



Date: April 11, 2022
To: Lake and Peninsula School Board
From: Kasie Luke, Superintendent
Re: Board Report, April 14, 2022

Three weeks of school left in our FY22 year and I find it difficult to fully process how quickly the time has gone by. In reflection of the 2021-2022 school year as Superintendent, it's been amazing to see our system from this vantage point and how our LPSD family has worked day in and day out to provide for the students in each of our unique communities. We have strived to keep our "Better Together" mentality, facing a variety of peaks and valleys as a team and I am very proud of LPSD for the communication, connectedness, and collaboration. Thank you, Madam President Gerda, and Members of the Board Austin, Stacy, Shannon, Harry, Amber, and Beth for your guidance and support of LPSD students this past year.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead at the rest of April we have a lot of great place-based educational focused activities, NYO, CTE and culture events to wrap up our school days. Principals will be meeting at Alyeska for an in-person, end of year wrap up at the beginning of May during the same time End of Level Assessment team meets. Attached is a snapshot of the dates surrounding the wrap up of our year and what the start of our 2022-2023 year will look like.

Looking Ahead continued...

State NYO - April 21-23

CTE Week - April 24-30

CTE Aviation Week - May 2-7

Last Student Day - May 3

Teacher Work Day - May 4

Committee Work Days In Person - May 5-8

Principal Meeting in Person - May 6

ANSEP Middle School Academy - May 24-30

First Teacher Day - August 31

Katmai Inservice - August 31 - September 3

First Student Day - September 7

School Climate and Connectedness Survey

AASB will notify us with the results when they are available (likely this summer). May 11th webinar on interpreting LPSD's results so we know how to move forward. Fall of 2022 we will evaluate the results of School Climate and Connectedness Survey and effectiveness for future use of the survey for 2022-2023.

Air Taxi Committee

Our committee met on April 4 to discuss our air taxi approval process documents, ask questions, and make a plan to meet again prior to the beginning of summer. My goal in the upcoming weeks is to gain insight from legal on best practices, what LPSD can and cannot require from Air Taxis and share back with the committee to create an updated process prior to the start of our 2022-2023 school year. The Air Taxi Committee and Mr. John Sedor will convene again in early May.

Legislature Moves

The legislative processes have been stalled some over the past couple weeks due to an outbreak of COVID in the Capital, however there have been some moves made that will have an impact whether passively or directly in how we operate.

- **SB 111:** The Senate Finance Committee is ready to move SB 111 out of committee Monday, April 11, but there have been false starts on this before. We hear the concerns of Sen. Lyman Hoffman, D-Bethel, on how expanded school district Pre-K programs might affect local Head Start programs, have been resolved with an amendment in a new committee substitute. The bill will likely pass the Senate but its fate in the House is uncertain. Rural legislators stalled the House version, HB 164, in the House Education Committee, and SB 111 will go to that committee after passing the Senate. The opposition stems partly from desires of certain rural lawmakers for sweeping changes to rural school systems and, for others, a reluctance to pass a bill (early reading) the governor favors.
- **SB 34:** The Senate passes SB 34, establishing demonstration projects for state/tribal school compacts. The Senate passed this bill, by Sen. Gary Stevens, R-Kodiak, establishing a procedure for demonstration projects for tribal schools operating under the state public school system. The vote was 14 to one. The bill is now in the House Tribal Affairs Committee. This is a priority this year for rural legislators and Alaska Native groups who feel tribally-operated schools can provide a more culturally-responsive form of education for Alaska Native children than traditional schools. There are, of course, complications that must be worked out, such as how curriculum taught in tribal schools mesh with academic standards set by the state Board of Education. There are also issues in how funding will be worked out if tribal schools operate in the same region as state-supported traditional rural school districts.
- **HB 272/273:** The House Finance Committee is continuing work on two bills by Rep. Andi Story, D-Juneau, that would adjust the Base Student Allocation to offset inflation. It's likely these will pass the House, which is controlled by a Democrat-led coalition, but the outlook in the Senate and on the governor's desk is uncertain. The governor has said he will veto any bill providing more funding for schools unless the Legislature passes an early reading intervention bill, SB 111, or an equivalent. The Bill was still in House Finance last Friday (4/8/22)
- **HB 220:** Currently this Bill is headed to the House Finance Committee on Friday 4/14/22. HB 220 is an act relating to the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska and the teachers' retirement system; providing certain employees an opportunity to choose between the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska and the teachers' retirement system; and providing for an effective date.