

Superintendent's Report December 2024

Capital Improvement Projects:

General Obligation Bond: The Alaska Municipal Bond Bank Authority met on December 10th and officially approved the Petersburg Borough General Obligation Bond.

Ordinance #2024-12, titled "An Ordinance Providing for the Submission to the Qualified Voters of Petersburg Borough the Question of the Issuance of Not-to-Exceed Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) of General Obligation Bonds, to Pay Costs of Public School Capital Improvements in the Borough," passed its third reading at the August 5th Petersburg Borough Assembly meeting. These funds will assist with the costs of the Petersburg High School/Middle School Roof Replacement, the Petersburg High School/Middle School Security and Access Renovation, and the Petersburg Community and Gym Sewer Line Repair projects.

Project Updates

1. PHS/MMS Roof Replacement

- The 95% design drawings have been reviewed and submitted to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) for final compliance.
- Once approved, the project is scheduled to go out to bid on January 3, 2025.

2. PHS Administrative Renovation

- The 95% design drawings have been reviewed; one correction was identified and addressed.
- The revised drawings will be submitted to DEED for final compliance review.
- This project is also anticipated to go out to bid on January 3, 2025.

3. Petersburg Door Security Upgrade

- LCG will be onsite in early January to provide architectural and engineering services, including a door schedule drawing for the district's door security upgrades.
- Contracted cost for this phase: \$89,920.80.
- Due to the complexity of the electrical and mechanical components involved, the actual work is expected to take place during the summer of 2026.
- Scope Consideration: The project may focus on common area doors (e.g., gym, library) for fob access, while classroom doors may retain traditional key access. All exterior doors will be fob access. This decision will be cost-dependent.

4. Condition Survey

- LCG has proposed a contract of \$135,941.30 to conduct a Code and Condition Survey across all district facilities (approximately 120,000 sq. ft.):
 - Petersburg Middle/High School
 - Stedman Elementary School
 - Voc/Ed Shop Building
 - District Office Building

- This survey will evaluate mechanical and electrical systems, identifying visible deficiencies to help prioritize future capital improvement projects.
- Historical Context: The last condition survey was completed in 2008 by Jensen, Yorba, and Lott.
- Significance: A current survey will improve Petersburg’s DEED Capital Improvement Project (CIP) rankings. For example:
 - The PHS/MMS Security and Access Renovation project ranked 46 on the FY 2026 CIP Major Maintenance List.
 - Petersburg received 0 out of 10 points for not having a condition survey. Had full points been awarded, the project would have moved up to approximately 38 on the list.

Alaska Developmental Profile

The State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development has released its Alaska Developmental Profile results (ADP). The ADP is a way for teachers to assess where students are when they enter school based on the child’s skills and behaviors. There are 13 identified goals that children entering kindergarten should be demonstrating on a consistent basis according to Alaska’s [Early Learning Guidelines](#) for children from birth to school entry.

Our Petersburg kindergarten students demonstrated that they are entering school more prepared for success than their counterparts across the state.

Results Overview			
Group	Count of Students with Ratings	Consistently Met All 13 Goals	Consistently Met At Least 11 of the 13 Goals
Statewide	7831	18.92%	30.71%
Petersburg Borough School District	23	52.17%	73.91%
Rae C. Stedman Elementary	23	52.17%	73.91%

Budget Updates:

Winter Budget Revision

Director of Finance, Shannon Baird, will present the winter budget revision. The administrative and executive teams have carefully reviewed both short- and long-term needs and liabilities. The District Budget committee met in October to review priorities and give input. These updates are reflected in the proposed revision.

To align with Alaska DEED requirements, we will reduce fund balance (operating capital) to 10% of expenditures by the end of FY26. We ended FY24 with a fund balance (operating capital) of 16.63%. Proposed expenditures are strategic and designed to support the district's mission. Details will be outlined in the Director of Finance's presentation.

The Alaska Council of School Administrators shared this information regarding Governor Dunleavy's press conference on December 11th, 2024.

Governor Dunleavy released his proposed budget for FY26 during a [press conference](#) this afternoon. The proposed budget did not include funding increases for education. The budget proposed included flat funding to the BSA and Pupil Transportation.

The proposed education budget includes:

- *Total in K-12 Education \$1.5 billion*
- *\$1.1 billion in K-12 Foundation Formula funding*
- *\$67.8 million for Pupil Transportation*
- *\$2.75 million in continued support for Career and Technical Education, Teacher Apprenticeships, and Teacher Recruitment and Retention Initiatives*

The proposed overall budget is \$14.2 billion with a \$1.5 billion shortfall, covered by a draw from the CBR. The governor's proposed budget also includes a full \$3,892 statutory PFD, costing \$2.5 billion.

Staff Wellness

The district's Vitality Wellness Cheer Team—Shannon, Jon, Mara, and Robyn—has been actively encouraging staff to prioritize their health and wellness. Staff members enrolled in the district's Public Education Health Trust insurance plan are urged to sign up for the Vitality Wellness App and aim for "Silver" status.

If at least 50% of members achieve Silver status by the end of December 2024, the district and staff will continue to benefit from a 2% discount on insurance premiums. In 2024, this 2% premium credit saved a total of \$33,448.07, with \$27,293.63 going to the district and \$6,154.44 benefiting employees.

As on December 11th, we only need one more member to achieve Silver Status!

Early Education

Ginger Evens continues working to prepare the district to reapply for the Early Education Program Grant as well as setting the district up to apply for .5 ADM funding approval through operations of a preschool program.

Nutrition- Healthy Meals Incentive Awards

- Innovation in Nutrition Education

- Innovation in Nutrition Education recognizes the implementation of nutrition education activities that make classroom, cafeteria, community, and home connections for students and parents/guardians.
- Innovation in the Preparation of School Meals
- Innovation in the Preparation of School Meals recognizes schools who plan and prepare scratch recipes for school breakfast and lunch.
- Innovation in the Cultural Diversity of School Meals
- Innovation in the Cultural Diversity of School Meals recognizes nutritious school meal menu options that reflect the different cultures of students.
- Small and/or Rural SFA Breakfast Trailblazer
- School breakfast can be the foundation to student success. The Small and/or Rural SFA Breakfast Trailblazer fuels a student's day by providing a nutritious breakfast with limited added sugars.

Technology

- Khanmigo training for staff coming in January
- "Rooms" for teacher messaging

Testing

- There was a fire alarm during the recent SAT testing on 12/7 resulting in the invalidation of those tests. The make-up date is scheduled for 12/21.
- The Winter MAPS testing window is currently taking place.
 - Elementary School- The week of December 9th
 - Middle School- The week of 12/16
 - High School- The week of 1/8

Upcoming Dates:

December 20-21 Basketball vs. Sitka

December 23rd-January 7th- Christmas Break

January 3-4	Basketball @ Craig PHS Cheer Clinic @ PHS Gym
January 6th	Teacher inservice- no school for students
January 7-	Teacher inservice- no school for students (new)
January 8th	Policy committee meeting 3:30 District Office
January 10-11	PHS Homecoming vs. Wrangell
January 13th	MMS Awards Assembly 7th hour
January 14th	Poetry Out Loud- Auditorium 2-3 pm
January 15th	Wellness committee meeting 3:30 PHS Library
January 16-18	3rd Annual Petersburg Varsity Invitational Tournament
January 21st	School Board Meeting 6:00
January 23-25	MMS Wrestling @ Wrangell PHS Basketball 3rd Annual JV Jamboree
January 27th	Regular School Day (new)
Jan 30-Feb 1	PHS Basketball @ Lumen Christi
February 5th	Policy committee meeting 3:30 District Office
February 7-8	Basketball vs. Metlakatla

February 11th Budget Committee meeting 6:00 p.m. PHS Library
February 14-15 PHS Basketball @ Haines
February 17th President's Day- No School for Student/Teacher Inservice
February 18th School Board meeting 6:00 PHS Library
February 21-22 PHS Basketball @ Wrangell
February 27-28 Parent Teacher Conferences-
Early Out Elementary