



PEGGE ERKENEFF
Communications Liaison
907.714.8888
Fax 907.262.5867
148 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska, 99669

e: Pegge@KPBSD.org
Facebook: [KPBSD](https://www.facebook.com/KPBSD)
Twitter: [@KPBSD](https://twitter.com/KPBSD)
www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

Seward and Homer area schools: consolidation survey and community meeting

Soldotna, April 10, 2019—Exploring the difficult concept of school consolidations or closures is a challenging task. However, with fiscal uncertainty at the state and borough levels, it is an act of due diligence to have the conversations in order to learn community concerns and thoughts, and share with families and staff. In that light, KPBSD is being proactive to explore a number of possibilities to meet potentially significant funding cuts in all areas of our district, including southern, central, and eastern peninsula schools. Two additional community meetings and surveys are now open:

Homer area:

Homer High School Principal Doug Waclawski, Homer Middle School Principal Kari Dendurent, district administration, and the school board request your thoughts and input about potentially consolidating Homer Middle School and Homer High School. No decisions have been made, and your thoughts are valuable.

- The high school has the capacity to accommodate the middle school students at this time, and this consolidation simplifies transportation issues
- Closing the school would offer annual savings of approximately \$459,000 in operating costs, and avoid deferred maintenance costs of approximately \$10,000,000

Homer High School and Homer Middle School community meeting:

April 15, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Homer High School commons

Homer Survey: Parent, student, and staff survey is open April 9 – 16, 2019

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2TJG85C>

Seward area:

Seward High School Principal, Trevan Walker, Seward Middle School Principal, Jenny Martin, William H. Seward Elementary School Principal, Alan Haskins, school administrators, district administration, and the school board request your thoughts and input about potentially consolidating Seward Middle School (6-8) into Seward High School (9-12), and William H. Seward Elementary (6th). No decisions have been made, and your thoughts are valuable.

- The high school has the capacity to accommodate the middle school students at this time, and this consolidation simplifies transportation issues.

KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-FOUR DIVERSE SCHOOLS

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures.
ANCHOR POINT COOPER LANDING HOMER HOPE KACHEMAK SELO KENAI MOOSE PASS NANWALEK NIKISKI NIKOLAEVSK NINILCHIK PORT GRAHAM
RAZDOLNA SELDOVIA SEWARD SOLDOTNA STERLING TUSTUMENA TYONEK VOZNESENKA

- Closing the school would offer an annual savings of approximately \$409,000 in operating costs

**Seward area schools community meeting:
April 11, 2019, 6:30 p.m., William H. Seward Elementary School**

Seward Survey: [Parent, student, and staff survey is open April 9 - 16, 2019](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/27PHGPS)
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/27PHGPS>

Timing of any potential school consolidations in the Seward or Homer areas is unknown, and at this time, school closures or consolidations would be dependent upon funding from the state in FY20 and beyond. It is unlikely that school closures would occur in the Seward or Homer area as fast as the 2019-2020 school year, unless the Governor's proposed budget stands.

Link: [School consolidation discussions webpage and report](#)

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FOR RELEASE APRIL 10, 2019

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