



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH  
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



## **MEDIA RELEASE: Cleanup Efforts Continue at Point Higgins Elementary | Update 5**

Date: August 29, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

Contact: Anthony Pio, Public Information Officer, 907-228-2340

### **For Immediate Release**

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – Response crews continue active remediation efforts at Point Higgins Elementary School following the recent diesel spill. Work today has focused on fuel recovery, containment, and preparation for additional labor support.

Starting August 30, pedestrian access will reopen to non-work areas of the Point Higgins Elementary property, including Weiss Field and the Coast Guard Beach Trail entrance. Vehicle access remains restricted, and we ask that the entrance to the parking lot not be blocked.

Sorbent pad maintenance continued throughout the day, with saturated pads being promptly replaced and staged in organized retrieval areas. Used pads were collected in doubled heavy-duty bags and secured in ISO totes onsite for later disposal by Full Cycle.

Fuel collection points are being closely monitored and maintained, using both sorbent materials and a pump system to recover fuel into drums.

In addition, crews have used controlled water flow to allow fuel and water to flow into the primary collection zone. Sorbent pads proved effective in capturing fuel during this process.

To ensure sustained progress, Republic Services, a solid waste collection company, has provided personnel to assist in remediation efforts.

The Borough, School District and its partners remain committed to protecting public health, safety, and the environment, and appreciate the ongoing coordination and support from local, state, and federal agencies.

For more information and past updates, please visit: <https://www.kgbak.us/1127/Diesel-Spill-at-Point-Higgins-Elementary>

For questions regarding school operations, infrastructure, or contracts please contact PJ Ford-Slack, superintendent, at [pj.ford@k21schools.org](mailto:pj.ford@k21schools.org)

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