



IDiTAROD Area School District  
George (Scott) Ballard  
Superintendent's Office (907) 524-3033 x1221

Senator Coghill and Representative Gattis,

District operated residential learning centers are viewed as a solution to the district's desire to provide complete educational opportunities to students in our dispersed small school sites.

The Iditarod Area School District's ability to offer a more complete and appropriate education to our remote rural students will be greatly enhanced by adoption of SB47 and HB142 legislation.

If district-operated residential learning centers are supported by the Alaska Legislature, our small isolated rural school students will have the opportunity to receive a quality education, while immersed in the local culture of their home district.

In a recent survey of middle and high school students, there was overwhelming support for district operated residential learning centers. Students were clearly interested in a wide variety of course offerings, currently available only in road system schools and statewide boarding schools.

The Iditarod Area School District Regional School Board believes district operated residential learning centers will provide a school of choice option not currently available, and this option will be cost effective for the state.

Thanks for your Support,

Scott Ballard  
Superintendent  
Iditarod Area School District  
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