

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

The Heart of the Peninsula



Annual Report
2010 - 2011



Superintendent Message

Each year, I am amazed at the many accomplishments of our students, teachers and support staff. Our school district is brimming with achievements. From students receiving the highest level of academic recognition to championship sports teams, our students and schools are continually recognized as outstanding. This high set of expectations that we all hold for our 44 schools is producing results.

A thriving school district is at the heart of our peninsula communities. These results would not be possible without a strong community-wide commitment to offering our students a quality education. As I visit our communities, it is clear that the schools are the central hub of activity. As the peninsula's largest employer, KPBSD is one of the region's main economic engines and embraces our role of growing the next generation of leaders. It is clear that KPBSD is the heart of the peninsula.

We hope that you will enjoy this retrospective of the past year. The format of this report is new for us; please let us know what you think by going to the communications section of our website where you will see a link to provide feedback. Thank you for all that you do to support our students.

Steve Atwater
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

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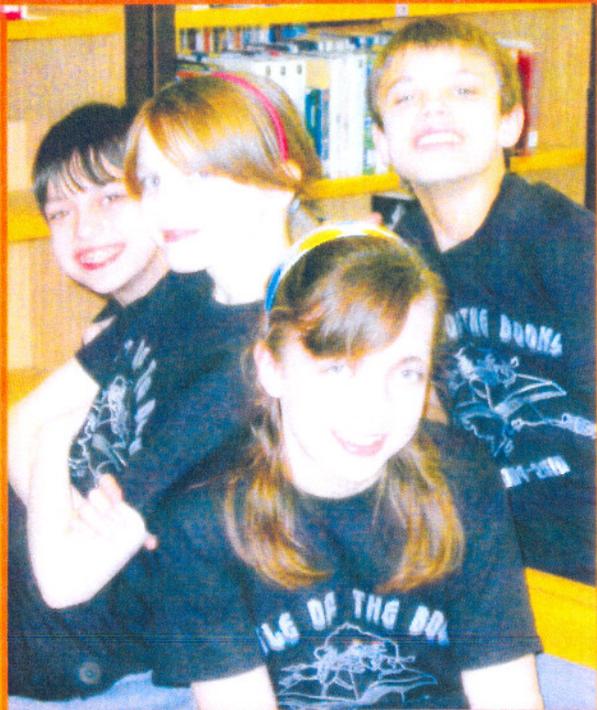
Strategic Goals Update

Last year, as a way to focus our improvement efforts, the district set three goals. We recognized the need to more seamlessly integrate technology into our instruction, provide better means for staff collaboration and increase our efficiencies through the use of quality processes. I am pleased that we took significant strides toward meeting each of these goals.

With more than 6,000 computers and 250 smart boards now in the district, it's fair to say that our students are using more technology throughout the school day than ever before. This improvement to our classrooms allows teachers to include a variety of learning media in their lessons.

In the area of collaboration, there are numerous examples of our schools and teachers sharing ideas and working on common problems. Our smallest schools are often pooling their resources to pursue a common activity while several of our middle schools are working directly with the local high school and elementary schools to ensure a good understanding of the K-12 continuum of curriculum.

Many of our schools and teachers embraced quality processes as a way to more efficiently conduct business. Teachers utilized quality process in their classes to make group decisions. On a grander scale, the stakeholders of Seward High School used these processes to create their new mission statement.



BOE Members

Joe Arness
Liz Downing
Sunni Hiltz
Sammy Crawford
Marty Anderson

Lynn Hohl
Bill Holt
Tim Navarre
Penny Vadla
Destini Riley



Board Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Location
August 17, 2010*	9 a.m.	Kenai Central High School
September 3, 2010	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
September 13, 2010	7 pm	Homer High School
October 18, 2010	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
November 1, 2010	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
December 6, 2010	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
January 10, 2011	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
February 7, 2011	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
March 7, 2011	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
April 4, 2011	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
May 2, 2011	7 pm	Seward High School
June 6, 2011	7 pm	Borough Assembly Chambers
June 7, 2011*	TBA	TBA

*Board Planning Sessions

The KPBSD will begin offering two new ways to increase public involvement in Board of Education meetings. Live audio streaming will be available via the district website at www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us.

Members of the public may also submit questions pertaining to the board agenda *prior to 5 p.m.* on the day of the scheduled meeting. Questions and comments may be submitted via e-mail to boardcomment@kpbsd.k12.ak.us.

"The board views this undertaking as an opportunity to provide a way for the public to listen in to our meetings, as well as a mechanism for folks to make their feelings known regarding specific agenda items," explains Joe Arness, Kenai Peninsula Board of Education President.

Board President Message

Being in the position of serving the Kenai Peninsula as a member of the Board of Education is a truly amazing opportunity. To be a part of this vibrant, professional, dynamic, and successful organization is a wonderful experience. The role of the Board in this "machine" is to see that the resources and personnel are in place to deliver the service which the citizens of the Kenai Peninsula have come to expect. In reviewing the operations and results of the past school year, I feel as though we all have something to celebrate. The smooth transition of superintendents, the relatively successful conclusion of some funding controversies with the Boro, and the receipt of another series of positive testing indicators have all combined to make last year a great foundation upon which we hope to build a truly outstanding school system in 2011 and beyond.

—Mr. Joe Arness,
KPBSD Board of Education President

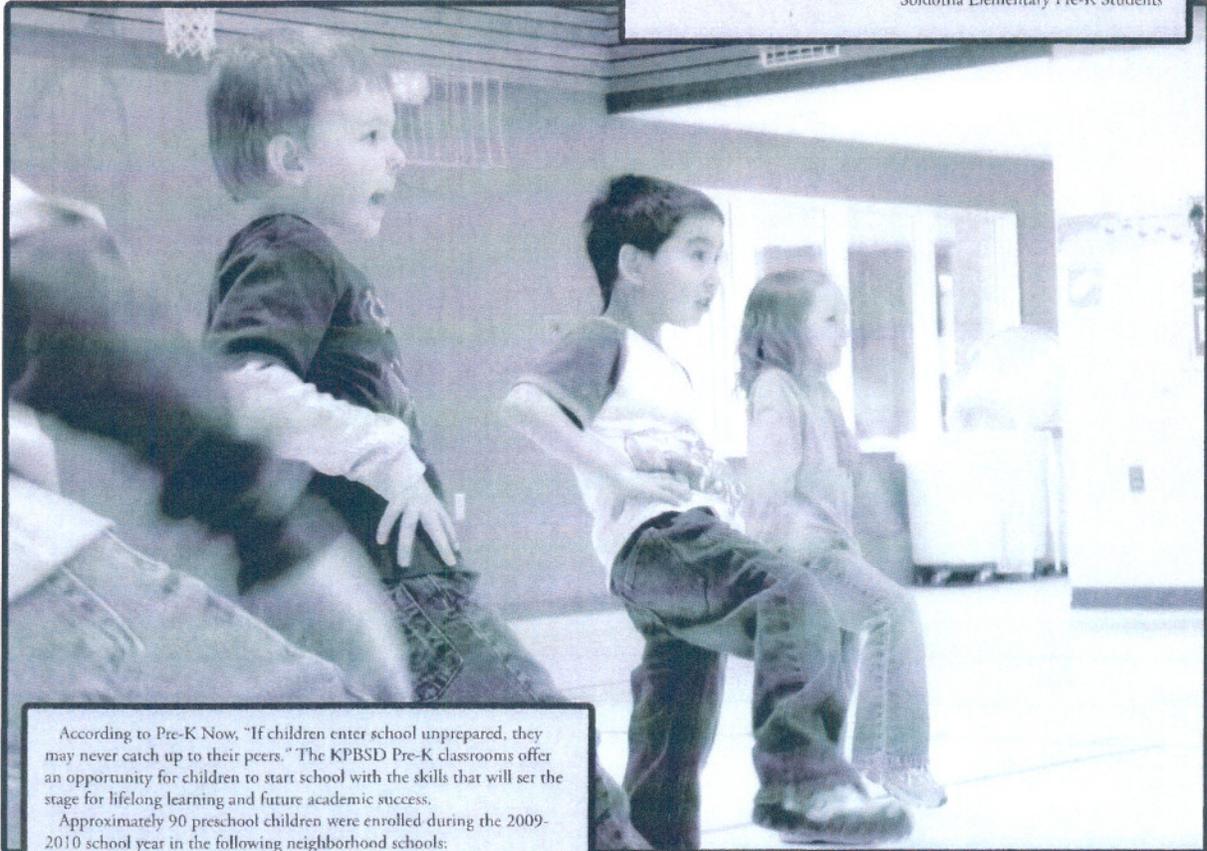


A Start to Life-Long Learning



"I feel very privileged that both my children got to go through a program like this. My son attended Nikiski and my daughter attended Soldotna Elementary. We weren't sure whether to start my daughter in preschool this year. Because of the preschool program my daughter is on par with where she needs to be to start in the fall. Both my kids loved their preschool and thrived in it. I'm very happy to hear Redoubt is getting a program. I have already spoken with parents who say they plan to enroll their children in the new preschool."

—Chrissie Morrison, Parent of Nikiski North Star and Soldotna Elementary Pre-K Students



According to Pre-K Now, "If children enter school unprepared, they may never catch up to their peers." The KPBSD Pre-K classrooms offer an opportunity for children to start school with the skills that will set the stage for lifelong learning and future academic success.

Approximately 90 preschool children were enrolled during the 2009-2010 school year in the following neighborhood schools:

- Hope
- Mountain View
- Nikiski North Star
- Paul Banks Elementary
- Soldotna Elementary
- Tustumena
- William H. Seward Elementary School

A preschool program is slated to open at Redoubt Elementary for the 2010/2011 school year.

"The district recognizes the pressing need to prepare our youngsters for school and uses part of its federal funds for eight preschool programs. Although we have a high level of interest in these programs, we are limited by our funding source to only offer preschool to about 10 percent of our students," explains Dr. Arwater, KPBSD Superintendent.

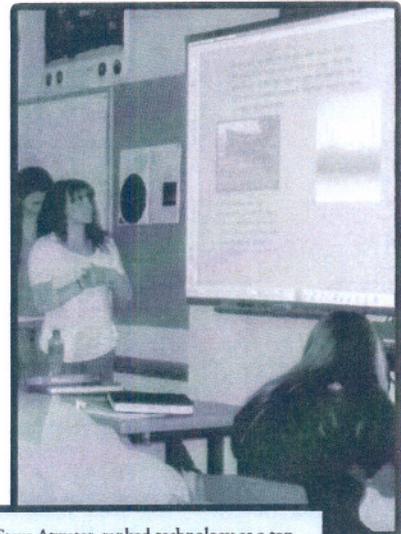
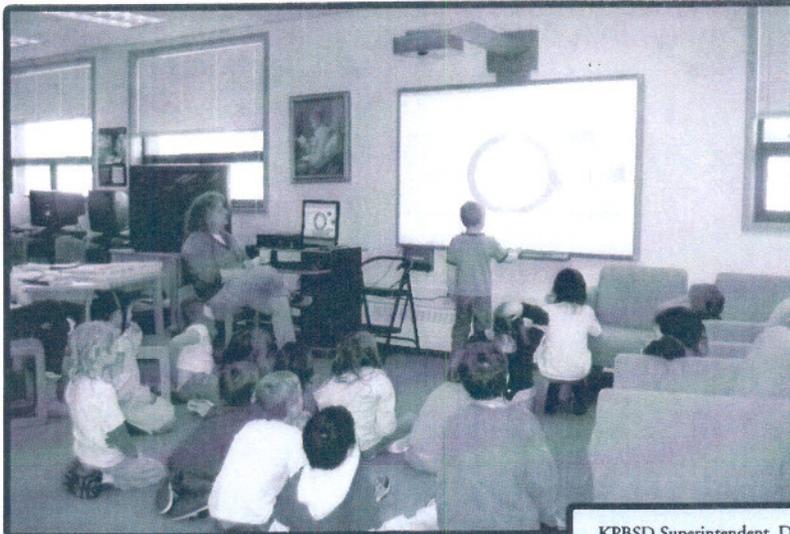


"My son loved it. Mrs. Granger was awesome and the kids loved her. In talking with other parents they were so thankful to have the program there, so that the kids are prepared for kindergarten. I am hoping that when my daughter is old enough that there will be room for her to attend. I know there is already a waiting list for next year."

—Liane Glick, Parent of Tustumena Pre-K Student

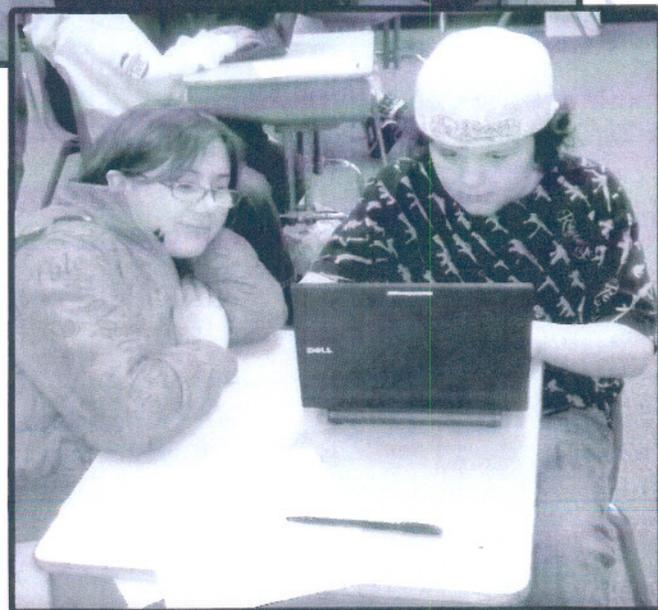


Integration of Technology Throughout the Curriculum



KPBSD Superintendent, Dr. Steve Atwater, ranked technology as a top priority for the 2009-2010 school year. The district advanced several new technology initiatives in addition to the 800 plus computers that were replaced as part of the district's annual technology replacement plan:

- Wireless access points were added into 38 buildings.
- Almost 1,000 additional laptop and smaller netbook computers were added in schools districtwide.
- Over 250 interactive white boards were installed in district classrooms this school year.
- Twenty-eight, on-line courses were available for students by highly qualified teachers.
- Differentiated professional development was provided throughout the year for all teachers utilizing SMART Board technologies and Google Applications in their instruction.
- Discovery Education, a digital video-based learning resource that offers integrated simulations, explorations, ebooks and virtual labs, were implemented districtwide.
- Discovery Education Health, a comprehensive library of health and prevention content, was added districtwide.
- Discovery Education MediaShare, a powerful web-based content sharing system that allows students and teachers to share user-created or licensed digital content, was also added districtwide.



High Achiever

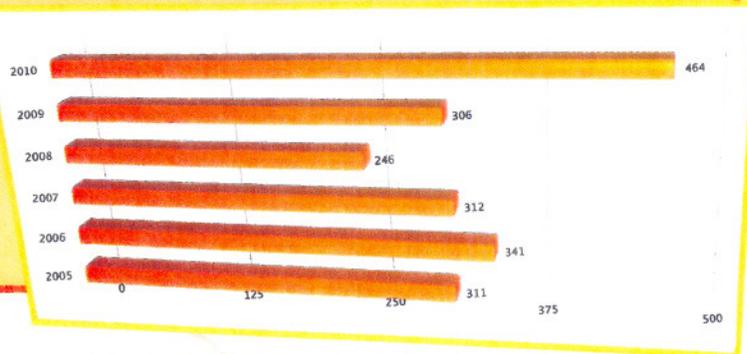
Striving for excellence is at the heart of our instruction. We are proud of our KPBSD students. They continue to rise to the level of our expectations, and that continual push for excellence makes our district stand above both the state and the nation.

	SAT Reading	SAT Math	ACT English (Writing)	ACT Math	ACT Reading	ACT Science	ACT Composite%
Higher Than the State of Alaska Average	2.1%	1.5%	11.37%	7.5%	10.4%	8.1%	10.2%
% Higher Than the National Average	5%	1.6%	10%	9.9%	13.1%	8.4%	10.3%

*SAT Data Source: College Board District Highlights Reports *ACT Data Source: ACT High School Profile Reports *AP Data Source: Discovery ED Database

Two landmark studies by University of Texas at Austin researchers concluded that "students who successfully participated in one or more AP tests and courses, significantly outperformed their non-AP peers. These comparisons were made among peers with similar levels of academic ability and family economic status. Students who took one or more AP tests and courses had higher college GPAs, earned more credit hours and were more likely to graduate in four years or fewer." (Hargrove, Dodd and Randall. 2007. The University of Texas at Austin). At the KPBSD, the total number of students taking Advanced Placement courses has risen by 153 (33%) students since 2005.

Number of Students Enrolled in All AP Courses



Future Problem Solvers

Tustumena recently competed and placed 12th out of 128 teams in the 2010 International Future Problem Solving Competition. The school competed in the Junior Global Issues Alternate Division. The competition, held at the University of La Crosse Wisconsin, brought together dozens of teams from all over the world, including Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore and the United States. Future Problem Solvers International (FPSI) stimulates critical and creative thinking skills and encourages students to develop a vision for the future. FPSI features curricular and co-curricular competitive, as well as non-competitive, activities in creative problem solving. FPSI involves over 250,000 students.



ent of Students

Scholarships

The 2010 KPBSD graduating class of seniors received \$2,708,613 in scholarship offers.

Sports

- 57 teams placed at state in Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Girls Cross Country, Boys Cross Country, Football, Hockey, Boys Nordic Ski, Girls Nordic Ski, Soccer, Softball, Track & Field, Volleyball and Wrestling.
- 47 students competed and placed individually at State in Cross Country and Wrestling.
- 43 students were Alaska Top Finishers, Top State Performers and Outstanding Competitors in Cross Country, Football, Hockey, Soccer, Softball, Track & Field and Volleyball.
- 31 students were chosen to be on Good Sport Teams in Cross Country, Football, Hockey, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball.
- 6 teams were recognized for their sportsmanship in Football, Softball, Swimming, Track & Field, Volleyball and Wrestling.
- 3 teams were recognized for their academic GPA in Football, Hockey and Track & Field.
- 27 students were chosen for All-Tournament in Football, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball.
- 22 students were named Players of the Match/Game in Football, Hockey, Soccer, Softball, and Volleyball.
- 4 KPBSD students took Player of the Year, Offensive Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Lineman of the Year in Football.
- 25 students were chosen for All State in Football and Hockey.
- 1 team and 2 individuals set new state records in Track & Field.

Activities

- 3 individuals took the top 3 spots in ceramics and sculpture out of 141 entries from 22 schools statewide in 10 categories.
- 2 schools placed at state in Duet Acting, Reader's Theatre, Dramatic Interpretation, Expository Speaking and Policy Debate.
- 1 school was recognized for their sportsmanship in Drama, Debate and Forensics.
- 4 students were recognized as All State First Chairs in Band.
- 1 student was recognized as an All State First Chair in Mixed Choir.
- 6 students were invited to take part in the Alaska Solo & Ensemble Music Festival as command performers.
- 5 students were selected for National Honor Choir.



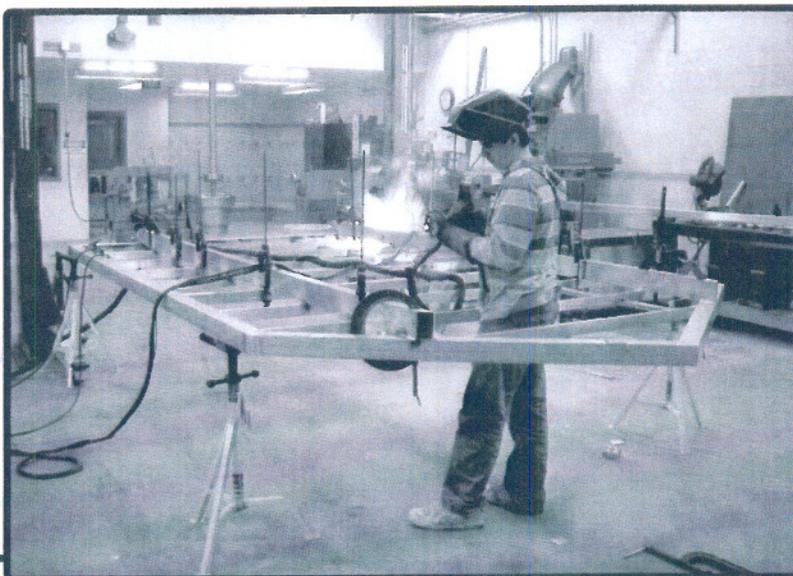
Photo courtesy of Ivy O'Brien



Teaching Beyond the Core

"Last summer we hired two students as general helpers. One student had been through two academies, the other student hadn't. It only took a few days to see that the person that went through the academies had a lot more experience working with various tools, materials and equipment and also had better work ethics." He went on to say, "the academy experience for that person paid big dividends, because after a few weeks I decided to hire him full time, and ended up laying off the other worker."

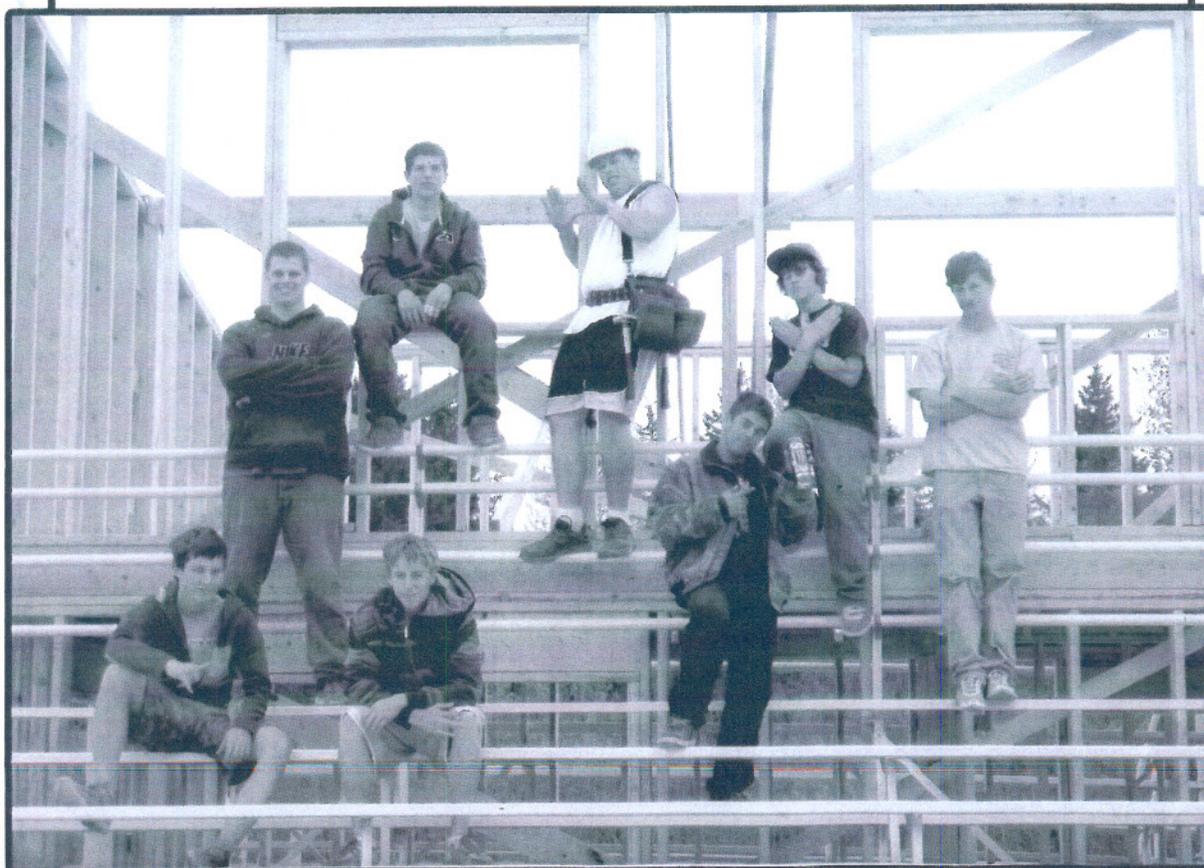
— Eric Engebretsen, Bay Welding Services



Over 700 students participated in one or more of the following Career and Technical Education Courses during 2009-2010:

Accounting	Commercial Publishing	Architectural Design	Auto Shop-Small Engine Repair	Building Trades
Cabinet Making	Certified Nursing Assistant	Child Development	Commercial Communication	Computer Applications
Construction	Culinary Arts	Desktop Publishing	Digital Electronics	Digital Photography
Electricity/Electronics	Emergency Trauma Technician	Employability Skills	Engineering	Fashion/Textiles
Foods	Home Economics	Industrial Drafting Design	Industrial Safety	Keyboarding
Marketing	Medical Terminology	Metals Processes	Occupational Technology	Power Mechanics
Project Lead the Way Courses	Welding	Woodworking		

Students from Homer High School, Kenai Central High School, Nikiski Middle/High School, Nanwalek School, Nikolaevsk School, Seward High School, Skyview High School, Soldotna High School, Susan B. English School in Seldovia and Port Graham School took part in 17 drafting, welding, construction and manufacturing academies. Students received hands-on experience from experts in the industry.



Preparing Students for Tomorrow



Vitaly Fefelov

Vitaly is a 2010 graduate from Nikolaevsk School. He still describes his acceptance and accompanying scholarship opportunity to Georgetown University very humbly. "Even now I'm at a loss for words. I had doubts that I could pull anything like this off. Now that I have, it seems surreal, almost unbelievable. I couldn't have done it without the help and encouragement from my parents. Even when I got nothing the year before they encouraged me to apply again, and apply I did. Like my dad said "Worst thing that can happen is that they say no, but unless you try you'll never know."

Only 10% of transfer students who applied to Georgetown were accepted. Vitaly received several offers from other schools as well. Vitaly will study Languages, Foreign Service or International Business, and finish with a law degree. Long-term, he plans to see and experience the world, and perhaps later return to the Kenai after his schooling and some years of work in his area of study.

"KPBSD has an excellent learning curriculum, and Nikolaevsk School has helped me excel in the areas I chose to study. KPBSD and Nikolaevsk School laid down the foundation for my learning experience. Everyone has encouraged me to continue on my education to the post-graduate level. I will miss a great many things about Nikolaevsk School. The serenity of Nikolaevsk School is an anomaly on the Peninsula: small school atmosphere, favorable teacher-student ratio, and excellent faculty, not like the hectic atmosphere in a large school," said Vitaly.

Vitaly's advice for other KPBSD students? "Everyone thinks there's a secret to getting in. There's no secret; I just applied. Every university has their own prerequisites for acceptance. I spent endless hours working into the night, working on essays, gathering paperwork and making phone calls at 4 am in the morning. Basically, I was persistent and wasn't about to give in."



Alan Logan

Alan graduated from Seward High School in 2008. In addition to his rigorous academic coursework, he was actively involved in extracurricular activities. He participated in wrestling, soccer and football throughout high school. Logan received a number of scholarship offers, but ultimately decided to attend MIT. "I applied to MIT out of idle curiosity, and I was admitted. In the two years since, I have programmed a robot to use sonar to build maps or navigate obstacle courses. I used an electron microscope to see crystal defects barely a nanometer across. The coursework is challenging, but the classes at Seward High, plus a few AP courses, were certainly adequate preparation." Logan has maintained a 5.0 GPA and is currently in his second year. Logan has a major in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science with a minor in Materials Science. He plans to stay at MIT through the completion of his PhD. He returns to Seward each year in the summer. Logan explained that his cultural adjustment to a metropolis on the east coast was minimal but does admit, "the lack of a mountain skyline" did bother him a bit.



Alden Ford

After graduating from Nikiski Jr./Sr. High in 2000, Alden attended Whitman College in Washington and received a B.A. in Theater. He moved to NYC in 2004 and started his own photography business taking headshots, portraits and wedding photos. In 2005 he began taking improvisation classes at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theater, and in 2006 formed his improv and sketch comedy group, Sidecar, with two fellow performers. All three are now regular performers at UCB, and Sidecar has toured all over the country (including three trips to Kenai) to perform and teach improv comedy. They also host and perform in a weekly comedy show in Brooklyn. In the spring, Alden directed Sidecar's second TV Pilot, "Illuminati Brothers," which will premiere this summer at the 2010 Independent TV Festival in Los Angeles and the New York TV Festival in NYC. Alden continues to write, act, direct and take pictures, and currently lives in Brooklyn with his dog, Tashi.



Kaitlyn Cashman, Homer High School, was named a 2010 National Scholar Award recipient in the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP). NHRP, established in 1983, is a College Board program that provides national recognition of the exceptional academic achievements of Hispanic high school seniors and identifies them for post-secondary institutions. This year, the National Hispanic Recognition Program recognized 5,000 students selected from a pool of over 20,000 individuals. The award is based upon the student's PSAT/NMQST/PAA test score, ethnicity and cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above.



Mark Walsworth, Homer High School was recognized as a National Merit Finalist. Approximately 15,000 students nationally are finalists. More than 1.5 million students entered the 2010 National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The 2010 National Merit Finalists, including Will, represent less than one percent of US high school seniors and are the highest scoring entrants in the country on the qualifying test. Mark Walsworth is the son of Mark and Naomi Walsworth of Homer.

Will McDermid, Soldotna High School, was recognized as a National Merit Finalist. Approximately 15,000 students nationally are finalists. More than 1.5 million students entered the 2010 National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The 2010 National Merit Finalists, including Will, represent less than one percent of US high school seniors and are the highest scoring entrants in the country on the qualifying test. Will McDermid is the son of William and Elizabeth McDermid of Soldotna.



Central to the Community

Community Collaboration

Multiple organizations worked together on a project at Sterling Elementary. The local chapter of Safari Club International funded the purchase of a set of archery equipment for the school. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game helped pay for shipping and provided training for the teachers and community volunteers in the National Archery in the Schools Program. Christine Ermold, Sterling Elementary Principal, worked with local AmeriCorps volunteers to offer a Ladies Archery Group.

A RAVEN AmeriCorps volunteer developed a summer archery program that was based upon Sterling Elementary's PE archery program. The summer program allows for a broader range of ages to participate.

KPBSD school facilities are at the heart of each community and often the central hub of activity. Seward High School, for example, is utilized for dozens of different events ranging from small birthday parties to communitywide art and theatrical productions. A wide variety of groups, businesses and individuals utilize SHS:

- Alaska National Guard
- Alaska Native Education Project
- Alaska Ocean Film Festival
- AMSEA
- Chugachmuit Native Group
- Community Connectedness & Volunteer Fair
- Harlem Ambassadors
- Holland America/Princess Cruises
- Houston Middle School
- Karate for Youth
- Kenai Peninsula College
- Nordic Ski Group
- Providence Medical Center
- PTSA
- QS2
- Resurrection Bay Baptist Church
- Sand Lake Elementary
- Seward Arts Council
- Seward Chamber of Commerce
- Seward Community Band & Choir
- Seward Community Schools
- Seward Parks and Recreation
- Seward Teen & Youth Center
- Sunny Cove
- Tanaina Elementary
- Trailside Elementary
- Travel Club
- Tsunami Swim Club
- USA Wrestling
- West High School
- WINS
- Youth Outreach Group



Photo courtesy of the Redoubt Reporter



Your Best Community Investment

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is the largest employer in the borough, and our payroll plus more than \$5 million in gross monthly payroll into the local economy each month. Seventy-seven percent of our budget is spent on salaries and fringe benefits for our more than 1,200 employees.

The education of the over 9,000 KPBSD students is funded by the federal government, the State of Alaska and local taxpayers. At just 4.5 mills, the borough's mill levy is one of the lowest in the state. In addition, the many visitors who flock to the Kenai each year also help fund education through sales tax revenues.

"The District has historically used its funds to provide the best possible education for our students as an investment in their futures, and the future of the Kenai Peninsula. Current measurements of student performance show a high return on this investment in our students."

—Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Support



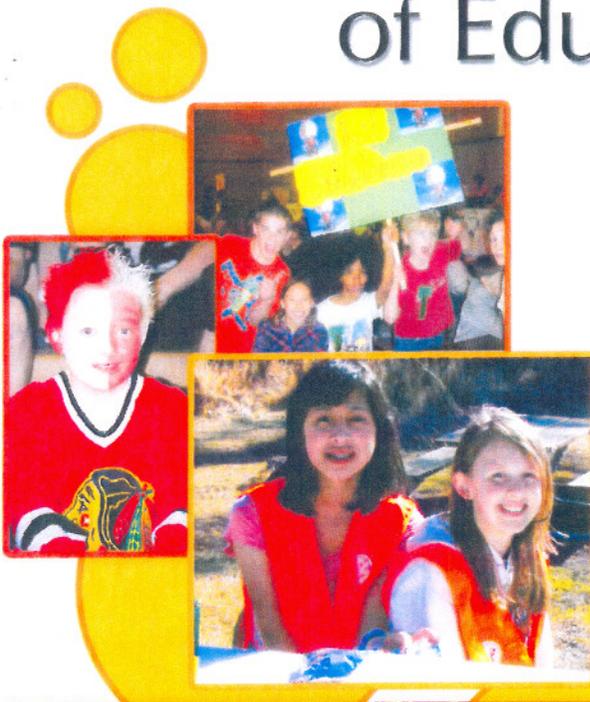
- This district's financials are audited annually by an independent auditing firm.
- This year marks the 20th year in a row that the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District has been awarded the Association of School Business Officials International Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting. The program recognizes excellence in the preparation and issuance of a high-quality Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The KPBSD is one of 474 school districts in 32 states nationwide that received this distinction.
- This year marks the 10th year in a row that the district has won the Association of School Business Officials International Meritous Budget Award. KPBSD is the only school district in Alaska to receive the award.



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND - FY10 Budget

Revenues:	Current FY10 Budget
Local Contribution	\$53,813,342
Local In-Kind	\$9,170,034
State Foundation Funding	\$64,062,959
State Quality Schools Grant	\$250,195
Rental of School Facilities	30,000
Federal Through the State	\$450,000
Lease	\$636,000
Earnings on Investments	\$420,000
Other Revenues	\$50,000
Fund Balance Appropriation	\$4,524,843
Total Revenues	\$114,417,373
TRS On Behalf Revenue	\$12,116,503
PERS On Behalf Revenue	\$811,329
Total On Behalf Revenue	\$12,927,832
Revenue Plus On Behalf	\$126,345,205
Expenditures:	Current FY10 Budget
Certified Salaries	\$97,126,302
Non-Certified Salaries	\$14,623,369
Employee Benefits	\$74,422,177
Subtotal - Salaries and Benefits	\$86,171,848
Professional-Technical Services	\$1,782,936
Travel	\$801,009
Utility Services	\$1,306,721
Energy	\$5,747,534
Purchased Services	\$7,906,984
Supplies and Materials	\$4,737,631
Other Expenses	\$1,908,044
Subtotal - Other Expenditures	\$19,259,939
In-Kind Audit	\$52,000
In-Kind Utilities	\$76,194
In-Kind Custodial	\$108,094
In-Kind Maintenance	\$6,341,440
In-Kind Insurance	\$2,591,006
Subtotal - In-Kind Expenditures	\$9,170,034
Equipment	\$1,711,714
Total Expenditures	\$116,313,515
Prior Year Encumbrances	\$3,570,238
Expenditure Total Less Prior Year Encumbrances	\$112,743,277
TRS On Behalf Expend	\$12,116,503
PERS On Behalf Expend	\$811,329
Total On Behalf Expend	\$12,927,832
Total Less Prior Year Enc. and Plus On Behalf	\$125,671,100
Other Financing Uses	
Transfers Out - Special Revenue Fund	\$6,4096
Total Expenditures and Transfers	\$126,345,205
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	\$0

Keeping Kids at the Center of Education



Looking Ahead

As we begin the new school year, all of us at KPBSD are excited to again help our students take another step up the academic ladder. I know that our dedicated staff and stakeholders will do all that they can to ensure that this is the case.

We will continue to advance the use of technology in our schools, but will do so in a way that recognizes the shortcomings of over-dependence on this medium. Studies are showing that reading skills are more readily gained through books and not computers. We will work hard to individualize instruction to meet the varied learning styles of our students and will expand our distance delivered courses for our secondary students throughout the district.

The need to prepare our students for life after school is an on-going challenge that requires us to be mobile to ensure that while in school they receive all that they need to succeed once they graduate. With this in mind, we will hold an employers' summit in September to gain insight on what the business world expects of its employees. The one-day event will help us to determine whether what we are doing to prepare our students is adequate. Another item of immediate interest to the district is the upcoming vote in October on the borough's bond referendum that if passed, will provide funding for school roof replacement.

Please make a point of spending time at our schools, and when you can, encourage our students to embrace their studies. We all view our students as the best in Alaska. Let's work together to ensure that this is true. Have a great year.

Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Equal Opportunities, Individualized Attention & Smaller Classroom Sizes: The Heart of Student Success

"We wanted to put the money back into the classroom, as close to the students as we could," explains Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction. It was this philosophy at the heart of the district's decision in 2006 regarding increased available funding from the State of Alaska and the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

As a result, a 3-part plan was introduced. This is often referred to as programmatic staffing.

- The first part added staff and teachers to ensure smaller class sizes districtwide. Pupil to teacher staffing ratios were reduced at the elementary and small school levels.

- The second part utilized funding to ensure that all schools of similar size would have the same additional course offerings for all students. "We wanted to level the playing field and ensure that a student at Seward, for example, will have the chance to take music, just like the student at Nikiski does," explains Dusek.

- The third, and final piece, provided additional staff to address the individual needs and learning styles of each student in the district. In this part, additional interventionists were added to the staff. The interventionists help to proactively identify and address learning delays at the elementary level. The interventionists work closely with all students to prepare them for their life after high school.

The district just completed the second year of the plan. Many of the elementary schools have enthusiastically shared a multitude of individual student accomplishments that were the result of the work of interventionists in the classroom. Students who started the school year far below grade level made tremendous strides in achievement. Some students ended the year in the top quartile of their class! "We can't always point to specific achievements like our success with interventionists, but research has shown time and time again that differentiated instruction facilitated through small classroom sizes and increased course offerings that answer to each student's individual needs, along with more individualized attention from staff, have positive educational outcomes. We are very pleased with these initial results," said Dusek.



District Statistics

Mission:

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, in partnership with its richly diverse communities, is to develop creative, productive learners who demonstrate the skills, knowledge and attitudes to meet life's challenges, by providing stimulating, integrated learning opportunities in a safe, supportive environment.



Number of Schools/Square Mileage Area:

The school district has a total of 44 schools and covers a land area roughly the size of West Virginia (25,600 square miles).

Student Statistics [ethnicity and race]:

White	78.2%
Black or African American	0.8%
Hispanic or Latino	0.3%
Asian	1.2%
American Indian	1.3%
Alaska Native	11.6%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	3.3%
Two or more races	0.5%

Enrollment:

Preschool	95
K-6	4,633
7-8	1,402
9-12	3,050
Total Projected Enrollment for 2010-2011 School Year	9,180

Average Years Experience with KPBSD:

- Teachers: 9 Years
- Support Staff: 10 Years

Homeless:

As of May 19, 2010, 275 students were identified homeless students in the district. This number reflected a 37% increase from 2009.

Free & Reduced Lunch:

A total of 3,346 KPBSD students, or 40% of the student body enrollment, qualified for free or reduced meal prices during the 2009-2010 school year. Across the state roughly 40% of students enrolled in Alaska schools that sponsor school meal programs qualify for free or reduced priced meals.

Staffing Ratios:

Type of School	Pupil/Teacher Ratio
Elementary Schools with over 200 enrolled students: Kindergarten	1:20
Elementary Schools with over 200 enrolled students: Grades 1-3	1:22
Elementary Schools with over 200 enrolled students: Grades 4-6	1:24
High School & Middle School	1:24
Small Schools with less than 200 enrolled students	1:17

Transportation Data:

Each school day 2,749 students are transported a total 6,968 miles on school buses throughout the district.

Teaching Excellence:

54.35% of KPBSD teachers have an advanced degree 82.8% of KPBSD teachers are Highly Qualified in the subject in which they teach.

