



## GALENA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 299 GALENA, ALASKA 99741  
PHONE (907) 656-1205  
FAX (907) 656-1368

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Jason R. Johnson, Ed.D.

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Dear IDEA Families,

First and foremost, I sincerely hope that this communication finds each of you immersed in the holiday spirit, having the capacity to set aside the challenges and expectations of daily life for a brief period in order to surround yourself with loved ones during this special time and that your upcoming days are filled with joy, blessings and endless laughter. In essence and in the words of one of my greatest mentors in life, “Be still...” and take in these precious moments.

Having traveled over 3,600 miles in the past 24 hours to embrace the holidays with my immediate and extended family, my wife, daughter and I have settled into my parent’s home in Indiana to share in the many gifts (whether tangible or not) of the season for the next week and are working diligently to live fully into this aforementioned thought. Please note, that we are aspiring for this calm as my four-year old continues to struggle mightily with the mere thought of stillness and silence; yet, this is equally as magical as well.

Akin to my young child, the IDEA team finds it challenging to remain motionless as they are striving for innovation, progress and ingenuity with every breath. Case in point, with the recent and on-going technology upgrades, you have and/or will have the capacity to connect virtually as well as schedule appointments (During times that meet your needs) with your contact teachers and technology staff and multiple locations are seeking to expand/enhance their physical space and/or outreach efforts to more effectively “connect” with each of you! In addition and certainly not to make light of a very “dire” situation, please know that the Kenai IDEA office’s ceilings were also in motion last week as they collapsed during the unprecedented snowfall in the region last week. I share this to demonstrate two things: The true blessings of the season (As everyone is/was safe) and the passion/commitment of the IDEA team (As seemingly overnight they re-established connections with their families and created calm in the midst of a storm).

In closing and on behalf of the entire district, we remain grateful that you have chosen IDEA to support your child(ren)’s education and we will continue to take this responsibility to heart as we serve you.

Warmest of Holiday Wishes,

*Jason R. Johnson*

Jason R. Johnson, Ed.D.

Email: [jason.johnson@galenanet.com](mailto:jason.johnson@galenanet.com)