

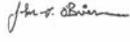
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

Title:	Soldotna Area Schools Reconfiguration Recommendation for grades 7-8-9		
Date:	June 3, 2013	Item Number:	Worksession
Administrator:	John O'Brien, Director of Secondary Education and Student Activities  Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent  Through Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent 		
Attachments:	Summary of Soldotna Area 7-8-9 configuration Community Survey		

Action Needed **For Discussion** **Information** **Other:** _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

After over a year and a half of studying the reconfiguration of Soldotna area secondary schools the administration is prepared to make a recommendation regarding the configuration for grades 7-8-9.

At the April Board meeting the School Board unanimously approved reconfiguring Soldotna's two high schools into one single high school with grades 10-12 that will be located at the current Soldotna High School. The Board further approved allowing the Administration the discretion of making this move effective either in August of 2014 or 2015. After considering feedback from all stakeholders, Dr. Atwater informed the School Board in May that the move would occur in August of 2014.

Since the April and May Board meetings principals have continued to gather feedback from Site Based Council/PTSA groups, staff, parents, and students on the "9th grade house" and (1) one 7-8 school vs. the two (2) 7-8-9 schools options. Additionally, another community focus group meeting was held and one final community survey on the two options for grades 7-8-9 has been conducted.

From every source that we have received feedback from, there is overwhelming support to move forward with creating a 9th grade house located at the current Soldotna Middle School campus and for the current Soldotna Middle School (grades 7-8) to be relocated to the Skyview campus.

Next Steps:

Mr. Douglas Hayman (Principal at Tustumena) has been named the Transition Coordinator for the Soldotna Schools Reconfiguration. Mr. Hayman will begin work this summer with Mr. Truesdell, Mr. Neil, and Mr. Syverson on the transition. This work will ramp up in intensity next school year. The staff's at all four schools (RCA, SMS, Skyview, and SoHi) will be involved in assisting Mr. Hayman and the school administrators in shaping what the new schools and programs look like and become. A "Task Force" representing students, staff, parents, and other stakeholders will be formed by Mr. Hayman to make recommendations on school name, color, mascot, etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

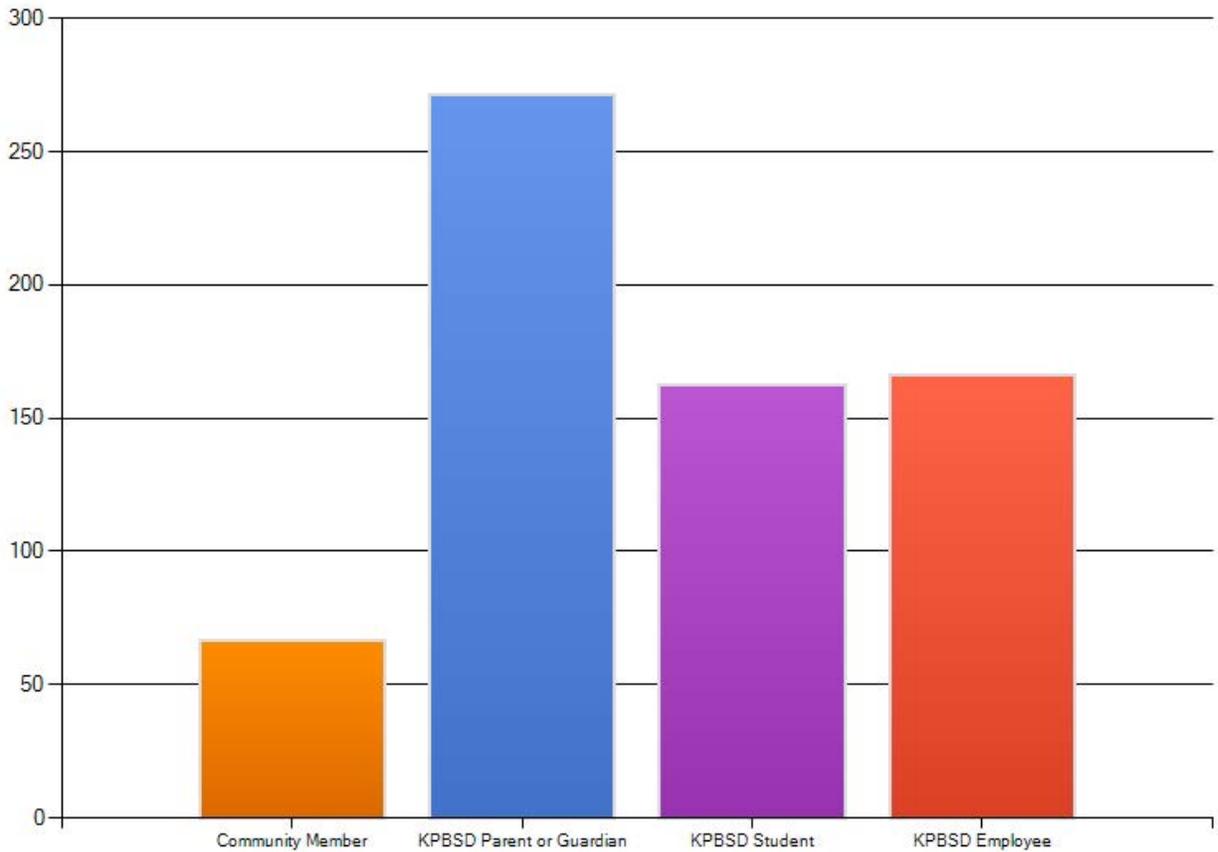
The KPBSD administration recommends that the KPBSD Board of Education approve reconfiguring Soldotna Area grades 7-8-9 into the following configuration and locations:

- 1) Create a 9th grade house school at the current Soldotna Middle School facility;
- 2) Relocate River City Academy to the Soldotna Middle School facility;
- 3) Relocate Soldotna Middle School (grades 7-8) to the Skyview campus.

1. Who are you?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Community Member		11.6%	66
KPBSD Parent or Guardian		47.8%	271
KPBSD Student		28.6%	162
KPBSD Employee		29.3%	166
answered question			567
skipped question			0

Who are you?



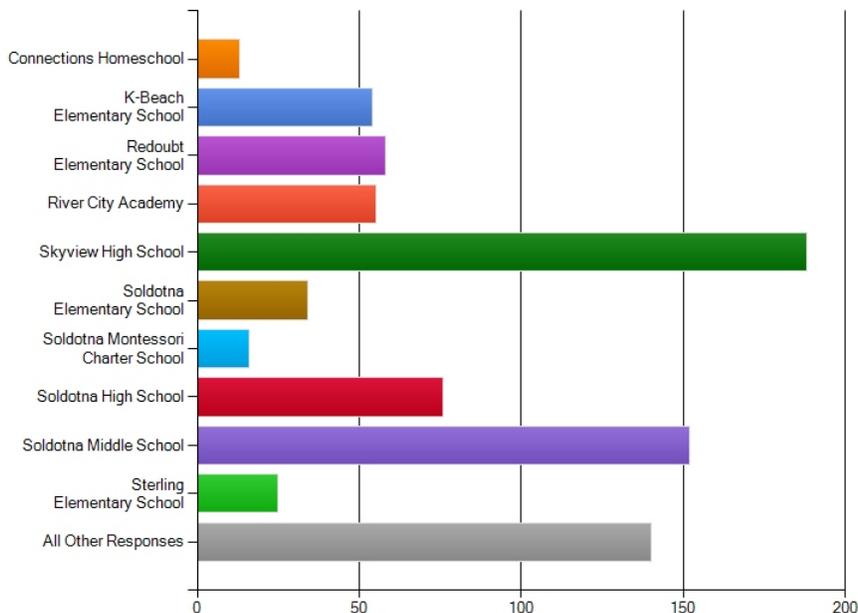
2. Which school do you or your student(s) attend? (Check all that apply.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Connections Homeschool		2.3%	13
K-Beach Elementary School		9.5%	54
Redoubt Elementary School		10.2%	58
River City Academy		9.7%	55
Skyview High School		33.2%	188
Soldotna Elementary School		6.0%	34
Soldotna Montessori Charter School		2.8%	16
Soldotna High School		13.4%	76
Soldotna Middle School		26.8%	152
Sterling Elementary School		4.4%	25
Tustumena Elementary School		5.3%	30
I am a KPBSD employee at one of these schools		11.6%	66
Other		7.8%	44

Which school do you or your student(s) attend? (Check all that apply.)

Other (please specify)

39



answered question

567

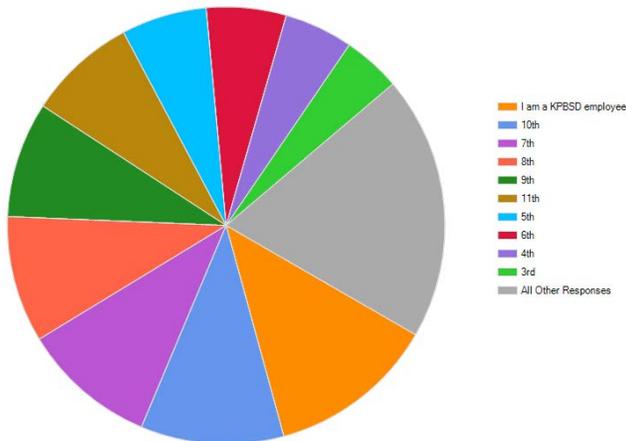
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0

3. What is your grade level, or the grade level of your child or children?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Pre-K		4.4%	25
Kindergarten		4.9%	28
1st		3.7%	21
2nd		6.5%	37
3rd		7.4%	42
4th		8.8%	50
5th		10.9%	62
6th		10.2%	58
7th		17.3%	98
8th		16.2%	92
9th		14.8%	84
10th		18.3%	104
11th		13.9%	79
12th		6.9%	39
I am a KPBSD employee		21.5%	122
I am a community member		7.4%	42

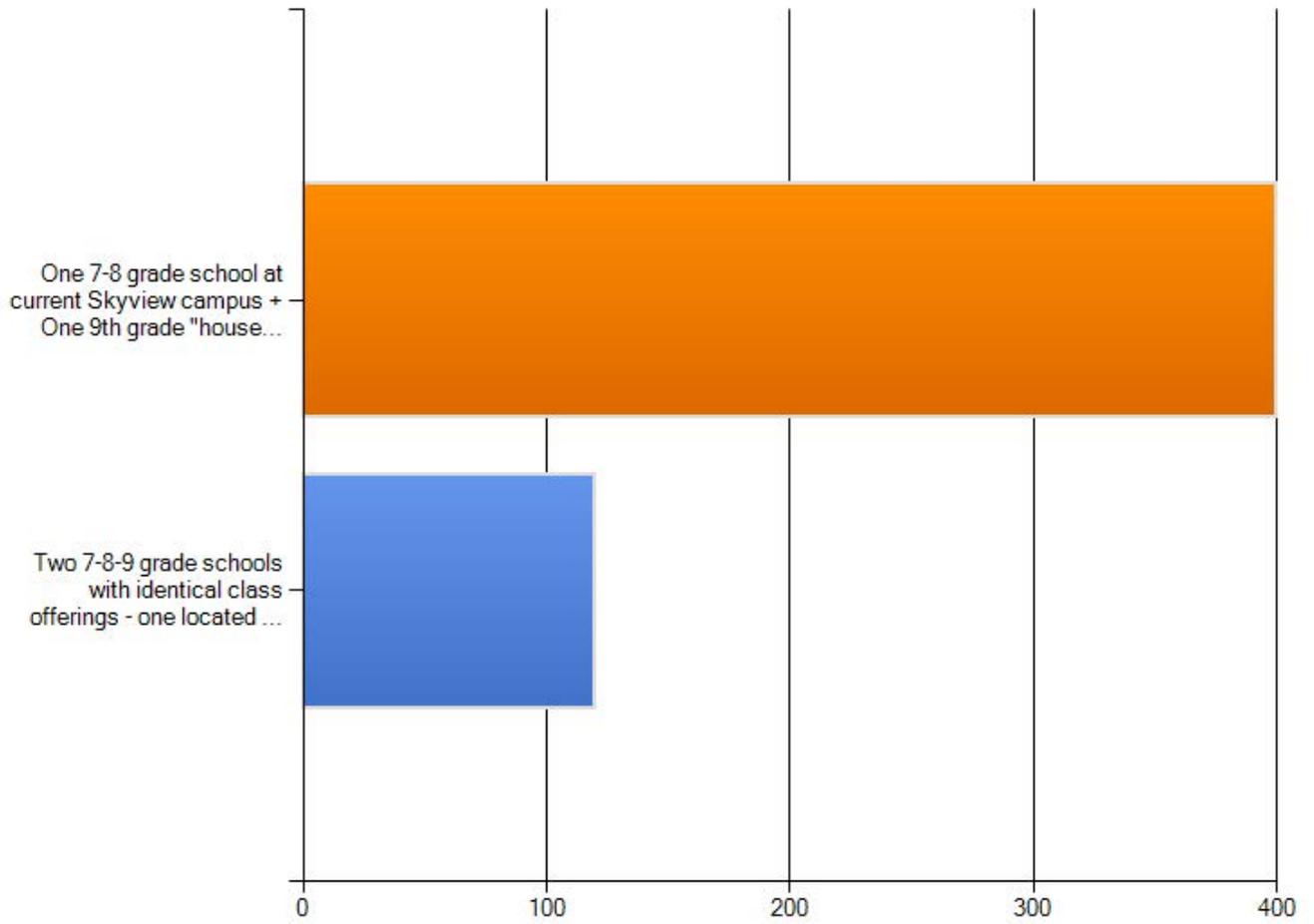
What is your grade level, or the grade level of your child or children?



answered question 567

skipped question 0

What configuration do you prefer for 7-9 grade students beginning in August 2014?



4. What configuration do you prefer for 7-9 grade students beginning in August 2014?

		Response Percent	Response Count
One 7-8 grade school at current Skyview campus + One 9th grade "house" located at current SMS campus, adjacent to SoHi. RCA would relocate to SMS campus.		77.0%	399
Two 7-8-9 grade schools with identical class offerings - one located at current Skyview, one at current Soldotna Middle School (SMS). RCA would remain at Skyview campus.		23.0%	119
		answered question	518
		skipped question	49

5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments? (Your response will help KPBSD understand what information and facts need to be communicated through schools, media, and District website.)

	Response Count
	175
answered question	175
skipped question	392

Page 1, Q2. Which school do you or your student(s) attend? (Check all that apply.)

1	Private School	May 21, 2013 7:43 PM
2	Skyview Alumni	May 21, 2013 6:17 PM
3	Soldotna High School graduate	May 21, 2013 6:09 PM
4	Prior resident and graduate of KCHS	May 21, 2013 5:57 PM
5	Do not have children in school.	May 21, 2013 2:22 PM
6	I am a community member with young children that will one day be attending these schools.	May 21, 2013 10:06 AM
7	i am a community member	May 21, 2013 9:55 AM
8	IDEA Homeschool	May 20, 2013 5:48 PM
9	Aurora Borealis Charter	May 20, 2013 10:20 AM
10	children attended sohi and kenai	May 17, 2013 3:43 PM
11	Aurora Borealis Charter School	May 17, 2013 1:14 PM
12	KCHS, KMS, KSAS	May 17, 2013 9:26 AM
13	Potential employee of one of these schools	May 16, 2013 10:20 PM
14	student attended these schools	May 16, 2013 12:13 PM
15	Grandchildren	May 16, 2013 9:50 AM
16	Cook inlet academy	May 16, 2013 9:27 AM
17	Concerned community member encouraged by a KPBSD student	May 16, 2013 7:28 AM
18	I am a community member	May 15, 2013 4:00 PM
19	Kaleidoscope	May 15, 2013 1:44 PM
20	KSAS	May 15, 2013 12:59 PM
21	Student attending KCHS	May 15, 2013 12:25 PM
22	Home	May 15, 2013 12:16 PM
23	ABC'S	May 15, 2013 11:37 AM
24	ABCS	May 15, 2013 11:35 AM
25	River City Academy	May 15, 2013 10:48 AM
26	Aurora Borealis Charter School	May 15, 2013 10:10 AM
27	Community Member	May 15, 2013 9:23 AM

Page 1, Q2. Which school do you or your student(s) attend? (Check all that apply.)

28	All my children have already graduated from the District.	May 15, 2013 9:21 AM
29	ABCS	May 15, 2013 9:10 AM
30	Student entering Kinder next year at Sol. El. Montessori	May 15, 2013 6:22 AM
31	Parent of graduates of SoHi, current resident	May 14, 2013 6:13 PM
32	K-Alt	May 14, 2013 3:28 PM
33	KCHS	May 14, 2013 2:43 PM
34	my children are graduated now	May 14, 2013 12:59 PM
35	Kenai Central	May 14, 2013 12:49 PM
36	Aurora Borealis	May 14, 2013 12:47 PM
37	ABCS	May 14, 2013 11:03 AM
38	Aurora	May 14, 2013 10:59 AM
39	Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science. We are zoned for Soldotna, however and will be attending middle school and high school in Soldotna	May 14, 2013 9:33 AM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
(Your response will help KPBSD understand what information and facts need to be communicated through schools, media, and District website.)**

1	No division of same grade schools 7 and up. allows access to High school for 9th graders	May 23, 2013 10:17 PM
2	1.If the school population shifts dramatically will this new configuration still work? 2. Will a 9-12 high school, which I feel is the best, ever be possible for Soldotna? (I suggest connecting SMS and SoHi with secure passageway.)	May 23, 2013 4:43 PM
3	#1 makes more sense as the 9th graders could still be part of the high school sports etc. They would be withing walking distance.	May 23, 2013 11:03 AM
4	We should consider adding 6th grade to the Skyview campus...at least for Redoubt, K-Beach, and SoEl kids. Successful 6th - 8th Middle Schools can be found all over the nation...including in our very own District.	May 23, 2013 9:11 AM
5	Are you considering adding 6th graders to the middle school at Skyview for a configuration similar to KMS?	May 22, 2013 8:18 PM
6	Will current Sohi students living in Skyview zone have bus transportation to Sohi in 2014?	May 22, 2013 2:50 PM
7	Please keep Soldotna High School and the Skyview named the same (i.e. Skyview Middle School & Soldotna High School). Keeping the colors the same would be preferred as well. It would save the community thousands and thousands of dollars. Money that could go into staffing.	May 22, 2013 12:27 PM
8	I'm doing the math and this doesn't make sense. Why don't we just do one school for 7-9 at the SMS campus, one high school for 10-12 at the Skyview campus and then use the SMS building to house Montessori and River City. Having the two charter schools in one building increases room for River City and Montessori to grow plus it relieves SOEL of it's space issues.	May 22, 2013 11:04 AM
9	the 9th grade kids could more easily attend classes at SoHi and be quasi-part of their population. why wreck middle school offerings to improve high school opportunities?	May 22, 2013 11:00 AM
10	1. why not wait to reconfigure until all HS students fit..it's more cost effective and less disruptive. 2. how will splitting the MS into two (thereby reducing the number of classes offered at that level) resolve the problem of two schools (middle or high school) requiring consolidation to improve class offerings? Doesn't a MS split create a problem that the HS students have? It robs Peter to pay Paul...	May 22, 2013 10:56 AM
11	My concern is that by taking all the middle school students as they continue on to the high school level into one school, isn't that going to create overcrowding in the high school?	May 22, 2013 10:37 AM
12	Why not include 6th grade with the 7th and 8th grade students and still have a 9th grade house?	May 22, 2013 9:39 AM
13	If we go with option 2 would none of the 9th graders have access to classes at SOHI? Would it be equitable if the opportunity existed. If option 2 happens what would happen with 9th grade extra curricular activities? What are the financial implications of both of these options?	May 21, 2013 7:36 PM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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14	don't divide our kids any longer, let's build unity! 9th graders might transition better into high school too.	May 21, 2013 7:23 PM
15	How will sports be addressed?	May 21, 2013 7:22 PM
16	I really like the idea of a ninth grade house, allowing students to still be involved in high school sports as a freshman.	May 21, 2013 6:09 PM
17	I feel the one 7 - 8 grade at Skyview campus with the 9th grade and RCA at SMS would be the best. It will allow easier access for the 9th grade students to participate in Sports, activities, or higher grade classes offered at SoHi.	May 21, 2013 6:02 PM
18	I think it would be a good choice to keep only one 7-8 grade instead of two so I can stay will all my friends and not have them split up between two Jr. High Schools.	May 21, 2013 5:59 PM
19	I think this will be best.	May 21, 2013 5:57 PM
20	I believe keeping the names would be the best in saving money. It would be Skyview Middle School and Soldotna High School	May 21, 2013 5:49 PM
21	DO NOT GET RID OF SKYVIEW!!!	May 21, 2013 2:26 PM
22	I wish that the reconfiguration would increase the number of advanced placement classes available at Soldotna High School. There should also be a great focus on incorporating the 9th grade house with the high school so the incoming freshman won't be robbed of their 4 year high school experience. (Allow participation in high school sports at sohi, dances, classes, ect.).	May 21, 2013 1:32 PM
23	no	May 21, 2013 9:57 AM
24	In my highschool experience i have come to the realization that high school is not just for education. High school helps each and every student find themselves, and fit in with the people they want to. Skyveiw is a great place for students to feel at home. This is because of the teachers and the positive learning enviroment. In my opinion a great learning oppertunity and should not be taken away from students. This desision would also have a huge impact on skyview teachers because a good percentage of them are elligible to teach ap classes at a high school level.	May 21, 2013 6:54 AM
25	I thought the transition date was open at this time? I was thinking 2015-2016. Thus giving current upper grades a chance to graduate from where they started.	May 20, 2013 10:35 PM
26	We REALLY wanted to see Greatland Academy start this year 2013!!!!	May 20, 2013 5:51 PM
27	Dont close down skyview	May 20, 2013 2:25 PM
28	Keep SOHI's name do not change it.	May 20, 2013 10:57 AM
29	From an athletics/academic (9th graders who wish to take a higher level class) standpoint the best option is #1	May 20, 2013 9:43 AM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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30	Smaller groups are better. Splitting the 7th, 8th, & 9th graders into two smaller groups is better. Multi-grade schools are better for getting to know the students. The 9th grade school is a terrible idea.	May 19, 2013 10:38 PM
31	These changes affect both my students the year it starts, my daughter will have to change schools her senior year and my son won't be attending high school in ninth grade like he thought he would. My daughter has been extremely upset over this, a major change her senior year will hopefully not ruin her academics and social life, I hope and pray that the existing students and teachers @ SOHI are educated in the importance of welcoming students to their hallways. She is very worried about rejection and stress there, these students have been rival schools and she feels that they may try and make things difficult for her and classmates, Has this been thought through and addressed ? Splitting up the junior highs and bringing them back together makes no sense, put the ninth graders together and then bring them to the high school together.	May 19, 2013 3:12 AM
32	Possible 6th grade at skyview?	May 19, 2013 12:35 AM
33	I don't "prefer" either option. KPBSD has made it clear you don't listen to these public surveys and frankly it is starting to get insulting. The reconfiguration has been a poorly thought out mess and demonstrates the incompetence we have on the school board and at the Borough. You guys are suppose to look out for our kids and an option where kids would have 3 transitions-possibly 4 if they are 7th graders next year is irresponsible. The whole thing should be disregarded as a huge mistake and you should be figuring out a way to set things right again. What problems have you fixed with this? What money have you saved? The lack of data supporting this huge decision is stunning. And the lie that you told Skyview students that SOHI would be renamed is shameful. Who are you guys? I use to be proud of KPBSD and now I just shake my head sadly.	May 18, 2013 11:35 PM
34	I think we should house 10 thru 12 at the skyview campus and 7,8 9 at the sohi campus use sms for charter schools and community school and boys and girls club. This would reduce the overhead for the district giving our students the best courses and most qualified teachers for each class.	May 18, 2013 2:41 PM
35	I don't want to see the names change. I don't think that we should spend money irresponsibility.	May 18, 2013 12:08 AM
36	Why is this an issue? What's causing change?	May 17, 2013 5:56 PM
37	As a parent of children who graduated from KPBSD schools, 7th and 8th grade students need to be relocated away from the present SMS campus and SoHi. A 9th grade "house" at the present SMS campus would provide high school academic and sports opportunities through SoHi access, but hopefully provide some social insulation for the 9th graders from 10th-12th graders.	May 17, 2013 1:36 PM
38	I believe that the bullying factor has been increased when immature students are placed a large peer group of the same age and they feel a stronger need to be noticed. This aggressive behavior might be mitigated by somewhat more individualized attention by a smaller grade level population. Two separate middle schools would help. I feel bullying behavior should be a top concern.	May 17, 2013 1:20 PM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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39	Not at this time, I do not see the point of changing the name and mascot of Soldotna High School and spend all the extra money for new uniforms, cost in labor for paint , gym floor, wrestling mats and whatever else would be needed for that change of all that would entail to make these changes and the costs there of.	May 17, 2013 1:19 PM
40	I think its important for the 'melding' of 9 graders to happen and not have them continued to be split up and feel like they are a part of a 'Junior' high atmosphere.	May 17, 2013 10:41 AM
41	i wish sky to stay as a 10th 11th 12th grade school	May 17, 2013 9:56 AM
42	As a parent and Middle/High teacher I like the 9 th grade at SMS option because it keeps a more uniform flow and sense of accomplishment for families that move from one community to another on the peninsula	May 17, 2013 9:30 AM
43	I believe that option 1 in the only way to have equal opportunities for all students. Option two provides the same opportunity for inequality that we currently see in the two high school system.	May 17, 2013 9:16 AM
44	Skyview high school has been a great fit for my daughter, and Skyview is home to some amazing teachers who go out of their way repeatedly for students. Once my daughter got out of SMS and the negative environment there she's thrived at Skyview. Keeping students from outlying areas together as long as possible will help those students thrive as well.	May 17, 2013 9:15 AM
45	Recent studies show that 9th grade success is critical to overall high school success. The ability to provide specialized support in a 9th grade house is highly supported by such research. This configuration also allows for exceptional 9th graders to attend classes or recieve appropriate service at the nearby high school without the COST of bus transportation.	May 17, 2013 8:41 AM
46	My children attend early morning seminary class (along with other LDS students in the area) in Soldotna when they are in 9th-12th grade. If the 9th graders are at Skyview it will be difficult for them to get rides after seminary ends at 7:30 am back to school. Skyview is farther away from SoHi and the SoHi kids won't want to drive them to Skyview and then drive back to Sohi for fear of being late to class. As of now, the under 16 students all car pool with older students who have drivers license to either Skyview or SoHi. I would prefer all the 9th graders go to SMS so they can still catch rides with the SoHi students. Also having the 9th graders at SMS will allow some higher level students to go to SoHi for academic classes and sports.	May 16, 2013 10:36 PM
47	There needs to be ONE middle school just like there is ONE high school. Having 9th grade (which is technically a high school grade) at SMS would allow the 9th graders to be able to take electives at SoHi as well as be able to play SoHi sports easily. Having two middle schools would limit what each can and can't have because of a lower enrollment vs. having everyone attend one middle school at Skyview. PLEASE make SMS a 9th grade house. Thank you!	May 16, 2013 10:32 PM
48	I have seen success with the 7-8-9 schools feeding into the high schools in rural,	May 16, 2013 10:24 PM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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suburban, and small urban schools in Montana. Ninth graders are safer, and they provide leadership for the younger students.

49	I think the Middle School should be called Skyview Middle School, the High School should be Soldotna High School, and the 9th Grade House should be called Soldotna Freshman High School. KPBSD should keep the mascots and colors at the school to be cost effective.	May 16, 2013 10:10 PM
50	Moving 9th grade down to 7th and 8th grade levels poses some maturity problems. My current 9th grader would be set back much further in life if he had continued with middle schoolers. Such as getting a job and driving. Moving into a new education level at 9th grade is an important maturing necessity.	May 16, 2013 10:05 PM
51	How can we best utilize the shop at Skyview? Are we going to bus the high school kids up to Skyview so the shop is utilized by the high school kids?	May 16, 2013 9:24 PM
52	While the 9th grade house makes the most sense logistically, I have concerns about students being in a form of limbo for a year while they are not technically members of the high school nor the middle school. Where is the sense of community and buy in? I like the concept but worry the freshman are in limbo which could have an adverse affect on many students. I feel one more community meeting would have been appropriate when the 9th grade house became a viable option as it was not an option we discussed and gave feedback on in our small school community meetings. I really appreciated those meetings to discuss and get answer to my questions.	May 16, 2013 9:10 PM
53	It makes more sense to have the ninth grade campus there by the 10-12 campus, it will save on busing and such. Also, why divide the kids again then re unite them? Just keep them unified.	May 16, 2013 8:21 PM
54	This will help end the ongoing battle for years of dividing students and rivalries as they will all stay together from 7th - 12th grade. It also utilizes all campuses in an appropriate way.	May 16, 2013 6:13 PM
55	I think it is counterproductive to have a school split that puts some middle schoolers at Skyview and some at SMS. That is the same thing we have going on right now. Either put the two middle schools together at SoHi and SMS or put the two high school groups (9th and 10-11-12) at SMS and SoHi. Thank you.	May 16, 2013 5:48 PM
56	It would be better for the 9th graders to be on a campus next to Sohi for the convenience of the students participating in sports and other high school activities. I also feel it is best to start the middle school kids altogether in one building. This would eliminate the middle school kids from being "rivals" during the middle school years, then having them join together for 10-12 grades.	May 16, 2013 3:42 PM
57	I think middle school is a vital transition from Elementary to High School. It would be more effective if it was not broken into two "stages". Too much change is not always beneficial to growing minds.	May 16, 2013 3:17 PM
58	If you go with the separate 9th grade what school will they be affiliated with for sports and music and art type activities. What teams will they be on? What is the	May 16, 2013 2:45 PM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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purpose of separating out the 9th grade. I thought part of this plan was to combine the schools to provide a more level playing field and "join" the community. Also why have 2 separate middle schools if all the kids are going to end up at the same high school? This whole plan seems like some administrative idea that didn't listen to input from actual educators. What will happen to all the teachers at Skyview will they be transferred to SoHi or are they going to lose their positions? Why doesn't the high school remain at Skyview? It is a much nicer campus plus they have Tsalteshi trails. Also many high school students can drive, so being out of the center of town is easier transportation wise than for the middle school kids.

59	How are we going to prevent in 20 years not having to reconfigure schools again?	May 16, 2013 2:17 PM
60	I just feel that it would be better to keep all of the 7th and 8th grade kids together and then move them to 9th grade and onto 10th - 12th together. I think it will be hard to have two separate Jr. Highs and then try to bring the two 9th grades together as they go into 10th grade. Why not combine them as younger kids so they can all get along instead of trying to combine rival Jr. Highs by creating two 7th, 8th, and 9th grade Jr. highs. It is bad enough on the kids that we are combining into one High School. Why create rival problems again down the road?	May 16, 2013 1:35 PM
61	I prefer the 7-8-9 option for two reasons. First, I would be one less transition in their school process, the importance of which is supported by research. Second, it makes more sense for a student to go from a smaller elementary school, to a little larger middle school, and then a little larger high school. With the 9th grade house option, there is an inconsitent structure to the school size, going from a small elementary to a large middle school, and then a medium sized 9th grade house, and then to a large high school. I prefer the gradual progression in size as well as one less transition.	May 16, 2013 1:03 PM
62	I dont like either of the options	May 16, 2013 12:47 PM
63	Neither is what I would vote for. Why not follow the format of the rest of the country? 6-7-8 Middle School, 9-10-11-12 is high school/. Why in the world is this decision so absurd? Makes no sense. Even Kenai does it a better way.	May 16, 2013 12:33 PM
64	There needs to be 7-8 at Skyview and another 7-8 at current SMS. And keep 9th-12 at Sohi....	May 16, 2013 11:50 AM
65	Nope - keep up the GOOD work!!!!	May 16, 2013 11:43 AM
66	I dont think there is a reason to make too many school the kids have to go to and adjust to	May 16, 2013 11:15 AM
67	The ninth graders need to be able to have some kind of identy, (middle school or high school.) If you have them at a different school all together and tell them they are in high school do you really think they are going to feel as if they are a part of the "high school?"	May 16, 2013 10:49 AM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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68	The 9th grade at the current SMS makes the most sense. The kids will have some semblance of belonging to SOHI. Also, the transportation costs alone make this the most practical option.	May 16, 2013 10:49 AM
69	It is ridiculous that you are even considering putting the 9th grade with the 7-8 grade. This is going backwards. Education decided a long time ago that this was not good and got away from 7-9 grades. Why not have a true middle school which would be, if you don't know, 6-8. There is nothing wrong with 9-12 in the same building. (th grade credit count for graduation and therefore either put them by their selves, if you want to baby them, or put them in with the 10-12 grade. Thank you	May 16, 2013 10:38 AM
70	With six grandchildren in the district I am happy to see the schools go in this direction. Sms has always been a hard transition with six grade school filtering into it. I worked there for 20 years. Passing times are crowded and lunch room as well. This will really impact the future of education here. I am pleased.	May 16, 2013 9:56 AM
71	With all students at the 9th grade campus at the current SMS location, all students will have equal access to high school options at the 10-12 campus. Since 9th graders in Kenai are part of the high school, Soldotna 9th graders wouldn't like being part of the middle school if the 7-9 option were chosen.	May 16, 2013 9:37 AM
72	Being in the same middle school with friends and then being separated from them in high school sucks.	May 16, 2013 9:31 AM
73	I do not think that 7th and 9th graders should be in the same school. Too much of an age a maturity difference.	May 16, 2013 9:20 AM
74	Will the 9th graders be middle school students or high school students?	May 16, 2013 9:13 AM
75	If it turns out to be two middle schools we will end up with the same "high school" issues we had, except at a middle school level -- because we will not enforce boundaries.	May 16, 2013 9:10 AM
76	The more you can have the same-aged students together, the more you cut down on bullying. It cuts down on a lot of outside stressors, like trying to impress older students, boys trying to date younger girls, etc. It will help allow kids that age to just be kids that age. When teenagers are 15, in 10th grade, they tend to start gelling into their "own" and can handle things a little better. For your info, I am an RN who has reared 10 children.	May 16, 2013 7:30 AM
77	By having two 7-8-9 grade schools, you eliminate the "revolving door" aspect of the current middle school configuration.	May 15, 2013 10:56 PM
78	Why is Soldotna Montessori on the list but not ABC or Kaleidoscope?	May 15, 2013 9:28 PM
79	Please wait until August 2015 so student who have attended Skyview Highschool for 3 years won't have to switch schools for their Senior year only, that is the year that is the most fun and I would be a shame if our current tenth graders finished high school in a foreign school.	May 15, 2013 9:23 PM
80	My biggest concerns are that the ninth graders will be isolated in either scenarios	May 15, 2013 8:06 PM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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AND how do you propose to transfer kids between SMS and Sohi if they are more advanced...seriously hate all these options and for the first time may consider moving or home schooling for a year to avoid these ridiculous choices. No one else in the state does something so stupid. My child will seriously be so disappointed to not go to high school in ninth grade to be with her sister. Another thing, a driving path better be opened up between SMS and Sohi to make this work better.

81	Will the area you live in determine the school you attend? For the 7,8&9 configuration? For example if you are supposed to go to Skyview, because that falls within the boundaries that you live in, will you be allowed to choose to go to SMS if you want?	May 15, 2013 7:40 PM
82	This keeps it "fair" for everyone, academically & facility wise...and allows all the students to merge and form new friendships/peer groups instead of keeping the 6 school "segregated" into 2 campuses.	May 15, 2013 6:14 PM
83	I do not want to see the identity of either school change. SOHI should remain Soldotna High school. Skyview should remain Skyview, but be Skyview middle school. This will limit the amount of emotional trauma among the kids and also limit the amount of extra money that needs to be spent if changing colors/mascots/ect..	May 15, 2013 5:39 PM
84	Why dont you use Skyview as the high school? theres more room to expand.	May 15, 2013 3:59 PM
85	Student safety while walking to/from 9th grade campus to 10-12 campus.	May 15, 2013 3:43 PM
86	I would prefer to separate the 7th-8th grade students from the 9th grade students.	May 15, 2013 3:31 PM
87	As a student at Skyview & understand how difficult the change was from elementary school to middle school, i think that mixing middle schoolers with freshman in the worst idea. Freshman year is supposed to be fun & about learning to be in a new environment. Obviously the burough did not LISTEN to what the STUDENTS want. Thats what its about. Having two highschools in Soldotna is perfect! there is so much diveresty between both schools that the community members & burough dont understand. If youre not a student in highschool or middle school then you dont understand why this is a bad idea. It makes me terribly sad & dissapointed that the burough would do this. All youve done is take away the chance for students to decide where they want to go. Its part of growing up. This decission was a terrible one. Next time listen to the STUDENTS.	May 15, 2013 3:18 PM
88	The Kenai Peninsula Borough School district, where kids come first. This statement is an outright lie. The district is intentionally going against the desires of the people. They are going to close a wonderful school. The teachers know every child individually and can adjust the way they teach according to each child. In a school like Sohi all of us are just going to become another set of numbers in a file cabinet somewhere. The teachers at Sohi are uninspiring and dull. At Skyview we have some of the best teachers. (Keep in mind Rob Sparks just won the teacher of the year award) Everyone at Skyview treats each other	May 15, 2013 2:13 PM

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	with a mutual respect, almost as if we are all a family. That is a whole lot more than you can say about Sohi. My answer for the previous question is void. The only reason I clicked one of the options was so I could submit this survey.	
89	Why are you guys doing this? Whats going to happen if there is not enough room in the joined high school for grades to come?	May 15, 2013 2:07 PM
90	we should keep skyview the way it is. it has worked for this long why shut it down now? i just feel like you people did not think this through.	May 15, 2013 1:58 PM
91	diversity	May 15, 2013 1:48 PM
92	Don't combine schools. It's gay	May 15, 2013 1:46 PM
93	what will happen with sports? Will combining the schools cause the students that arnt that good at sports to not be on the team	May 15, 2013 1:36 PM
94	After building up the SMS elective course offerings for the past two years, and considering that combining the high schools is at least partially, if not wholly, due to enhancing course offerings, it would seem like a shame to potentially lose ground at the middle school level by splitting into two schools. We've got such a good thing going here at the "Flagship of the District." Let's keep that ball rolling and make it even better in a new facility.	May 15, 2013 1:28 PM
95	Don't wait, make switch Aug. 2013	May 15, 2013 1:00 PM
96	Why didn't you involve the community when the discussions were taking place? You let us attend the meeting but we only got half of the details, and on top of that you didn't listen to our opinions. I think that you may have thought that this was the smartest idea, but what you don't realize is that you are elected by the community, and betraying our trust isn't going to keep you in that seat. I'm very frustrated with this, I had been recruited for Skyview wrestling and now I'll get one year and then be thrown into a whole new school with another group of wrestlers, it's going to be like this for every sport. How are we expected to be happy about this? Why wouldn't you take our Input and LISTEN to it, as far as I'm concerned you completely ignored us for your own benefit. Ken Tarbox made sure that you, and the whole of Soldotna knew that himself and a lot of other people, kids and community members alike, were against this. It was sloppily put together, and now you're trying to get us to help you clean it up. I'm sure that I'm not the only one who is thinking of supporting new candidates for our school district board of committee's after this little stunt.	May 15, 2013 12:37 PM
97	i would like RCA as a student to be at SMS because there would be the possiability of Gym and a library.	May 15, 2013 12:31 PM
98	How come we don't just add more classes to the schools now? We could just change their classes and keep it mostly the same way. Everyone would be fighting for the first year and all of the skyviewers would have to re-learn stuff like where their classes are and so on.	May 15, 2013 12:20 PM
99	Did anyone think of any of the socail issues? A bigger school equals more	May 15, 2013 12:20 PM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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bullying and more fights. From the looks of it, no one has thought of these issues. I go to Skyview for a reason, it's because it's a smaller school. Usually people who come from a small school are more successful, by combining the schools that will change. And also the students who go to Skyview currently wouldn't feel apart of the new school because most of the 2016 class go to SoHi. Most kids go there because they think that they have the better classes, my opinion is that smaller schools have better classes. And if the district doesn't want or even care about opinions here, then why even put out a survey. This has nothing to do with this, but the district also has to find a better way to deal with bullying because the way they came up with a few years ago doesn't do anything.

100	Being an RCA student I am concerned with how much our school will change overall if we do move to a space shared with the 9th graders at SMS. I like this school because it's a small, close knit and overall productive school. Yes, I think it'd be wonderful for the 9th graders to get a little more attention but I still favor the second option. I do not wish at all for this school to change but I do believe the bigger schools need to be split up for the best.	May 15, 2013 12:17 PM
101	Would it make my bus ride longer? Because I already am on the bus about an hour and a half I don't really prefer to be on there longer than I already am.	May 15, 2013 12:16 PM
102	I like the current school system	May 15, 2013 12:16 PM
103	Honestly, I think both styles of the configuration would work for this area. However, my only issue with these is that I want the transition between these schools to be easy. The more you break apart and put kids together, the more emotional damage that will be done and more of the "friends" will disappear. I changed schools, including the transition into middle/high school, five times and it's too much for the younger generation.	May 15, 2013 11:52 AM
104	Sooner is better than later!	May 15, 2013 11:42 AM
105	I am very concerned with no sidewalk/bike path up the hill to Skyview with middle schoolers, this needs to be a priority fo the safety of kids that WILL walk and bike to and from the the "Skyview" site. I think the district should look into an "Middle Level Alternative" school/site for the at risk kids before they get 2 more years to: get father behind, dropout, or take peers down with them...	May 15, 2013 11:39 AM
106	Dividing the middle schools would set them up for same problems currently at high schools. Providing new campus to middle school would offer more modern facility &, additional opportunities, especially the swim pool for students who need low impact exercise and those with intensive and/or sensory integration provided by the water.	May 15, 2013 11:26 AM
107	I honestly think either option is good ... both will help eliviate the current problems that exist because of one middle school. I do think that getting 9th graders off to a strong start will make a huge difference in the rest of their high school years.	May 15, 2013 11:22 AM
108	I would like to see new colors and new mascot so that the kids don't feel like	May 15, 2013 11:17 AM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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	they	
109	I feel that opportunities for more students to participate in 7th and 8th grade sports outweighs the advantages of the ninth grade house. It is extremely hard on middle school students to be excluded from competitive sports because they are judged to not be good enough.	May 15, 2013 11:12 AM
110	Yes, I hope really that you decide to also succome to my schools needs as well as the other schools, because to me, I think that you are not focusing on all the problems that we as RCA students have. I really hope you use plan one, so that my school has more opportunities to let its students succeed.	May 15, 2013 11:11 AM
111	Our 9th graders are high school students. They should have access to high school guidance counselors, advanced courses, social events and sports opportunities. Utilizing the current SMS location would allow this to occur. It would also provide future flexibility options should SoHi develop a larger career paths component. Potentially SMS could be a future vocational/career paths "house" for a combined 9-12 SoHi. Additionally, our current 7-8 middle school configuration has been very successful. Restructuring the middlle schools seems an unnecessary and expensive proposition.	May 15, 2013 11:03 AM
112	i think that this plan is better because, to tell the truth the sms middle school-er are very immature so it would be better for RCA's high school-ers because they wouldn't have to deall with immature people	May 15, 2013 10:54 AM
113	I (for one) believe that there is no precedence set at this point in time (in Soldatna and surrounding areas) an to maintain such a move from school to school, it would be an awkward transition but maybe some good can come of it. I'm optimistic about the school transition and look forward to receiving more space inside SMS for River City Academy.	May 15, 2013 10:54 AM
114	Skyview becoming a 7-12 school seems like a much better option than what is on the survey.	May 15, 2013 10:53 AM
115	I don't really like the one house for the middle school students. There would not be much choice for the students, I think.	May 15, 2013 10:51 AM
116	I like the idea of a 9th grade house and myself and many of my classmates are very excited about the possibility of getting more space.	May 15, 2013 10:51 AM
117	well they are both good ideas. they will both work better then what it is now	May 15, 2013 10:50 AM
118	I think the 9th grade house is a good idea because i feel like there would be less drama because everyone would be moving together from a 7-8 school, to a 9th house, to a high school. I also like he idea of more space and opportunities for my school (RCA).	May 15, 2013 10:50 AM
119	Nope.	May 15, 2013 10:49 AM
120	Both models stink. We don't want our kids lumped into bigger schools. More people will want to access RCA, so this needs to be an option you plan for. If my kids can't attend RCA or if you close it, I will homeschool all of them, and so will	May 15, 2013 10:48 AM

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	a lot of other parents. The bullying in elementary and middle schools is out of control.	
121	I have a younger sister who the change will affect. She is heavily involved in music and academics. To put her a middle school through 9th grade would limit her personal growth. Requirements for graduation, sports, and other extra curricular activities begin in 9th grade. Busing between the high schools doesn't really work now, so why would it work for the middle schools? We would have to same difficulties with the middle schools we do now with the highschoos: one school would have more students because of proximity to the high school and that's were the 9th graders will want to be.	May 15, 2013 10:46 AM
122	Will successful programs like SST at skyview be adopted at the new high school?	May 15, 2013 10:39 AM
123	Skyview has always been treated like a third wheel. Steve Atwater was on KSRM Monday May 13th and mentioned year end concerts for many schools but left out Skyview's concert that was scheduled for that evening. Shame on you.	May 15, 2013 10:37 AM
124	Make Skyview a 7 -12 campus just like Nikiski.	May 15, 2013 10:35 AM
125	It is unfair to limit the 9th graders to kiddle school. Highschool starts in 9th grade- the requirements, sports, and activities start thn. Band? Sports?	May 15, 2013 10:35 AM
126	Skyview should be the high school as Sohi and SMS are already together and Skyview has the ski trails. The move is political as most of the money is in town SoHi. Most people know the move is political as the option of Skyview being the high school has not even been menioned.	May 15, 2013 10:35 AM
127	Skyview is an amazing facility. it should be used for vocational and technical and career education. Closing it for high school students is a mistake. It could be a model program, Now we will be left with one outdated, generic high school when we could have been progressive.	May 15, 2013 10:31 AM
128	Would upper level classes still be available to students if there were two 7/8/9 schools. I assumed the answer to be yes when I made my choice.	May 15, 2013 10:30 AM
129	I continue to be EXTREMELY dissatisfied with the decision of the School Board. Closing Skyview has been an agenda item for certain powerful members of the Soldotna community for over a decade - and they have finally succeeded. I'm disgusted.	May 15, 2013 10:26 AM
130	1	May 15, 2013 10:25 AM
131	Next year I want to go to Skyview because I hate SMS. I am bullied almost every day and if the schools combine I will have to be with these kids for 4 more years! please leave skyview a highschool.	May 15, 2013 10:24 AM
132	are there going to be any problems keeping the 9th graders with the 7 and 8 graders	May 15, 2013 10:24 AM
133	One 7-8 campus and one 9 campus eliminates questions of equity of	May 15, 2013 10:22 AM

**Page 2, Q5. Do you have one or two specific questions or comments?
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	experience. Regardless of efforts on the contrary, there will be differences (perceived and/or real) if there are two 7 - 9 campuses. Resource sharing between a 9th grade campus and the 10 -12 campus is a good fit. A 7 - 9 campus at the current Skyview facility would have very limited access to the 10 - 12 resources.	
134	These options are not good for my kids... I personally are sending my kids to Kenai.	May 15, 2013 10:21 AM
135	Boundaries! Cheap and effective. Both of these ideas are not going to help the kids.	May 15, 2013 10:19 AM
136	As a parent of a special needs student on the autism spectrum, the idea of 7th and 9th graders in the same building is a scary idea due to the age difference and maturity levels. The special needs programs would better suit the needs of the students if the all the grade levels are housed in the same school, and would more cost effective to KPBSD.	May 15, 2013 10:18 AM
137	The school board has ruined our schools.	May 15, 2013 10:17 AM
138	Two 7-8-9 middle schools will result in a replay of the Skyview/Sohi experience especially since the district does not enforce boundaries.	May 15, 2013 10:17 AM
139	I do not like either one. They should have left the schools alone.	May 15, 2013 10:16 AM
140	Bad idea to combine these schools.	May 15, 2013 10:16 AM
141	I chose the lesser of two wrongs...	May 15, 2013 10:15 AM
142	You should have never chose to combine these schools. I am afraid that your ignorance will destroy Soldotna schools. When I have kids, I am not going to raise them here.	May 15, 2013 10:14 AM
143	As a former KPBSD high school teacher for 20 years, I believe in the 9th Grade House notion because freshmen need specialized, focused attention to help them succeed. Also, I like uniting the 7th-graders as early as possible to build cohesiveness rather than divisiveness.	May 15, 2013 10:13 AM
144	I hate the fact that we have to shut down Skyview High School...	May 15, 2013 10:07 AM
145	Why does the KPBSD say "Where kids come first!" when all they're really caring about is the school funding?	May 15, 2013 10:05 AM
146	I truly believe this is in the best interests of students.	May 15, 2013 10:03 AM
147	no	May 15, 2013 10:03 AM
148	What's the point in changing Sohi's name, mascot etc. if it's still going to be a high school? You're only dropping one grade from it and it's just going to cost even more money.	May 15, 2013 10:01 AM
149	This is the best option for a united community and for the vast majority of our	May 15, 2013 9:59 AM

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	students. we should look at an Alternative option in the Soldotna Area as well.	
150	9th grade house option has always been the best scenario. Please move forward with this option.	May 15, 2013 9:57 AM
151	As a student, I had always wanted to have this kind of option available: most school districts have 2 middle schools feeding into one high school, and this is, in my opinion, a much better way to do it.	May 15, 2013 9:56 AM
152	Freshman house great idea should help with prep for HS & better academic success. Dividing schools ie: 7-9 with open boundaries will lead to same demise as SVHS is experiencing.	May 15, 2013 9:56 AM
153	If we could educate more people about this, they would be able to see rationally and logically instead of emotionally.	May 15, 2013 9:54 AM
154	Please make a freshman house!	May 15, 2013 9:44 AM
155	It seems like if there were two fairly equal sized middle schools, the 9th graders would have more stability than going for one year to a "house". Also, the kids at the Skyview Jr. High could possibly access higher level courses through RCA staff or the college? While the SMS kids could easily walk over for advanced classes. I think the majority of the kids would benefit from having an extra year of stability with the same staff and teachers.	May 15, 2013 9:43 AM
156	I think that either of these changes would be a positive change for our district.	May 15, 2013 9:39 AM
157	why didnt we do this sooner? RCA really did require a larger campus a while ago.	May 15, 2013 9:38 AM
158	I believe RCA would appreciate NOT being placed in the portables at SMS. Rooms inside the building would be preferable.	May 15, 2013 9:37 AM
159	I think the idea of having a freshman house is better than two 7-9 middle schools.	May 15, 2013 9:37 AM
160	I think it would be more beneficial for my own school to have a 9th grade "house", but also for the other schools as well because I believe it will better prepare 9th graders for high school rather than the quick transition it is now.	May 15, 2013 9:36 AM
161	Since RCA is a small school that has a maximum capacity of 75 students now, moving to SMS with the ninth grade house we would be able to accept more students.	May 15, 2013 9:36 AM
162	I hate the fact that the current 8th graders now are even split for the year! I wish they could blend now!	May 15, 2013 9:25 AM
163	will my custodial staff be reduced since the population will be at least 100 less students?	May 15, 2013 9:23 AM
164	The 7-8 is the best option especially for the 9th graders. It will not be good to have 9th graders in two seperate school.	May 15, 2013 9:22 AM

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165	Prefer NO busing of SMS students	May 15, 2013 9:18 AM
166	I am requesting the specific research that you have reviewed in professional literature that indicates that this will increase student achievement for the children. In particular how this new configuration will address the needs of my three children who are all in the quest program with very high intellect.	May 15, 2013 8:25 AM
167	Research shows that fewer transitions are better for student outcomes. The 9th grade house appears to be an idea that helps the adults, but not the students.	May 15, 2013 8:21 AM
168	Option 1 allows more access for almost all 9th graders to have access to the high school's resources.	May 15, 2013 7:12 AM
169	Will 6th grade be following reconfigured with the 7-8 in the future? Is this being discussed?	May 15, 2013 6:23 AM
170	I feel the less times these kids are being transitioned between buildings and staff would be best.	May 14, 2013 2:01 PM
171	It seems more developmentally appropriate for the 7th & 8th graders to be together and the 9th graders to have access to the 10-12 school and classes. Often a 9th grader will be ready for more difficult classes and this configuration will address that need.	May 14, 2013 1:02 PM
172	Having a ninth grade house at SMS would allow the 9th graders to easily participate in sports at the high school. If there were two middle schools, the 9th graders would be less likely to participate in sports.	May 14, 2013 11:49 AM
173	This really is the ONLY option that makes sense. Why split students into 2 'middle' schools, only to have them combine again in high school. No longer a realistic option if the state will recognize the 9th grade "house". Thank you for the opportunity for input!	May 14, 2013 11:45 AM
174	Middle school and high school students should be separate. I went to a freshmen building and loved it.	May 14, 2013 11:05 AM
175	My concern is if they change the name of a school that's been here since the early 80's. the cost to change everything, the logos, colors, painting that would be done is a waste of money and recourses and SoHi was here long before skyview so why even consider a name change? Save money and use it for education instead.	May 14, 2013 10:41 AM

Page 2, Q6. How do you prefer to receive KPBSD communications?

1	Come to my house. We will sit down and have a cup of coffee.	May 23, 2013 2:28 PM
2	not to be communicated	May 21, 2013 9:57 AM
3	School/ community meetings	May 17, 2013 9:16 AM
4	TwilightTune@Outlook.com	May 16, 2013 7:29 AM
5	Friends also talk about it.	May 15, 2013 12:20 PM
6	Students	May 15, 2013 12:17 PM
7	jharro@kpbsd.k12.ak.us	May 15, 2013 10:50 AM
8	redoubt reporter	May 15, 2013 9:43 AM
9	my principle told me about it plus other community members	May 15, 2013 9:39 AM
10	Through my principal.	May 15, 2013 9:37 AM
11	School administration	May 14, 2013 11:45 AM