

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION 2015-16:

REQUESTING ASSISTANCE WITH CLEAN AIR FOR SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, burning tobacco, gasoline, diesel and wood releases microscopic particles into the air¹; and

WHEREAS, children are at a greater danger from these smoke particles because their intake of these particles is at a larger dose per lung surface area than an adult¹; and

WHEREAS, inhaled smoke particles impair a child's brain, heart, and lung function in ways that may go unnoticed or not be readily apparent¹; and

WHEREAS, the number of admissions to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital for pulmonary complications increase when smoke particle concentrations increase in winter²; and

WHEREAS, potentially harmful levels of smoke particles have been measured in the air outside of schools in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District; and

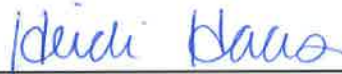
WHEREAS, sixty percent of smoke particles found outdoors may be found in measurable quantities indoors³; and

WHEREAS, the school district has a responsibility to provide a safe environment for students and employees; and

WHEREAS, the scope and source of the smoke particles issue affecting students and staff at the district's schools requires funding and leadership by the State of Alaska and the Fairbanks North Star Borough;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education will continue to explore and utilize strategies to mitigate the harmful effects of smoke particles, and educate our students and their families. The school board calls upon the State of Alaska and Fairbanks North Star Borough to promptly take reasonable, prudent, and effective measures that avoid, minimize, and mitigate the harmful effects of smoke pollution on students and employees.

PASSED AND APPROVED: March 24, 2015



Heidi Haas, President
Board of Education

ATTEST:



Sharon Tuttle
Executive Assistant to the School Board



¹ Dr. Ali Hamade, Alaska Dept of Health and Social Services, *Presentation to the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly*, December 4, 2014

² Alaska Dept of Health and Social Services, *Association between Air Quality and Hospital Visits - Fairbanks, 2003-2008*, 2010.

³ Qing Yu Meng, et al., *Influence of ambient (outdoor) sources on residential indoor and Personal PM_{2.5} concentrations: Analyses of RIOPA data*, Journal of Exposure Analysis and Environmental Epidemiology, 2005.