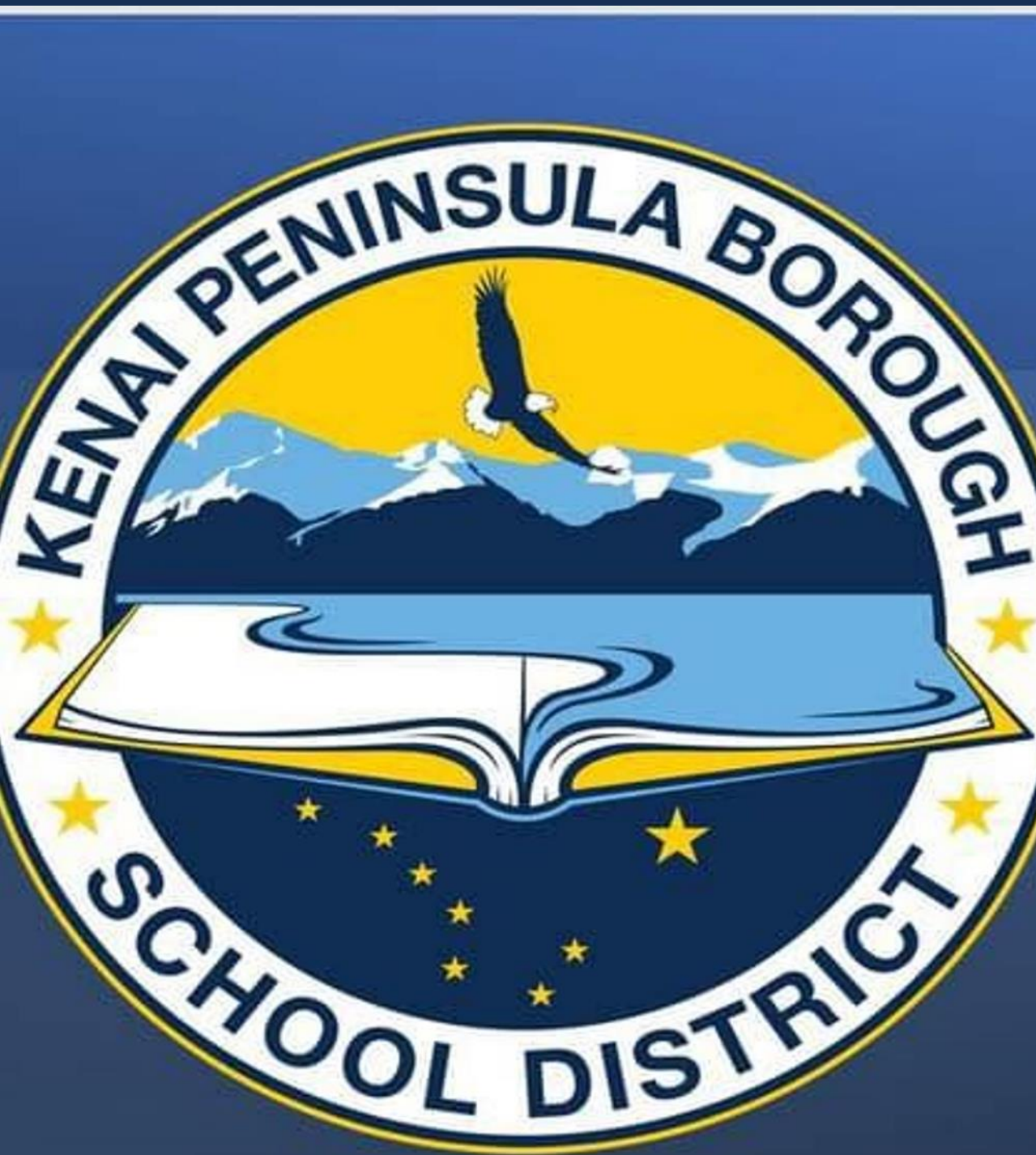


Kenai Peninsula Borough School District



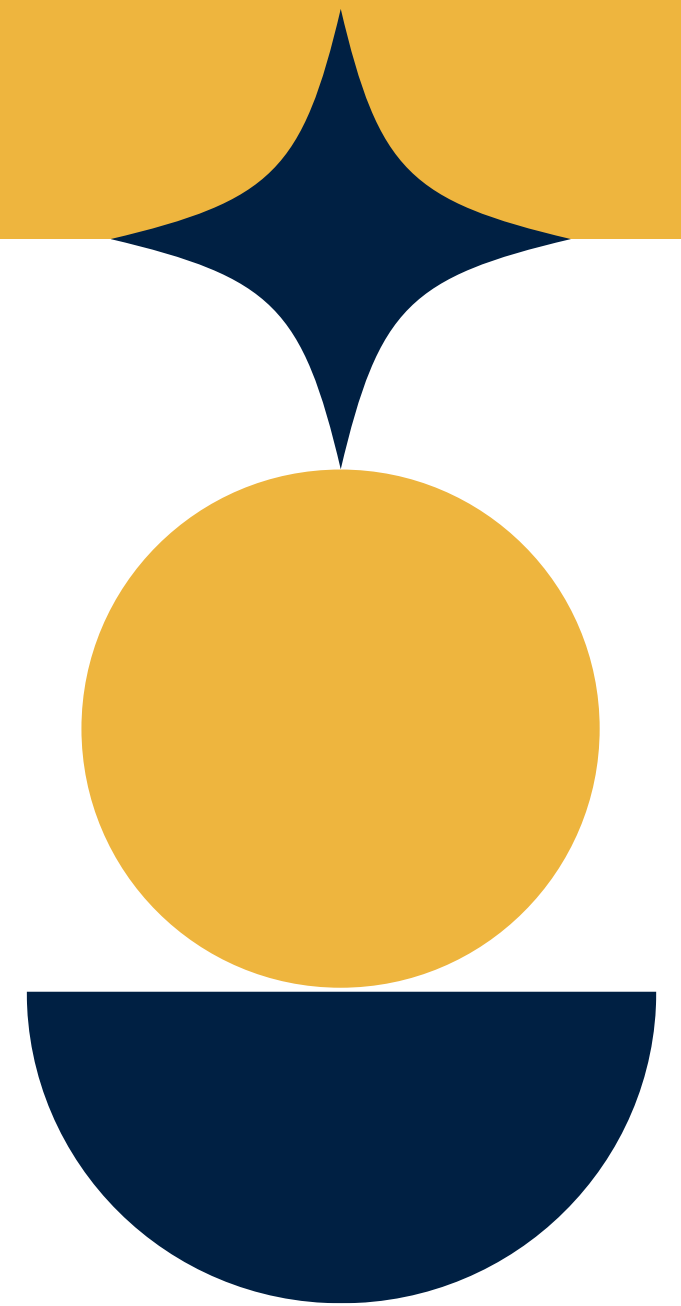
October 5, 2026

Clayton Holland,
Superintendent



KPBSD Core Values

- Community
- Perseverance
- Academic Excellence
- Integrity



KPBSD Strategic Plan

2025- 26 District Priorities

1

Student Success

Literacy & math growth
CTE course attainment
College credits earned

2

Family & Community Engagement

Strong communication
Family involvement
Business partnerships

3

School Climate & Safety

Sense of belonging
Safe, secure schools

4

Workforce Development

Onboarding improvements
Staff retention focus

5

Organizational & Resource Management

Align funding to goals
Train-the-trainer PD
Grant committee
Capital improvement process



Celebrations



- Mind A-Mazes – October 24
- Students in grades 4 through 8 will design and construct devices using simple machines to complete a task within 30 seconds
- Thank you to our Quest facilitators for continuing to provide engaging enrichment opportunities for students

Growing Our Own Teachers



-
- GREAT Grant is a success with our paraprofessionals! We have 10 paraprofessionals who have been accepted to participate in the GREAT Grant.
 - The GREAT (Growing Reading Excellence and Alaska Teachers) Grant provides full funding for current special education paraprofessionals to receive a degree in general education with a minor in special education to increase our special ed teachers in our harder to fill areas.
 - This is our first year of the grant and the areas that were chosen to grow are Seward, Homer, Nikiski, Kenai, and outlying areas.



State Board of Education CTE Recognition Award

This award represents outstanding achievements of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs around the state that exemplify the ideal qualities of Career and Technical Education

- This program, led by instructor George Lastinger, with the support of Principal Tabitha Blades, is a student-run weekly school broadcast, which provides students with authentic industry experience in media production, digital storytelling, and broadcasting.

Early Literacy: Beginning of Year Results

2026–2027 Beginning of Year Entry Readiness Comparison

Kindergarten

24%
(+7% vs 23-24)

Steady Baseline:

Entering readiness remains significantly higher than the 17% baseline in 2023-24

Grade 1

50%
(+28% vs 23-24)

Sustained Lift:

Half of entering Grade 1 students are proficient compared to just 22% four years ago

Grade 2

51%
(+5% vs 23-24)

Majority Benchmark:

Maintains majority benchmark entry (51%) for the second consecutive year

Grade 3

60%
(+14% vs 23-24)

All-time High:

Reaches 60% entering proficiency. Highest Beginning of the year benchmark

Grade Level	2023–24 Entry	2024–25 Entry	2025–26 Entry	2026–27 Entry	4-Year Entry Trend
Kindergarten	17%	19%	25%	24%	+7% Baseline Lift
Grade 1	22%	45%	52%	50%	+28% Major Surge
Grade 2	46%	47%	55%	51%	+5% Sustained Majority
Grade 3	46%	55%	56%	60%	+14% Record High

State and Legislative Happenings

House Bill 27-CPR Training

- Goes into effect July 1, 2027
- DEED will provide Curriculum

Senate Bill 23-Civics Education

- Goes into effect July 1, 2027
- DEED will provide Curricular Options

Senate Bill 143-School Board Terms and Training

- Requires that all school board members in both REAA and borough/municipal districts receive training on school board ethics and budgeting training. This training will be provided by DEED within 30 days of each new board term.
- The law also permits borough assemblies and city councils to, by ordinance, alter the length of the terms of their school board members (which are by default three years). REAA boards are unaffected by this change.

District Updates



Transportation

New Transportation Contract

- Contract is in final legal review
- Board work session and action scheduled for November

Cost Containment

- Three routes eliminated or consolidated this year
- Two in the Kenai/Nikiski area and one in the Homer area

FY27 Financial Impact

- Transportation costs continue to increase
- Current projection assumes a **5% increase over FY26** monthly expenditures
- At least **\$595,000 projected transfer** from the General Fund to the Student Transportation Fund

School Consolidation: Recommendation for FY28

Continue evaluating
the impact of the
2026 consolidations



Enrollment has
increased at several
schools previously
considered for
consolidation



Recommendation:
No additional school
consolidations for
the 2027 to 2028
school year

Facility Updates and Considerations

- Prep Building-Construction status
- Redoubt: Future use of Redoubt and the current Prep building
- Connections: Need for a new location
- Soldotna Elementary: Future use of the current building

Thank you!

Questions?

