



# SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 19569, 1010 Sandy Beach Road, Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919  
(907) 828-8254 Fax: (907) 828-8257 E-mail: [sisd@sisd.org](mailto:sisd@sisd.org)

## Resolution 2026-01

### RESOLUTION URGING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE TO OVERRIDE THE GOVERNOR'S VETOES AND RESTORE FULL FY2026 EDUCATION FUNDING

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Island School District (SISD) is committed to delivering equitable, high-quality education to all students in our rural and remote communities across Southeast Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska State Legislature passed House Bill 57 with strong bipartisan support — exceeding a three-quarters majority — to raise the Base Student Allocation (BSA) by \$700 per student for FY2026, acknowledging the urgent and unmet fiscal needs of school districts statewide; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Mike Dunleavy's veto of more than \$51 million in BSA formula funding — a 28.6% reduction from the statutory increase — represents an unprecedented action that undermines the Legislature's constitutional duty to "establish and maintain a system of public education" and violates the spirit and intent of Alaska's public education statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the vetoed reduction, coupled with the expiration of last year's one-time education funding, effectively amounts to a 26.5% decrease in operational revenue for districts across the state, including SISD, which will result in the elimination of critical academic programs, increases in class sizes, reductions in staffing, and potential school closures; and

**WHEREAS**, the governor also vetoed:

- \$25 million in urgently needed school facility maintenance funds,
- \$5.7 million for early learning programs, and
- Nearly \$1 million allocated for teacher recruitment and retention; and

**WHEREAS**, these compounded cuts severely hinder local school districts' ability to serve their students, preserve community-based schooling, and attract and retain high-quality educators in Alaska — all of which are essential for the long-term well-being and economic vitality of our state;

**WHEREAS**, this is the first time since the BSA was enacted in 1999 that a governor has unilaterally rejected the education formula funding agreed upon by the Legislature, creating a climate of financial instability and political overreach;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Island School District respectfully but firmly urges the Alaska State Legislature to reconvene at the earliest possible opportunity to override Governor Dunleavy's vetoes of FY2026 education funding;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislature must act to uphold its constitutional responsibilities and restore full funding for the Base Student Allocation, early learning initiatives, educator support, and essential capital maintenance to ensure continuity and excellence in public education for all Alaskan students;

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Southeast Island School District joins the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) in denouncing these harmful vetoes, and pledges to collaborate with other districts, policymakers, and communities to document the real-life consequences of underfunding education, advocate for responsible governance, and reaffirm Alaska's promise to its children.

**ADOPTED** July 23, 2025, at a duly convened meeting of the Southeast Island School District Board of Education at which a quorum was present and voting.

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Anthony Lovell  
SISD Board President

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Molly Kimzey  
SISD Board Clerk