

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:	Approval of Resignations		
Date:	November 8, 2011	Item Number:	10 a. (2)
Administrator:	Tim Peterson, Human Resources		
Through:	Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent		
Attachments:	Letters of Resignation		

☒ Action Needed ☐ For Discussion ☐ Information ☐ Other: _____

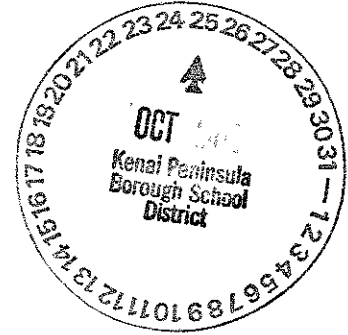
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name	Assignment	Effective Date
James Barkman	Math/Science Teacher	Soldotna High School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Laura B. Beck	Generalist Teacher/Librarian	Connections Program/Seward Middle School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Nancy Courtright	4 th Grade Teacher	Soldotna Elementary School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Robert J. Dimick	Physical Education Teacher	Mt. View Elementary School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Richard Frederic	Biology/Anatomy and Physiology Teacher	Kenai Central High School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Ann Ghicadus	Kindergarten Teacher	Seward Elementary School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
David L. Knudsen	4 th Grade Teacher	Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Mary Kay Knudsen	Elementary Teacher	Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Suzanne C. Martin	Kindergarten Teacher	Sterling Elementary School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year
Lora L. T. Sterling	Kindergarten Teacher	Sterling Elementary School, effective at the end of 2011-12 school year

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the above referenced resignations be approved.

James Barkman
40029 Arrowhead Ave.
Soldotna, AK 99669



October 23, 2011

Dr. Steve Atwater
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear Dr. Atwater,

Please accept this letter as notice of my intent to retire and so resign as an employee of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District effective the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

I have enjoyed working with the students of Seward and Soldotna High Schools during my 18 years in this District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Barkman", followed by a horizontal line.

James Barkman

cc: Todd Syverson, Principal, Soldotna High School
cc: Tim Peterson, Personnel Director

Handwritten initials, possibly "J.B.", in black ink.
10/25/11

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date "25 Oct 11".

October 13th, 2011

Laura B Beck
Seward Area Connections Adviser / 7-12 SWMS Librarian
KPBSD
304 Sea Lion Ave.
Seward, AK 99664

Dear Mr. Tim Peterson, Dr. Atwater and Members of the KPBSD School Board:

I would like to inform you that I will be retiring at the end of the current school year, effective May 2012.

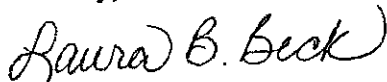
I have thoroughly enjoyed working for Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and I sincerely appreciate the support provided to me during my 20 plus years as a teaching professional.

While I look forward to enjoying my retirement, I will miss being part of the Kenai Peninsula's exceptional teaching staff, especially those I have worked closely with in the Seward area the past 19 years.

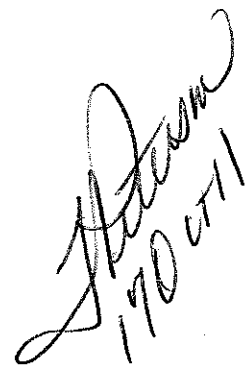
The Kenai Peninsula will always be home to me and my family and I look forward to volunteering my time and perhaps substitute teaching in our local peninsula schools.

If I can be of any assistance prior to my departure and afterwards, please let me know. I'd be glad to provide whatever assistance I can, to ensure a smooth transition.

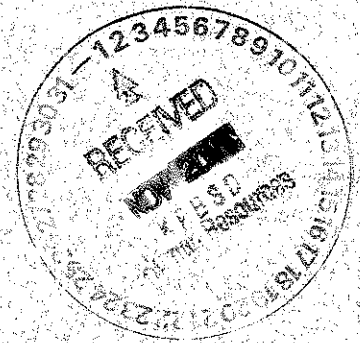
Sincerely,



Laura B. Beck
Seward, AK



November 1, 2011



Nancy Courtright
PO Box 4126
Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear Mr. Peterson,

I would like to inform you that I will be retiring at the end of this school year. Therefore, I am submitting my resignation to be effective on June 30, 2012.

Sincerely,

Nancy Courtright

Nancy Courtright

Peterson
1 Nov 11

Robert J. Dimick

Soldotna Alaska, 99669



October 20, 2011

Tim Peterson

Human Resources Director

KPBSD

Soldotna, AK, 99669

Please accept this email as a formal notification that I will be resigning my position with the KPBSD at the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

I want to thank you for all you have done for me and my family over the years as well as the KPBSD. It has been a privileged and an honor to work for the district and all of the dedicated people who serve our kids.

I have notified the department of retirement and have a meeting with them in December. I have also discussed this with Mrs. Holmgard so she is aware of this decision.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Dimick

Richard Frederic

From: Richard Frederic
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2011 11:54 AM
To: Tim Peterson
Cc: Alan Fields; James Beeson
Subject: Retirement end of 2012 School Year

Hello Tim,

10/14/2011

I hope all is going well.

I wanted to let you know that I am retiring at the end of this school year. This is my 26th year with KPBSD and it's been a great place to be a teacher, raise a family, and see my 3 children be successful in KPBSD. This includes teaching tenure at Seward High School, Nikiski High School, and Kenai Central High School. My children's education has been and continues to be excellent in KPBSD public schools and it's been a pleasure to be a part of the district for all those years.

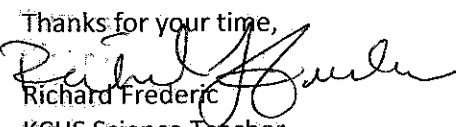
I would like to thank the district for the many opportunities I was allowed to experience, by allowing me the time and permission for special projects and assignments over the years such as the Alaska Geographical Alliance, Polaris Project, Arctic Project, KPBSD Science Specialist, Alaska State Wide Mentor Project, and the Caring For The Kenai Contest. All those experiences have enhanced my ability to teach and give all my students' the best science education I could give them. I have enjoyed giving back to the district and other science teachers in the last 10 years with some of my work and experiences in those listed projects.

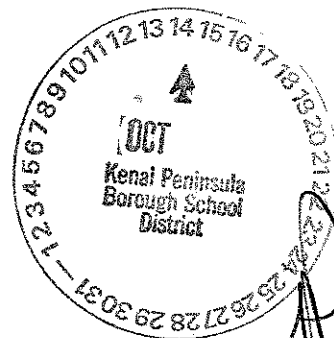
This is my official letter of that intent per our negotiated agreement. I am requesting the contract extension of 5 days per language below. Additionally, I would like to cash out my remaining personal days at per diem rate per contract language below.

I can drop off a copy of this email with my Signature if that's required. Please let me know you have confirmation of my request so I can assume I have met the NOVEMBER 1 requirement. I can answer any other questions you might have as well.

I did share my news with Alan Fields today.

Thanks for your time,


Richard Frederic
KCHS Science Teacher



From: KPEA/KPBSD Contract Language
320 PERSONAL LEAVE

Teachers formally retiring from the teaching profession with vested service in the Alaska Teachers Retirement System may choose from the two following options: (1) receive a cash settlement for their accrued personal leave days. This amount shall be the number of accrued personal leave days times their per diem rate; or (2) may submit a request no later than November 1 to exchange up to five (5) personal leave days for a contract extension for site level approved projects. The remainder of personal leave would be eligible for cash out at the per diem rate.

Dear Mr. Peterson,

October 25, 2012

This is to inform you of my resignation and subsequent retirement from Seward Elementary School in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, effective June 30, 2012.

My time at Seward Elementary was exciting and very fulfilling. I feel honored to have been a part of Seward's schools.

Sincerely,



Ann Ghicadus
P.O. Box 511
Seward, AK 99664

cc David Kingsland



October 27, 2011

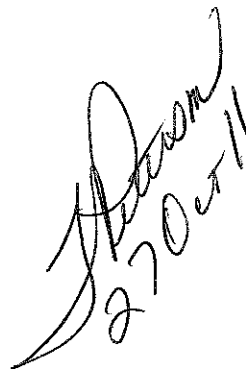
To Whom It May Concern,

I am planning on retiring at the end of the 2011-2012 school year. I would like to have my 4 personal days added to my contract.

Thank you,



David L. Knudsen


27 Oct 11


October 27, 2011

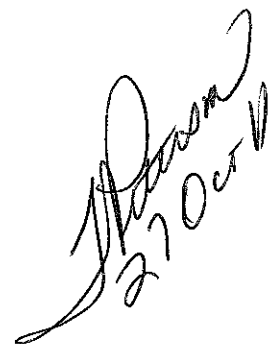
To Whom It May Concern,

I am planning to retire at the end of the 2011 – 2012 school year. It was not an easy decision, but I have grandchildren that need my time now.

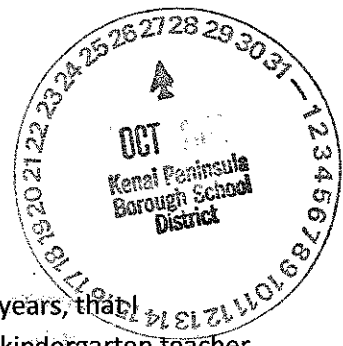
Please add my four personal days to my contract.

Thank you,


MK Knudsen


27 Oct 11

Oct 27, 2011



Dear Mr. Peterson & Members of the KPBSD School Board,

It is with much gratitude for the privilege of serving in this district for the past 22 years, that I respectfully request your acceptance of my intent to retire from my position as a kindergarten teacher at Sterling Elementary at the end of the 2011-12 school year. I would like to take a few moments to reflect on this most amazing and fulfilling career.

In the summer of 1990, after serving my first year of teaching in a temporary position on Annette Island, I brought my husband and 4 young children to the Kenai on the advice of my superintendent, Dr. Walt Bromenshenkel. Not sure of what I was going to do next, he said, "Suzanne, go to the Kenai Peninsula. It's the best school district in the state!" After camping in a tent on the Kenai the entire summer, moving from campground to campground from Bing's Landing in Sterling to Johnson Lake in Tustemena and "living" at central office to check the latest job openings, I finally landed my first teaching job here, with the help of HR director, Sharon Radtke. From 1990-93 my family and I thoroughly enjoyed living in the village of Port Graham. We have great memories of the whole family riding on a 3 wheeler with a small trailer in tow delivering homemade Christmas bread to the villagers. We loved participating in the customs and traditions of the people, celebrating and participating in the Russian Orthodox Christmas & New Year's celebrations. But what I will always remember the most is the way the villagers welcomed us into their community and the respect they gave me as a teacher. Many remain friends today.

In 1993, I came across the water to teach in the Russian Old Believer village of Kachemak Selo. After driving the long distance of gravel, icy, snowy or very muddy roads for two years, I dubbed the "parking lot" at the top of the switchback trail, "The Real End of the Road!" The hike down the steep trail and then along the beach to the village was often tedious & treacherous, but on beautiful clear days, I would look out over the pristine waters of Kachemak Bay to the rugged snowcapped mountains and glaciers and proclaim to myself, "How lucky can I get! This is the best teaching job in the world!" I will always have many fond memories of my non English speaking kindergarten students who made it their mission to teach Russian to their teacher!

However, ever since our camping days at Bing's Landing or Isaac Walton, we would drive past Sterling Elementary School on numerous occasions and I just got the strong impression that this was my school; this is where I wanted and needed to be. Finally, in 1995, after 5 years in the KPBSD, my dream became a reality. I found myself driving just a few miles from my home in Sterling, right up to the front door of the school. No backpack to don, no headlight to turn on, and no long hike to make. For months I felt like I was dreaming! Now, after 17 incredible years of being a part of the "Fabulous Falcon Family", it is time to move on. I am not sure what "moving on" entails at this point but one thing is for certain; as did her 4 siblings before her, my youngest daughter will complete the rest of her education right here on the Kenai.

I am most grateful to the many teachers and principals along the way who have inspired me and helped me grow to achieve my best. Although too numerous to mention, a few that stand out in my mind include:

- **Joe & Andrea Deutsch**, in Port Graham. Joe was a great mentor and believed in my abilities not only as a K-3 teacher but as a non-certified music teacher as well! Having daughters of similar age, Andrea & I worked together to create the first Girl Scout Troop in the village.
- **Randy Creamer**, the principal in Kachemak Selo, who not only gave me lots of space to grow, but who patiently pulled my old Colt Vista out of the mud or snow on numerous occasions!
- **Michele Stenger**, my friend & hiking buddy who walked with me almost every morning into Kachemak Selo and still hikes the switchback trail today after nearly 20 years!
- **Lora Sterling** who has been the “teacher next door” for all of my tenure at Sterling and who has inspired me year after year with her love for and knowledge of young children and her creative ability to scaffold children’s learning.
- **Sandy Lyons** who encouraged me to join with her to pursue a Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education from UAS. At the time it was one of the most rigorous programs in the state but with her encouragement, we did it!
- **Dr. Christine Ermold**, my current principal who right before my eyes transformed Sterling from a school of obscurity to a nationally recognized school. What a privilege and an honor it has been to teach under her expert guidance for over 1/3 of my career!
- And finally, **my husband Dan**, who is one of the finest “Mr. Mom’s” on the planet. He supported me from the beginning by always being there for our kids and by being my “right hand”; creating things for our classroom, shopping for supplies, coming in to help out for special projects or bringing things to school that I forgot! He has been on dozens of field trips over the years and was always willing to lend a hand to any. If only every teacher could have someone like him!

Dr. Walt Bromenschenkel , who encouraged me to take the leap of faith and come to the Kenai, practiced what he preached. In 1994, he himself came to the “best school district in Alaska” and served as our superintendent for several years. I will always be most grateful for his advice because coming to the Kenai was certainly one of the best decisions I have ever made. I will treasure each and every teaching experience and always be grateful for the opportunity to serve the hundreds of children, (including my own), that have passed through my classroom doors.

Sincerely,

Suzanne C Martin, M.Ed.

Suzanne C. Martin, M.Ed.

*Dr. Dan
26 Oct 11*

Oct. 12, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

I have enjoyed my 28 years as a teacher for the KPBSD. Please consider this notification as my intent to retire at the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

Sincerely,

Lora L. T. Sterling

Lora L. T. Sterling, M. Ed.



cc. Tim Peterson

Tim Peterson
12 Oct 11