

April 1, 2026

To the LPSD School Board,

I write to you this morning on behalf of Kacy Leyba and on behalf of the students in our school district. I have had the opportunity to connect with students from all over our region as they come to Tanalian Bible Camp in the summers and as we visit these students and their families throughout the year in their home villages. It is an incredible blessing to get to know these students and their families; to grieve with them as they experience loss, to process with them as they encounter difficult situations, and to rejoice with them as they celebrate joyous circumstances.

As I'm sure you would agree, there is a huge need for our students to be seen, listened to, encouraged, and believed in. I'm sure you're also aware of the fact that it takes time and effort to build trust and relationships with students and their families. In my 6 years of living in Port Alsworth and traveling to villages in Southwest Alaska, I have seen Kacy at many different villages, often arriving before me to be with students. She is constantly listening to, encouraging, crying with, and celebrating with students. She has made deep connections with families in our region as they have seen her dependability and care. She has been incredibly effective in her pursuit of wellness for the students of our region and has even implemented the Sources of Strength program, which I believe will also be effective. Kacy has taken time to mentor and build up students as well as adults, both relationally and professionally, as she has traveled and connected with people. She truly is a multiplier, and a multiplier is someone we need working on behalf of our students and communities.

With all of this considered, along with the fact that my own children attend a school in LPSD, I ask that you reinstate Kacy as Itinerant Student Support Services Coordinator. I understand she is moving, but with this move, she will have access to airports which have less restrictions and more capabilities for landing in inclement weather along with more readily available childcare. As a father of two little ones, I understand how difficult those logistics can be when a time of crisis happens. Having that infrastructure in place before times of crisis or celebration come up, will allow Kacy to be more flexible and take advantage of opportunities to travel as they arise.

I believe Kacy's role as Itinerant Student Support Services Coordinator will be more effective, more versatile, and provide for even more opportunity to achieve the goal of overall student wellness for the entire district from her new location.

I ask on behalf of the current and future students in LPSD, as well as the communities it serves, that the school board reinstate Kacy Leyba to Itinerant Student Support Services Coordinator for the 2026-2027 school year as well as in the future. Thank you for your time.

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