

A photograph of a classroom where several students are raising their hands. In the foreground, a young girl with dark hair in pigtails, wearing a red shirt, is seen from behind. The background shows a chalkboard with some faint writing and other students' hands raised. The image is overlaid with a dark, semi-transparent geometric shape containing red text. The overall design includes green abstract shapes on the left and right sides.

**J&H Consulting**

**End of Session  
Legislative  
Update  
May 2024**

# OPERATING BUDGET:

- ▶ The foundation formula, pupil transportation, school bond debt reimbursement, PCE, community assistance, and retirement funds are fully funded. Since the final budget is balanced no draw on savings.
- ▶ There is approximately \$3 billion in the Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR) for the next Legislature to address any revenue shortfalls next year
- ▶ **Full funding for foundation formula and pupil transportation.**
- ▶ **\$174.7 million in funding outside the BSA, an equivalent to a \$680 increase to the BSA and \$7.3 million in additional funding for school districts, to be distributed according to the pupil transportation formula.**
- **\$8.9 million - \$180 for each student in K-3, plus an additional \$100 for K-3 students in Title I schools, not to exceed \$5.2 million total.**
- **\$11.9 million to satisfy FY22 Federal Maintenance of Equity Requirement**
- **\$5 million for ANSEP**

- **\$50,000 for the Alaska Autism Resource Center**
- **\$500,000 for the Alaska Resource Education Grant**
- **\$600,000 for Coding in Minecraft**
- **\$750,000 for Career & Technical Education Initiatives**
- **\$1.5 million for Teacher Recruitment Retention Certification and Apprenticeship Development**
- **\$500,000 to provide round-trip airfare allowing Mt. Edgecumbe High School students to travel home for the winter break and then return to school**
- **\$500,000 for Hunter Education**
- **\$75,000 for the Alaska Reads Act Advisory Panel**
- **\$3,633,950 for boarding stipends to school districts, an increase of \$1.5 million**
- **\$25.4 million for Broadband Assistance Grants (BAG)**
- **\$30 million for professional housing**

# CAPITAL BUDGET:

Over 75 percent of the capital budget is federal funding. The budget exceeds \$4 billion with federal funding included. The budget includes the first major funding for school construction and maintenance in eleven years and a wide variety of discretionary school projects.

- \$62,761,729 mil. for the Major Maintenance Grant Fund, enough to fund through project 26 on the list!
- \$26,978,028 mil. for the REAA and Small Municipal School District School Fund

## Construction:

- \$3.98 million – Newtok K-12 School relocation/replacement;
- \$5.3 million– Minto K-12 School renovation/addition;
- \$21.6 million – Nelson Island School replacement.

**Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
FY2025 Capital Improvement Projects  
Major Maintenance Grant Fund**

Final List

Jan 12 Rank	Dec 13 Rank	Nov 3 Rank	School District	Project Name	Amount Requested	Eligible Amount	Prior Funding	DEED Recommended Amount	Participating Share	State Share	Aggregate Amount
1	1	1	Craig City	Craig Elementary and Middle School Rehabilitation, Supplemental	\$13,400,176	\$13,400,176	\$8,415,126	\$4,985,050	\$997,010	\$3,988,040	\$3,988,040
2	2	2	Yukon-Koyukuk	Allakaket K-12 School Copper Pipe Replacement	\$287,892	\$287,892	\$0	\$287,892	\$5,758	\$282,134	\$4,270,174
3	3	3	Northwest Arctic Borough	Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation	\$9,596,772	\$9,424,172	\$0	\$9,424,172	\$1,884,834	\$7,539,338	\$11,809,512
4	4	4	Denali Borough	Tri-Valley School Partial Roof Replacement	\$2,263,988	\$2,249,219	\$0	\$2,249,219	\$449,844	\$1,799,375	\$13,608,887
5	5	5	Anchorage	Piarnigan Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$2,991,230	\$2,991,230	\$0	\$2,991,230	\$1,046,930	\$1,944,300	\$15,553,187
6	6	6	Anchorage	Birchwood Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$3,008,175	\$3,008,175	\$0	\$3,008,175	\$1,052,861	\$1,955,314	\$17,508,501
7	7	7	Kenai Peninsula Borough	Homer High School Partial Roof Replacement	\$3,280,189	\$3,280,189	\$0	\$3,280,189	\$1,148,066	\$2,132,123	\$19,640,624
8	8	8	Anchorage	Northwood Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$1,495,296	\$1,495,296	\$0	\$1,495,296	\$523,354	\$971,942	\$20,612,566
9	9	9	Kuspuk	Johnnie John Sr. K-12 School Major Maintenance, Crooked Creek	\$2,009,216	\$1,989,549	\$0	\$1,989,549	\$39,791	\$1,949,758	\$22,562,324
10	10	10	Aleutians East Borough	Sand Point K-12 School Major Maintenance, Supplemental	\$6,811,429	\$6,811,396	\$2,968,577	\$3,842,819	\$1,344,987	\$2,497,832	\$25,060,156
11	11	11	Lower Kuskokwim	Bethel Campus Fire Pump House and Fire Protection Upgrades, Supplemental	\$3,441,629	\$3,441,629	\$2,982,088	\$459,541	\$9,191	\$450,350	\$25,510,506
12	12	12	Petersburg Borough	Petersburg High/Middle School Roof Replacement	\$4,306,542	\$4,272,898	\$0	\$4,272,898	\$1,495,514	\$2,777,384	\$28,287,890
13	13	13	Anchorage	Bayshore Elementary School Boiler Replacement	\$1,143,580	\$1,143,580	\$0	\$1,143,580	\$400,253	\$743,327	\$29,031,217
14	14	14	Nome City	Nome Beltz Jr/Sr High School Generator and Electrical Replacement	\$1,318,010	\$2,142,123	\$0	\$2,142,123	\$642,637	\$1,499,486	\$30,530,703
15	15	15	Lower Kuskokwim	Akula Eittrauvik K-12 School Renovation, Kasigluk-Akula	\$6,355,832	\$5,775,602	\$0	\$5,775,602	\$115,512	\$5,660,090	\$36,190,793
16	16	16	Wrangell Borough	Wrangell Schools Renovations, 3 Sites	\$10,000,000	\$9,968,009	\$0	\$9,968,009	\$3,488,803	\$6,479,206	\$42,669,999
17	17	17	Anchorage	Government Hill Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$2,635,154	\$2,635,154	\$0	\$2,635,154	\$922,304	\$1,712,850	\$44,382,849
18	18	18	Nome City	Nome Beltz Jr/Sr High School Roof Replacement, Supplemental	\$6,026,434	\$6,026,434	\$2,233,488	\$3,792,946	\$1,137,884	\$2,655,062	\$47,037,911
19	19	19	Lower Yukon	Hooper Bay K-12 School Exterior Repairs	\$2,296,607	\$2,296,607	\$0	\$2,296,607	\$45,932	\$2,250,675	\$49,288,586
20	20	20	Yupik	Mechanical System Improvements, 3 Schools	\$635,269	\$635,269	\$0	\$635,269	\$12,705	\$622,564	\$49,911,150
21	21	21	Northwest Arctic Borough	HVAC Controls Upgrade, 8 Sites	\$9,838,153	\$9,838,153	\$0	\$9,838,153	\$1,967,631	\$7,870,522	\$57,761,672
22	22	22	Nenana City	Nenana School Flooring and Asbestos Abatement	\$548,871	\$548,871	\$0	\$548,871	\$27,444	\$521,427	\$58,303,099
23	23	23	Kuspuk	Jack Egnaty Sr. K-12 School Roof Replacement, Sleetmute	\$1,608,442	\$1,608,442	\$0	\$1,608,442	\$32,169	\$1,576,273	\$59,879,372
24	24	24	Kake City	Exterior Upgrades - Main School Facilities	\$351,797	\$351,797	\$0	\$351,797	\$70,359	\$281,438	\$60,160,810
25	25	25	Ketchikan Borough	Ketchikan High School Security Upgrades	\$485,609	\$485,609	\$0	\$485,609	\$169,963	\$315,646	\$80,476,456
26	26	26	Anchorage	Homestead Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$3,515,805	\$3,515,805	\$0	\$3,515,805	\$1,230,532	\$2,285,273	\$62,761,729

# DISCRETIONARY CAPITAL BUDGET:

- \$260,000 – Klatt Elementary School wall seismic improvements: design;
- \$50,000 each – Mears Middle, Klatt and Oceanview Elementary School supplies and equipment;
- \$310,837 – Safe Pedestrian Crossing to Service High School and Trailside Elementary School;
- \$2.8 million – Mt. Edgecumbe main girls dorm roof replacement and dorm window replacement
- \$227,425 – Healy area and school pedestrian path (TAP Award, 2023);
- \$150,000 – Dimond Alumni Special Projects Inc., install scoreboard at Bartlett High School
- \$600,000 – Abbot Road Safe Routes to Schools improvements
- \$50,000 – Airport Heights Elementary School walkway connector
- \$500,000 – Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School, stadium safety upgrades and drainage mitigation
- \$400,000 – Safe pedestrian crossings for O’Malley Elementary School
- \$200,000 – Sitka High School shop dust collector
- \$302,498 – Tsuk Taih School water tank roof and water tank replacement, Yukon Flats School District

# BILLS:

▶ **Broadband bill law passed and signed into law**

▶ **HB 230** – Teachers: Out-of-State Experience; Retired

- Allows a retired Alaska teacher with a lifetime teacher certification issued under HB 230 to substitute teach for up to 165 consecutive days.
- Removes the limit on the number of years of out-of-state school experience that may be substituted for in-state experience for the purpose of determining a teacher's salary.
- A district or DEED may pay an incentive payment of \$5,000 to teachers employed by the district or the department who have a current national board certification.
- A district or DEED shall reimburse teachers employed by the district or the department who is pursuing an initial national board certification or renewal of a national board certification for the costs of course materials, registration, and testing. Costs shall be reimbursed on an ongoing basis

▶ **HB 202** – Bill requires schools to stock overdose reversal drugs. In the last day compromise language was added to stabilize correspondence education programs after a court ruling struck down parts of state law governing the spending of financial allotments distributed through the program. The new language directs Alaska's Board of Education and Early Development to write temporary regulations to stabilize the program and includes a requirement that the Department of Education and Early Development monitor spending for the first time in a decade.

# BILLS:

- ▶ [HB 148](#) – The bill started as just the Alaska Performance Scholarship program. Added to the bill was the Alaska Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funding bill and the extension of the education tax credit. The bill amends the qualification criteria for an Alaska Performance Scholarship applicant by adding career and technical education (CTE) to the academic curriculum considered for a scholarship and creates career clusters where CTE credits can be substituted for core classes. For the postsecondary level, this bill raises the award amounts for all three levels to keep up with inflation and removes the requirement for a college entrance exam. Additionally, the eligibility period for receiving the scholarship is extended from six to eight years.



- ▶ **TVEP:** The legislation **permanently** eliminates the sunset date, changes some funding allocations for grant distributions and adds additional grantees under AS 23.15.835(d) for the Alaska Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP). The state unemployment tax paid by employers and workers to fund training was increased from .16% to .25% which offsets the addition of new grantees.
- ▶ **Tax Credit:** Last, the bill expands the education tax credit to include donations made to nonprofit resource centers that support academic achievement in grades 9 through 12 for curricula and competition in various subject areas. The new provisions take effect July 1, 2024. This bill also increases the credit limit from \$1 million to \$3 million annually per taxpayer. The bill extends the sunset provisions to January 1, 2029.
- ▶ Only 5 education bills passed.



**Quyanaqqak and Taikuu  
Working together to advance  
the priorities of the NWABSD**