

# NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Nunamlt Wolves Amaqut

Nunamlt School  
P.O. Box 21029  
Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska 99721  
(907) 661-3226  
FAX (907) 661-6215

## Atkasuk Eagles Tinmiappaich

Meade River School  
P.O. Box 91030  
Atkasuk, Alaska 99791  
(907) 633-6315  
FAX (907) 633-6215

## Barrow Whalers Agvigluqtit

Barrow High School  
P.O. Box 960  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
(907) 852-8950  
FAX (907) 852-8969

## HMS Wolves Amaqut

Eben Hopson, Sr., Memorial Middle School  
P.O. Box 509  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
(907) 852-3880  
FAX (907) 852-7794

## Arctic Foxes Tigiganniat

Fred Ipalook Elementary School  
P.O. Box 450  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
(907) 852-4711  
FAX (907) 852-4713

## Kila Snowy Owls Ukpiit'ch

Kila Learning Community  
P.O. Box 169  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
(907) 852-9677  
FAX (907) 852-4334

## Kaveolook Rams Imnait'ch

Harold Kaveolook School  
P.O. Box 20  
Kaktovik, Alaska 99747  
(907) 640-6626  
FAX (907) 640-6718

## Nuiqsut Trappers Naniglaqtuqtit

Trapper School  
P.O. Box 89167  
Nuiqsut, Alaska 99789  
(907) 480-6712  
FAX (907) 480-6621

## Tikigaq Harpooners Kapuqtit

Tikigaq School  
P.O. Box 148  
Point Hope, Alaska 99766  
(907) 368-2662/2663  
FAX (907) 368-2770

## Kali Qavvili'ch

Kali School  
P.O. Box 59077  
Point Lay, Alaska 99759  
(907) 833-2311  
FAX (907) 833-2315

## Alak Huskies Qimuktit

Alak School  
P.O. Box 10  
Wainwright, Alaska 99782  
(907) 763-2541  
FAX (907) 763-2565



April 7, 2013

Honorable Benjamin Nageak  
State Capitol  
Room 428  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Nageak:

I am writing to thank you for your sponsoring House Bill 179 for public school funding for internet services. This bill supports all districts in Alaska. Increasing costs and flat funding are challenging districts to continue to provide the programs our students need. This bill will provide funding for internet services that are a critical component of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century education program.

E-rate provides federal funding for a portion of a school district's telecommunication costs. Your bill will provide state funding for the balance of those expenses and allow districts to increase their bandwidth. This allows those rural districts primarily served by satellite to increase the bandwidth available to students to 10 megabytes per second. This is a very basic level of service. The Capitol has 100 megabytes per second service. Although basic, it will be a tenfold increase for some rural schools in Alaska. Ten megabytes will be three times faster than our district's current service to village schools. This is a step in the right direction to address the equity issue of educational opportunity for rural students in Alaska.

This is not only a rural bill, urban districts will also benefit. Railbelt communities also use E-rate funding and will have the local share covered. The bill allows them to get a 10% increase in 2015.

An distinct advantage of this bill is that it allows the state to leverage federal funds. The federal E-rate program will continue to pay for a percent of district's telecommunication services. If districts are able to increase the amount spent on telecommunications because of state support, the federal government will provide more funding to Alaskan schools.

I appreciate your advocacy on behalf of the students of the North Slope Borough School District and students across the state. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Peggy Cowan  
Superintendent



## **FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

520 Fifth Avenue Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4756 (907) 452-2000  
www.k12northstar.org

**April 2, 2013**

**Senator Donald Olson  
Representative Benjamin Nageak  
State Capital Bldg.  
Juneau, AK 99801**

**Senator Olson and Representative Nageak,**

**I am writing in support of both SB 82 and HB 179; companion bills that provide funding to public schools for telecommunications or internet services. As you know, school districts are facing difficult budget decisions. By providing assistance to districts with technology costs, we are able to direct additional dollars to the classroom. In the Fairbanks North Star Borough, we anticipate a savings of approximately \$200,000 as a result of this legislation.**

**We appreciate support for education.**

**Respectfully,**

**Pete Lewis  
Superintendent of Schools**