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## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Region III Cross Country Championships relocated

**Soldotna, September 21, 2012**—The Region III Cross Country Running Championships scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2012, at Seward High School has been moved to Skyview High School at the Tsalteshi Trails Wolverine Trailhead accessible from K-Beach Road, across from the Soldotna Sports Center. Race start time is 1:00, Saturday, September 22, 2012.

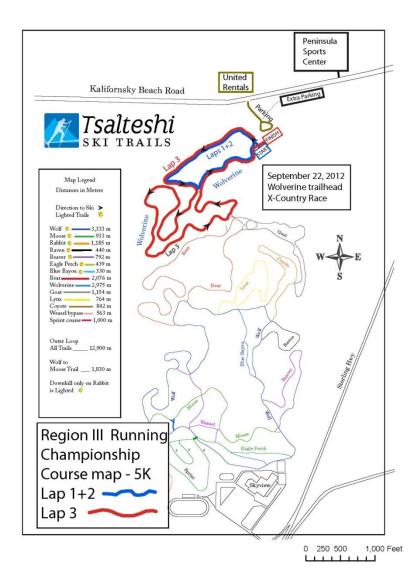
In the late afternoon on Thursday, September 20, 2012, after consulting with Kenai Peninsula Borough Emergency Services and other agencies working in the Seward area, a decision was made to change the venue. The decision was made in order to help facilitate logistics and safe transportation for all region teams who will participate, together with preparing the course at the new site. The City of Seward declared a state of emergency on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 1:15 p.m. in response to localized flooding.

Sixteen Alaska schools—including schools from Cordova, Kodiak, Valdez—are scheduled to compete in the Region III Championships. Athletes must compete in this event in order to qualify for the Alaska State Region III Cross Country Running Championships scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2012, at Bartlett High School Trails in Anchorage.

The new meet director will be Skyview High School principal Randy Neill. Everyone who has requested housing will now be housed at Skyview High. Coaches' meeting is 11:30 a.m. in the Skyview High School Library.

NOTE: The race will begin and end at Wolverine Trailhead located on K-Beach Road, approximately 1 mile from Sterling Highway in Soldotna. The parking at the trailhead is reserved for buses; additional parking is available across the street at the Soldotna Sports Center.

- Open Girls 1:00
- Open Boys 1:45
- 123A Girls 2:30
- 4A Girls 3:15
- 123A Boys 4:00
- 4A Boys 4:45
- Awards (location will be determined at the coaches meeting.)



This course is different than the Skyview Invitational course.

The Kenai Peninsula Step Out to Stop Diabetes 5K scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 22, 2012, at Skyview High School, Tsalteshi Trails will be held as planned. The course for this is not the same as the Region III Cross Country Running Championships.

Finally, it is with regret that Seward High School will not be hosting the Region III XC Championships. Principal Trevan Walker said, "First and foremost, I want to thank Sami King for all of her work with planning and logistics to host the Region III Cross Country Championships at Seward High School, and for her complete cooperation to get everything to Skyview High School. Ron Hemstock, Dan Marshall, and a fleet of parent volunteers braved our storm here in Seward to continue prepping the course, and we had a crew lined up for hospitality, among other logistics and preparation. I am happy to have colleagues like Skyview High School principal Randy Neill, and Kent Peterson, for taking this on with such short notice."