



GALENA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SUPERINTENDENT
Jason R. Johnson, Ed.D.

Letter of Support for HB 12

On behalf of the Galena City School District, I write to express our strong support for House Bill 12, which would ensure all Alaska students have access to free breakfast and lunch at school. Universal meals remove barriers to learning by ensuring students are nourished, focused, and ready to engage. Within Sidney Huntington Schools as well as at the Galena Interior Learning Academy here in Galena, we have seen how consistent access to nutritious meals improves attendance, academic performance, and overall student well-being while easing the burden on parents worried about how to provide for their children.

HB 12 is a sound investment in Alaska's future, prioritizing student success while leveraging federal funds to minimize state costs. Universal school meals reduce stigma, alleviate family financial strain, and promote better long-term health outcomes, potentially lowering future health care costs for our state. As other states move forward with similar initiatives, Alaska can demonstrate its commitment to our youth by ensuring no child goes hungry at school.

We urge the Legislature to pass HB 12 and make universal meals a reality for all students. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Alaska's children. Please reach out if we can provide further insight into how this initiative benefits our students, communities and Alaska as a collective whole.

Most Sincerely,

Jason R. Johnson, Ed.D.
Superintendent
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