

MEMORANDUM

TO:	NWABSD Board of Education Members	DATE:	August, 28, 2026
		NUMBER:	Worksession #
FR:	Office of the Superintendent	SUBJECT:	Property Services

Donavan Watkins, Director of Property Services, reports the following updates from across the district:

Ambler

- Ambler continues to experience water issues; however, holding tanks have been distributed, treated water is being produced at the water plant, and water is being delivered for domestic use.
- There have been several break-ins, and repairs are currently underway.
- Doors and jambs have been replaced, and locks are being re-keyed in case keys have fallen into the wrong hands.

Buckland

- Teacher housing utilities have been tied into the city water and sewer system. This eliminates the need to maintain expensive infrastructure and reduces vulnerability to freezing.
- Buckland City Power is currently operating on one generator, which does not produce enough kilowatts to service both the school and the town. We have been informed that parts have been ordered, and this issue is expected to be resolved within the next two weeks.
- Buckland School's emergency generator has been running the electricity at the school but is consuming fuel at a much higher rate than usual. The increased runtime is adding significant hours to the generator.

Deering

- The school received a much-needed visit from the drywall crew, who patched drywall throughout the school and gave the building a fresh coat of paint.
- The two-bedroom unit facing the ocean received the same attention. The carpets were removed and replaced with new flooring and trim.
- Deering is currently without a full-time BPO, so we are providing temporary BPO coverage from our department staff in Kotzebue on a rotating, week-at-a-time basis.

Kiana

- Kiana is running smoothly with nothing significant to report at this time.

Kivalina

- The bus barn received a new workbench and shelving to help clear and organize the space, making it safer, more accessible, and more productive.

Kobuk

- Three older teacher housing units were beginning to fall into disrepair. All three units had their exteriors pressure washed, scraped, caulked, and painted to prevent weather intrusion. Interior work included carpet removal, patching and painting, and installation of new flooring and trim.

- Interior paint for the gym has been delivered and is awaiting the return of the drywall crew. They will complete crack repairs and paint the walls, which are sheetrock in a heavy-use area and require regular upkeep.

Kotzebue

- The old sixth-grade middle school pod is taking shape as the new daycare.
- Our summer high-school interns have moved materials, painted porches, doors, and handrails, cleaned the JNES basement, repaired playground equipment, and helped bring the Kotzebue site to a better state of readiness for the upcoming school year.
- Five FEMA inspectors were on site last week to assess damage to our ATC facilities and JNES Basement caused by Typhoon Halong last October.
 - We have received an estimate from NANA Construction for repairs to the arctic pipe under the ATC in the amount of **\$288,145.00**. During the storm, the arctic pipe providing municipal water and sewer services was lifted by the water, leaving it broken in several places and off grade, which has prevented proper drainage.
 - The JNES basement, which sustained water damage, is currently in the bidding process.

Noatak

- Cruz Construction, Teck, and the Native Village of Noatak are currently converting inoperative dump trucks into dump trailers so gravel can be moved for construction projects, including the pad for the new duplexes.
- One housing unit, which had been occupied by the same tenants for many years, received a fresh coat of paint. The carpet was removed and replaced with new flooring and trim.
- As a side note, these tenants were excellent residents, and we appreciate their dedication and care of the property during their many years in the district.

Selawik

- A new school nurse station is being established within the school. The new space received fresh paint and sanitary flooring.
- A three-bedroom housing unit was found to have a vapor barrier issue that resulted in mildew developing on the surface of the sheetrock. The affected drywall and insulation were removed, the vapor barrier was repaired, and new insulation and sheetrock were installed. The carpet was removed and replaced with new flooring and trim.
- New utilidor “dog boxes” are currently being constructed at junction points to replace older, deteriorated units. The new boxes are being built tighter, with better insulation and improved accessibility for emergency situations.

Our department remains dedicated to keeping our facilities **clean, safe, and operating smoothly**. We appreciate the continued efforts of our staff, contractors, and community partners in maintaining and improving district facilities across the region.

ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

NWABSD Memo, Approval of RESCON Fuel Spill Mitigation:

The administration recommended that the Board approve the request. Please see NWABSD Memo 27-021 Approval of RESCON Fuel Spill Mitigation.

NWABSD Memo, Approval of Mold Remediation Flood Damage JNES Basement:

The administration recommended that the Board approve the request. Please see NWABSD Memorandum 27-023 Approval of Mold Remediation Flood Damage JNES Basement.

NWABSD Memo, Approval of ATC Utilidor Flood Damage:

The administration recommended that the Board approve the request. Please see NWABSD Memorandum 27-024 Approval of ATC Utilidor Flood Damage.