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KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

Your voice is needed:

state lawmakers want to know where you stand

Community schools, sports and activities, and effective class sizes are critical to continue successful outcomes for K-12 schools on the Kenai Peninsula. On February 13, 2019, the Governor proposed a budget substitute for the 2019-2020 school year that will result in a cut of \$22.4 million from KPBSD schools.

However, the Governor and state legislators want to hear from you about that proposed budget before it is set in stone. Therefore, now is the time to join the conversation and contribute to positive outcomes for our young people through these opportunities to speak up about what you value in schools and education funding:

Saturday, March 23, 2019

- 5:30 – 8:30 PM: Soldotna Regional Sports Complex. **House Finance Committee Community Budget Meeting**, public testimony encouraged.*

Monday, March 25, 2019

- 4:00 – 5:00 PM: The Birds Eye View weekly KSRM 920 AM radio show, **guest Governor Michael J. Dunleavy**. Call in number: 907-283-5811, [listen live online](#)
- 6:00 – 8:00 PM: The Cannery Lodge, Kenai. **Statewide Discussion for a Permanent Fiscal Plan** with Governor Dunleavy and team. [Event is full, wait list only](#).*

“One thing is clear, in order to be successful, we must have the engagement and support of the Alaskan people.” – Governor Michael J. Dunleavy

“Cuts and efficiencies are possible and necessary, but these proposed reductions would have significant impacts on elders and youth, rural and urban residents, and every facet of our economy. Because of this stark reality, all budget decisions must be informed by input from people across our state.” – House Speaker Bryce Edgmon

*[KDLL 91.9 FM](#) public radio will stream these events live.

KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-FOUR DIVERSE SCHOOLS

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures.
ANCHOR POINT COOPER LANDING HOMER HOPE KACHEMAK SELO KENAI MOOSE PASS NANWALEK NIKISKI NIKOLAEVSK NINILCHIK PORT GRAHAM
RAZDOLNA SELDOVIA SEWARD SOLDOTNA STERLING TUSTUMENA TYONEK VOZNESENKA

FOR RELEASE MARCH 22, 2019

1 OF 2

District administration, principals, and the Board of Education identified cuts that will be necessary if the Governor's proposed budget is adopted. This list is \$5 million shy of the proposed \$22.4 million cut.

\$ 22.4 million
A sobering look at what the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District would have to cut to begin to meet the Governor's proposed reduction to state funding

- The Governor Michael J. Dunleavy 2019-2020 State Budget proposed drastic cuts to education funding
- Alaska State Legislators could honor the FY20 education funding put into law in 2018 by the 30th Legislature
- KPBSD schools are funded by the State of Alaska and the Kenai Peninsula Borough

CLASS SIZES AND STAFF REDUCTIONS

Increase Pupil-To-Teacher (PTR) ratios:

- Plus 7 students to high school classes
- Plus 6 students to middle school classes
- Plus 2 students to elementary school classes
- Plus 2 students to K-12 school classes
- Plus 3 students to Connections Homeschool
- Reduce administrators
- Eliminate professional development support for new teachers

Support staff reductions:

- Eliminate some job classifications
- Reduce hours for some positions
- Reduce contract days in annual work calendar

SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES DISTRICT PROGRAMS

- Discontinue and eliminate all sports in high school and middle school, athletic directors, coach stipends, extra-curricular activities including music, yearbook, DDF, etc., ASAA, and KPSAA activities
- Eliminate the District Mobile App
- Eliminate FY20 School Technology Plan purchases
- Discontinue inservice meals and snacks
- Reduce funding to Student Nutrition Service (SNS)
- Reduce school funding to charter schools: Aurora Borealis, Fireweed Academy, Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science, Soldotna Montessori
- Cut school supplies by 10%

SCHOOL CONSOLIDATIONS AND CLOSURES

- Close Chapman School
- Close McNeil Canyon School
- Close Moose Pass School
- Close Nikiski Middle-High School
- Close Seward Middle School
- Close Soldotna Prep School
- Additional consolidations and closures are under review

Close Pools in:
 Kenai, Homer, Ninilchik, Seldovia, Seward, and Soldotna

Close Theaters in:
 Kenai, Homer, Nikiski, Seward, and Soldotna

In addition to this list, \$5 million further in cuts would be needed to meet the deficit the Governor's proposed budget would create. State funding reductions link to how much the Borough can fund, creating an even further reduction to education funding. Current bills before the legislature may also affect Borough revenue. This creates an even larger deficit.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Contact your state legislator via phone, email, or attend a town hall meeting
- Testify at a legislative hearing in a LIO office, make a phone call, or write a letter
- Attend Borough Assembly meetings, talk to Assembly members about "local" Borough funding
- Talk to your principal or school site council about the impact of education funding reductions to your school
- Advocate for a realistic state fiscal plan, speak up and share your positive stories about education

www.KPBSD.org The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures. [Social Media Icons]

Links

- Informational PDF printable flyer: [Kenai Peninsula Borough School District \\$22.4 million in cuts to KPBSD options identified by administrators and school board](#)
- Informational PDF printable flyer: [Kenai Peninsula state legislators and their KPBSD schools](#)
- [The Alaska State Legislature website](#)
- [Office of the Governor of Alaska website](#)
- [Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly webpage](#)
- [KPBSD Finance webpage](#)
- [The Legislature and KPBSD](#)

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