**Friends of Inlet View Elementary School**

To: Anchorage Education Reporters

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Subject: ASD’s decision to proceed with the troubling south side building design

At last Thursday’s Inlet View Building Design Committee (BDC) meeting, ASD’s architect Paul Baril of [Nvision Architecture](https://nvisionarchitecture.com/) stated that ASD staff had decided to rebuild Inlet View Elementary School on the problematic south side location, ignoring the concerns of the new BDC members. These members, former ASD Principal Sharon Meacham and neighbor Mitch Cullom, provided critical information about student safety during construction, water management costs, and traffic concerns at last week’s BDC meeting.

When Baril announced ASD’s decision to proceed with the south side location at the beginning of today’s meeting, new member Meacham stated that, in her view, she was “floored that we were invited to participate in a process that was a fait accompli.” She added that she felt “run over by a steam roller.”

Friends of Inlet View Elementary School (FIVES) issued the following statement on ASD’s action:

“After it violated the state Open Meetings Act, ASD established a sham ‘bait and switch’ process to receive broader stakeholder input on the new Inlet View school. ASD did not seriously review the significant concerns raised by the new Building Design Committee members, a former principal and an adjacent neighbor, falsely stating that the new members’ concerns had been previously addressed. If ASD was serious about listening to the new members, the north and south side designs developed in April would have been reviewed by the reconstituted BDC. Since ASD ignored serious problems with the south side location, FIVES will continue raising its concerns with other Anchorage entities involved in the rebuild decision,” said FIVES spokesperson Deborah Hansen who lives next to the Inlet View school property.