

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7553
Phone (907) 714-8888 Fax (907) 262-9132
www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us

SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

Title: Security and School Safety Fund Expenditures

Date: July 30, 2013

Item Number:

Worksession

Administrator: Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent



Attachments:

Action Needed For Discussion Information Other: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Alaska Legislature included a one-time appropriation of \$21 million in the FY2014 Capital Budget to be distributed as capital grants to school districts according to their adjusted average daily membership for student safety and security enhancement. KPBSD's share of that funding equals \$1,465,836.

During last December and January we asked each building to meet and discuss perceived safety gaps in their school's security. We then subsequently shared that information with the school board. As we look at expending the safety and security money from the legislature, administration feels it is important that we use those funds to address the safety concerns brought forward by our staff.

Areas of concern that could be addressed are as follows:

Door Locks – Historically, standard construction in schools has included doors that are opened and locked from the hallway side of the door. This means that if a teacher needs to lock the door, they must go out in the hall to do so. In the case of an intruder being in the building, entry into the hall to lock the door exposes the teacher and students to danger. To correct this exposure, we would need to install locks that have the ability to be opened or locked from the inside of the room as well as in the hallway. We have estimated the materials and labor costs for a standard elementary school to be in the range of \$22,000 to \$24,000 per school. When you project the cost for 42 school buildings, you can see that a large majority of the money could be spent fixing the door lock concerns.

Front Door Entrances – We have some schools where the front door entrance is not viewable from the school office. One solution to these buildings would be major construction to alter the building and correct the problem. However, the funds needed for those corrections exceed the funding we have received and would take longer than we would like to address the problem. A shorter term solution for these buildings would involve the installation of cameras and possibly electronic locking doors to be controlled from the office. We are in the process of obtaining cost estimates for this type of project and anticipate having that information to be able to share at the worksession.

Intercom Communication Systems – We have schools that have intercom systems that are currently inoperable, non-existent or have dead spots. Communication is a critical part of our Emergency Action Plan and schools need to be able to communicate with staff and students throughout their building. We are in the process of evaluating buildings with intercom system problems as well as estimating the cost of providing a solution to those problems. We will have more detail regarding these costs at the worksession.

Window Blinds – Many schools have rooms with window blinds that are inoperable or non-existent. If any funds remained after the completion of the projects above, the district could consider addressing the window blind concerns.

We have been reviewing the FY2014 General Fund Budget for expenditures related to safety and security. At this time we have not been able to identify any budgeted expenditures of any substantial amount.

We will be prepared to discuss this matter at the worksession.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

For your information.