



# 2022-2023 Annual Report

**Kenai Peninsula Borough School District  
One District: Forty-Two Diverse Schools**



***Supporting students in life success***  
[www.kpbsd.org](http://www.kpbsd.org)



Dear students, families, community, and staff members,

I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the great work our staff has done this year. Our dedicated educators, principals, and school staff have gone above and beyond to ensure that our students receive the best education possible, and I am proud to recognize their exceptional efforts.

I want to also express my appreciation to the families and community members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. Your unwavering support and active involvement in the education of our students have been instrumental in their success. You have played a crucial role in shaping the lives of our children, providing them with a strong foundation and a nurturing environment in which to thrive. Your commitment to their growth and well-being has been evident in the countless hours you have spent volunteering, attending parent-teacher conferences, and actively engaging in school activities. Your partnership has created a vibrant and supportive community that values education and the development of our young minds. On behalf of the entire district, I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your dedication and support of our students. Together, we are building a strong future for the Kenai Peninsula School District and the entire Kenai Peninsula Borough.

This year has been one of resurgence for our schools. We have witnessed a remarkable rebound and are now fostering a renewed sense of trust and belief in our schools across the peninsula. The successful passage of the school bond package and full funding from the Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor and Assembly have opened doors for growth and improvement.

Looking ahead, we are driven by a spirit of vision and planning. Our mission is Supporting Students in Life Success; this is reflected in the district's 5-year strategic plan which is in place and outlines our goals and aspirations for the future. This forward-thinking approach ensures our unwavering commitment to continuously enhancing education in our district by constantly adapting to meet the evolving needs of our students and focusing on the pillars of student success, school climate and safety, and family and community engagement. We are committed to providing an educational environment that nurtures and empowers our students, as well as preparing them for a lifetime of learning and accomplishments.

It is an honor to serve as the Superintendent of the KPBSD and once again I extend my gratitude and appreciation to the entire Kenai Peninsula Borough Community. Together, we will continue to build a strong future for our students, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and for the entire Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clayton Holland". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Clayton Holland, Superintendent





**Message from  
Debbie Cary,  
President,  
KPBSD Board of  
Education**

## Kenai Peninsula Board of Education

Debbie Cary, President, District 7  
 Zen Kelly, Vice President, District 9  
 Jason Tauriainen, Clerk, District 3  
 Penny Vadla, Treasurer, District 4  
 Tim Daugharty, Member, District 8  
 Virginia Morgan, Member, District 6  
 Matt Morse, Member, District 2  
 Beverley Romanin, Member, District 5  
 Patti Truesdell, Member, District 1  
 Ashley Dahlman, Student Representative

As I reflect on my first year as president for Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, I realize how committed our teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, and administrators, are to the success of every student and to the communities within our district.

As we look forward to the next school year, we will endeavor to continue the positive momentum we saw in the 2022/2023 school year. As students return to the brick-and-mortar schools we will strive to support each student in their academic success as well as their emotional well-being. While we have learned over the past few years that some students excel in a less traditional school setting, KPBSD continues to explore ways to support those students by creating innovative pathways for them to explore. Looking forward, Alaska has “committed to every student being proficient in reading by the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade”. KPBSD sees this as an opportunity to excel. Through professional development for teachers and staff to family and community engagement, we realize it takes a village to raise and educate a child. With support and communication KPBSD will do great things.

This past year has been fiscally challenging as the State of Alaska grapples with its financial situation. We will continue to advocate for financial stability for education. Now is the time for Alaskans to unite and fund education through a meaningful increase to the Base Student Allocation. Working together for the future of students and communities is what keeps KPBSD grounded in the here and now. The district will continue to offer and explore innovative courses that lights the spark within each student.

I would like to thank the KPBSD students, teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, administrators, and families for making this an amazing year!

Debbie Cary, KPBSD BOE President



## 2023-2024 Board Meeting Dates



### Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education

| 2023-2024 Tentative Board Meeting Dates |  |
|---|--|
| July 10, 2023                           |  |
| August 7, 2023                          |  |
| September 11, 2023 ( <i>Seward</i> )    |  |
| October 2, 2023                         |  |
| November 6, 2023                        |  |
| December 4, 2023                        |  |
| January 8, 2024                         |  |
| February 5, 2024                        |  |
| March 4, 2024 ( <i>Homer</i> )          |  |
| April 1, 2024                           |  |
| May 6, 2024                             |  |
| June 3, 2024                            |  |

| 2023-2024 Quarterly Work Sessions      | Assembly Updates |
|--|------------------|
| August 8, 2023                         | August 1, 2023   |
| November 7, 2023                       | October 10, 2023 |
| February 6, 2024                       |                  |
| June 4, 2024<br>Board Planning Session |                  |



## Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Strategic Plan 2022-2027

**Mission:** Supporting students in life success

**Vision:** Every KPBSD student will be a lifelong learner who will graduate with the knowledge, skills, integrity, perseverance, and community connectedness needed to pursue their passions and desired post-secondary opportunities.

### Core Values



**Community-** We are welcoming to all and seek to accomplish our goals through collaboration; ensuring the work honors and reflects our diverse voices and values.



**Perseverance-** We are committed to instilling a strong work ethic in students, providing multiple opportunities to succeed while encouraging them to keep striving for greater and greater achievement.



**Academic Excellence-** We will support and engage students in their learning in order for them to demonstrate the abilities to perform, achieve and excel in scholastic activities.



**Integrity-** We will provide students the skills and the experiences to become honest and exhibit strong moral principles

### Priorities

**Priority One: Student Success** - Our Why: Student success is our most critical commitment – it represents our promise to provide academic excellence for all. KPBSD will ensure all students have equitable access to and engagement with programs and supports that reduce barriers to learning.

**Priority Two: School Climate and Safety** - Our Why: A positive school climate – where students feel a sense of safety and belonging where relational trust prevails – improves academic achievement, test scores, grades and engagement and helps reduce the negative effects of poverty and trauma on academic achievement.

**Priority Three: Family and Community Engagement** - Our Why: Family and community engagement in schools contributes to positive student outcomes, including improved child and student achievement, decreased disciplinary issues, improved parent-teacher, and teacher-student relationships and improved school environment.

**Priority Four: Workforce Development** - Our Why: Workforce development leads to prosperous employees, schools, and local communities. By training, and upskilling our workforce, our district can enjoy happier staff, lower turnover, and exciting growth opportunities.

**Priority Five: Organizational and Resource Management** - Our Why: Organizational and Resource Management represents the conscious commitment to align the district as one team, unified in a singular commitment to support all schools, students, and families, and build a culture of continuous improvement centered on designing equitable systems for school and instructional improvement.

# School Improvement Bond Projects

# Information Services

## KPB/KPBSD 2022 School Improvement Bond Projects

On December 13, 2022, Ordinance 2022-19-31 was passed to forward fund project design effort associated with the School Improvement Bonds Projects.

Scheduled to begin 2023:

- Soldotna Elementary School Replacement /Soldotna Preparatory School Renovation
- Seward Track and Field Replacement.
- Kenai Field Restrooms and Concession Facility
- Parent Student Drop-off Improvements
- Nikiski North Star Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, and Hope School roof replacement design development
- Soldotna High School Siding Replacement Design Development



Kenai Peninsula Borough  
&  
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District



## Legislative Priorities

Support students through programs and rigorous standards that ensure preparation for success in life.

- Prioritize career and technical opportunities for all students.
- Focus on improving the number of students at or above grade level in Literacy and English Language Arts using evidence-based practices.
- Increase the number of students at or above grade level proficiency in Math using targeted core instruction.
- Support the development of student citizenship, readiness for the workforce, and endeavors beyond graduation.

Provide fair, predictable, and proactive funding.

- Focus on retention and recruitment of high-quality educators by investing in defined benefits.
- Create innovative pathways to growing our own teachers and staff.

Ensure safe schools and support student well-being by creating positive school climates and targeting student social, emotional, and wellness development.

- Foster family and community engagement.
- Support extracurricular activities.
- Focus on approaches that target student health: physical, social, mental, and emotional.
- Provide training in trauma informed practices.
- Improve school safety and building security.

Information Services remains committed to enhancing the experience of KPBSD students, staff, and the community through use of our technology platform. A major project currently underway is the upgrade of classroom displays to new interactive flat panels. To date, we have completed the installation of 110 units, with an additional 130 installations ongoing, and a further 260 planned. This effort significantly elevates our classroom display capabilities.

However, our focus extends beyond physical hardware. We are equally invested in optimizing the use of Microsoft Teams, Office 365, and Google Apps. To this end, we are developing further improvements to our electronic forms platform and fine-tuning our communication channels to better connect every member of the KPBSD community.

Throughout, we are placing particular emphasis on professional development. Our knowledge base continues to expand, providing a wealth of resources for the community. In our commitment to efficient service, efforts are underway upgrading our support systems to further streamline ticketing and service workflows.

The Information Services team seeks innovative methods to simplify processes and better support the KPBSD mission. We strive to create helpful technological experiences and are prepared to adapt and incorporate new technologies to meet ever-evolving needs. Our journey of improvement is continuous, and we are excited for what the future holds.



## Staffing Ratios

### Elementary Schools K-6 >=250

K 1:20.5  
1-3 1:22.5  
4-6 1:24.5

### Elementary Small Schools K-6 100-250

1:19.5

### Small Schools <200

K-6 1:17.5 \* 1.0 minimum  
IF ADM <25

### Secondary

1.0 IF 7-12 8-20  
2.0 IF 7-12 21-40  
1:19.5 IF 7-12 >40

### High School

HS 1:30

### Middle School

1:25

### District Size

The KPBSD is comprised of 42 diverse schools, in 17 diverse communities spanning 25,600 square miles.

### 2022-2023 Enrollment

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Preschool               | 146   |
| Kindergarten -6th grade | 4,419 |
| 7th-8th grade           | 1,382 |
| 9th-12th grade          | 2,542 |
| TOTAL Enrollment        | 8,489 |

## Student Transportation

On average, 5,304 students are being transported every day, 8,048 miles throughout the school district.

## Student Nutrition Services Free Meals

Breakfast: 189,839  
Lunches: 434,764

## Dollars and Cents - Budget

\$ .75 Salaries and Benefits  
\$ .05 TRS/PRS On-Behalf  
\$ .06 Discretionary accounts  
\$ .09 In-Kind Services  
\$ .05 Utilities  
\$1.00 from 2022-2023 General Fund

## 2022-2023 State Champions

DII Girls Cross Country – Seward  
DIII Football – Homer  
3A Volleyball – Kenai Central  
DII Hockey – Soldotna  
DII Boys Nordic Ski – Homer  
DII Girls Nordic Ski – Kenai Central  
2A Boys Basketball – Ninilchik  
DII Cheer Competition – Kenai Central  
DII Girls Soccer – Soldotna  
DII Baseball - Soldotna

## 2022 – 2023 KPBSD Libraries Report

- Books Circulated from August 16-May 11 95,798
- 61 Teams in Battle of the Books
- Electronic Resources – SLED, SORA, Discovery Education, and World Book
- Other Resources Provided by KPBSD Libraries- Curriculum Support Center, Alaska Cultural Resource Kits, and Bookfairs
- PebbleGo – Total Articles Viewed- 426,006
- Newsela- 74,796 Articles Read



2022-2023  
KPBSD Top  
Performance in  
Growth-  
Soldotna  
Elementary  
School



# Career and Technical Education

## 2022-23 KBPSD CTE

1300 Students enrolled in a semester 2 CTE classes

661 HS CTE Credits earned Fall Semester

25 HS CTE Courses taught Semester 2

13 Nationally Recognized CTE Pathways

- Current KBPSD Career Pathways
- 55 State Approved Courses
  - Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
  - Architecture & Construction
  - Business, Communications and Information Technology
  - Education and training
  - Hospitality & Tourism
  - Health & Human Services
  - Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
  - Law and Public Safety



# KPBSD CTE

## Timeline



College & Career Readiness  
Preparing all students for a successful future.

### 2022-23

#### Pathway Focus:

- Computer Science
- Construction
- Health & Human Services

#### Priorities:

- State Compliance / Perkins Pathways
- Power School Course Catalog Cleanup
- Increased offerings for small schools (CTE Kits/ Mobile Lab)
- Build reporting for CTE Certifications
- CTE Professional Development

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### 2023-24

#### Pathway Focus:

- Engineering
- Hospitality, Tourism & Business Management
- Transportation

#### Priorities:

- Increase & Accurate reporting for CTE Certifications
- Build Industry partnerships
- CTE Professional Development

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### 2024-25

#### Pathway Focus:

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Business & Management
- Law & Public Safety

#### Priorities:

- Build new pathways & additional courses
- Build Industry partnerships
- CTE Professional Development
- Middle School alignment

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### 2025-26

#### Priorities:

- Pathways aligned with post-secondary options
- Industry certifications offered for CTE coursework
- Graduation recognition for CTE Concentrators
- Elementary alignment with CTE opportunities

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## **KPBSD Prepares for the Alaska Reads Act**

1. 2022-23 School Year - Enhance KPBSD's RTI process.
  - KPBSD RTI Team began participation in the Alaska MTSS Refresh project December 2022- Two-year project.
2. KPBSD Adopted the State-wide literacy screener mClass by Amplify.
3. Requirement to adopt a research-based English Language Arts curriculum.
  - Researched seven DEED vetted curricula.
  - District Instructional Team Researched supplemental programs recommended by the state January and February 2023
  - 3/2023, ELA Curriculum Committee put forth CKLA for adoption.
  - CKLA based on the principles of the Science of Reading
  - CKLA aligns with Amplify Literacy Screener
4. Professional development opportunities based on the Science of Reading
  - Teachers and administrators attended RTI/MTSS Conference (January 2023) and Science of Reading Symposium (April 2023)
  - LETRS training for teachers and administrators- Two Year Project
  - Briefing the KPBSD School Board
  - DIT-Literacy Subgroup Created and Convened
  - Effective Literacy Team Created and Convened
  - March Admin Meeting principals reviewed AK Reads Act with DEED Director of Innovation and Education Excellence Susan McKenzie and Assistant Superintendent Dendurent
  - May 2023 Leadership Academy – CKLA Curriculum presented to elementary, and K-12 Administrators and Content Area Literacy Strategies provided to Secondary Administrators
5. Summer 2023- KPBSD will create and host the KPBSD Alaska Reads Act Website to assist educators, parents and stakeholders with progress and next steps.

## 2022-2023 KPBSD Annual Recognitions

- AASSP Region 3 Principal of the Year- Sarge Truesdell, SOHI Principal
- Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education Paraeducator of the Year Amy Russell
- 2023 Alaska School Nurse of Excellence Award- Dixie St. John, BSN, RN
- AASSP 2022 Region III Assistant Principal of the Year- Tabitha Blades
- 2023 Alaska Teacher of the Year Alternate- Jennifer Reinhart
- AAESP 2023 Assistant Principal of the Year- Elizabeth Kvamme
- KPBSD Alan Haskins Principal Award- Jenna Fabian
- 2022 Alaska CTE Teacher of the Year- Barry Hartman, KCHS

