

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION 2020-23:

TEMPORARILY AUTHORIZING THE SUSPENSION AND/OR MODIFICATION OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS OF THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ITS OPERATIONS, INCLUDING PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PARTICIPATION, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF OUR COMMUNITY DURING A STATE-DECLARED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified COVID-19, also known as the "coronavirus," as a significant public health risk; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization designated the outbreak of COVID-19 as a pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency, and on March 13, 2020, the Governor announced the statewide closure of all public schools through March 27, in response to the COVID-19 anticipated outbreak in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, various agencies and organizations statewide and in our local community are canceling or restricting public gatherings and postponing nonessential travel as a means to contain the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, new information and guidance is being provided on local, state, national, and global levels on a daily basis, requiring maximum flexibility be given to respond to and implement the various prevention measures; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education and School District need the flexibility to make operational decisions and call, reschedule, or cancel certain meetings and/or to modify its meeting procedures for time-sensitive and important matters so it can ensure it has protections in place its students, staff, families, community members, and elected officials; and

WHEREAS, this authorization is intended to be temporary during this state-declared public health emergency, and will provide time for the board and district to further assess its operations, policies, and administrative regulations if more permanent changes are determined to be necessary; and

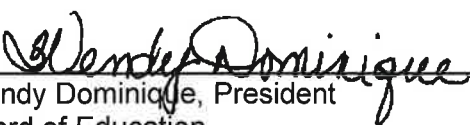
WHEREAS, board policy authorizes the School Board to make emergency policy decisions (a situation which threatens life or substantial property loss or damage) and the Superintendent to make decisions not covered by current board policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education finds and authorizes:

1. An emergency exists in the State of Alaska, the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District due to the imminent outbreak of COVID-19, which has been declared a global pandemic and a public health disaster emergency.

2. Notwithstanding anything in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Policies and Administrative Regulations to the contrary, the Superintendent, in conjunction with the School Board President, has the authority to modify and/or waive provisions pertaining to the operations of the School District, and the scheduling, public participation, teleconferencing, and other related provisions of policy and regulations pertaining to public meetings of the School Board, including board committees, if deemed necessary for public health and safety; provided, any modification and/or waiver is in compliance with borough code and state and federal law.
3. All modifications and waivers of policies and regulations will be reported to the Board, as soon as practical.
4. This resolution is temporary, for a period of not more than 60 days and is effective immediately upon its adoption.

Passed and Approved: March 18, 2020


Wendy Dominique, President
Board of Education

ATTEST:



Sharon Tuttle
Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

