

NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Nunamiut Wolves Amaqqut

Nunamiut School
P.O. Box 21029
Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska 99721
(907) 661-3226
FAX (907) 661-6215

Atqasuk Eagles Tinmiaqpait/ch

Meade River School
P.O. Box 91030
Atqasuk, Alaska 99791
(907) 633-6315
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Barrow Whalers Aqviqsuqtit

Barrow High School
P.O. Box 960
Barrow, Alaska 99723
(907) 852-8950
FAX (907) 852-8969

HMS Wolves Amaqut

Eben Hopson, Sr., Memorial Middle School
P.O. Box 509
Barrow, Alaska 99723
(907) 852-3880
FAX (907) 852-7794

Arctic Foxes Tiqiqanniat

Fred Ipalook Elementary School
P.O. Box 450
Barrow, Alaska 99723
(907) 852-4711
FAX (907) 852-4713

Kiita Snowy Owls Ukpiit/ch

Kiita Learning Community
P.O. Box 169
Barrow, Alaska 99723
(907) 852-9677
FAX (907) 852-4334

Kaveolook Rams Imnait/ch

Harold Kaveolook School
P.O. Box 20
Kaktovik, Alaska 99747
(907) 640-6626
FAX (907) 640-6718

Nuiqsut Trappers Naniqiaqtuqtit

Trapper School
P.O. Box 89167
Nuiqsut, Alaska 99789
(907) 480-6712
FAX (907) 480-6621

Tikigaq Harpooners Kapuqtit

Tikigaq School
P.O. Box 148
Point Hope, Alaska 99766
(907) 368-2662/2663
FAX (907) 368-2770

Kali Qavviit/ch

Kali School
P.O. Box 59077
Point Lay, Alaska 99759
(907) 833-2311
FAX (907) 833-2315

Alak Huskies Qimuktit

Alak School
P.O. Box 10
Wainwright, Alaska 99782
(907) 763-2541
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March 30, 2015

Senator Pete Kelly, Finance Committee Chair
Senator.Pete.Kelly@akleg.gov
State Capitol Room 516
Juneau AK, 99801

Senator Mike Dunleavy, Education Chair
Senator.Mike.Dunleavy@akleg.gov
State Capitol Room 100
Juneau, AK 99801

Ref: Public Testimony On Next Year's Operating Budget

Dear Honorable Senator Kelly and Senator Dunleavy:

I am writing to encourage you to reinstate the Broadband Assistance Grants (BAG) in the FY16 education budget. These grants allow schools to have a 10 Mbps download speed. This is important for our students and a good use of the State's limited funds. If the \$5 million budget from last year were sustained, NSBSD would receive \$327,634, the Federal E-rate reimbursement would be \$932,508. For districts with a higher poverty level than the North Slope, the return would be even higher.

Students in smaller schools need additional bandwidth per/student to access distance delivery options at a higher rate compared to the larger schools in order to have a similar access to additional course offerings. The larger the school size the more course options a high school student has due to the increased number of high school teaching staff.

Reducing broadband for our small K-12 sites will negatively impact our high school students ability to earn the Alaska Performance Scholarship. The non-comprehensive high schools rely on Distance Delivery to augment the course offerings at these sites.

As the broadband becomes more limited, the opportunities for our students become more limited. The ability to meet the APS course requirements should not be dictated by where a student lives – a robust broadband ensures that each student has the opportunity to earn the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

Sincerely,


Peggy Cowan
Superintendent