



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Superintendent

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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 4, 2011
TO: Members, Board of Education
FROM: Steve Atwater, Ph.D. 
Superintendent of Schools
RE: Student Athlete Drug Testing Recommendation

Background: In March of 2010 the Soldotna High School Site Council requested that the District consider drug testing its students. The administration advised the Board that drug testing could only be considered for students participating in voluntary activities, e.g., volleyball. In response to this request, the School Board formed a task force to examine this issue; Sean Dusek was named the task force chair. The group met on 3 occasions but was not able to reach consensus on whether or not to recommend implementing a student drug testing program.

The following recommendation is made after reviewing the task force's findings, considering input from site administrators and estimating the impact of, and the cost of drug testing, and consultation with legal counsel.

Recommendation: The administration recommends that the District not implement drug testing of its student athletes. Further, it recommends that the district:

1. Implement the School Climate and Connectedness Survey for all students in grades 3 through 8
2. Implement the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for students in grades 9 through 12 for district level information
3. Enhance drug and alcohol prevention programs within the District and provide an update to the Board on the effectiveness of such programs in the Spring of 2012