

March 31, 2026

Ms. Luke and the LPSD School Board,

Thank you for the time and effort you put into directing our district. You seek to find ways to provide educational opportunities for our students in a fiscally responsible and culturally relevant way. You recognize the value of investing in both staff and students, while aiming for healthy relationships with students and their communities.

It has come to my attention that a "Student Services" position has been posted for our district, meaning that you do not intend to offer Kacy Leyba a contract for that position. While I understand the desire to keep LPSD staff living in our communities, I do not believe letting her go from this position is in the best interest of our students.

Kacy has worked in the office next to my classroom for the past few years, and I have seen how she cares for and invests in the students of our district. She often meets with students online, both in class sessions and individual meetings. The time that it takes to build trust and rapport with our students should not be dismissed. Her tireless efforts to enrich our counseling program, provide care for our students, and secure grants are particular ways that I see her working every day...that she is here. She spends significant amounts of time with our students in their communities and at programs like CTE.

Additionally, Kacy has made it clear that her desire to move out of Port Alsworth is only temporary and does not want to leave our district, even purchasing land in Newhalen with the intent of coming back to live there in the near future. Her connection to our students, communities, and culture is strong.

Please consider looking at options that would allow Kacy to keep her position in LPSD. Since most of her work is done remotely and she intends to move back into one of our villages, I think the best choice for our students would be to allow her to stay with LPSD, rather than lose the trust that has been built with her students over the years.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Matthew Grossmann

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Grossmann". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tanalian School