

PEGGE ERKENEFF Communications Specialist 907.714.8888 Fax 907.262.5857 148 N. Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska, 99669

e: Pegge@KPBSD.org Facebook: KPBSD Twitter: @KPBSD www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

Project SEARCH open house is September 29, 2014

Soldotna, September 26, 2014—What takes place when a school district and hospital collaborate to create a business-led, one-year, school-to-work program for students with disabilities? Join KPBSD and Central Peninsula Hospital for the third annual Project SEARCH High School Transition Program open house and find out about a life-changing opportunity happening in our community.

Monday, September 29, 2014
5:00 — 6:00 p.m.
Denali Room, Central Peninsula Hospital, Soldotna, Alaska

Families, educators, partner organizations, and community members are invited

- Meet three student interns who will showcase learning from their respective internship rotations
- Talk with the teacher and job coach
- Meet the hospital job mentors
- Presentation of a national Project SEARCH award based on employment outcomes, by Patrick Reinhart, director of public policy, Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education
- Light refreshments will be served

Dr. Steve Atwater, KPBSD superintendent said, "One of our on-going challenges is to ensure that our students with disabilities make a smooth transition to life after high school. Project SEARCH is thus, a wonderful way to help us meet this challenge."

The Project SEARCH High School Transition Program is a total workplace immersion, facilitating a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and relevant job-skills training through strategically designed internships. Through a series of three targeted internships the students acquire competitive, marketable, and transferable skills. Students also build communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills which is important to their overall development as a young worker. The goal: independent adults prepared for competitive employment opportunities.

KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-FOUR DIVERSE SCHOOLS

The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to develop productive, responsible citizens

who are prepared to be successful in a dynamic world.

ANCHOR POINT COOPER LANDING HOMER HOPE KACHEMAK SELO KENAI MOOSE PASS NANWALEK NIKISKI NIKOLAEVSK NINILCHIK PORT
GRAHAM RAZDOLNA SELDOVIA SEWARD SOLDOTNA STERLING TUSTUMENA TYONEK VOZNESENKA

Kenai Peninsula Project SEARCH is made possible through the collaborative efforts of Project SEARCH Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Central Peninsula Hospital, Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Frontier Community Services.

Links

Project SEARCH
2014 Golden Apple Award: Central Peninsula Project SEARCH program
2013 KPBSD Project SEARCH story
2012 KPBSD Project SEARCH story

###