



## Aleutians East Borough School District

P.O. Box 429, Sand Point, Alaska 99661  
Ph. 907-383-5222 FAX 907-383-3496  
Serving the children in the Alaskan communities of:  
Akutan, Cold Bay, False Pass, King Cove, and Sand Point  
[www.aebbsd.org](http://www.aebbsd.org)

## Eastern Aleutian Tribes



Anchorage Administrative Office  
3380 C St # 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Phone: (907) 277.1440  
Toll Free (In Alaska)  
(866) 328.4911

July 27, 2020

Greeting members of the AEBSD Community:

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. As you all know, we are in unprecedented times in not just our Aleutians East Borough, but in the world. During the past five months we have seen numerous Alaska Health Mandates from the Governor's Office and our local government bodies.

Throughout the summer we have met as an administrative team, and an EAT representative, to develop a reentry plan for students into respective schools Fall 2020. Our team entry plan follows guide lines set forth by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, and the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. This plan defines High, Medium and Low Risk categories as guidelines for school reentry. Along with this, I have been in regular communication with Paul Mueller, EAT CEO.

This pandemic has created disruptions to our societal norms and has been difficult to conduct business, in our case schools, with any degree of normalcy. Decisions have been made, retracted, modified, cancelled, reintroduced and today's truth is tomorrow's falsehood. For our purposes, you have all likely seen the nationwide discussion surrounding the opening of schools. In the U.S. there are many places that have incredibly high transmission rates per 100,000 people and have tough decisions ahead. This is true in some areas of our state as well where infection and transmission rates are high. They have also made tough and ever-changing decisions. In the Aleutians East Borough we have made good choices. Our local leaders in Sand Point, King Cove, False Pass and Akutan have put in place high standards to help ensure the safety of their community residents.

Given our current position in the COVID-19 landscape, schools will open on time in the AEBSD per our current 2020-2021 calendar. This decision is supported by EAT who have been a part of the process from the inception of our SMART START plan that is forthcoming. This opening of schools will be accompanied by current recommended safety precautions that are built into the plan. These include social distancing expectations, taking staff and student temperatures as students enter the school, restrictions on visitors to name a few. Other large topics such as mask requirements and extracurricular activities are yet to be defined.

It is important for everyone to be aware that the Risk Level in the School District and even in individual schools could change at a moment's notice. It is also important to know that any changes in Risk Level will be made in consultation with EAT where safety is paramount and providing a quality education is critical.

Thank you all for your support of a safe and effective education for our students as we navigate through challenging times.

Sincerely,

Patrick Mayer,  
Superintendent

Sincerely,

Paul Mueller,  
Chief Executive Officer