



January 12, 2024

Superintendent Report

Goals:

1. Create and maintain a collaborative relationship with the Board of Education and the school district team.
2. Create public trust and confidence while establishing open and honest communications, including positive communications among more significant communities.

Engagement:

1. Dec 5: NYO Demonstrations in TB - Kyle Wohl
2. Dec 13: CJIS Training and Certification
3. Dec 14: TB Community Christmas Dinner and Polar Express Books
4. Dec 15: Strategic Planning meeting with AASB Tiffany Jackson
5. Dec 20: ACSA Action: Representative Ortiz Constituent Meeting
6. Dec 21: Hollis Construction Meeting - Concerns/Followup
7. Jan 5: Hollis Construction Meeting - Sidewalk Resolution
8. Jan 5: TB Home Basketball with Hydaburg
9. Jan 6: CC Greenhouse / Wood-fired Boiler Meeting
10. Jan 8: FASFA Senior Parent Night - Becca Ververs & Shaine Nixon
11. Jan 8: TB Home Basketball with Gustavus
12. Jan 10: ACSA Action: Representative Himshoot Constituent Meeting
13. Jan 10: ACSA Action: Senator Stedman Constituent Meeting
14. Jan 12: ASA Legislative Committee Meeting

AK Legislative Update:

1. Alaska Education Update - Bill Index - Attached
2. AASB Amended Resolution 2.2 - Attached

5. **Shout-Out:** Ginger White and Dante Huffine for working with all of the SISD students on SEL and job skills that will carry them into the future.
6. **Shout-Out:** Becca Ververs organized the Senior FASFA Night and the USFS Day on January 26th. The USFS will share an overview of the hiring process for students interested in pursuing jobs in aquatics, fire, heritage, recreation, wilderness, silviculture & timber.
7. **Shout-Out:** Shaine Nixon for accepting the extra responsibilities and excelling at promoting success for SISD.

2023

Southeast Island School District

2028



Vision: Students are equipped to achieve their dreams and aspirations

Mission: Set a foundation by cultivating experiences for students to develop goals and thrive in an ever changing world.

Focus Areas:

Prepare students to overcome challenges and be successful.

Celebrate and encourage school and community achievements and involvement

Support Staff retention and professional growth



We Believe:

- in a unique and powerful educational experience.
- students will be provided a challenging education unique to their individual needs.
- students are valued and honored.
- in mutual respect.
- early childhood education is essential to later success of students.
- in establishing relationships with communities and other resources to provide for whole family wellness
- students will be provided a safe learning environment.
- ongoing relevant staff development is vital.
- in mutual accountability and communication among students, staff, parents, and community leads to students' success.
- in building resiliency.
- in responsible academic freedom in meeting district educational standards

2.2 URGING EARLY, ADEQUATE, EQUITABLE, AND PREDICTABLE FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

AASB urges the State of Alaska to provide early, adequate, equitable, and predictable funding for public education. AASB believes that adequate funding should include the following:

- State funding of the TRS-PERS retirement liability;
- An increase to the Base Student Allocation to inflation-proof pre-K through 12th-grade education funding by no less than the amount of \$1,413.¹
- Increase funding to account for flat funding in past years.
- Recognition of the need to keep pupil-teacher ratios to a level in line with research-based best practices;
- Funded career and technical education.
- An early adoption timeline that allows school boards and district administration to effectively plan instruction and staffing for the upcoming school year. (Refer to Resolution 2.23 Funding for Schools by Establishing the Base Student Allocation in Advance)
- Programs and Initiatives focusing on Alaska Native languages and cultures.

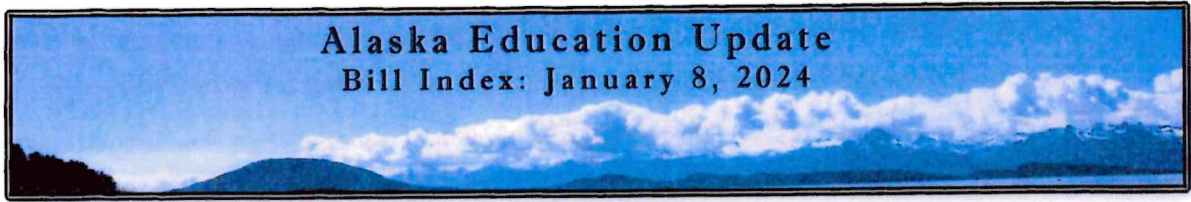
AASB urges that in the years when the Alaska Legislature has not approved an education budget by April 1, the budget from the previous year shall be the legal minimum funding for the next fiscal year.

AASB urges the Legislature to review and recommend appropriate adjustments to [AS.14.17.460](#), District Cost Factors, to ensure equity in school funding.

AASB urges the Legislature to provide stable forward funding that addresses inflation, including the use of an education endowment, to ensure funding predictability.

Rationale: In order to provide the constitutionally mandated public education system that would ensure an excellent education for every student every day, a comprehensive, adequate, equitable, and predictable funding system must be enacted. Without a consistent and deliberate investment by the Legislature and the Governor, Alaska's students will suffer lost opportunities for future success, and the state will lose the opportunity to ensure its posterity.

Note: The 2023 Delegate Assembly originally adopted a figure of \$1,655 as the amount needed to account for lost value due to inflation since 2017. This amount was calculated by members using the US Bureau of Labor Statistics Inflation Calculator for All Urban-CPI. This data is representative of all urban communities across the nation. The CPI data and calculation used in the fall of 2022 and again in 2023 by the Anchorage School District uses the Alaska-Urban CPI statistics. This is also the data



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4/3/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Labor & Commerce Committee~~

4/5/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Labor & Commerce Committee~~

4/12/2023 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee

4/14/2023 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee; public testimony

4/17/2023 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee

4/24/2023 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee

4/28/2023 – Heard and held in the House Labor & Commerce Committee

5/1/2023 – Heard in and moved from the House Labor & Commerce Committee; House Finance Committee referral added

5/8/2023 – Heard and held in the House Finance Committee

[HB 21](#) allows school employers, the University of Alaska, and municipalities to elect to participate in the State of Alaska healthcare plan.

According to the [Sponsor Statement](#), “Section 3. Allows the Commissioner of Administration to expend from the public education fund (AS 14.17.300) to the group health and life benefits fund (AS 39.30.095) a total of \$100,000,000 or less as needed to pay claims submitted by school district employees who are covered by a policy of self-insurance provided by the state; and, requires the Commissioner of Administration to repay the public education fund, over a period of 10 years, the full amount of the commissioner’s expenditures from the public education fund.”

HB 21 is identical to [SB 110](#).

HB 27 – Designate Sex for School-Sponsored Sports

1/9/2023 – Profile Released; by Rep. McKay, Tomaszewski

1/19/2023 – Introduced; referred to the House Education and Health & Social Services Committees

[HB 27](#) requires public schools and private schools that compete against public schools to designate sports as male, female, or coeducational, and require that students competing on female teams be female as designated by their biological sex.

Students who suffer harm from a violation of HB 27 may sue for injunctive relief, damages, and any other relief available under law against the violating school. Schools and school districts may also sue.

HB 31 – Alaska Performance Scholarship; Eligibility

1/9/2023 – Profile Released; by Reps. Story, Fields

1/19/2023 – Introduced; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[HB 65](#) increases the base student allocation by \$1,250, from \$5,960 to \$7,210. See the [PowerPoint](#) from the first hearing on the bill, the [Sponsor Statement](#), and the [Sectional Analysis](#) for more details.

3/22/2023: HB 65 was amended so that the BSA would increase from \$5,960 to \$6,640 in FY24, and to \$6,760 in FY25, for a total increase of \$800 by FY25.

4/6/2023: An amendment to the operating budget, [HB 39](#), was adopted that added the amount of funding (\$175 million) in the [fiscal note](#) for CSHB 65(EDC) to the budget. However, funding was not passed for the appropriation.

HB 71 – School District Online Checkbook

2/13/2023 – Introduced; by Rep. Rauscher; referred to the House Education Committee

3/6/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

3/20/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee~~

3/29/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

4/12/2023 – Scheduled but not heard in the House Education Committee

[HB 71](#) requires school districts to make their financial records available online to the public at no cost. Separate information for each school must be provided.

HB 105 – Sex/Reproduction Education; Schools

3/8/2023 – Introduced; by the House Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the House Education & Judiciary Committees

3/13/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

3/29/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

3/30/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

4/13/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

4/24/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/26/2023 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee

4/28/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee~~

5/1/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Judiciary Committee~~

[HB 105](#) requires school districts to notify parents at least two weeks before any activity, class, or program that includes content involving gender identity, human reproduction, or sexual matters is provided to a child. Parents must provide written permission for their student to participate. This provision changes participation in such activities, classes, and programs from passive consent, where the student participates unless their parents opt them out, to active consent, where a student cannot participate unless the parent gives written consent. HB 105 makes an exception for the requirement for

met the qualification for the payment.

Under HB 106, there are three levels of payment: \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$15,000, depending on which school district the teacher is teaching in. See [the bill](#) for categorization of districts. HB 106 is identical to [SB 97](#).

HB 111 – Education for Deaf & Hearing Impaired

3/13/2023 – Introduced; by Reps. Allard, Groh, Gray, McCabe, Vance, Wright, Himschoot, Sumner, Carrick, Rauscher, Edgmon; referred to the House Health & Social Services, Education, and Finance Committees

3/22/2023 – House Health & Social Services Committee referral removed

4/24/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

4/26/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

4/28/2023 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee; public testimony

5/9/2023 – House Finance Committee referral added; now in the House Finance Committee

5/16/2023 CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Finance Committee~~

[HB 111](#) allows parents to determine the child's chosen method of communication. It requires school districts to provide information regarding the tools and resources available to the child. It informs parents of their rights and the school district's duties. It provides services for their chosen method of communication.

HB 111 requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to establish and operate a centralized program for the deaf to be made available to deaf students in the state. The program must provide residential services as part of its educational program. The program may be operated by a school district under an agreement with the department.

HB 139 – Correspondence Study Program Funding

3/27/2023 – Introduced; by Rep. Ruffridge; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

4/5/2023 – Scheduled but not heard in the House Education Committee

4/7/2023 – Scheduled but not heard in the House Education Committee

4/12/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/17/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee; public testimony

4/19/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

4/21/2023 – Heard and held in the House Education Committee

5/3/2023 – Heard in and moved from the House Education Committee

[HB 139](#) applies the special needs factor to correspondence students. Currently, correspondence students receive 90 percent of the BSA, but no factors are applied.

- \$5,250 for the second-level award (currently \$3,566)
- \$3,500 for the third-level award (currently \$2,378)

For every two semesters of full-time enrollment completed, the ACPE will review a student's transcript, and if the student's grades improve enough they will be bumped up to a higher award level. There is a [Sponsor Statement](#) and a [Sectional Analysis](#) available in BASIS.

4/19/2023 – The House Education Committee moved a committee substitute from committee that removed the GPA requirement. So the bill now does not have a requirement for a certain GPA and a certain test score, but allows students to qualify for the Alaska Performance Scholarship using their GPA or a test score.

HB 163 – FAFSA Raffle

4/14/2023 – Introduced; by Reps. Himschoot, Dibert, Groh, Gray, Coulombe, McCormick, Galvin, Sumner, Mina, Ruffridge, Mears, Tomaszewski, Carrick, Armstrong; referred to the House Judiciary, State Affairs, and Education Committees

[HB 163](#) establishes a raffle fund and a raffle for FAFSA applicants. See [the bill](#) for details. HB 163 is a bill from the [House Freshman Caucus](#).

HB 165 – Charter Schools; Correspondence Programs

4/19/2023 – Introduced; by the House Ways & Means Committee; referred to the House Ways & Means, Education, and Finance Committees

4/27/2023 – Heard and held in the House Ways & Means Committee

5/4/2023 – Heard in and moved from the House Ways & Means Committee

5/5/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee;~~
~~pending referral~~

[HB 165](#) allows the Dept. of Education & Early Development State Board to establish charter schools. The school district in which the charter school is located must operate the charter school.

HB 165 requires DEED and districts that provide a correspondence study program to provide an annual student allotment to parents or guardians of the student. It allows the state board to require the department to establish a correspondence study program available to any Alaskan through a centralized office.

HB 165 changes the foundation formula for correspondence students. Correspondence students would get 1.5 times the BSA instead of 0.9 times the BSA. Funding for

naloxone in each main school building, and one dose for events and on each bus.

HB 230 – Out-of-State Teaching Experience & Salaries

1/8/2024 – Prefile released; by Rep. Himschoot

[HB 230](#) repeals “the limit on the number of years of out-of-state school experience that may be substituted for in-state experience in teacher salary scales.”

HB 247 – Reading Improvement Plans Funding

1/8/2024 – Prefile released; by Rep. Story

[HB 247](#) provides school districts with \$1,000 in funding for each student in grades K-3 who have been determined to have a reading deficiency based on the statewide screening or assessment tool. The money is to be used to provide reading services to the student, including teacher and paraprofessional career development.

SB 9 – Alaska Sunset Commission

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Hughes

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate State Affairs, Judiciary, and Finance Committees

3/14/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate State Affairs Committee; invited & public testimony

[SB 9](#) establishes a sunset commission to “*review and make recommendations on discontinuation of or changes to state entities.*” The Dept. of Education & Early Development would be reviewed and recommendations would be made in 2028.

Commission members will consist of nine members of the public who have finance experience.

SB 11 – Teachers & Public Employee Retirement Plans

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Sen. Kiehl

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Labor & Commerce and Finance Committees

[SB 11](#) relates to restoration of tenure for certain disabled individuals and allows members Permanent Fund PERS and TRS to choose between a defined benefit and a defined contribution retirement plan.

SB 14 – Retirement Incentive Program (RIP) for Public Employees/Teachers

1/9/2023 – Prefile Released; by Sens. Kawasaki, Gray-Jackson

1/18/2023 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

5/8/2023 – Read for the 1st time in the House; referred to the House Education and Finance Committees

[SB 29](#) requires schools to not issue a diploma to students who have not completed a civics education course using the curriculum the Dept. of Education & Early Development will be required to develop under the bill and who have not achieved a passing score of at least 70 percent on their test. The bill also establishes the Alaska Civics Education Commission in DEED. The commission will consist of 12 members and will be staffed by DEED. The commission will include a retired Alaska judicial officer or administrative person with judicial experience in the state. The Legislative Council may assist the commission in conducting its business, including the use of legislative meeting space and related resources. The commission will report on its recommendations.

4/18/2023 – The Senate Finance Committee substitute made two changes ([explanation](#)): SB 29 no longer creates a civics education commission, and the effective date is changed from July 1, 2023 to July 1, 2024.

SB 52 – Increase Base Student Allocation

2/1/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Education Committee; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

2/1/2023 – Senate Majority Press Conference

2/3/2024 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

2/8/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; public testimony

2/10/2023 – Scheduled but not heard in the Senate Education Committee

3/8/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee; committee substitute adopted

3/13/2023 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee; committee substitute; all committee members recommended the bill pass

4/13/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.; public testimony

4/18/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee; public testimony

4/25/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee~~

5/8/2023 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Finance Committee

5/10/2023 – Read for the 2nd time in the Senate

5/11/2023 – Read for the 3rd time in the Senate; returned to 2nd reading to consider amendments; passed by a vote of 17 yeas, 2 nays, 1 excused; transmitted to the House

5/12/2023 – Read for the 1st time in the House and referred to the House Finance Committee

3/29/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
4/26/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
4/28/2023 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
5/2/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee
5/10/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee
5/12/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee
5/13/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 88](#) creates a defined benefit plan for PERS and TRS. Current defined contribution plan members would be given a time frame during which they could switch to the new defined benefit plan. Employees hired after the effective date of SB 88 would be in the new defined benefit plan.

4/26/2023 – See the [summary table](#) for the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee substitute from sponsor Sen. Giessel for details on the new defined benefit plan.

SB 96 – Sex/Reproduction Education; Schools

3/8/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Rules Committee at the request of the Governor; referred to the Senate Judiciary and Finance Committees

[SB 96](#) requires school districts to notify parents at least two weeks before any activity, class, or program that includes content involving gender identity, human reproduction, or sexual matters is provided to a child. Parents must provide written permission for their student to participate. This provision changes participation in such activities, classes, and programs from passive consent, where the student participates unless their parents opt them out, to active consent, where a student cannot participate unless the parent gives written consent. The exception to requiring active consent is for education in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention, and dating violence and abuse awareness prevention.

SB 96 prohibits any class or program involving sex education, human reproduction education, or human sexuality education for students below 4th grade. SB 96 requires written permission from a parent before the name or pronoun used by a school to address or refer to the student, on school identification, or in school records is changed. SB 96 defines gender identity as “an internal sense of being male, female, or something else, which may not correspond to an individual’s sex assigned at birth or sex characteristics.”

SB 96 allows for parents to file civil action for damages if a school district knowingly or recklessly violates the provisions of the bill.

SB 96 requires that districts not withhold any information regarding a student’s physical,

Students must have this instruction in order to graduate. The course must include discussion or instruction on a number of items. See [the bill](#) for course requirements.

SB 110 – School/University Employee Health Insurance

3/22/2023 – Introduced; by Sen. Hughes; referred to the Senate Education, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees

4/3/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

4/12/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

[SB 110](#) allows school employers, the University of Alaska, and municipalities to elect to participate in the State of Alaska healthcare plan.

There are many [documents](#) posted in BASIS for SB 110. The Dept. of Education & Early Development [fiscal note](#) states that the commissioner of the Dept. of Administration will have “the authority to move funds from the Public Education Fund to the Group Health and Life Benefits Fund to pay claims under a policy of insurance established by DOA. The maximum amount that can be expended from the Public Education Fund would be capped at \$100,000,000 and the amount expended would need to be repaid to the fund over a period 10 years.”

SB 110 is identical to [HB 21](#).

SB 113 – REAA Fund: Mt. Edgecumbe, Teacher Housing

3/22/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Finance Committee; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

4/3/2023 – Heard in and moved from the Senate Education Committee

4/25/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Finance Committee~~

4/26/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Finance Committee

[SB 113](#) allows the Dept. of Education & Early Development to make disbursements from the REAA Fund for construction and major maintenance projects at Mt. Edgecumbe High School, and for major maintenance projects for teacher housing that is owned by the state, an REAA, or a small municipal school district and that is located in an REAA or a small municipal school district. SB 113 also removes the cap of \$70 million for the REAA Fund.

SB 120 – Extend Education Tax Credits

3/31/2023 – Introduced; by the Senate Education Committee; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

4/5/2023 – Heard and held in the Senate Education Committee

4/14/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

4/26/2023 – CANCELLED ~~Scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education Committee~~

5/15/2023 – Amended in the House Finance Committee to include all the provisions of [SB 52](#), so in addition to increasing BAG grants, SB 140 now also:

- Increases the BSA by \$680 (from \$5,960 to \$6,640, the same amount as in HB 65, the house bill to increase the BSA, and the same amount as is currently in the operating budget as one-time funding)
- There is no inflation proofing or second year increase to the BSA
- Still contains [the language](#) added in the Senate Education Committee regarding tracking data and outcomes
- Increases pupil transportation funding by approximately \$8 million
- Increases funding for residential schools by \$2.1 million

SB 143 – Education for Deaf & Hearing Impaired

5/5/2023 – Introduced; by Sen. Gray-Jackson; referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees

[SB 143](#) allows parents to determine the child's chosen method of communication. It requires school districts to provide information regarding the tools and resources available to the child. It informs parents of their rights and the school district's duties. It provides services for their chosen method of communication.

SB 143 requires the Dept. of Education & Early Development to establish and operate a centralized program for the deaf to be made available to deaf students in the state. The program must provide residential services as part of its educational program. The program may be operated by a school district under an agreement with the department.

SB 143 is identical to [HB 111](#).

SB 158 – School Grants and Bond Debt Reimbursement

1/8/2024 – Profile released; by Sen. Myers

[SB 158](#) changes the date by which school districts must submit six-year capital improvement plans to the Dept. of Education & Early Development from September 1 to July 1, moving the deadline up by two months in order to be eligible for major maintenance and school construction grants. The bill also allows for limited reinstatement of bond debt reimbursement: