



# SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Board Report January 22, 2020 Sherry Becker, Superintendent

**Vision:** Students are equipped to realize their dreams and aspirations.

**Mission:** Together we will foster student skills to achieve their goals and adapt to an ever-changing world.

### Legislative Update:

- Governor Dunleavy's proposed budget has flat-funded school districts for the 2020-21 school year. This in effect, is yet another cut to Alaska School Districts. Other than the 20 million that was forward funded by the 2018 legislature for FY19, Alaska school districts have not received a raise in years.
- Senator Begich's Sponsor Substitute for Senate Bill 6, the "Alaska Reads Act", will be made public and formally introduced on Tuesday, January 21.
  - Concern: If we are going to have a mandate for reading on grade level by the end of grade 3, what are the mandates that we can support in our district and what can our budgets support?
- Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA) Joint Position Statement (attached)
  - Priority Funding for Education
  - Revenue Enhanced Fiscal Plan Imperative
  - Social, Emotional and Mental Health
  - School Safety
  - Early Childhood Education
  - Increasing Bandwidth in Under-Served Areas
  - Career and Technical Education
  - Preparing, Attracting and Retaining Qualified Educators
  - Health Care Costs
  - Other State Issues
  - 2020 JPS Federal Issues
    - Forest Receipts (Safe and Secure Rural Schools Act)
    - Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
    - Affordable Care Act (ACA)
  - Other Federal Issues
    - We strongly oppose the use of public money to fund private/religious education through vouchers or other mechanisms.
    - We support full funding with cost of living increases of E-Rate, Indian Education, Impact Aid, and all Title programs with no significant program changes.
    - We support funding for social emotional learning, social workers, mental health support and 0-5 learning for all.

- We encourage increased financial support and focus on school safety issues but do not support arming school personnel. We do support hiring additional safety officers.
- Student art needed for March Legislative Fly-In
- Meeting with Southeast Alaska Superintendents 1/15/20
  - Governor Dunleavy Announced Reading Bill at Press Conference
    1. Expand Pre-K opportunities for students statewide
    2. Statewide screening and intensive research-based reading interventions (grades k-3); individual reading plans; reading instruction outside school hours; parent notifications and written updates; student retention; parent training workshops;
    3. School improvement – improving outcomes; state provided reading interventionist – employed by state not district
- Meeting with Education Commissioner Michael Johnson 1/17/20
  - SB6 – will be read by the Senate Finance committee on Thursday 1/24/20
  - PreK kids will run through foundation formula
  - Foundation formula will again be reviewed by legislature
  - Discussion about a 3-year state assessment
  - SB126 Consolidation – reduction of AK school districts from 54 to 18
- Complete list of Education-related bills including those that remain active from the first session of the 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature.
- 2020 ACSA Legislative Bill Tracking:
  - <http://www.alaskaacsa.org/education-legislation-2/>

### **Key Dates to Note on the Legislative Calendar this Session**

- January 21 - 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session convenes - 1:00 p.m.
- February 24 - Personal Bill Filing Deadline
- April 19 - 90<sup>th</sup> Day of 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature
- May 20 - 121<sup>st</sup> Day of 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature

### **2020-21 Certificated Staffing**

- The first round of Certificated contracts have been delivered to all tenured staff. A second round will be taking place within the coming week. We anticipate very few certificated openings for the 2020-21 school year.
- Virtual Job Fair planning
- Three schools are hovering near 10-14 students for the coming school year. The district has requested the parents and residents of these communities complete a statement regarding their intentions to enroll their child for the 2020-21 school year.
- New Positions and Staffing Changes for FY21 – with Literacy and Intensive Special Education supports being a major focus

### **Goal: Prepare Students for Post-Secondary Life**

- Superintendent participation in the Alaska Superintendent Council meeting – Anchorage 12/4/19
  - Teaching students to advocate for their education
- Student Achievement/Recognition (i.e., Honor Roll)

- Spring 2020 STEAM Week/PHlight Club

**Goal: Provide Sufficient/Effective Staff Support**

- Collaborative Bargaining Agreement planning process has begun
- Thankful activity with leadership Team (see attached)
- Certificated Staff member of the Month/Year
- Classified Staff Member of the Month/Year
- Alaska Association of School Boards will be providing ASC training – date to be announced and will coincide with Appreciation Luncheon
- Service awards/Longevity awards

**Goal: Improve Communication District and Community Wide**

- Results of Staff/Public Superintendent Pre-Evaluation Survey (attached)
- Administration Team Meetings
- Leadership Team Meetings
- Student/Community Meetings – potential student activities/sports for upcoming school year
- Superintendent attendance at Thorne Bay City Council Meeting 12/3/19
- Superintendent participation in District Communication Training – currently in the process of revising SISD Communication Plan – how to communicate during/after a crisis; do our parents know what to do/expect if something happens? Critical communications – the first thing you communicate about an incident is critical – it is hard to correct an error once it is out there

**Goal: Increase Visibility to Share Lifestyle and Increase Enrollment**

- Professional video to highlight why a parent would want to bring their child to SISD.
  - Video to incorporate:
    - Test Scores for individual schools – compared to other island schools and other Alaska schools
    - Unique CTE and Extra-Curricular opportunities
    - Dual Credit Opportunities
- Improved Correspondence School Program for homeschool students and/or students within district boundaries that may not have a school in their home community.
- Development of a center-based program to provide intensive supports for students with disabilities and training for their parents
- Positive stories; what are the most important facts and data that your public need to know? Strategic Plan Brochure; District brochure
- Prince of Wales Newsletter article twice per month; Juneau/Ketchikan papers – posting article to front page of district website and then sending out to all other sources
- Students taking college classes online while they are in high school

**Recommendations on Board Approval items:**

**10. A. I recommend approval of the FY 2020 General Fund Budget Revision**

**10. B. I recommend approval of the Professional Services Contract with National Evaluation Group, LLC for THRIVE Grant Evaluation and Consultation Services**

**10. C. I recommend approval of the Professional Services Agreement for Opioid Response Planning Grant Services with Haley Armstrong for up to \$40,000**

**10. D. I recommend approval of Entering Negotiations with GCI Communication Corporation - the Lowest Responsible Bidder for RFP #20-ISP1, Digital Transmission Services/Internet Services -- for a Three-year Contract based on their Proposal**

**10. E. I recommend approval to Purchase School Busses Awarded through School Bus Grant (District Match is 20%)**