



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jensen Drive
King Salmon, AK 99613
907-313-3841

1617 S Industrial Way #1
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-7090



To: Tanalian LSAC

From: Lake and Peninsula School District School Board

Date: May 2025

Dear Members of the Tanalian LSAC,

On behalf of the Lake and Peninsula School Board, we sincerely thank you for your thoughtful letter dated April 2, 2025. We are grateful for your continued engagement with our board meetings and communications, and for offering clear, constructive feedback.

Your letter underscores a shared commitment to student success across our district. We appreciate your recognition of the value in employing individuals who live within our communities while also emphasizing the importance of prioritizing qualifications and budget considerations in hiring decisions. We understand and respect your suggested hiring priorities:

- 1. Qualifications**
- 2. Budget/Funding**
- 3. Local and/or ability to become local**

These priorities reflect a balanced and pragmatic approach that considers the unique needs of our students, the capacity of our communities, and the sustainability of our district. We agree that while local presence fosters strong community ties, it must be aligned with our overarching goal: delivering the highest quality education possible.

In our February response to the petition, we emphasized our intention to transition positions into communities over the next 1–3 years—where housing is available—while maintaining operational stability. Your feedback supports this direction and affirms the importance of thoughtful, deliberate progress.

To clarify: our current efforts aim to *expand* local opportunities without compromising educational excellence or the functionality of district operations. We acknowledge the need for transparent, criteria-based hiring processes that weigh multiple factors—including those you've outlined—in a fair and equitable manner.

Chignik Bay • Chignik Lagoon • Chignik Lake • Igiugig • Kokhanok • Levelock
Newhalen • Nondalton • Perryville • Pilot Point • Port Alsworth • Port Heiden



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jensen Drive
King Salmon, AK 99613
907-313-3841

1617 S Industrial Way #1
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-7090



We are committed to ongoing dialogue and collaboration with LSACs. Your voice plays an essential role in shaping district policies that serve our communities effectively. Thank you again for your engagement, and we look forward to continued partnership as we move forward together.

Sincerely,
Kasie Luke
Superintendent

CC: LPSD School Board

April 2, 2025

Lake and Peninsula School Board
P.O. Box 498
King Salmon, AK 99613

To the Members of the Lake and Peninsula School District,

We, the Tanalian School LSAC, are writing to respond to the recent petition for local hires and subsequent District hiring approaches. We would like to request that the District consider including in its hiring policies two additional factors when it comes to hiring within the Borough area, Qualifications and Budget/Funding, since the students and their successful education are the most important objective of the District.

As involved members of our area and district's communities, we understand the importance of having school and district employees live locally. We see how this helps sustain our local communities and economies and helps relationships between personnel and parents and students. However, we are concerned that the current hiring practices of focusing more primarily on local hire may be limiting the pool of talented and experienced applicants the District is able to consider.

Therefore, we offer the following priorities, in order of importance to us, to consider when hiring:

1. Qualifications
2. Budget/Funding
3. Local and/or the ability to become Local/move into a village

We hope these priorities will be a way to both focus on qualifications for the best educational experience for all our students throughout the District while still considering the value of local living.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We are confident that by working together, we can ensure that our schools have the best possible teachers and staff to support the success of all our students.

Sincerely,

Tanalian LSAC
Heidi Wilder - President
Leo Fowler - Vice President
Elisha Wegner - Secretary
Darcy Lorentzen
Eric Davidson
Jen Opland