



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Education
& Early Development

DIVISION OF EDUCATOR & SCHOOL EXCELLENCE
School Health & Safety

801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500
Main: 907.465.2830

February 18, 2019

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Thanks to contributions from many state programs and community partners, the Department of Education & Early Development is able to provide North Slope Borough School District a grant in the amount of \$3,200 to assist with the administration of the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). This anonymous and voluntary survey is being administered in your high schools by the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) in cooperation with the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The purpose of the funds is to support the successful implementation of the survey, so the Alaska YRBS Program strongly recommends that the funds are used to cover costs associated with YRBS promotion and/or administration. The Alaska YRBS Program also encourages school districts to divide the funds among the participating schools for use at the school level.

If your schools struggle with parental permission form return, you are strongly encouraged to use at least some of the money to support a strategy to provide incentives for students to return forms. Some schools enter students into a drawing and others offer class parties or prizes for classes with high permission form return rate. Please note: if you choose to offer incentives for permission form return, *any* signed form – regardless of whether the parent gives permission or not – must be eligible for the incentive.

Other common strategies used by school districts and schools to support the YRBS include: reminder calls, letters, and emails to parents about permission form return; stipends for counselors, school coordinators, or teachers to assist with tracking of permission forms and increasing understanding of the importance of the survey; and informational tables at school events, such as parent-teacher conferences. Finally, any money not used to support YRBS promotion and administration may be used to support a school program or activity that aims to reduce adolescent risk behavior.

These funds **must** be spent by June 30, 2019. Funds will not be available to spend after this date. There are no reporting requirements for the business office. If you have any questions please contact Kami Moore (DEED) at 465-2939 or Tazlina Mannix (DHSS) at 269-8107.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kami Moore".

Kami Moore
School Health Program Coordinator

Cc: Lila Krosschell, Finance Service Coordinator
Caitlin Montague, YRBS Coordinator
Ian Acuna, YRBS Coordinator