



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Education & Early Development

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

333 Willoughby Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, SOB  
P.O. Box 110500  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500  
Main: 907.465.2800  
TTY/TDD: 907.465.2815  
Fax: 907.465.2806

August 12, 2025

Clayton Holland, Superintendent  
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District  
148 N Binkley St  
Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear Mr. Holland,

Thank you for the letter and support documentation regarding the Nikolaevsk School closure in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District community of Nikolaevsk.

In accordance with AS 14.14.120 & 4 AAC 05.090, the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) accepts the district's request for the closure of Nikolaevsk School due to declining enrollment, staffing challenges, and long-term sustainability. The department appreciates the district's efforts to work in cooperation with the families of the community in preparation for the closure.

Finally, if the district decides to reopen the school, provided there is a population above 10 students in average daily membership, then a request must be submitted in writing to DEED for approval.

Please contact the department if you have any questions. These decisions are never easy and your commitment to an excellent education every day for the children of Alaska is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deena M. Bishop".

Deena M. Bishop, Ed. D.  
Commissioner

cc: Jared De Lara, School Finance Specialist II