



Denali Borough School District

P.O. Box 280 • Healy, Alaska 99743 • (907) 683-2278 • FAX (907) 683-2514

14 February 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Dan Polta. I am the superintendent of the Denali Borough School District (DBSD). This letter is in support of SB132 which would establish a small tax to support the maintenance and construction of educational facilities in Alaska.

DBSD has a strong partnership with our local borough to support the education of our students and to ensure the proper maintenance of our school classrooms and buildings. The Borough consistently supports major school maintenance projects by funding the local share of such projects and by funding projects outside of this program.

Nonetheless, our facilities are aging and in need of significant upgrades, such as a new leach field and septic system at Tri-Valley School. When this system fails, we will be unable to bring students to our classrooms for them to have a proper learning environment. This project is just one of many across the state that urgently need to be addressed to provide adequate classrooms for our students.

SB132 provides for a small tax that would go toward these projects across Alaska. Too often these needed projects languish and become more expensive and more critical due to a lack of funding in the Capitol Budget. Establishing this specific and dedicated revenue source would ensure that classrooms across the State have adequate roofs, fire suppression systems, heating, and the ability to flush a toilet.

Please support SB132 so that our students can continue to have welcoming classrooms in which they can focus on learning to read, write, do mathematics, understand science and social studies, and become the best citizens they can be.

Sincerely,

Dan Polta

Dan Polta
Superintendent
Denali Borough School District

Mission Statement

Working together to nurture, empower, and inspire today's student to positively shape tomorrow's world