

Superintendent Report Update March 7, 2019
Stewart I. M^cDonald

Budget Development-

The list of assumptions which are shaping the FY 20 budget have been updated. The legislature is two months behind in its reorganization which has delayed the introduction of senate and house bills. At this time, the primary bills which impact the district financially are the Senate Bill 20 and House Bill 39. These two bills support the entire governor's proposal. If passed without amendments, these bills would reduce our operating budget more than 40% or over \$25 million. There are five other bills which impact the North Slope Borough which in turn, will impact the district. These are HB 38 Capital Budget reductions, HB 60 & SB 64 Repeal of indebtedness reimbursement for schools, and HB 59 & SB 57 Repeal of Oil Tax Revenue for Municipalities. These bills would devastate our communities.

These bills face heavy opposition in both the house and the senate, but new bills have not yet been introduced which will present an alternative to funding schools. The North Slope Borough, in cooperation with the North Slope Borough School District are preparing a joint technical report to be presented to the House Finance Committee Tuesday, March 5, 2019 beginning at 1:30. On March 22-27 an NSBSD team will work with Alaska Council of School Administrators and the Alaska's Heart through Student Art project to lobby legislators. April 6-9 will follow up on the Alaska Association of School Boards Legislative Fly-in in an attempt to secure funding for schools.

Other bills impacting our schools include: HB 7 on Sex Education which requires restrictions, parental choice to excuse a child from participation; and HB 24 Limited Teacher Certificates which will allow teachers with type M certificates to teach other academic subjects.

Lobbying Proposal from NSB-

It was proposed by Fadil Limani, Deputy Finance Director that NSBSD look into contracting with Lobbyist Kevin Jardell to assist with engaging the state legislature and governor regarding school funding. The board will need to consider how it might wish to proceed following up on this recommendation.

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District Reorganization and Strategic Plan Development-

The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan requires an update. While our strategic planning process can still be facilitated by On Strategy, the time is ripe for whole community engagement in setting the next direction.

The recommendation is to arrange an Arctic Slope Education Summit to be held as soon as possible to engage all stakeholders in a transparent process. District administration will seek funding, support, and a venue. It is proposed to use Jered Stewart to facilitate the Arctic Slope Education Summit and include tribes, corporations, municipalities, other education partners, staff, parents, and students.

Federal Program Audit-

The six-year audit of federal programs started February 26, 2019. The process included site visits at Nuiqsut Trapper School, Hopson Middle School, and Barrow High School. Title I, English Language Learners Title III, and teacher/principal training and recruitment Title II were a few of the areas of focus. Some of the activities examined included Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, Response to Intervention, and Culture Camps.