

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

**Title:** School Facilities for Kachemak Selo and Razdolna

**Date:** July 27, 2012

**Item Number:**

Worksession

**Administrator:** Steve Atwater, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools *Steve Atwater*

**Attachments:**

Action Needed  For Discussion  Information  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Late last fall the community of Kachemak Selo met with members of the borough and district to begin the conversation of what it would take to build a new school in their community. We discussed the limitations of the area (limited accessibility, no borough owned land and poor drainage) as well as how necessary funding would need to be secured to pay for a new building. At the end of the meeting the community agreed to identify a piece of land that the borough could buy and the borough agreed to gather information to help position itself to pursue a Community Development Block Grant.

Since then, the district and borough worked with the community and has identified a suitable piece of land. During this process, the borough and district learned that there is a trail from K-Selo to Razdolna that circumvents the bluff. Recall that the primary access to K-Selo is down the bluff by the switchback. The switchback is not an official road and is thus, not maintained by the borough or state. The borough also determined that a Community Development Block Grant would not provide sufficient funding for the desired school at K-Selo. In sum, to build a school at K-Selo would require borough/state funds.

At the end of June district and borough administration met to discuss the next steps to building a school facility at K-Selo. It was recognized that the small enrollment (75 at the end of FY12) and the high cost of construction would make it difficult to secure enough funds to build a suitable building. With the understanding that a road could be constructed in the place of the mentioned trail, the borough and school district are interested in building a school that would serve both K-Selo and Razdolna. The existing schools in both communities are not satisfactory. In sum, securing funds once for one building makes more sense than trying to build two schools at different times. Note that we have not held formal conversations with the community of Razdolna on this and have only spoken to the K-Selo community about a new school located in their village.

The borough is now exploring possible locations for a school that would serve both communities and determining the feasibility of constructing a road to transport students.

The purpose of this worksession is to inform the board of the activity to date on this and to get the board's feedback on adding a request for one school for our Old Believer communities to our CIP application that is due to the state on September 1.

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

N/A