



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 17, 2025
TO: Mayor and Assembly
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Mat-Su Borough School District Update: To correct an error in the legislative priorities provided at the Joint Assembly/School Board meeting on September 9, 2025, the District website has been updated and can be found [here](#).

During the September 9 Joint Assembly/School Board meeting a member inquired if any of the Board's legislative priorities were connected to specific bills already sponsored. SB 143 – Municipal School Board Terms, was sponsored by Senator Yundt and relates to priority number three (Allow municipalities and boroughs the ability to align board member terms with other elected officials). SB 3 – Authorize Handguns School Employees/Volunteers was sponsored by Senator Hughes and relates to priority number seven. SB 5 – School/University Employee Health Insurance was sponsored by Senator Hughes and relates to priority number two.

Also, during the Joint Assembly/School Board meeting, a member inquired about class sizes. The budgeted pupil-teacher ratio targets for FY 2026 for regular education classrooms for all subject areas are listed below. Effective July 1, 2026, for FY 2027 the District will be required to adhere to a new section AS 14.03.065, which reads "**Maximum classroom size**. Each school district shall establish and make available to the public a target average class size policy for each grade level. The target average class size for pre-kindergarten through grade six may not exceed 23, and the target average class size for grades seven through 12 may not exceed 30. The policy may exclude missed grade classes and courses in art, library, music, computer science, vocational-technical, and physical education. The policy must include procedures to reduce class sizes when the school district determined a reduction is appropriate." The District will be evaluating their current class sizes and working with the policy committee to develop the policy required under this section.

K-2: 23 to 1
3-5: 26 to 1
6-8: 27 to 1
9-12: 30 to 1

Public Affairs Media Flyover:

Community

- **Big Lake Rec Center set to reopen with fresh paint, expanded hours and new faces**
Mat-Su Sentinel
- **Hundreds rally to clean up a neighborhood in need**
Frontiersman
- **New glass recycling option for Mat-Su Valley residents now open**
Your Alaska Link
- **'A Blessing,' volunteers remove tons of trash from Wasilla neighborhoods**
Alaska's News Source

Library books

- **Library Board accepts full list of materials**
KTNA

Land Use

- **Mat-Su Considering Changes to Land Use Code**
KTNA

Mat-Su Business

- **Mat-Su Sentinel awarded new business of the year**
Alaska Business
- **Mat-Su Bus service heads for borough takeover**
Mat-Su Sentinel

Fishing/Hunting

- **A very limited Mat-Su salmon charter option**
Frontiersman

Reels/Videos

- **Williwaw Property Clean-up**
2,300 Views
- **9/11 in remembrance**
2,200 Views

Facebook Posts

- **Williwaw Property Clean-up (photos)**
62K Reach
- **9/11 Ceremony at 61 (photos)**
12k Reach
- **Williwaw Project -day 1 (photos)**
8k Reach
- **Big Lake Rec Center Grand Opening (photos)**
10k Reach

Facebook Metrics

- **Gained 874 (+68%) followers and lost 72(+9%) in last 30 days**

Future Events:

- Mat-Su Emergency Preparedness Expo, Menard Center, Sat., Sept. 20 from 10am to 3pm
- Port MacKenzie Public Open House, Sat., Oct. 4 from 10am to 4pm
- Motor Fuel Excise Tax Informational Open Houses at 6pm:
 - Wed., Sept 17 @6pm – Butte Elementary School Gym
 - Tues., Sept 23 @6pm – Willow Area Community Organization Center
 - Mon., Oct 6 @6pm – Meadow Lakes Elementary Gym
 - Mon., Oct 13 @6pm – Knik Elementary Gym
 - Wed., Oct. 22 @6pm – Mat-Su Central School
 - Thurs., Oct. 23 @6pm – Upper Susitna Community & Senior Center, Talkeetna

Providing Outstanding Borough Services to the Matanuska-Susitna Community