

May 18, 2022

Petersburg Borough
P.O. Box 329
Petersburg, AK 99833

Heather Conn and Rachel Etcher
Rae C. Stedman Elementary
P.O. Box 289
Petersburg, AK 99833

Clerk Thompson and Petersburg Borough Assembly,

Principal Heather Conn and School Counselor Rachel Etcher would like to represent Stedman Elementary on the Early Childhood Education Task Force. We believe that child care and early childhood education opportunities are an essential part of any community and a great need in ours.

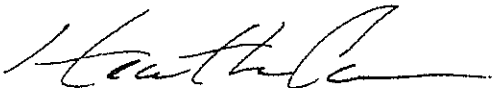
High quality child care has a great number of benefits for children, families, and communities. These include, but are not limited to an increase in a child's social, emotional, and communication skills, greater awareness of their environment and the people in it, enable parents to enter/stay in the workforce, be a resource for families, and relieve some of the stress commonly associated with finding and keeping child care.

Our desire is to be a part of a group that is ready to take action. We would like to see an increase in early childhood space for children zero to nine years of age, an increase in the rate of pay for those employed in the area of early childhood education, and make childcare more affordable for our community's families.

Thank you for putting your thoughts and efforts into this important issue.

Sincerely,

Heather Conn



Rachel Etcher