

Nenana City Public School
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"A Community of Opportunity - Preparing Students for Life"

March 11, 2013

Senator John Coghill
State Capitol Room 119
Juneau AK, 99801

Re: Support Letter for SB 47

Dear Senator Coghill,

The school board of the Nenana City School District fully supports SB 47, "An Act relating to boarding schools operated by school districts; and providing for an effective date." Furthermore, the Board fully supports proposed changes to allow for the inclusion of district operated, regional residential education programs serving students the full school year or those programs of variable length.

In our twelve year history, the Nenana Student Living Center has provided nearly 500 students, from all parts of the State, the opportunity to live in a safe, educationally supportive environment. Through the end of the 2011-2012 school year, 134 students have graduated from Nenana High School while living in our residence facility, with an additional 11 students set to graduate in May 2013.

We believe the positive results we have achieved for students can and should be expanded and duplicated on a larger scale through the passage of SB 47. The existing availability of residential programming in the State does not yet meet the needs of the students and the choice of their parents. The passage of SB 47 will assist in that expansion effort and help to ensure that each residential program has the minimum funding necessary to provide required services and supervision of students.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Eric Gebhart
Superintendent

"providing all students with the tools and learning environment necessary to commit to achieving success"