

Connections Homeschool Correspondence Program

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

4/12/2023

There are ways to verify student learning other than state testing.

- ▶ MAPS -
- ▶ Curriculum based assessments
- ▶ Quarterly grades/report cards
- ▶ Promotion rate
- ▶ Graduation rate
- ▶ As long as testing is an option, many homeschool families will opt out
- ▶ 1/3 of school aged students on the Kenai Peninsula are homeschooled. Their education needs to be funded.

Expenses in Brick and Mortar vs Correspondence

► Brick and Mortar

- Facilities- high
- Utilities- high
- Staffing- high
- Activities- high
- Administration- high
- Transportation- medium
- Zero allotment to families

❖ Correspondence

- ❖ Facilities- low
- ❖ Utilities- low
- ❖ Staffing- low
- ❖ Activities- low
- ❖ Administration- low
- ❖ Transportation -very low
- ❖ Allotment- over ½ of total

KPBSD (Connections) receives state funding (BSA) for correspondence students.
These funds provide:

- ▶ Allotment= \$2700 per student (K-12)
- ▶ Advisors- PTR of 90/1 approximately
- ▶ Facilities
- ▶ Partial Enrollment in neighborhood school if wanted (2 classes)
- ▶ ½ Allotments for late enrollments (Oct 10-Jan 1)
- ▶ Curriculum for “non-allotment” students so they can earn credit
- ▶ SPED (IEP) facilitation and partnership with neighborhood schools
- ▶ Administration

Assessment facilitation

- ▶ AKStar
- ▶ Maps
- ▶ ACT/SAT- (partner with KPBSD High Schools)
- ▶ High level math
- ▶ Other reporting data
 - ▶ Weighted GPA calculation (not on our transcripts)
 - ▶ APS Calculation (Admission Point Score) upon request

Theoretically, what would we do if BSA increased from 90% to 100% and/or 1.2 multiplier was added?

- ▶ This is a district level decision
- ▶ My recommendations
 - ▶ Increase allotment (we recently raised to \$2700 k-12)
 - ▶ Change policy to allow for transportation costs for parents
 - ▶ Provide remote Vocational Programing
 - ▶ Improve systems (software, financial, delivery, information, etc.)
 - ▶ Increase Coop support
 - ▶ Support facilities for activities