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KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

KPBSD Smart Start 2020

HOW WILL COVID19 RISK LEVELS AFFECT K-12 EDUCATION AND THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN KPBSD?

Soldotna, July 8, 2020—During their Monday, July 13, 2020 meeting at 6:00 PM, the KPBSD Board of Education will take action to approve the KPBSD COVID19 Smart Start 2020 plan, and change the first day of school for students to Monday, August 24, 2020.

Smart Start 2020

Preparations for the safe and prudent reopening of schools in August 2020 has been ongoing for two months. Twenty members of the KPBSD 2020 Smart Start Work Group designed the KPBSD plan to address how K-12 education and activities in our diverse schools will take place depending on low (green), medium (yellow), or high (red) risk COVID19 community transmission scenarios. The KPBSD plan will continue to be revised as medical information, science, and the pandemic situation evolves throughout the 2020-2021 school year. The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development requires all school districts to submit their plan by July 31, 2020. The recommended action for the Board of Education is to approve the KPBSD plan. After approval, on July 14, 2020, the plan will be available at the KPBSD Smart Start webpage. You can view the document now in [BoardDocs](#).

Delay first day of school for students by four days

Changing the first day of school for students to August 24, 2020, will provide four additional critical in-service workdays for staff. COVID19 brings a significant number of extra health and safety measures, instructional options for parents and guardians, school routine shifts, schedules, and operational procedures. These four additional in-service and staff workdays will ensure a smooth and safe startup of schools during the COVID19 pandemic. The recommended action for the Board of Education is to change to first day of school for students from the original date of Tuesday August 18, to Monday August 24, 2020.

6:00 PM, Monday, July 13, 2020, Board of Education meeting

The Board of Education will hold a virtual and telephonic meeting in the Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers, George A. Navarre Administration Building, in Soldotna. However, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and CDC recommendations, this meeting will not be physically open to the public. However, the meeting will remain public.

KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-TWO 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

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The public is invited to listen and participate by calling the following toll-free number on July 13 at 6:00 p.m.:

(877) 853-5257

Conference ID: 708 024 188

When prompted for an Attendee ID, press #

- The meeting will be broadcast live on the district website. <https://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/>
- Anyone can submit comments that will be read during the meeting. Email them to Lisa Gabriel lgabriel@kpbsd.k12.ak.us by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, 2020
- To pre-register to testify telephonically (optional) or for technical difficulties or questions, contact Lisa Gabriel at 907-714-8836, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Links

- [Board of Education BoardDocs meeting schedule and documents](#)
- [July 13, 2020 Action Item: Approval of KPBSD Smart Start 2020 Plan](#)
- www.KPBSD.org

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