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KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGE

## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

### *KPC and KPBSD Announce New Efforts to Make it Easier and Less Expensive to Take College Classes*

**Soldotna, April 7, 2014—JumpStart opens to juniors, and includes bus transportation from high schools to KPC. Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) and Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD) officials jointly announced today two new initiatives will enable more high school students to take KPC courses at reduced tuition rates.**

Beginning with the fall 2014 semester, high school juniors will be able to take advantage of the JumpStart program that had previously only been available to high school seniors. Students can enroll for up to six credits each semester starting the fall semester they become juniors. Tuition cost is \$55 per credit versus the regular rate of \$174.

Funded by a 1/10<sup>th</sup> mill rate on borough property taxes, JumpStart has been in existence for many years. Opening the program to juniors means that high school students will be able to take up to 30 credits (one full college year) at the reduced rate—by the time they graduate from high school.

Students and their parents can potentially save \$3,570 on their first year of college compared to regular University of Alaska rates. [See the attached tuition comparison chart]. These courses are dual credit meaning students taking the KPC courses receive both high school and college credit if they successfully complete the course(s) with a “C” or better. Course credits earned at KPC through the University of Alaska are typically transferable to accredited colleges and universities throughout the United States.

#### **Transportation**

Secondly, KPBSD will transport KPC enrolled students from all central peninsula high schools to KPC’s Kenai River Campus in order to take courses. Buses will arrive at Kenai River Campus (KRC) at 9 a.m. and the last departure will be at 1:30 p.m. Nikiski students would depart their high school and KRC 15 minutes earlier.

The shuttle service will provide continuous service between the schools throughout this period meaning a student could take one or two classes at KRC and return to their high schools to continue their high school classes. Bussing students on the southern peninsula to KPC’s Kachemak Bay Campus is still being discussed with high school administrators and transportation providers.

#### **KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-FOUR DIVERSE SCHOOLS**

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

**FOR RELEASE APRIL 7, 2014**

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"I get many requests from parents asking that the JumpStart program be opened to juniors," said Gary J. Turner, KPC director. "Due to the declining number of high school seniors, we looked closely at our borough budget and the projected number of seniors the district is anticipating, and determined we can afford to do this with the same amount of funds." The borough budget request sent by KPC to the mayor and assembly has been revised to include juniors.

"Access to KPC courses has always been a challenge to our students without transportation," said Dr. Steve Atwater, KPBSD superintendent. "We believe that by providing a shuttle, many more of our students will be able to take these dual credit classes and save a considerable amount of money on their college education. I am thrilled to learn that our juniors will now be eligible to use the JumpStart support for taking KPC classes. This is a necessary and positive change to help our graduates prepare for life after high school. I offer thanks to our borough for their continued support of KPBSD and KPC."

### **Registration**

Registration and advising for high school students at the [Kenai River Campus \(KRC\)](#) in Soldotna will be held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., April 26, and from 3-5 p.m., April 28. Students who do not enroll during these "early bird" sessions will be able to receive advising from 1-4 p.m., August 13, and enroll in classes from noon-5 p.m., August 15 and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., August 21 and 22.

High school students can receive advising and register at the Kachemak Bay Campus (KBC) in Homer from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., April 21 - August 22.

### **Contact:**

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### **Links:**

[Kenai Peninsula College](#)

[Kenai Peninsula Borough School District](#)

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# Kenai Peninsula College

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

## JumpStart/Dual Credit Program Cost Savings

High school juniors and seniors that take JumpStart dual credit courses through the Kenai Peninsula School District and Kenai Peninsula College realize substantial savings on their college costs. This table compares the costs of attending KPC and two mid-priced Lower 48 colleges. The footnotes to this table should be read as they provide important details.

Tuition Costs	KPC Jump Start Tuition <sup>1</sup>	KPC Regular Tuition	Western Washington University Tuition <sup>2</sup>	Michigan State University Tuition <sup>3</sup>
Per Credit	\$55	\$174	\$750	\$1,127
3-Credit Class	\$165	\$522	\$2,250	\$3,381
30 Credits <sup>4</sup>	\$1,650	\$5,220	\$22,250 <b>\$20,600 more than JumpStart</b>	\$33,810 <b>\$32,160 more than JumpStart</b>

If a high school student starts in the fall of their junior year and takes 30 credits through KPC using JumpStart, **they (and their parents) will save \$20,600** if they take the same required general education courses at Western Washington University, and \$32,160 if they attend Michigan State University after high school graduation.

If a high school senior takes 15 JumpStart credits and then 15 credits at KPC after they graduate from high school, they will still spend \$17,280 less than if they went to Western Washington and \$28,590 less than if they went to Michigan State for their first year of college.

**By using the Jumpstart program to attend KPC, KPBSD students and their parents can save thousands of dollars.**

**KPC courses are fully accredited and transferrable.**

**Dual enrollment/dual credit makes sense**



**Parents & students save money...lots of money.**



**Students get a jump-start on college. They gain the confidence they can succeed in college since a supporting and familiar infrastructure is in place at their high school and KPC.**

**Parents and Students: Call KPC at 262-0330 to save money on college.**

<sup>1</sup> High school juniors and seniors can take up to 30 credits (starting in the fall of their junior year and including the summer semester between junior and senior years) at KPC at the JumpStart rate of \$55/credit.

<sup>2</sup> WWU is a member of the Western Undergraduate Exchange as is the University of Alaska. Alaska students attending WWU pay 150% of their non-resident tuition.

<sup>3</sup> MSU is not a member of the Western Undergraduate Exchange. Alaska students attending MSU pay the full non-resident tuition charge.

<sup>4</sup> 30 credits=one typical year of college (2 semesters).