

Office of the Mayor

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October 22, 2020

Mr. John O'Brien, Superintendent of Schools Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Sent via electronic mail: lqabriel@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

Dear Superintendent O'Brien:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Homer City Council as a reaction to recent developments in the rapid spread of the novel Coronavirus in the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

We applaud the efforts taken by the District in providing guidelines of controls that afford the best chances of maintaining normal school operations with high classroom attendance. The guidelines provide a solid base of local preventions to minimize community spread. In fact, over the end of August, through September, the Homer community enjoyed a six-week period of hospital testing that were free of positive COVID 19 infection.

The same cannot be said of the measures taken for interscholastic activities. While the District might impose requirements for the students involved, attendant participants become regional travelers that increase the chances of becoming a new vector of viral spread.

We urge you to place the return to the classroom as a priority that must be maintained.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely:

Ken Castner, Mayor City of Homer

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