



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jenson Drive
King Salmon, AK 99613
907-246-4280

101 W Arctic Ave, Suite D
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-7090



Date: March 10, 2021
To: Lake and Peninsula School Board
From: Ty Mase
Re: Superintendent's Report – March, 2021

As we approach the end of the year there is much to do. In a typical year anyone of the following would be a handful but this year we are dealing with all of the following in the last couple months of school:

Chignik Bay- With just a few kids in attendance, disastrous fishing years, and no medical clinic during a pandemic, Chignik Bay is on the ropes. We have transferred the teachers out, but still maintain hope that we can find a way to keep the doors open and the lights on. We will have collected the intent to enroll forms at the time of the meeting and will need to make a decision on Chignik Bay moving forward.

Newhalen- You will see and hear from Newhalen on their growing enrollment and lack of instructional, storage and kitchen space. We are planning to send a team into Newhalen to evaluate the situation, problem solve, and create a report to administration and the school board.

Upcoming Professional Development Events- We were beyond excited to secure several grants allowing us to bring our staff together and provide high quality professional development. Enter the Covid Pandemic and we find ourselves struggling to figure out what can be done and when the best time to do it is. We need to make decisions on the May Alyeska event, as well as August Inservice at Katmai Lodge. It's close to impossible to predict the future these days and know what is the right thing to do. For now, we will just continue to monitor, move, and adjust until we get back to better days.

Universal Masking- We are hearing from all sides on this topic and strive to find a middle ground where we can honor local control, yet keep our students and staff safe. The challenging part of this is that we are told that it should be required by our school district, yet the Borough, the State and the Federal Government have no such requirements. This leaves us in an awkward position, mandating and enforcing what others have chosen to recommend. We are working closely with our communities and medical professionals trying to figure this one out.

Spring Sports- Again, on any given meeting, this would be the hot topic, but when we meet, this will be one of many decisions we have to make. With this said, I am proud of what we have done to mitigate our sports program, and our State seems to be on the mend. I am hopeful that we can continue to provide opportunities for our students and possibly, with proper mitigation, look beyond our region for further competition. While I questioned Volleyball and Wrestling in the Fall, I think ASAA made a smart move by pushing these sports to late Spring as both seem much more feasible at this time.



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jenson Drive
King Salmon, AK 99613
907-246-4280

101 W Arctic Ave, Suite D
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-7090



Seniors- Will we be able to offer our upper classmen some sort of culminating experience (in leu of the SNAP Meet)? Will we be able to have somewhat normal graduations (w/mitigation)? We are working hard to make the end of the school year special and time will provide us with a lot of answers on what we can and cannot do as we approach the end of April.

Mount Veniaminof- What would busy times in Lake and Pen be without mother nature reminding us that we live in a very special and unique part of the world. Reports of volcanic activity have come from Perryville while surrounding villages are watching closely for ashfall.

Outschool- Mr. Cornell has a quite way of doing very big things for our kids and school district. This opportunity could be HUGE for LPSD! After years of watching electives slip away from LPSD, this program could change all of that. With over 100,000 course offerings, Outschool will allow students the opportunity to explore their individual interests and to enrich their education.

Transitioning Leadership- Incoming Superintendent, Kasie Luke, was a great choice and has a lot of support as we begin to pass the torch. Kasie is continuing to take her superintendent coursework, is becoming versed in AK's legislative process and we are debriefing on a daily basis as she becomes more familiar with the role and what she will need to be doing in the years to come.

To wrap things up, sure we have a lot to do and continue to have our challenges, but in the end, we have the team to tackle them and the result is hopefully more opportunities for our students amidst tough times. I am really proud of what we have done so far, how we have handled Covid, and sought common ground in a way that has allowed for a successful year.