



## *Iñupiaq Language Commission*

**Iñupiaaraagupta ataramik naluruat Ilitkisirut**

*Speak Iñupiaq and they will learn*

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April 19, 2023

Terri Walker  
Superintendent of Schools  
Northwest Arctic Borough School District  
P.O. Box 51  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

Dear Terri

Regional Elders Council and Iñupiaq Language Commission are jointly submitting this Resolution 22-01 to strongly urge NWABSD in the future for opportunity for students to be more involved in attending in-region and statewide events. The connection would give the students more direct contact to learn the language and their own culture. This is the desire of students that have attended events in the past with Elders and also for Bilingual teachers to learn how the Elders teach the language to students.

The REC and ILC leadership are open to schedule a meeting with the school board to explain ideas of how best to work together in the future for close relationship and to partner to keep the student's interest in learning our culture.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Westlake. Sr.  
President, Regional Elders Council

Mary Maqik Schaeffer  
President, Iñupiaq Language Commission

cc: Margaret Hanson, President of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board  
Education