



Pegge Erkeneff  
Director of Communications, Community, and Government Relations  
907.714.8888  
Fax 907.262.5867  
148 N. Binkley Street  
Soldotna, Alaska, 99669

e: [Pegge@KPBSD.org](mailto:Pegge@KPBSD.org)  
Facebook: [KPBSD](https://www.facebook.com/KPBSD)  
Twitter: [@KPBSD](https://twitter.com/KPBSD)  
[www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us](http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us)

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# NEWS RELEASE

## *ASTE names Linnaea Gossard 2021 Student of the Year*

**Soldotna, March 5, 2020—Cooper Landing School senior, Ms. Linnaea Gossard, discovered she is the 2021 Alaska Society for Technology in Education (ASTE) Student of the Year, in a zoom room surprise party!**



Ms. Gossard works hard to fashion her own educational experience and thrives in the virtual world using her 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and knowledge. Starting in 7th grade, Linnaea has taken 24 live synchronous classes with 16 different teachers from eight different schools—all from her one room K-12 schoolhouse in Cooper Landing. She is a certified Video Tele Communications (VTC) facilitator and coordinator, the cocreator of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District VTC Coordinating Program (creating opportunities for remote students to take live synchronous courses that are not available at their home sites) and currently serves as the VTC Coordinating Program Intern for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. She will be the first high school graduate from Cooper Landing School, made possible by her commitment to live synchronous VTC courses and the work ethic to do it successfully, and the many teachers and schools that opened their doors to her.

**KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-TWO DIVERSE SCHOOLS**

**The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures.**  
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 MARCH 5, 2021**

**1 OF 2**

KPBSD educator Rob Sparks said, “I have known Linnaea for four years, and had her in a class every semester of her high school career. Linnaea has helped me become a better teacher by virtue of her patience and vast array of communication skills. In over 30 years of teaching, Linnaea is without a doubt one of the most skillful, honest, engaged, caring students I have had the pleasure to work with. One of the most remarkable aspects to Linnaea’s educational experience is how she has impacted students and teachers across the district. I can say, from firsthand experience, that she has empowered numerous students and teachers to participate in and offer live synchronous opportunities.”

Amanda Adams, the ASTE president and KPBSD educator shared, “The Alaska Society for Technology in Education is so very proud to award Linnaea Gossard the Student of the Year Award for 2021. She represents the epitome of the creativity, perseverance, and magnitude of what is possible when a student drives their own education. She has embraced and integrated technology into her educational experience by molding it to meet her needs. She has improved the lives of so many by sharing her talents and investing in educating others on what is possible.”

[Read teacher testimonials about Ms. Linnaea Gossard](#)

###

**KPBSD: ONE DISTRICT, FORTY-TWO DIVERSE SCHOOLS**

**The mission of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is to empower all learners to positively shape their futures.**

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 MARCH 5, 2021**

**2 OF 2**