

**Representative Cathy Munoz- 1/31/10
State Capitol Room 403
Juneau AK, 99801**

January 31, 2011

Dear Representative,

Thank you for your school meal support with House Bill 132.

I work with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD), and am able to see the challenge faced by the Student Nutrition Services (SNS) who provide the School Meals to the 32 schools across the KPBSD.

I understand that 40% of the students in KPBSD qualify for free and reduced priced meals. The SNS office is challenged with application processing for the free and reduced priced meals.

The demand for the school meals is extraordinary. Also, I feel these meals are a necessary part of education for many of students.

Thousands of school meals are served each year here in the KPBSD. I am told almost a million are served each year in the KPBSD.

It is my understanding that the meal program is tasked to produce a complete meal for the price of a latte. The School Lunch program needs your help! House Bill 132 seems like a reasonable help. I would appreciate it if you could help the children on Alaska by lending your support to this bill.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Brenner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Paul Brenner
Kenai, Alaska**

Kendra Kloster

From: Dean Hamburg [DHamburg@KPBSD.k12.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Kendra Kloster
Subject: HB 132 Support Letter

TO: HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE CATHY MUNOZ

FROM: DEAN HAMBURG-ALASKA SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR ALASKA FAMILIES AND STUDENTS IN HOUSE BILL 132

Thank you for your service as Sponsor for House Bill 132 as a support to Alaska Families and Students.

Each school year in , Juneau, Anchorage Fairbanks, Bettles, Tyonek, Wrangell, and Homer and all across Alaska, 11 million school meals are collectively provided with support coming only from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA.)

Each school year, Alaska families/students who qualify for Free or Reduced Priced USDA meals AND all students that do not qualify receive per meal support from the USDA.

Among all Alaska Families, 40% qualify for Free or reduced priced meals.

While the funding from the USDA is appreciated for support of school meals, for success in Alaska classrooms, the per meal funding does not cover the cost of a meal in Anchorage or in rural Alaska.

There are 38 states that do add a small support for their school meal programs serving their families/student.

Alaska is not yet among those states.

HOUSE BILL 132 will add meaningful support to school meal programs and will add Alaska to those states taking responsibility for the school meal programs serving Alaska families/students.

We who operate school meal programs work with families who are often desperate to know if they qualify for free or reduced priced meals as this service is a significant support for their families.

We who operate school meal programs also serve the many students across Alaska categorized as Homeless. School meals are a very big deal to these students.

DEAN HAMBURG- ALASKA SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

P.O.BOX 2546

SOLDOTNA, AK 99669

TEL: 907-714-8830

Kendra Kloster

From: Amy C. Rouse [amy.rouse@k12northstar.org]
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 11:46 AM
To: Rep. Cathy Munoz
Cc: Kendra Kloster; Dean Hamburg
Subject: House Bill 132

Good morning Representative Munoz,

I am writing to thank you for sponsoring House Bill 132, which would provide state funding for reimbursable meals served in our meal programs.

In the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District we serve an average of 1500 breakfasts and 5000 lunches per day. In December 2010, 31% (4,233 students) qualified to receive their meals at the free or reduced rates and we served 70% of our meals to those who qualified. We are very proud to offer a wide variety of fresh produce, fresh baked breads, and overall nutritionally well balanced meals. Unfortunately, federal reimbursement rates have not kept pace with our rising costs and we find ourselves in need of state funding support. The bill would mean approximately an additional \$195,977 to our nutrition services program.

With the passage of the federal Hunger-Free, Healthy Kids Act of 2010, we are being asked to do much more for our students. It is a privilege to serve our students but we know financial support from the great state of Alaska will be needed to ensure our nutrition programs are successful.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you again.

Amy C. Rouse, SNS
Director, Nutrition Services
Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
1305 Charles Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701
(907) 452-4461 ext. 602
Fax: (907) 374-8721
NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: amy.rouse@k12northstar.org

Kendra Kloster

From: Arboleda, Alvin [Alvin.Arboleda@kodiakschools.org]
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 12:08 PM
To: Kendra Kloster
Subject: HB 132

Ms Kloster,

In behalf of all the staff of the Nutrition Department of the Kodiak Island Borough School District, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Rep Munoz for sponsoring HB 132. This bill would really help boost our program in feeding Alaska school children.

Sincerely,

Alvin Arboleda

Accountant II, Nutrition Services
Kodiak Island Borough School District
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Kodiak, AK 99615
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(907) 481-2280 fax
alvin.arboleda@kodiakschools.org