



## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Assistant Superintendent

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July 5, 2012

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

THROUGH: Steve Atwater, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Possible Biomass Heating of Seward schools

We have been doing some preliminary work with Daniel Parrent, Biomass & Forest Stewardship Coordinator with the USDA Forest Service. We are looking at the possibility of heating the Seward schools with wood pellets. The belief is that this would reduce diesel fuel usage and would result in a cost savings to the District. The intention would be to obtain grants to pay for the mechanical systems required to put a biomass heating system in place.

Mr. Parrent is scheduled to give a presentation to the Board during the Hearing of Delegations section in the agenda. If the Board is interested in pursuing this project, the District will need to pursue grant funding to be able to move forward. Currently, grant funding is available on the federal level through the USDA Forest Service and on the state level through the Alaska Energy Authority. The federal application window is in the spring, but the state window is in the fall. It is anticipated that the Alaska Energy Authority will open the window for the next round of the Renewable Energy Fund Grant program in August, 2011. This will mean that the District will need to act quickly to be able to submit a grant application.

Administration recommends the Board authorize administration to take actions necessary to move forward with the application for funding through the Renewable Energy Fund Grant offered by the Alaska Energy Authority.