditions and LPSD facilities were well tested. Relying on the SCADA system (Siemens Desigo Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system), and the diligence of the Tech Department in maintaining necessary communications, Maintenance was able to consistently monitor and control operations avoiding unnecessary travel in severe conditions. Constant diligence from maintenance department personnel attending and manipulating the mechanical systems paid dividends in minimal discomfort and no disruption to schedule or operation.

It cannot be stressed enough that local temporary maintenance hire in the villages is integral to Maintenance operations within this District. Nothing replaces eyes, ears, boots on the ground, and skin in the game. The willingness of these people to respond and communicate at literally any hour is beyond expectation and reflects the spirit and identity of rural Alaska. They need to be recognized for their dedication in answering their phones, being available, getting readings, making emergency repairs, gathering resources, providing a ride, delivering a message. The list is endless to the circumstances. Also recognition to the head teachers and site administrators who go above and beyond supporting operations without complaint, hands on, making up for the lack of available personnel at their sites due to illness, absence, and vacations during the prolonged cold.

As a benefit to this fundamental local support, travelling field maintenance personnel were able to focus on HVAC operations and maintenance, spending over 30 man days travelling through the District during December 2019 and over 15 man days in January 2020, resulting in no lost time during the critical cold.

For the remainder of the winter, direction will remain focused on operational support, maintaining health and safety, and addressing the site Work Orders with as little disruption as possible. As spring approaches the coming year inventories and orders have to be addressed and some of the compliance cycle will repeat itself in the form of fire sprinkler and alarm certifications, public water system requirements and the like.

The needs and resources of the upcoming four month seasonal recess, including the extent of required Housing attention, have yet to be determined. Facilities Use during the seasonal recess can only be anticipated. Certainly there will be some continuous summertime occupancy of District housing from our returning staff. It is not yet clear how much effort will be required to prepare vacated housing for new occupancy.