



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

*Dr. Deena M. Paramo*

***Mission: Mat-Su Borough School District prepares students for success***

March 18, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:


The Mat-Su Borough School District supports the passage of HB107.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District has a rich history in education. As the second largest school district in the State, Mat-Su has historically recruited and retained high-quality instructors dating back to the colony days. The Mat-Su Borough currently hosts a land-grant college conducting education, research, and activities around agriculture and geology. Our collective educational heritage and scale warrants a continuation of MSBSD's advisement of the education of Alaskans.

Alaska is a demographically and geographically diverse state that is best served by representatives that reflect diversity. Without the passage of HB 107, regional representation is not systematically regulated and diverse representation is not guaranteed. The population of the Mat-Su Borough is a major participant in the statewide educational system. The people of this region deserve representation on the Board of Regents.

The population and the economic base of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough comprise a large presence in the sustainability of the State of Alaska. Education and how it is conducted at all levels is a foundational factor in the economy and productivity of the State. As the fastest growing part of Alaska, consistent and guaranteed representation from Mat-Su must be a component of the statewide post-secondary system. The University of Alaska's Board of Regents inclusion of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's voice will complement our statewide system and benefit all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Deena M. Paramo  
Superintendent

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gene Stone  
Assistant Superintendent of Instruction