

Increase BSA

Fund Early Childhood

Funding for Education  
Support



10014 Crazy Horse Drive • Juneau, Alaska 99801-8529 • (907) 523-1700

April 4, 2018

Dear Honorable Senator Hoffman, Senator MacKinnon, Senator Bishop, Senator Micciche, Senator Von Imhof, Senator Olson, Senator Stevens,

Thank you for your attention to education and for the investments made each year on behalf of our children. At our February Board of Education meeting, we passed a resolution in support of the Alaska Education Challenge. Having education policy makers at all levels working together and complementing the work happening directly with our children and communities is a critical step to making progress.

Our Board's Legislative Priorities include strong support for a state fiscal plan. In addition, our Board thanks the Legislature for investing in education in the Operating Budget and strongly supports an increased amount in the Base Student Allocation (BSA) for each child in the state.

It is critical as Senate Finance Committee members that you are aware that by keeping the same Base Student Allocation per child for the third year in a row, our district will be forced to eliminate three million dollars (3% of our spending budget). This is a significant amount to our district. There are simply no areas to cut without significant hardship to our children's education.

Currently ninety percent of our budget costs are in personnel. Since 2011 we have cut 92 positions and millions of dollars in educational services (while student population decreased by just 299 students). Administration has been cut 32 percent and teachers 11 percent. A BSA increase will allow students to receive more counseling services, personalized attention and interventions to help them make progress in their learning.

Our Board just finished a painful budget approval process. Additionally attached is our prioritization list of items that were considered. You will see that all of them are important to student learning ranging from increments to reduce class size, to interventions that support our struggling learners, to adding school counselors and so forth. The list of items added to the budget are in the green. The items in green and other colors after the green depend on the amount that the Legislature budgets in the BSA and our City and Borough funding. The Juneau Assembly thankfully funds to the CAP and additional monies outside the CAP in activities, transportation, community schools and food service. TCLL stands for Tlingit Culture and Language Literacy, TED is Talent Enrichment Development, PTR is pupil teacher ratio, AVID is Advancement via Individual Determination on the attached prioritized spending list. In addition, the budget passed raises class sizes in our middle and high schools, cuts our instructional coaches, some special education funding, some interventions for struggling students, and reduces technology support to name a few.

Please work with your colleagues to support a statewide fiscal plan. Please provide for an increase in the Base Student Allocation and prioritize investment in Alaska's most precious asset: our own people. Parents and community members look to a strong economy and value their children's education as a top priority. Our children are making progress in their learning and our graduation rates are at an all-time high for our students who have been struggling. Please contact the Board of Education or Superintendent if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Juneau Board of Education, [schoolboard@juneauschools.org](mailto:schoolboard@juneauschools.org)

Attachments: Resolution in Support of Alaska's Education Challenge  
Juneau Legislative Priorities  
Prioritized Spending list for Operating fund FY 2019



# ALASKA'S *Education* CHALLENGE

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION NO. 2018-01  
Supporting the Department of Education and Early Development and the adoption of Alaska's Education Challenge.

**WHEREAS**, The Juneau School District Board of Education recognizes Alaska's Education Challenge as an opportunity to inspire Alaskans to implement a vision to provide an excellent education for every student; and,

**WHEREAS**, this will happen by:

- 1) Increasing Student Success;
- 2) Cultivating Safety and Well-Being; and
- 3) Supporting Responsible and Reflective Learners; and,

**WHEREAS**, Alaska faces obstacles to student achievement unlike those that exist in any other state in the nation; and,

**WHEREAS**, Alaska's Education Challenge is to address our student achievement gaps and increase our graduation rates by making sure that every student across our state has equal opportunities to learn and succeed; and

**WHEREAS**, Alaska's Education Challenge should result in more successful learning opportunities for ALL of Alaska's students, regardless of location, race, or income; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ultimate goal is for students to achieve and be prepared for career and/or college. Our efforts will look at providing an excellent education for every student in the most efficient manner possible; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Juneau School District Board of Education has adopted a Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 that aligns with the Alaska's Education Challenge's Three Commitments and 13 Recommendations and has developed the following Action Plan to meet the Commitments.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Juneau School District supports the Department of Education and Early Development and the adoption of Alaska's Education Challenge. Together, we will meet Alaska's education challenge by honoring our heritage, innovating for the future, and prioritizing for today's fiscal challenges.

**ADOPTED** in Regular Session this 13th day of February 2018.

**ATTEST:**

Brian Holst, President

Josh Keaton, Vice President

**Proposed by:**

**Date Submitted:**

**Date Passed by Board:**

JUNEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 14, 2018

FEBRUARY 13, 2018

# ALASKA'S *Education* CHALLENGE

## Juneau School District Action Plan:

1) Increase Student Success	<p><b>Work with community organizations to develop and implement practices to help prepare young children for Kindergarten.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Partnerships with DEED (preschool grant, 21st Century grant), AASB (STEPS grant), CBJ (City and Borough of Juneau various supports), Central Council (STEPS, Head Start), Friends of Montessori (Children's House), AEYC (Early Learning Fair, Parents as Teachers, preschool coordination), Juneau Community Foundation (Grants and grant coordination) to increase the number of preschool seats available to children three to five, as well as increase the quality of preschool experiences for all students, especially those at risk of not being prepared for kindergarten. Partnerships with these same organizations to provide summer jump start programs for at-risk incoming kindergarten students.</li></ul> <p><b>Align curriculum with Alaska State and World Class Standards while integrating culturally relevant, place-based instruction.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>JSD ELA and math curriculum is aligned with the state 2012 ELA and math standards.</li><li>JSD social studies and science curriculum documents are aligned with national standards as well as Alaska state standards.</li><li>All four core curricula are also aligned with ISTE and Alaska cultural standards for educators.</li><li>JSD social studies and science curriculum documents include extensive resource sections to provide teachers with guidance and connections to inform place-based and culturally relevant lesson planning.</li></ul> <p><b>Implement evidence-based instructional practices such as system wide curricula and instructional design that support staff effectiveness and student learning.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Common curricular materials in math have been implemented in K-10, and common materials assigned to teachers of math courses beyond Algebra 2 at both high schools. Common curricular materials are in use at all regular schools K-12. Teachers K-12 meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) regularly to examine teaching practices and student data).</li></ul>
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# ALASKA'S *Education* CHALLENGE

- Elementary schools are in their fourth year of implementing Professional Learning Opportunities and Response to Instruction (RTI)/Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) frameworks. PLCs examine core instructional practices, student performance data, and make instructional and grouping decisions for next instruction, interventions, and enrichments.
- Secondary schools have been using PLCs, horizontal PLCs (6-8 and 9-12) and vertical PLCs (6-12) to align curriculum, pacing, and resources for at least 6 years. The schools are in their first year of systematic implementation of RTI/MTSS. This work further aligns the schools horizontally and vertically for core instruction, intervention, and enrichment/extension.

**Maintain opportunities for students to be engaged with school and support their social-emotional growth.**

- Elementary schools are providing social-emotional learning opportunities through a number of efforts, including the use of Responsive Classroom morning meetings, staff training in SEL best practices, and employment of full time school counselors. The new health curriculum also supports teachers and counselors in providing appropriate SEL instruction to students.
- Secondary schools have also provided teachers and students with resources, including Sources of Strength, advisories, and as a secondary team this year – restorative practices.

**Maintain a comprehensive assessment system that generates a range of data about student learning and school effectiveness and uses the results to guide instruction.**

- 2017 4-year Graduation Rate reached 86%, 5-year rate is 87%.
- Student Attendance Rate is 93%.
- Data is collected via Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) in grades K-10 three times each year. PLCs at all levels use this data to make instructional and grouping decisions.
- Elementary utilizes reading screener and diagnostic data (collected three times each year) to make instructional, grouping, intervention, and enrichment decisions.

# ALASKA'S *Education* CHALLENGE

## 2) Cultivate Safety and Well-Being

Develop processes that engage staff, students, parents, caregivers, labor partners and community members to collaboratively participate in educating our students and leveraging community resources.

- Student services and teaching and learning support maintain memberships on several community-wide committees, including Juneau Suicide Prevention Coalition, Juneau Violence Prevention Coalition, ROCK Juneau, Trauma Sensitive Schools working group, AEYC early childhood and early literacy committees, Native Education Advisory Board, Indian Studies Parent Advisory Committee, Juneau District-wide Equity Committee, Best Starts, and others.
- Partner with Juneau Police Dept, Capital City Fire Rescue, Red Cross, Local Emergency Preparedness Committee, Juneau Emergency Manager and Juneau Public Health to maintain a comprehensive plan for emergency preparedness, school safety, ALICE and crisis response.

Prioritize equity and effectiveness when allocating resources to ensure success for all students.

- The JSD has an equity policy and an equity work book.
- JSD school sites are required to submit an equity report to the school board three times each year.
- JSD board action items include an equity analysis.
- JSD sites have site councils that advise the principal on programming, budget, and staffing.

Ensure that students feel safe and supported while at school and at school functions.

- JSD secondary students are surveyed annually with the AASB Climate and Connectedness Survey.
- Each high school has an active student council.
- Secondary schools have begun implementation of restorative practices.
- Elementary schools utilize Responsive Classroom, the 4th R, Second Steps, Playworks, and other strategies.
- Elementary schools use trauma sensitive practices.

# ALASKA'S *Education* CHALLENGE

Create a service-oriented environment in which staff support each other, our families and our community to maintain and communicate a commitment to high expectations and shared values for teaching and learning.

- Schools prepare an annual parent involvement plan as part of their annual action plan.
- Through trauma sensitive practices, Responsive Classroom, and other training, all staff are trained on how to create inviting environments for teachers, students, and families.

## 3) Support Responsible and Reflective Learners

Create a coordinated professional development program that focuses on adding to our staff's expertise in curriculum, equity, instruction and learning.

- JSD provides six days of in-service each year - for certified staff, this in-service time is split between the site and district. The JSD training is usually provided to smaller groups, and followed up with both PLC work on the same topic, site-based work on the topic, and site-based work provided by instructional coaches and PLC meetings between staff and/or facilitated by district specialists.
- A district curriculum council advises the teaching and learning director on curriculum and professional development planning.
- The teaching and learning director works with the directors of student services and human resources to plan district wide, PLC, and classroom modeling PD.

Develop Human Resource strategies that promote the recruitment, hiring, evaluation and retention of outstanding talent.

## **2018 Juneau Board of Education Legislative Priorities**

### **Provide for a Sustainable, Reliable and Adequate State Fiscal Plan**

The Fiscal plan would provide a long term approach to providing for constitutionally mandated investments in public education and other critical government services

**Increase the Base Student Allocation to account for inflation. Additionally, if the Legislature does not pass a budget in the 90 day session, maintain the BSA from the prior year.**

School districts have weathered silent budget cuts over the past several years in the form of flat funding that does not account for inflation. These silent budget cuts have resulted in a 16% decrease (over \$800 per child) over the past 5 years. These cuts are having direct impacts in the quality of education the Juneau School District is able to provide. An increase of at least \$100 per child in BSA (less than 2% BSA Increase) is requested to provide funding for an adequate and equitable education for all students statewide.

Additionally, each year school districts are required to submit budgets by specified deadlines. This is difficult to do without knowing what a minimum budget will be. This is in effect a hold-harmless provision so that districts can confidently prepare a minimum budget in years when the Legislature has not passed an education budget within the 90 day session.

### **Honor school construction debt reimbursement**

Communities voted for school construction bonds with the understanding that the legislature would provide their percentage of cost for school construction bonds. This impacts municipalities' budgets significantly as they seek to provide for their infrastructure needs.

### **Fund Early Learning Programs for Alaska's Children**

Every child deserves the best start in life. Studies show that for every \$1 spent on early childhood education, \$8 is saved in later services that are not necessary. Funding Early learning programs help children arrive at Kindergarten with the necessary skills to be successful.

### **Supporting STEAM Education for Alaska's Children**

Students learn science best by actively engaging in the practice of science, and they develop cognitive skills needed to excel in science and math through the arts, especially music. Teachers need professional development and science resources to offer students outstanding hands-on, active learning opportunities in the sciences. Excellence in STEM fields is vital to Alaska's and the nation's long-term economic prospects.

### **Continuation of Funding for Career and Technical (Vocational) Education**

Vocational, career tech, and trades education engage students and prepare them for the kinds of jobs that will employ the majority of them after graduation. This funding is necessary to provide CTE education along with the necessary equipment to help middle and high school students learn about and focus on potential career paths that address the needs of Alaska's employers, and are vitally important for our state's economic prosperity.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**  
 Western Information Office, 907 7th St., Suite 14-100, San Francisco, CA 94103  
 Information Staff (415) 625-2270 / Fax (415) 625-2351

**ANCHORAGE**  
 Consumer Price Index, All Items, 1982-84=100 for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

YEAR	SEMI-ANNUAL AVERAGE		ANNUAL AVERAGE	OVER-THE-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE			
	1st Half	2nd Half		YEAR	1st Half	2nd Half	ANNUAL AVERAGE
1990	116.9	120.4	118.6	1990	5.4	7.0	6.2
1991	123.3	124.7	124.0	1991	5.5	3.6	4.6
1992	127.3	129.1	128.2	1992	3.2	3.5	3.4
1993	131.5	132.8	132.2	1993	3.3	2.9	3.1
1994	134.3	135.8	135.0	1994	2.1	2.3	2.1
1995	138.2	139.5	138.9	1995	2.9	2.7	2.9
1996	141.3	143.7	142.7	1996	2.6	3.0	2.7
1997	144.1	145.4	144.8	1997	1.6	1.2	1.5
1998	146.7	147.0	146.9	1998	1.8	1.1	1.5
1999	148.6	148.3	148.4	1999	1.3	0.9	1.0
2000	150.0	151.9	150.9	2000	0.9	2.4	1.7
2001	154.4	156.0	155.2	2001	2.9	2.7	2.8
2002	157.5	169.0	158.2	2002	2.0	1.9	1.9
2003	161.1	163.9	162.5	2003	2.3	3.1	2.7
2004	165.6	167.8	166.7	2004	2.8	2.4	2.6
2005	169.6	174.1	171.8	2005	2.4	3.8	3.1
2006	176.7	177.9	177.3	2006	4.2	2.2	3.2
2007	179.394	183.080	181.237	2007	1.5	2.9	2.2
2008	187.869	181.335	189.497	2008	4.6	4.5	4.6
2009	190.032	193.456	191.744	2009	1.3	1.1	1.2
2010	194.834	195.465	195.144	2010	2.5	1.0	1.8
2011	200.278	202.576	201.427	2011	2.8	3.6	3.2
2012	205.215	206.617	206.916	2012	2.5	2.0	2.2
2013	210.453	213.810	212.361	2013	2.7	3.5	3.1
2014	214.777	216.833	215.805	2014	1.9	1.4	1.6
2015	217.111	216.706	216.909	2015	1.1	-0.1	0.5
2016	216.599	218.680	217.830	2016	-0.1	0.9	0.4
2017	218.616	219.131	218.873	2017	0.7	0.2	0.5

Table of over-the-year percent increases. An entry for 2nd Half 2005 indicates the percentage increase from 2nd Half 2004 to 2nd Half 2005 (In this example 3.8 percent).

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**

Western Information Office, 907 7th St., Suite 14-100, San Francisco, CA 94103  
 Information Staff (415) 625-2270 / Fax (415) 625-2351

**ANCHORAGE**  
 Consumer Price Index, All Items, 1982-84=100 for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

YEAR	SEMI-ANNUAL AVERAGE		YEAR	OVER-THE-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE			ANNUAL AVERAGE
	1st Half	2nd Half		1st Half	2nd Half		
1990	116.6	120.2	118.4				6.4
1991	123.0	124.5	123.8				4.6
1992	127.0	129.1	128.0				3.4
1993	131.4	132.6	132.0				3.1
1994	134.1	135.5	134.8				2.1
1995	137.8	139.1	138.5				2.7
1996	141.4	143.5	142.4				2.8
1997	144.0	145.0	144.5				1.5
1998	146.1	146.6	146.3				1.2
1999	147.7	148.0	147.8				1.0
2000	150.0	152.2	151.1				2.2
2001	154.9	158.8	155.8				3.1
2002	158.2	159.7	158.9				2.0
2003	162.0	164.8	163.4				2.8
2004	166.2	168.7	167.4				2.4
2005	170.2	174.1	172.2				2.9
2006	178.6	178.0	177.3				3.0
2007	179.12	182.957	181.035				2.1
2008	187.398	190.593	188.982				4.4
2009	188.161	191.991	190.021				0.5
2010	193.257	194.038	193.847				1.9
2011	199.061	200.987	200.024				3.3
2012	203.514	204.807	204.080				2.0
2013	209.065	212.854	210.778				3.3
2014	213.142	216.679	214.411				1.7
2015	215.424	214.903	215.113				0.3
2016	214.522	216.266	215.394				0.1
2017	216.388	216.901	216.849				0.6

Table of over-the-year percent increases. An entry for 2nd-half 2005 indicates the percentage increase from 2nd-half 2004 to 2nd-half 2005 (In this example 3.2 percent).

**Juneau School District  
Prioritized Spending List for Operating Fund  
FY 2019**

**Approved by Board**

**March 6, 2018**

**Modified March 7, 2018**

**Revised March 27, 2018**

Prioritized Spending	Notes	Budget	66,828,293	super
Curriculum Materials	Secondary science: books and on-line subscription	130,000 *	66,958,293	1
Curriculum-renewal and replace consumables		213,930 *	67,172,223	1
Include First TCELL Support Teacher		107,120 *	67,279,343	1
Adjust K - 2 Teachers, PTR: 24.5:1	Average class size 24.5	214,240 *	67,493,583	1
Adjust 3 - 5 Teachers, PTR: 27:1	Current class size of 27	107,120 *	67,600,703	1
Include Second TCELL Support Teacher	This keeps current number of TCELL teachers	107,120 *	67,707,823	1
High School Librarians	2.0 FTE	214,240 *	67,922,063	1
Include a Second Elem TED Teacher	This makes two elementary TED teachers	107,120 *	68,029,183	1
Include a Third Elem TED Teacher	This makes 3 elementary TED teachers	107,120 *	68,136,303	1
Middle School Librarians	2.00 FTE	214,240 *	68,350,543	1
Elementary Art Specialists	There is currently one art specialist	107,120 *	68,457,663	1
Technology Refresh @ 60%	Reduced considerably over the years	157,300 *	68,614,963	1
High School Counselors	Keeps 2nd counselor at both JDHS & TMHS	223,188 *	68,838,151	1
Adjust 9 - 12 Teachers, PTR: 25.50:1	Average class size 31	149,968 *	68,988,119	1
Adjust K - 2 Teachers, PTR 22.5:1	Current class size of 22.5	214,240 *	69,202,359	1
Adjust 6 - 8 Teachers, PTR: 24.50:1		321,360 *	69,523,719	1
CTE Teachers (restored in FY 17)	Formerly paid via grant	171,392 *	69,695,111	1
Montessori teachers	This restores Montessori to FY 18 staffing levels	107,120 *	69,802,231	1
AVID High School & Coordinator		66,582 *	69,868,813	1
Teaching & Learning @ 100%		67,307 *	69,936,120	1
Technology refresh needed for curriculum needs		135,000	70,071,120	1
Middle School Native Success Support	.17 FTE at each middle school	36,421 *	70,107,541	A
SAT/ACT/Work Keys Testing		18,000 *	70,125,541	
6 nurses, 4 health assistants		23,400	70,130,941	A
Adjust 9 - 12 Teachers, PTR: 24.50:1	Current class size 29	214,240 *	70,345,181	1
Cultural Education Paraeducators	3.53 Cultural Educators	311,989 *	70,657,170	1
Sea Week		11,000 *	70,668,170	*
Elders' Honoraria		15,000 *	70,683,170	*

**Juneau School District**  
**Prioritized Spending List for Operating Fund**  
**FY 2019**

**Approved by Board**

March 6, 2018

Modified March 7, 2018

Revised March 27, 2018

<b>Prioritized Spending</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>66,828,293</b>	<b>super</b>
Library Services	Battle of the Books	8,200 *	70,691,370	*
Guidance Support	Reduced from current budget	5,000 *	70,696,370	*
Saturday School: Secondary Schools	Reduced in half; not	10,286 *	70,706,656	*
High School Activities Directors	1.20 FTE plus event managers	153,756 *	70,860,412	2
High School Activities Staff	3.00 FTE	251,775 *	71,112,187	2
High School Core Teachers	2.50 FTE Added in FY 2018	267,800 *	71,379,987	2
Elementary Specialists	This is the increase of .25 FTE each school	160,680 *	71,540,667	2
High School Intramurals/Summer School		29,699 *	71,570,366	2
Technology Refresh @ 100%	Keeps budget at FY 18 level	100,000 *	71,670,366	2
Special Education program review and recommendations study		39,500	71,709,866	2
High school summer recovery program		30,000	71,739,866	2
Dem Bones		15,000 *	71,754,866	
Project C.A.R.T.	This would be a third Project C.A.R.T.	70,000 *	71,824,866	3
10 Nurses, no Health Assistants		99,600	71,918,466	3
One Elementary Instructional Coach	This is 1 coach; 2 fewer than current level	107,120 *	72,025,586	3
Technology refresh needed for computer labs		51,000	72,076,586	3
AVID Middle School		39,644 *	72,116,230	3
Keep Second Elementary Instructional Coach	This is 2 coaches; 1 fewer than current level	107,120 *	72,223,350	3
IT Services @ 100%	Keeps vacant technician position	86,163 *	72,309,513	3
Keep Third Elementary Instructional Coach	This is 3.0 coaches, current staffing levels	107,120 *	72,416,633	3
Middle School Activities Support	Added in FY 2018 budget	16,000 *	72,432,698	3
Professional Development Teachers	Added in FY 2018 budget; formerly paid via grant	65,000 *	72,497,683	3
Adjust 3 - 5 Teachers, PTR: 26:1	Average class size 26	321,360	72,848,996	3
Adjust 6 - 8 Teachers: PTR: 22.00:1	Current PTR	321,360 *	73,140,353	
Other District Enrichment Programs	A variety of services to schools	46,946 *	73,187,199	3
Property Rentals	UAS Auto Shop	40,000 *	73,227,289	3
Contract for Drug Testing		21,375 *	73,248,674	3
Drug & alcohol counselors		120,000	73,368,674	3

**Juneau School District**  
**Prioritized Spending List for Operating Fund**  
**FY 2019**

**Approved by Board**  
**March 6, 2018**  
**Modified March 7, 2018**  
**Revised March 27, 2018**

Prioritized Spending	Notes	Budget	66,828,293	super
Restore technology refresh reduction	Restores to previous year levels	180,000	79,548,674	3
Restore portion of maintenance cut		50,000	73,598,674	3
Grant Writer	This would be an additional amount	50,000	73,648,674	3
Elementary S.T.E.M. specialists (.5 each)		374,920	74,023,594	3
Add foreign language teachers at middle schools		214,240	74,237,884	3
Time & Attendance Employee Software		40,000	74,277,884	3
Grant Writer	Amount is currently in superintendent's budget	20,798 *	74,298,632	3
Elementary TED teachers (add .5 to each)	Restores reduction made a few years ago	321,360	74,619,992	3
Adjust K - 2 Teachers, PTR: 22.0:1	Average class size 22.0	107,120	74,727,112	3
Additional Career Guidance Support Staff	JESS position; aka AK Career Counselor	71,000	74,798,112	3
Restore 2nd In-school suspension middle school		56,588	74,854,700	3
Add core teachers at middle schools	1.00 FTE each at school	214,240	75,068,940	3
Bulge Teacher position		107,120	75,176,060	3
Separate principal Montessori, YDHS	Adds a full-time principal	78,199	75,254,269	3
Second Bulge teacher position		107,120	75,361,379	3
Electronic Storage Software		90,000	75,391,379	3
Webmaster (1.00 FTE)		81,000	75,472,379	3
Capital Maintenance Software		15,080	75,488,379	3
Adjust 9 - 12 Teachers, PTR: 24.0:1	Average class size 29	107,120	75,595,499	3
Middle school travel		50,000	75,645,499	3
Adjust K - 2 Teachers, PTR: 21.0:1	Average class size 21.0	214,240	75,859,739	4
Adjust 6 - 8 Teachers, PTR: 21.5:1		107,120	75,966,859	4
Adjust 6 - 8 Teachers, PTR: 20.5:1		214,240	76,181,099	4
Adjust 9 - 12 Teachers, PTR: 23.50:1	Average class size 28	128,544	76,309,643	4
Shift all .933 paras to 1.00	Restores reduction made a few years ago	322,640	76,622,283	4
Increase HomeBRIDGE support to 1.00 FTE		34,641	76,666,924	4
Restore 2nd middle school counselor	1.00 FTE each at school	214,240	76,881,164	4
High school library assistants	1.00 FTE each at school	130,000	77,081,164	4

Juneau School District  
Prioritized Spending List for Operating Fund  
FY 2019

Approved by Board

March 6, 2018

Modified March 7, 2018

Revised March 27, 2018

Prioritized Spending	Notes	Budget	66,828,293	super
Increase school allocations 10%		57,740	77,068,904	4
Permanent sub		107,120	77,176,024	4

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Dean and Cynthia Epperson <epperson@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 12:15 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Base Student Allocation

To Whom It May Concern:

Please increase the Base Student Allocation by \$100 to help out students, teachers, and schools statewide.

I am a constituent living in Anchorage and strongly support plans that will benefit our kids.

I am also in favor of an income tax to help pay for these expenses. It is the only fair way to deal with the money issues Alaska is facing.

Thank you.

Cynthia A Epperson  
6901 Round Tree Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99507

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Joe Banta <jbanta@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:38 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support of BSA

I am very disappointed that the committee canceled its hearing this week. I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation to help our schools keep up with inflation costs and I support early education funding so that the fiasco of layoffs, low moral, inability to plan, and forced disorganization are avoided! Thank you, Joe Banta

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** carolyn tag <akcarin@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:30 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee; carolyn tag  
**Subject:** BSA

**Importance:** High

Senators,

As a constituent, parent, grandparent, and ASD retired teacher, I ask you to support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs. We want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Tague  
Anchorage

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** victoria gellert <gellertsensei@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:27 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** More School Funding

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Please support a \$100 increase to the BSA and please fund schools early. I am a veteran teacher of 20 years with Anchorage School District and it is so frustrating seeing the decisions being made because of lack of funding. When we're told we need to cut staff and the art teacher is retiring...there goes art. When we need to cut staffing and the French teacher is retiring...you guessed it, there goes French. Principals are being forced to make unwise choices that only will hurt all of us as a community down the line because of the insufficient funding. Recently, our district also decided to cut the English Language Learners Program— not because it wasn't successful at helping students assimilate and gain literacy, but because it supposedly costs more. Also, a Spanish teacher in my school is being offered an 80% position instead of 100% next year because her classes average 26 students instead 31. This is crazy. This doesn't have students' best interest in mind. Let's invest properly in education. Please.

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Diane Shellenbaum <dshellenbaum@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:05 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Feedback on school funding

Dear Finance Committee,

Yes we need to save money, so if you do nothing else please forward fund education! It's just bad management, bad for morale, and just mean to people to have to lay off teachers every year just because you don't know the budget. Then turn around and blame them for poor morale.

I also strongly support increasing the BSA by \$100 - Costs outside the classroom are going up, inflation, pensions, and health care are outside of the mission of teaching our kids and they should not suffer because of it.

Thank you,

Diane Shellenbaum

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Colleen Fisk <colleenrfisk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:03 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** please increase BSA!

Hello,

Please increase the Base Student Allocation by \$100 and fund our schools in a timely manner so that school districts and teachers don't have to keep guessing how much money they have and whether they have a job or not. I decided not to go into teaching, even after getting my master's and teaching certification, in large part because I wouldn't have job security and felt unvalued. Please finance the schools NOW

Colleen Fisk

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Ilana Kerschbaum <ilanakersch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:54 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please fund our children

I am in my 21st year as a public educator. 15 of those years have been spent in the Alaska Public Schools. I am also a parent of 2 students attending Anchorage schools. I am discouraged and frustrated by the lack of resources and support all students are getting in the public schools. I am saddened by the worsening education for our English Language students each year. In addition I feel like I am addressing the many needs of our students in poverty. I am their counselor, trauma specialist, and support them financially to make sure they have their basic needs met when I know they are in need.

. Class sizes are growing and the ability to give students the basics that they need is getting harder. I don't know if money is the answer. I do know I spend about \$1000 out of my own pocket each year to supplement my teaching and the students' learning materials, to buy the students school supplies, and just to try to pick up the gap. I use the donation websites to obtain other education materials as well.

Please increase the BSA by \$100 per student. I don't know what more you can do with the financial state of Alaska, but please consider our youth. Consider their education. Consider what \$100 per student can do for each child.

Sincerely,  
Ilana Kerschbaum

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** M. <crazygeekdude@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:49 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. Natasha Von Imhof  
**Subject:** Education funding

Year after year the legislature hems and haws and avoids any real decision on education funding until very late in the game. You know fully well of the strife that it causes with families in Alaska. Sometimes I wonder if you enjoy that warped sense of self worth. I've only lived in Alaska for 37 years, but I see no sense in this continual act that you portray to care for Alaskans and the people who elect you.

It is at least convenient on your part, if not even planned, to cancel hearings this week. Still, along with many others, I would like to see a change. A change to stop using our youth as a battling ground. If you didn't sense their being tired of that this past weekend, you're missing something truly big.

Can you please show some vision, some responsibility, and some true representation? Increase the BSA by at least \$100 to help with inflationary costs. Decide on it now so that schools can carry on with completing their year instead of spending valuable time learning who will and who will not be teaching next year.

Thanks.

Michael Fenster, PE  
12448 Chokecherry Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99515  
Senate District L

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Suzanne Little <northcitygirls@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:37 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Base Student Allocation

Dear Senate Finance-

I strongly support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA) to help our schools keep up with inflation costs. I also want an end to the chaos and low morale which can be fixed by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that thousands of teachers face in Alaska. What if that was your family every year? It's unconscionable how teachers are treated in this state - please fix it.

Many Thanks,  
Suzanne Little  
Former State Senator

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Suzanne (Zann) Little  
3521 Admiralty Bay Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99515  
H: 907-245-2400  
C: 907-244-2417  
Email: [NorthCityGirls@gmail.com](mailto:NorthCityGirls@gmail.com)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jan Bronson <bronson@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:36 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support a increase to the BSA and forward funding for schools

Dear Finance Committee,

I am a former teacher. Please support a \$100 increase to the BSA and forward funding for our schools.

Thanks,  
Jan Bronson

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Maggie Jones <maggiej.alaska@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:31 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund Our Schools

Good evening,

I am a teacher and a parent in the Anchorage School District. I have children from 19 to 3. I am a strong advocate for funding schools and programs that work.

I teach in a Title 1 school. I have always told my students they are the luckiest kids in our district. The teachers that teach in my school are hard working, dedicated educators that wouldn't be at our school unless they truly wanted to be. Our school may not have scores to be proud of. We are trying. However, what we're really successful at is constantly looking at data, analyzing what's working and what is not, giving students everything they need to be successful in their education and in life.

I'm truly concerned for the future of our school. Last year 4 teachers were pink slipped. We were lucky enough to recall them after you passed a reasonable budget. But we still lost a teaching position for our ELL program. We haven't had a counselor in our Title 1 school in 4 years! Teachers are burnt out. We are being asked to do more with less. We recently learned that the district is cutting a teaching position in our school. Doing more with less.

Last year, I calculated that throughout my schedule I taught SEL lessons for 134 minutes a week. And those are only moments in time where I taught curriculum based SEL, mindfulness or the many other things teachers have seen work in their classrooms. This doesn't include the spontaneous moment when students are in their fight or flight mode and immediate problem solving needs to take place.

In the past, our school has been able to bring teachers back about 2 days earlier for intensive training in things like curriculum, SEL, classroom management, etc. This year we are being told there is no money for training. This will have a severe impact for our school. Training is key to what we do, without training teachers are left to figure things out on their own without explicit direction. This training is even more crucial when you consider how effective it can be to train new staff that join us.

I could spend hours talking about why it is crucial to budget early for education, however, I will respect your time and appreciate the heavy task before you. I would like to leave you with this thought: not one of the people I know that are critical of our education system, truly understands what it takes to educate a child. Everyone can have their opinion about why our schools don't deserve a BSA increase or early budgeting but, those of us working in education have the most valuable insight.

Thank you for your valuable time,

Margaret Jones  
Teacher at Fairview Elementary for ASD and parent

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Gary <alaskagary@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:28 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** fund education more

Please increase the base student allocation to meet inflation. Inflation has been decimating school budgets for years. The State Constitution mandates education for the public and that mandate has not been met with decreasing real dollars for education. While I have my preferences, I really don't care if you fix the state budget by levying reasonable taxes, cutting the dividend, or increasing natural resource royalties. You were elected to decide that. Please do, however, meet the Constitutional requirement to adequately fund our schools. I am concerned for my children's class size and for retention of their best teachers. Inflation proof the BSA, and please do it before your session ends.

Sincerely, Gary Snyder  
Anchorage, AK since 1972

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Michael Meek <msgmeek@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:28 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** we need \$100 increase to the base student allocation

Dear Finance Committee,

We need \$100 increase to the base student allocation, and we need it badly

thanks  
Mike Meek

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Amy Hayes <amyellenhayes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:24 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** school funding

I SUPPORT A \$100 INCREASE IN BSA.

APPROVE SCHOOL FUNDING EARLY TO AVOID PINK SLIPS TO TEACHERS.

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jahna Pollock <jahnapollock@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:09 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I am writing in support of a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation in order to better meet the needs of our public schools. I also support a mechanism to provide forward funding of public education so that our school districts can plan effectively. Thank you for your service. I believe that a strong public education system is critically important to the strength of our state.

Sincerely,

Jahna Pollock  
1102 E 27th Ave  
Anchorage, AK 99508

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Cheryl Williams <cherylann@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:08 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

\$100 increase is only fair - and necessary to give Alaska kids the chance to be competitive. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Mary Robidoux <maryrobidoux333@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:01 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

I support an increase to the basic student allocation. I hope you will too. Our children DO matter.

Thanks for your time.

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Charlene Arneson <carneson2004@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:46 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education financing

Honorable Senate Finance Committee. Written testimony.

Dear Committee,

I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs AND that we want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Charlene Arneson citizen of Whittier Alaska 99693

Sent from my iPhone

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jay Stange <jaystange@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:43 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** \$100 BSA Please

Dear Finance Committee Members,

The chaos created by delaying funding decisions for our schools frustrates parents, administrators, students and teachers like me.

Please add \$100 to the Base Student Allocation to hedge against inflation and get on with other business.

Thank you,

Jay Stange  
Teacher, Anchorage

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Anne Adasiak-Andrew <anne\_andrew@me.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:42 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support \$100 increase to the BSA

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of the \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation. We have witnessed 6 years of consistent budget cuts to education in Alaska. Last year was the worst, with hundreds of teachers pink-slipped because the legislature could not negotiate a budget until July. As a result, many qualified teachers left the State in search of greater employment stability. Inflation is out-pacing our schools. I urge you to approve the \$100 increase to bring Alaska districts back above water and to end the annual upheaval of pink-slips and lay-offs.

Thank you for keeping our students' best interests at heart, and thank you for your service to our State.

Sincerely,

Anne Adasiak-Andrew  
5251 E. 41st Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
907-337-6527

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Sally Dybdahl <hoonahsally@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:41 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** ActNowPlease

Please realize the time and stress you'd save all in education by increasing the BSA now by \$100. What could be more important than funding education of Alaska's children? Respectfully submitted, Sally Dybdahl, citizen, parent, grandparent, and public school supporter Hoonah, Alaska  
(907)209-9326

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alissa Berley <berleyam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:33 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund AK schools

Please support the proposed \$100 raise to the BSA. And even more importantly, please stop the yearly chaos that occurs in our schools because we never seem to know what the budget is for the previous year.

I have been teaching in the Anchorage School District for 10 years now and for at was the past 5, every spring there are endless meetings, people worried about their jobs, and so many hours spent rearranging schedules. This goes on for months as the legislature drags their feet at passing a budget.

Please forward fund education.

Thank you,  
Alissa Wardwell

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Karen Murphy <murf2bike@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:32 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education

I want to be on record that I support a substantial increase to the per student basis used throughout Alaska. Come on folks, it is time to support our kids. It is much more important than increasing dividends this year.

Karen Murphy  
Anchorage, AK 99507

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Rune <runeski@rocketmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:29 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FUND our schools now!

Hello finance committee,  
Lets get schools funded 100%, sooner rather than later. I'm willing to have a 'school tax' to help with this. Also please raise the child allowance \$100 per student to keep up with inflation. The kids are worth it.

~Rune Christopherson  
Stellar Construction LLC  
Anchorage

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alison Arians <alisonarians@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:27 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please increase the BSA by \$100.

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Please support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation to help our schools keep up with inflation costs. We want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Thank you,

Alison Arians  
Anchorage, AK  
(907) 748-3712

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Gary Hale <garyhale@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:17 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** allocation increase

I am very serious and support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs AND I want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face. Thank you,

Sharon Hale

Soldotna, AK

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Michelle Wilson <michelle@ak.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:13 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** End the Pink Slip Chaos

Greetings Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As a concerned Alaskan, I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help Alaska's schools keep up with rising inflation costs.

Also, let's save money and sanity. Please be ethical leaders by putting an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools EARLY instead of the unnecessarily annual round of "pink slips" that many teachers face.

Do the right thing.

Cordially ~

Michelle Wilson Nordhoff  
4800 Snow Circle  
Anchorage 99508

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Bobi Rinehart & Michael Erb <bobi.michael@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:13 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support for an increase is BSA

Hello,

I want you to know that I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs.

I also want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many of my daughter's teachers face.

My daughter has 32 children in her 6th grad class this year and I think that's about 12 too many. I'm happy to pay taxes if it means properly funding our k-12 schools and the University of Alaska.

Thank you.

Bob Rinehart  
16461 Saint James Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99516

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jami Norman <jami.d.norman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:08 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee

Let them know we are serious and support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs AND that we want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Callie Conerton <callieconerton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:07 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase BSA by AT LEAST \$100

Hi,

My name is Callie Conerton. I was raised in Juneau, Alaska and currently teach Elementary there. Please help us teacher better serve our students by raising the BSA by AT LEAST \$100. Our kids need it.

Thanks,

Callie Conerton  
District 33  
99801

Sent from my iPhone - please excuse the typos and brevity.

## **Doniece Gott**

---

**From:** Bev Short <elujq@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 11:34 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** School funding

I'm a parent of two children in the Anchorage School District. Please don't hobble my kids' education.

Please, please, please:

Fund schools early

Support the \$100 Increase to the base student allocation.

Thank you for your service to our state.

Beverly Short  
Anchorage

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Brian Holst <briangholst@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 11:06 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please increase BSA by \$100

Dear Finance Committee Members:

Three years of flat-funding schools through the BSA results in a serious cut to the quality of education we can provide for students. Our economic future depends on our ability to prepare our young people to be productive and innovative members of our economy.

Please increase the Base Student Allocation by \$100 this year.

Thank you,

Brian Holst

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alice Samuelson <[asamuelson@ak.net](mailto:asamuelson@ak.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:59 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs. Alaska needs to end the chaos(as in Trumps White house) , time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the annual round of teacher pink slips.

Sincerely,

Alice Samuelson

(907) 903 8072  
200 West 34th Ave. PMB 1214  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Alice Samuelson  
[asamuelson@ak.net](mailto:asamuelson@ak.net)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** anya maier <anyamaier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:29 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** funding education

I am writing as an Alaskan voter to express my support for increasing the Base Student Allocation by \$100 AT LEAST. In addition, we need to solidify school funding early -? somehow guarantee it for several years at a time - to put an end to the chaos and wasted time and energy resulting from uncertain funding. Our children and the teachers and school administrators with whom we are entrusting their formal education deserve stability and security. Please attend to this acute on chronic urgent matter appropriately!

Anya Maier, MD  
PO box 162  
Gustavus, Alaska 99826

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kari Gardey <kari@ak.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:04 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** please fund schools!

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to let you know that I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs. I am also in favor of ending the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Please support our schools!  
Thank you for your service.  
Kari Gardey  
Anchorage, AK

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Karen McBride <mcbride\_karen@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:01 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase BSA \$100 urged

Dear Committee Members,

Please support students' success and futures for us all. AND, can't we get beyond the crazy demoralizing, if not denigrating, cycle of pink slips & wasted time each year for every school district. Lets budget forward and give our education leaders the opportunity to use their time focused on the mission of delivering premium education instead of second guessing what our legislature will deliver monetarily.

Thank you for your work & please heed this call, Karen

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Hannah Gustafson <hannahinak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 9:33 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Base Student Allocation

Good morning,

I am writing today to encourage you to support Alaska's youth and the future of this great state. I am not oblivious to our fiscal reality and the budget challenges we are facing. But if there is one place where we need to refrain from further cuts, and even turn the tide and increase funding, it is with our children and our schools. The youth are the future. Investing in our youth is the wisest and most responsible use of today's funds. I beg you to keep the long game in mind as you consider the state's budget. Please don't short change our children and, in turn, the future of Alaska. Please, please, please consider an increase of \$100/student this year in the Base Student Allocation. I had the great fortune of growing up in this state, attending K-12 within the KPSB, and then college in Anchorage at UAA. I received a wonderful education here. I hope and pray that my young children can say the same when they get to adulthood.

Respectfully - a life-long Alaskan and mother of two - Hannah Gustafson

Hannah Gustafson  
PO Box 1245  
Homer, AK 99603  
907-317-2050

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Rebecca Bernard <rbernard.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 9:33 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public schools need a \$100 boost

Dear Hon. Co-Chairs Kelly and MacKinnon and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I had planned to testify today during the public comment period on the state operating budget, and since that has been cancelled I am emailing instead to urge you to include in the budget a \$100 increase in the Base Student Allocation for K-12 public schools.

It has been three years now since the BSA has seen an increase, but rising costs and inflation haven't stopped, so every year our schools go through the painful exercise of cutting staff and programs. At my children's K-8 school, our reading teacher and curriculum specialist will be cut to half-time if the legislature does not increase the BSA. A half-time reading teacher cannot provide adequate help to nearly 300 students across eight grades, so this cut would directly impact the ability of our school to ensure all students are strong, competent readers -- one of the basics of any education. And it is difficult to see what else could be cut instead without seriously affecting the quality of the school.

Our children are Alaska's future. Please support their education with a \$100 increase to the BSA.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Bernard  
1210 N St  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907-244-3988

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Pastorino <pastorino@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 9:31 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Funding the BSA

I am confident you all have a need, as I do, to be sure our children are supported to be the best people they can be. So, please support the Base Student Allocation (BSA) amount, or an increase, for public education. It is vital we keep class sizes reasonable if our students are to fully learn. We need our counselors and para educators and programs such as AVID for the same reason. We need to provide the opportunity for all students to learn, including those at-risk. I wonder why we go through this process every year, instead of funding the BSA to keep up with growing costs annually. Are we planning from one election year/ period to the next? If so, what is wrong with this picture? It has nothing to do with our children and the opportunities they have to reach their full potentials and become citizens who can address the very difficult issues we have in our communities and world. Please fully fund our schools for the long-term, for the benefit of all of us.

Thank you for doing this very important work. Barbara Pastorino, 4935 Wren Drive, Juneau - 907-351-1481

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Sara Stoops <akmamabear3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 9:26 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase the BSA

Hello,

I am writing to encourage you to increase the Base Student Allocation for Alaska schools! We need to inflation-proof school funding and stop the worry each year about whether programs will be cut.  
Increase the BSA by \$100 please!

Sincerely

Sara Stoops  
Retired teacher, Parent and concerned community member

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Simon Wigren <simonwigren@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:35 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase the BSA

Good morning,

I am a resident of Anchorage in the Sand Lake area. I wish to send a sincere plea to each of you to support an increase in the Base Student Allocation. Our schools absolutely cannot function with flat funding from the Legislature.

A personal example: Dimond High School is set to lose 10 FTE next year with flat funding. My wife is on the chopping block even after ten years of teaching at Dimond. She is so dedicated to the kids she teaches that it just kills me to think she would have to start all over somewhere else. She might be driven from the teaching profession entirely. Additionally, I know of at least three couples that were planning to finally settle down somewhere in Alaska. However, in each case one of them in the couple is losing their position next year and they have decided to move back to the Lower 48.

As for my wife and I, both of us were born and raised in Alaska and for the first time the thought has actually crept into our heads that there really isn't a future here for our family. Why would I want to send my daughter to schools where the class sizes are unbelievably large, teachers have no job security, and elected officials don't care about the quality of education? I mean, what hope has the legislature (YOU, yes YOU) given us? My company has offices in other states that seem to care about investing in themselves.

Please do the right thing for the future of this state.

-Simon Wigren

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jeanne Larsen <jeannehlarsen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:35 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please support increasing BSA!

Hello,

I am a longtime Anchorage resident, commercial fisherman, taxpayer, Independent super voter and parent. I urge you to support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation to help our schools keep up with inflation costs.

Fund schools early! That in itself will save us all \$ and wasted energy by avoiding the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face, and the extra work for school administrators to cope with last minute changes in funding.

Thank you for doing the right thing on behalf of all Alaskans who are working for a sane and educated future.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Larsen  
3628 Knik Ave  
Anchorage, AK 99517

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Ohana Family <ohanafamily.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:33 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support for an increase in base student allocation for Alaska Schools

Hello,

My name is Samuel Ohana and I am very serious in my support of a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs AND that we need to end the chaos, time waste, and low morale that happens when the senseless annual round of pink slips gets sent out - which could be avoided by funding schools early. Our kids need teachers, and our teachers need support.

Sincerely,

Samuel Ohana, parent of 4 Alaskan kids.

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Toni <toni.direct@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:29 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Bring sanity to the school budgeting process. Please.

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

It is critical that Alaskan schools not far further behind. Please move forward on:

-The \$100 increase to the base student allocation to simply about adjust for inflation -pass legislation to allow forward, long-term budgeting for schools to avoid the duplication of the process and unnecessary heart for good teachers that get pink slipped each year.

Please work to accomplish these things in the regular session. We are hurting out here and need politicians that will work together for the sole purpose of having our state economy and services run smoothly and efficiently.

Sincerely,  
Antonia Sparrow  
Sent from my iPad

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Judy <crondahl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:45 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Base Student Allocation (BSA)

I am writing in support of increasing the Base Student Allocation by \$100. I am also in support of early appropriation of school funding so school districts have assurance of stable funding. They must be able to plan on maintaining staff and operate without the chaos of "pink slips." Education is the most basic and important responsibility of the State of Alaska and should be the first task addressed by each legislative session.

Thank you.

Judy Crondahl  
Juneau

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Ellen Story <story.ellen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:33 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA \$100 increase

Hello,

I am a special education teacher for the Juneau School District and I urge you to support the \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs.

Thank you,  
Ellen Story

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Laurie Butler <lauriebuddyb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:19 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fwd: So scratch that... Senate Finance Hearing canceled--BUT!

To: Senate Finance Committee

From: Laurie Butler, 4011 Red Talon Drive, Anchorage, AK 99507

It is my understanding that you're on the fence on whether or not to increase the Base Student Allocation of \$100 to cover inflation costs. I believe it is unsustainable to not implement the increase for the sake of the education system's needs to operate effectively.

Please consider this increase as a means to "keep going" and also to "keep improving".

Warm regards,

Laurie Butler

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Dawn Morse <dawn.morse@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:14 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund Alaska schools early

Hello,

I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs.

Find out schools early so we avoid the chaos, time waste, and low morale brought on by the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Thank you.

Dawn Morse

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Mary Bentz <mbentzrn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 6:46 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

We have a son and daughter law that are teachers in The Juneau district. We want you to know we support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs AND that we want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Mary Bentz

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Patrick Murphy <murf4bikes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 6:33 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** funding our schools

Every politician who runs for office has the slogan "I support education". As a politician you support education by properly funding our schools. This is your job, to find the dollars so that schools can have the resources needed to support and educate our children. Our schools have seen either flat funding or a decrease in funding for over a decade now, and the impact on our school is severe. Our schools have been cut so much that the only place left for further cuts is taking away teachers, and making classes bigger.

Please future fund our schools as is your mandate, and your promise before election day. I fully support an increase of AT LEAST \$100 to the BSA. Given the state of the cuts to schools I feel it should be even higher.

Thank you,

Bernard Patrick Murphy  
Anchorage Alaska  
Super Voter

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Linda Shore <[sharasmom@gmail.com](mailto:sharasmom@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 6:12 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

Good morning, folks,

Let's have at LEAST a \$100 increase in the BSA for our schools.

Yes, I'm willing to pay taxes to help with that.

Linda Shore  
Anchorage  
[sharasmom@gmail.com](mailto:sharasmom@gmail.com)

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There's nothing so good for the inside of a man as the outside of a horse....Lord Palmerston

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** victory lavalle <victory.lavalle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 5:18 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Funding our schools

Dear legislators,

I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs. Please create long term policies that put an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face. It's a cruel game that you play with Alaska's future. It also tarnishes our state when recruiting quality educators.

Victory Cheney

4205 North Star

Anchorage ak 99503

Have a great day

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Ray Cammisa <raybird68@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 11:12 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** School funding

I support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA") to help our schools keep up with inflation costs AND that I want an end to the chaos, time waste, and low morale that could be avoided by funding schools early instead of the senseless annual round of pink slips that many teachers face.

Raymond Cammisa  
17615 Lacey Dr  
Eagle River Ak 99577

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Nico Romeijn-Stout <nrs321@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 11:10 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** School funding

Hello,

I am a community leader, a tax payer, and a voter. I am sick of the Alaska legislature's continual failure to create a sustainable budget plan that full funds basic necessities - like education - and creates diversified revenue streams that put Alaska on a stable long term plan.

Today I am writing to urge you to fund Alaska public education immediately and to make it a priority to fund education first every year to give districts and teachers certainty as they plan. Additionally, I strongly support INCREASING the Base Student Allocation. Education funding remaining "flat" over the past few years really means that it had dramatically decreased as costs have continued to rise.

Fix this.

Sincerely,  
Nico Romeijn-Stout

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kathie Yoder <kathie.yoder@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:52 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education BSA

We support an increase of \$100 to the Base Student Allowance. It's for our kids and Alaska's future. Don't sell us out.

Kathie Yoder  
Bob Redlinger

Parents and Grandparents of Alaska students and teachers

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** David and Patty Hamre <hamfam@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 2:00 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Action instead of nothing

Dear finance committee,

I see you are taking the rest of the week off. I'm hoping that you can figure out a way to avoid the chaos of the last few years with respect to school funding. I am totally happy to pay taxes if that results in an increase to the Base funding levels. Even if you decide not to do that, the least you can do is pass the education budget early enough to avoid the considerable chaos and angst you have inflicted on all the school systems state wide in the past few years by not passing a budget on time. Not sure how it works in your world but in mine if I don't have my budgets done on time I get fired!

David Hamre  
19460 Village Scenic Parkway  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
907-223-9590

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Stefanie Wolter <sr.wolter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:01 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education

I wanted to let you know that I support increasing the BSA to an amount so that it keeps up with inflation.

Stefanie Wolter  
3334 Meander Way  
907-523-1022

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** cgreco <cgreco@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:16 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** student allowance

It is critical that we finance our student's education allowances. I cannot believe that it has to be discussed.  
Connie Greco 10250 Jamestown Drive # 15  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
907-522-8170  
Cell 907 830-5859  
cgreco@gci.net

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** jjyaga@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:11 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education Funding

As a resident of Alaska, Special Education Paraeducator and Union Member of Juneau Education Support Staff in the Juneau School district I am asking you to support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation. Our schools need this to keep up with inflation costs and to give our students the support they deserve and need. Last night the Juneau School Board voted to adopt a budget that cuts nearly \$ 800,000 from the Special Education budget. As of now there are 11 Special Education Paraeducator positions in jeopardy, including possible pink slips. Special Education Paras are hired based on meeting the legal needs of students with Individual Education Plans (IEP's) and this will be detrimental as it stands. Without the SBA increase it is inevitable that the Juneau School Board, and likely other school boards throughout the state will be forced to make further cuts.

Furthermore, I implore you to fund our schools **EARLY** in the future starting with next year. The anxiety, low morale and chaos that has become pervasive in our schools each spring could easily be avoided.

Thank you for your diligent work and support for our schools, our students and all of our Staff whom help our community thrive.

Thank you for your time,

Jennifer Johnson  
Special Education Paraeducator and  
Union Activist with JESS, Local 6096

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alex Price <alexpicedr@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:30 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** funding

Members of the Alaska Finance committee,

As an elementary teacher in the Anchorage School District I get to see the challenges and good things that kids in public schools have going for them. As a parent I want my children to get a fair chance at getting a quality education.

Please make the difficult choices that are morally needed to give children an education as good as their parents have gotten or better. Please support an Base Student Allocation increase that keeps up with inflation. Please fund schools early so hundreds of teachers do not have to suffer the partisan budget fights of the legislature and efficient decisions can be made on time.

Kids need good teachers and they need you too. Be good leaders to our future leaders.

Alex Price  
Anchorage 99507

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Eileen Foley <eaafoley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 8:12 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund Education

Please support the future of Alaska by raising the BSA.

Thank you,  
Eileen Foley

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kim Erickson <kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 8:28 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please increase BSA by \$100

I am writing to express my support for an increase in the Base Student Allocation by at least \$100. I also STRONGLY advocate for early funding of schools to avoid the senseless annual round of pink slips that have to be issued every year as school districts await the legislatures decisions on the budget.

Please make sure our schools are funded and can keep up with inflation.

Thank you,

**Kim Erickson**  
PO Box 826  
Willow, AK 99688  
Cell: 907-223-8385  
[kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com](mailto:kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kimberly H <kimberlyhomme@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 1:05 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** please act now on the \$100 increase to the BSA!

Dear Respected Members of the Legislature,

I have worked as an educator in schools in Anchorage, the Kenai Pen, and in Juneau for over 20 years. We have experienced so many cuts in the past few years--we cannot bare more. The basic fabric of our school system is no longer frayed, it is torn and feels like it is further disintegrating with the cumulative effect of cuts over time. I am certain that the \$100 increase would barely be maintaining status quo. We want to do better in our jobs of educating students, but it seems we spend much of our time trying to figure out how to do more with less. It is crippling to our students' as they try to acquire the skills they need to be successful in life.

How do we invest in our children's future with a sustainable plan for education? I think the early passing of the education funding plan would help. Please commit to maintaining our basic program by funding the budget adequately. We don't want to continue to see laid off teachers leave our district -- we just hired them last year! We can't offer them a contract because our basic program is being cut again. Please act now on adding \$100 to the BSA and passing the budget now.

Thank you for your time and service to Alaska.

Regards, Kimberly Homme

(property owner in Anch., Kenai Pen, and residing in Juneau)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jennifer Wagner <jwagner@seaverwagner.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2018 10:44 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

Dear Finance Committee:

I write to support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation ("BSA"), and to advocate for a decision on school funding as soon as possible so that school may plan for the next year. There is a significant amount of money spent needlessly by schools simply because future funding is not known until the last minute. I would support a larger increase to the BSA, but I understand that \$100 represents a reasonable compromise. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wagner  
4110 Tazlina Avenue  
Anchorage AK 99517  
(home address)

Seaver & Wagner, LLC  
500 L Street, Suite 501  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
telephone (907) 646-9033  
fax (907) 258-7280

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## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Darren Snyder <darrengsnyder@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2018 2:35 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** School funding

Greetings Honorable Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to support a \$100 increase in the BSA and forward funding it so that teachers/districts don't have to waste time/resources/sanity by having to issue pink slips until funding gets hashed out each year.

Thank you for your dedicated service,

Darren Snyder

527 5th st.

Douglas, Alaska, 99824

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** hancock@alaska.net  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2018 9:56 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Cancelation of this week's Finance Committee Hearing

As a supporter of the Great Alaska Schools, I'm letting you know that I support the \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA).

WE MUST FUND OUR SCHOOLS EARLY to avoid pink slipping teachers, only to get a budget figured out in the final hours of summer.

Eva Hancock, PT

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Odile Meister <omeister@wpsd.us>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 31, 2018 4:44 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please add \$100 to the BSA

As costs continue to rise each year, our schools in Wrangell, Alaska are struggling to maintain their current level of services. Increasing the BSA by just \$100 per student would make a tremendous difference in our schools. Please support education and our children.

Thanks you,

Odile Meister

907-305-0479  
[omeister@wpsd.us](mailto:omeister@wpsd.us)  
Spanish Teacher, Wrangell High School  
Transition Math, Stikine Middle School

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Audrey <[audreyfuss@yahoo.com](mailto:audreyfuss@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 03, 2018 5:15 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase school funding

I am writing you in support of increasing school funding by \$100/student. Over the past several years the district has had to make several cuts to education, putting the education and success of students at risk. I urge you to please increase funding so that the future of Alaska and the US can have the best possible education.

Thank you,

Audrey Rasmussen

Sent from my iPad

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jon Kurland <jonkurland1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 02, 2018 10:32 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support School Funding!

Dear Finance Committee Members:

Please support a \$100 per student increase to the Base Student Allocation to help keep class sizes from increasing. Crowded classrooms hinder learning at all levels from K-12, so please make this investment to offset the effects of inflation on Alaska public schools.

Also, please support a comprehensive fiscal plan THIS YEAR. Alaska needs new revenue and most Alaskans are willing to pay taxes to protect essential state government services like public education, transportation improvements, fish & game, and public safety. Hoping and waiting for the price of oil to go through the roof is not a strategy that will protect Alaskans and the Permanent Fund. We need a solution THIS YEAR.

Thank you.

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Chelsea Gulling <chelsea.gulling@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 04, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. Mia Costello  
**Subject:** Base Student Allowance & Trooper Funding

Hi--

I work in Bethel in the field of Child Advocacy Centers. We already have limited capacity of Troopers. I was astonished to hear that their funding will likely be cut. Please don't so that.

This fall I had a family get stuck in Bethel for a week because their were no trooper pilots available. They missed Thanksgiving! We heard recently that a new pilot might be coming to Bethel but now that funding is questionable.

In addition, please know that I do not support ANY cuts to the base student allocation.

Thanks:)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Scott Hayden <scotthayd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 11:12 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education BSA

School funding has been flat for each of the past three years.  
This effectively means a 3% annual cut when you factor in inflation.

Our teachers do a great job, but they need resources! Schools cannot function properly when they don't have funding.  
Please stop the funding cuts to education and increase the BSA by \$100 this year.

Our schools need that money, and we as a state need to invest in our future.

Sincerely,

Scott Hayden  
12304 Hilltop Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99515

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Blue Shibler <blueshibler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 10:36 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public School Funding

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

As the parent of two children in Juneau, I am writing to ask that you please consider making changes to HB 286 to increase funding for the BSA. As a state we need to stop short changing our children by flat funding their education year after year.

Thank you

--

Blue Shibler, Administrator  
Discovery Preschool  
907-463-3030  
907-723-9970 (cell)

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jami Norman <jami.d.norman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 11:21 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Anchorage Schools

Please assign \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation to stave off even more cuts (the BSA is the formula that lays out the foundation for the state's education budget). If the legislature continues to flat-fund education this year, school districts around the state will have to continue to make cuts.

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jennifer <metaljen88@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 9:09 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Base Student Allocation

Asking for \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation.

Thank you,  
Jennifer Anderson

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Laura Volmert <lauravolmert@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 9:42 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase the BSA

My daughter is a Freshman at Lathrop High School in Fairbanks. She's an amazing kid--straight A student, involved with Student Council, drama, and taking a slate of challenging classes. She just learned that the AP Euro class (a two credit class) she had been excited to take next year has been cancelled due to lack of funding. She will have to take a less rigorous set of classes next year. It breaks my heart that my daughter, a lifelong Alaskan who has such promise, cannot get the top notch education she deserves because our legislature cannot prioritize funding for education.

As a parent, I implore you to pass a \$100 increase to the BSA so that all students, including my daughter, can get the education they deserve. There is literally nothing more important to the future of Alaska than making sure our kids are safe, well-educated, and have the opportunities to thrive. I understand that Alaska is in a budget crisis and that hard choices have to be made, but please do not sell out the future of our children. I would support an income tax to increase revenue to the state in order to make sure that our children's futures are not being compromised. Please prioritize our kids as you finalize the budget.

Respectfully,  
Laura Volmert  
519 Bonnifield St  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Penny Cordes <pmcordes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:23 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** BSA

Please increase the Base School Allocation by \$100 to help Alaska schools keep up with the cost of inflation and to increase the stability of school funding. The annual cliff hanger of school budgets and pink slips to valued teachers is no way to operate such a critical function of government. Legislators always campaign with platitudes about the importance of "educating our children". Prove it.

Respectfully,  
Penny Cordes  
Anchorage, AK

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Michael Bronson <bronsonconsulting@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:29 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Raise the BSA \$100

Sent from my iPhone

## **Doniece Gott**

---

**From:** Stella Tallmon <stellatallmon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 12:40 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please increase the Base Student Allocation

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Stella Tallmon and I am a sophomore at Juneau-Douglas High School and I'm in support of increasing the Base Student Allocation. I realize that your jobs are difficult and that our state is very tight on money, but I urge you to invest in education. Due to inflation, our school districts are being forced to cut millions of dollars, and programs that aid kids of lower socioeconomic levels will be the first to go. Flat funding is simply not enough; we need a properly funded quality public education. Investing in education is the best thing you can do to create a stable platform for Alaska's future leaders to succeed.

Thank you,  
Stella Tallmon

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Sharon Davies <sod@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 4:02 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education funding

Education is possibly the most vital to our future. It affects all of us, now and into the future. That "all" means ALL, including those like me who have no children. Definitely it should be a state spending priority.

As I listened to a radio news report re the plans to improve the 911 system I was a bit bemused. Why are people in the bush even encouraged to rely on it when there may be no one able to respond even if the call gets through? Then I read a letter from the group working for better school funding, and thought, "better use of funds".

Please do increase the education funding to keep up with inflation.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon Davies

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Ginny Kinne <gin.kinne@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:35 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** PLEASE FUND K-12 EDUCATION!

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Ginny Kinne and I have a 5-year-old son Henry, who will be entering the FNSBSD in the fall. Obviously, I want what's best for him and his classmates. With decreased funding comes increased class sizes. Cutting teachers is not the answer. Cutting programs is not the answer. Cutting services for these students is not the answer. These are our children... our future.

I'm not sure I know a parent who doesn't want better for their children than what they had themselves. I'm not seeing this happen with the current budget climate. I want to feel confident that I am giving Henry, every opportunity to explore and grow as a student and as an educated person. Sitting in a class of 30+ students leaves NO time for individual attention for ANY student. The students who are deficient, fall further behind, and the high achievers become disenfranchised and uninterested because they're not challenged.

This is a problem that will only get worse as time goes on. These budgetary shortfalls can have long-term effects that will end up being MORE expensive in the end when these students want to attend UAF and are under-prepared. If the state is serious about the 65% by 2025, why need to start YOUNG. Invest early, and follow through. Limiting funding for education is essentially starving the brains of our children, hindering their future opportunities and making it harder for them to be competitive in the working world.

I hope you will take my thoughts into consideration and make every effort to increase the funding for school district budget. These children are the future of our state. They will be the ones to lead the state long after we're gone. Setting them up for failure now, is not only doing a major disservice to the students, but ultimately to ourselves and our state.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ginny Kinne  
P.O. Box 750608  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775  
(907) 347-4225

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Judy Andree <jagster42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:14 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Justin Parish; Sen. Dennis Egan  
**Subject:** Support for HB 286

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

We are 51-year residents of Alaska who have raised our five children in the Juneau Public Schools and now have three grand-children in various Alaska school systems. We have watched the school finance allotment remain stagnant for too many years, the pink-slip arrivals as required by law to let teachers know they may not be retained, the growing number of students per class, and other characteristics that show that our public education system is being weakened by the refusal to adequately fund the system. Funding public schools is one of the most important uses of public moneys. Our state cannot adapt to changes brought by climate change or falling oil output without a well-educated population. Please pass HB 286 and support our young people! Thank you.

--

Bob & Judy Andree  
5985 Lund Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
907-780-6767 (home)  
907-321-1559 (cell)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Emily Kane <dremilykane@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 02, 2018 10:49 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education funding

Dear Legislators

Do you remember being in school? How would you like having 39 classmates vying for your teachers' attention? Outdated textbooks and computers? 15 minute lunch breaks because of the crammed schedule? Do you not want Alaskan youth to grow up to be ready to compete, and excel, in the national and global marketplace? This takes investments. What could possibly compete more compellingly than our children's education for robust investment? What kind of society are we if we don't invest in our future leaders?

Please, please keep Alaskan schools healthy. Teachers are heroes who commit their lives to staying current with the rapidly changing, seemingly endless amount of new information. Let's reward teachers and maintain our educational infrastructure. The investment will pay off many times over.

Sincerely

Dr. Emily A. Kane

Juneau AK

[www.DrEmilyKane.com](http://www.DrEmilyKane.com)

[www.naturopathic.org](http://www.naturopathic.org)

[www.primarydoctor.org](http://www.primarydoctor.org)

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Cultivating Exuberance

## **Doniece Gott**

---

**From:** Patricia Abney <paabney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 01, 2018 1:40 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Increase the Base Student allocation by \$100

You know the needs, do the right thing education is critical to our future.

Respectfully  
Pat Abney

Sent from my iPad

## Doniece Gott

---

**From:** Ilona Leider <imbarber@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 12:46 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund the kiddos

Use my dividend... Help fund my children's education so they receive the education I had growing up in anchorage.

Ilona Leider - super voter  
99501

*Sent from my LG G6, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone*

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** John Meyn <jcmeyn47@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 11:46 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Inflation increase of \$100 in the BSA

We need to avoid unnecessary pink slips to teachers we need to get our education system in line and out of chaos  
please make this a priority and at least give them the inflation increase to keep afloat. sincerely, john meyn

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** McDonald\_Jennifer <McDonald\_Jennifer@asdk12.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 6:32 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** fund schools early

As an educator, I have experienced personally as well as witnessed the effects of the delayed timing of funding schools. I was pink slipped the first 3 years of my career. I was a young mother at the time. Although pink slipped teachers are often placed at other schools, they have to compete for choice spots, and find the time to interview. This comes at a time when teachers are already putting in excessive hours beyond their paid contract.

One year I was placed on the Air force Base after a pink slip—I lived in Bird Creek at the time and had a two year old, who now had to spend more time in the care of others, so I could had an extra 30 mins to my commute.

It seems like such a simple thing for our representatives to agree to. Seems insensitive for it to be ignored for so long—arrogant really. Please see to it that schools are adequately funded and prevent the unnecessary, and insensitive stress that is created every year by passing budgets in the 9th hour. This is my 15th year of teaching to put into prospective how resistant our reps have been to end this. Be the good guys. You were voted in for a reason—please be sensible and put into action a change that reflects that you want to make a difference in a positive way!

For the People,

Jenny

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Sharon Davies <sod@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Be practical

Fund schools early so that they all know ahead what the funding will be.  
Stop the yearly round of pink slips.

Actually, I thought the legislature had changed their practices to fix this problem some years back and was dismayed to hear from a school support organization that it is still going on.  
I was more than dismayed - perhaps appalled or disgusted would be more appropriate.

Sharon Davies  
1510 P Street, Anchorage

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Gary Miller <gmiller.juneauak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 4:28 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Base Student Allocation

I hope the committee makes education its number one priority with funding the budget. Our kids are our greatest resource and the future Alaska.

Thank you.

Gary Miller  
20135 Cohen Dr  
Juneau, AK 99801-8211  
(907) 789-3757

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jim Bailey <jimbailey@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:27 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public schools

I am currently a senior citizen and am the executive director of the older persons action group in anchorage. I am a retired educator who had 39 years as a teacher and administrator . I support adequate funding for education. I strongly support Forward for education. Not having it jeopardizes one of the main elements of a strong education program and that is the teachers. Great schools are not made by buildings but by the people who work there. So lets work on what it takes.

Together across party lines for our kids.

Jim Bailey

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** jacquelyn sparrow <sparrowjd@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 8:18 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund schools early!

Teacher morale is in great need of a boost. This continuing pink slip fiasco should not continue. Raise morale, fund early! Jacquelyn Sparrow

Sent from my iPad

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Elisabeth Kachline <eakachline1@me.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:13 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Representative Les Gara  
**Subject:** Appropriate funding of Education

I have been an elementary classroom teacher for 25+ years. 23 of those years have been at the same Title I school in Anchorage. My first 3 years I faced pink slips. Pink slips give uncertainty to the lives of those involved - both teachers and family members. I remember the summers of uncertainty as to whether I would be picked up, where, what grade level, etc.

Now I am nearing the end of my career. It has been a wonderful time and experience. I remember the years of returning to a new school year and the classroom lunch card was filled with pencils, erasers, markers, paper, folders, crayons, etc. Now, for many years, the lunch carts are empty and teachers are expected to either supply their own classroom materials or rely on parents being able to provide/afford folders, paper, crayons, pencils, etc. Title I school teachers are lucky if the students have sneakers and a backpack. I have found it easier to hit the sales at Fred Meyer, etc., and load up on what I will need for the entire school year. I hope that parents will supply their child's backpack, sneakers, and a few boxes of tissues. And no not all parents provide.

So I offer you this "pondering." Who provides the supplies for your job? Do you buy supplies out of your own pocket or are you reimbursed for any expenses? Who pays for your daily meals, transportation, etc.? Do you or are you reimbursed? What about the per diem you collect when you have not completed your job within the prescribed time period?

Teachers are paid for a 7.5 hour day. I generally spend 9-10 hours a day Monday through Friday working in the classroom and additional time at home in the evening and on weekends. Teachers cannot get everything done in a 7.5 hour day. There are papers to grade, planning to do, meetings to attend, conferences and phone calls with parents, trainings, continuing education credits, etc., etc., etc. We are not paid overtime; we are not paid per diem. Winter and Spring breaks are spent planning, developing new materials, and catching up on things still undone. Summers are spent planning and developing, taking courses, and getting ready for the next school year. Sometimes the planning is also for a new grade level.

I don't regret anything I have experienced over the past 25+ years. I now have the children of former students and absolutely love it. Further, I quickly apologized for my response to the sales clerk who one day asked me how I like "being paid for winter and spring breaks and summer vacation." I am paid for approximately 180 days. As you can see from the above, there is no overtime pay, no per diem, no travel expenses, no reimbursement for classroom materials, as well as the numerous gloves, mittens, socks, etc., that I purchase just to keep my kindergarten students adequately dressed for winter weather and school in general.

Today's students are those who will be taking charge of the world one day. Education MUST be adequately funded throughout the State of Alaska. Society cannot afford otherwise. Teachers give their hearts and souls to their students. The time for adequate funding is NOW!

Respectfully,

Elisabeth A. Kachline

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** heinle\_kathleen <heinle\_kathleen@asdk12.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:19 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** so very tired

Enough is enough.

I can't keep track of the professionals I know who are leaving the teaching profession. Why in the world would anyone go into education these days? Teachers are disrespected and undervalued at every level. We work tirelessly dealing with increased student apathy, decreased family involvement--not to mention daily interrupters such as social media and phones.

The curriculum for middle school ELA students has not been updated in too many years to keep track. Educators are frustrated. We are not appreciated. The fact that I have my own child in the ASD is embarrassing. If I could pick up and leave, I would. Unfortunately, my husband's job keeps us in the state. I am so tired of hearing comments from our legislators about needing to see an improvement in student test scores. HOW IN THE WORLD do they expect test scores to go up when teachers have 30 + more students than we've ever had before? We also have fewer materials and far more expectations than ever!

Increase the base student allocation. If you do not, more and more teachers will leave the profession. Value our children. Education can change the world--sadly, too many do not understand its importance.

Kathleen Heinle

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** ciegtu8493@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:44 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** School finding timeline

Dear Senator Meyer, and Honorable Senate Colleagues,

My name is Mary Claire Kretzschmar and I live in Anchorage [Sen. Meyer's District]. I am a former Trailside PTA President and sat on the elementary PTA Board for three years.

While I know an increase in funding may not be fiscally prudent or possible this year, I implore you to pass a timely funding for our Alaska schools. Here in Anchorage, all we here about from April til August is whining and hand-wringing from the teachers and school administrators about the pink slips, lack of stability, poor teacher retainment, etc.

Please, won't you pass the school funding in a timely fashion to avoid the angst we have to deal with every year? I can tell you this is a bipartisan desire, wanted on both sides of the aisle, so to speak. Your Conservative constituents see the whole school funding process as inefficient when so much time and energy is spent managing the pink slip and rehiring process... and you know there is a cost associated with those inefficiencies that the taxpayers are funding through the school budgets, right? Is holding up on the school funding that much of a political advantage to keep doing it the same way, year after year? In my humble opinion, passing the school budget in a timely fashion would be a HUGE consideration and would be viewed very favorably, even without any additional funding to the budget.

Please consider passing the school budget funding in a timely fashion to avoid the whole pink slip/rehire merry-go-round. At a minimum, do something different this year to show that you are listening to your constituents.

Yours in literacy,  
Mary Claire Kretzschmar  
#1in5

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Michael Bronson <bronsonconsulting@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:34 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Forego the pink slips. Find schools early enough.

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Lili Misel <lmisel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 8:09 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation for K-12

Dear Finance Committee,

I cannot attend the public testimony tomorrow because I am working, but I want to encourage you all to support at least a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation for K-12 students.

Alaskan children are the future of our state. My kids are in middle and elementary school. The funding decisions you're making today will impact how they learn next year and in years to come. Currently at my son's elementary school they are planning to cut 2 teaching positions which will result in classrooms of 30 students. Thirty students. Imagine a teacher trying to make sure their elementary class are all learning at the same rate and all learning what they need for their grade level.

Please provide at least a \$100 increase to the Base Student Allocation for K-12 students.

Please support Alaska's future in this investment in our children.

Thank you,

Lillian Anderson-Misel  
2266 Waterford Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Emily Kane <[dremilykane@gmail.com](mailto:dremilykane@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 9:46 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HB 286 Please increase student base funding by \$100. There is no better investment!

Public education is the foundation of democracy and the core principles of why Alaska (and America) are truly great. Without highly valuing, and paying for, public education, Alaska will continue to fall behind in parameters of health, wealth and citizen autonomy to best develop themselves into outstanding community members.

Please, you've heard it over and over, be as generous as possible funding public education. It's a matter of national security. It's a matter of personal dignity. It just makes sense at every level.

Thank you

Dr. Emily A. Kane

Juneau AK

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[www.DrEmilyKane.com](http://www.DrEmilyKane.com)

[www.primarydoctor.org](http://www.primarydoctor.org)

[www.naturopathic.org](http://www.naturopathic.org)

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** J. Pollard <jmpart1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 8:05 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support Early Education Funding

**To Finance Committee -**

**Please restore the funding for the early childhood resources within the FY19 state operating budget back to the support level proposed by the Governor and House Finance Committee. These resources are important and give young children in Alaska the opportunity to succeed in school and life.**

**Thank you,  
Jenni Pollard, Anchorage**

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Isabel Felstead <izziefelstead@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 8:15 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Programs

Good evening,

My husband and I live in Juneau and we are full time working parents to a wonderful 2+ year old girl that was born here. We are the parents we are and she is the bright, outgoing and curious child she is due to the access we have had to many elements of the Early Childhood Programs available.

In my humble and honest opinion it is essential to the sustainable future of this town and state that funding continue for all early childhood programs.

We were fortunate enough to get enrolled with the Parents as Teachers program and it is invaluable. As I struggled with what I can now recognise as mild post natal depression, Melinda, my mentor helped me focus on positive parenting and my child's development and the program gave me access to the Circle of Security program which has literally been our saviour in navigating life as first time parents and ensuring we have the tools to adapt as a married couple with a small child.

Both my husband and I are educated professionals that work for the City & Borough of Juneau and in the private sector. We had no option financially but to go back to work full time. This was only possible due to my organisation in getting on a wait list at 10 weeks pregnant. I did this before I had even told my family. My daughter finally got her place at Discovery Preschool when she was 5 months old!!

In my mind there is no argument to withdraw funding. All the research and countless testimonials will tell you that early years education (under 5yrs), access to parental support networks and good quality childcare is essential to prevent many of the problems facing this town and state. For funding to be up for debate and question is madness to me. Please do the right thing for the next generation of Alaskan residents and secure funding for the existing and future early years education programs.

Thanks, I appreciate your time and hard work to make this happen.

Izzie Felstead  
Cell: 907-723-4415

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kristen Dutson <kristenjdutson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 6:50 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early childhood funding

Hello, my name is Kristen Dutson.  
I am a teacher at Discovery Preschool in Juneau.

Thank you for your support of early childhood funding in past budgets. I am writing this email to ask you to please continue to support funding for services for young children like Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings, Head Start, and pre/k.

Alaska can not afford to neglect children's early education. When children don't receive a quality education early in life, they won't have the necessary skills for kindergarten and may require special education services.

A number of studies show that when children do not receive quality education there is a higher chance they will become involved in crime and substance abuse.

I teach 2 and 3 year olds and I see the difference in preschoolers and kindergarteners who have not received quality or any early education.

Please maintain all funding for early childhood from the Governor and House budgets.

Thank you!

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Bob and Linda Trousil <trousil@bigsky.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 5:53 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Funding

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to urge you to very carefully consider how early childhood programs are funded as part of the upcoming budget. A keynote speaker once said something I've long remembered: "Would you rather spend money now for early childhood programs, or spend more later for incarceration expenses?" Certainly this is a dramatic statement, however, I encourage you to consider the importance of how childhood experiences, are in research repeatedly shown to affect outcomes in arenas of education, social/emotional health, and future employment.

Thank you for your hard work to solve challenging issues.

Linda Trousil

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jenni Lefing <jleeling@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 4:20 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please Support Funding for Early Learning this Session

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

Thank you for supporting early childhood education in the past. I urge you to continue to support funding for early childhood programs, including Parents as Teachers (PAT), Best Beginnings, Head Start, and pre-k programs.

As a parent to a three-year old boy in Juneau, my family and I benefited from being part of the Parents as Teachers (PAT) program during our first year of being parents in Juneau. As a new mom, I felt lost and unprepared for my role as a new parent. Having a trained Parents as Teachers staff member come to my house during that first year to ask development questions, and provide ideas on engaging my son gave me confidence that I needed. Also, PAT community events enabled me to meet other new parents, and in turn I was able to strengthen my circle of support for our family.

Research has clearly shown that investing in early childhood efforts has great benefits for children, families and communities.

I strongly urge you to continue to support funding for early childhood programs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jenni Lefing  
434 7th St.  
Juneau, AK 99801  
cell: 907-957-3587

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Shayna Rohwer <shaynarahwer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 3:36 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Please fund early education

Dear Alaska Finance Committee--

I'm a mother, educator and soon will be a nurse. In all areas of my life I've seen first hand what a difference early education and investment in children makes towards their future. When my kids were small we were part of Parents as Teachers--even with training and education in early childhood, my PAT home visitor helped me recognize delays in my youngest child. These programs are particularly valuable for the support that they provide to our most vulnerable Alaskans. Through these programs parents receive invaluable support that helps build strong and resilient children--our most valuable resource.

I encourage you to support funding for Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings and PreK!

Thank you for the work you do,

Shayna Rohwer

Juneau, AK

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Robin <robina@kpunet.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 9:33 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** support for early childhood programs

I would like to take a minute to thank you for your support of early childhood funding in the budget in the past. Each program that has had funding support has in turn had a profound impact on the children and families who benefit from these programs.

As you work to develop the new budget I urge you to please continue to support funding for services for young children, such as Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings, Head Start, and pre-k.

Our state can NOT afford to neglect children's early education. The price to pay later on is too high. When children don't receive a strong start, and they enter kindergarten unprepared we all pay later in higher special education costs, higher crime and substance abuse and lost earning potential.

Thank you for your continued support of our young children.

Robin Anderson  
Ketchikan Ak

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Sarah Dennison <ceruhk8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 8:18 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early Childhood financing

I cannot tell you how much of a difference Parents As Teachers has made for us as a family. We are so fortunate to have a program like this in the community. Please continue to fund early childhood programs. I have been in a handful of kindergarten classrooms and there is a noticeable difference in children who experienced pre-k and other educational support prior to entering the kindergarten classroom. You will never regret investing in Alaska families.

Sarah Dennison

Juneau, AK

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Emily Coate Thompson <ecoate@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:30 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support Early Childhood

Dear Senate Finance Committee-

Thank you for supporting Parents As Teacher, Best Beginnings and Pre K in the past. Research shows time and time again that giving parents support early in their parenting journey with evidence based programs like PAT have strong positive impacts on school readiness, social emotional skills and reduction of child abuse. As a parent of 2 small children myself, I see the need for additional support making it through the early years of child rearing. My one year old has more brain growth going on right now than she will at any time in her entire life! My ability as a parent to feel supported and have access to quality care greatly impacts my ability to give the the best environment and parenting that I can. What I do today directly correlates to who she will be as a person, a mother and a citizen. That's huge.

Please continue to support Early Childhood as you are going through this year's budget.

Thank you-

Emily Thompson  
1108 Wee Burn  
Juneau, AK 99801

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Brynn Bolling <Brynn.Bolling@comconnections.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:18 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Programs

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to encourage you to continue support for Alaska's Early Childhood Programs. And, I appreciate your past support for our young children. Studies have shown repeatedly that early education works and early education isn't just school age but programs from birth that support parents to support their children's development. My own family has benefitted from early intervention programs. 2 of my children were in early intervention due to language delays. They started the program when they were both one. Now they talk constantly. One is a sophomore in college majoring in computer science and one is a senior in high school looking to go to trade school to become an electrician. Early education works to help our families raise children to be productive and responsible citizens.

Thank you for your time.

Brynn Bolling M.ED. ECSE  
Community Connections  
Program Director  
Early Learning Program  
PO Box 420  
Craig, AK. 99921  
907.826.3891 work  
907.826.3892 Fax  
907.401.0229 cell

**There are no perfect parents and there are no perfect children, but there are plenty of perfect moments along the way.** Dave Willis

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## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Amy Paige <[paigedunker@alaska.net](mailto:paigedunker@alaska.net)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Funding for Early Childhood programs

I urge you to retain funding for Early Childhood programs including Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings and PreK. I am a grandparent caring for grandchildren benefiting from these programs. I see how important they are.

Sincerely,

Amy Paige  
592 Seater Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Cecil & Lynnette <seanutt@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:07 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Subject: Support of increased and early funding for our schools

Greetings,

I am in full support of increasing our school funding by the state for \$100.00 per student. I also highly recommend that you consider early funding for school education so that the districts can properly submit their budgets to the local governments. Not funding early caused low morale, loss of qualified teachers as they peruse more reliable employment. This is especially true for our newest teachers, who are not tendered, make the least amount of money and have no defined pension plans to keep them in an expensive Alaska. Thanks for your support in this.

V/R

Cecil McNutt  
Juneau Resident

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Gail French <gailpfrench@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 10:24 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** increase in base

Please increase base student allocation to adjust for increases in costs - both inflation and rising health care costs. Our strength as a state and a nation rely on strong schools.  
thank you Gail French  
685 Birch St, Anchorage, AK 99501

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Tandra Thompson <tandra.thompson@k21schools.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 24, 2018 7:30 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Bottom line \$\$\$\$\$ Early Education save you money! Read on...

Don't put the state in a position to later fail. Fund early intervention, early education in Alaska.

I ask that you take just 10 minutes to look at studies that clearly show early education is critical for **healthy communities** and is going to **save the state money in the future**. Here are 3 simple to read articles by reputable resources. The research is vast and I encourage you to look into it. The last article address the bottom line \$\$\$\$\$!!

<https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/inbrief-early-childhood-program-effectiveness/>

[http://www.whatworksforamerica.org/ideas/early-childhood-development-creating-healthy-communities-with-greater-efficiency-and-effectiveness/#.WrZrKmbMw\\_M](http://www.whatworksforamerica.org/ideas/early-childhood-development-creating-healthy-communities-with-greater-efficiency-and-effectiveness/#.WrZrKmbMw_M)

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/new-research-early-education-as-economic-investme.aspx>

Educators are constantly asked to show results, so when the research clearly shows early education is working, we expect that you to respect and support the results with funding.

Thank you,  
Tandra Thompson (Ketchikan)

--  
**Tandra Thompson**  
617-9819 (Text/Cell)

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## Doniece Gott

---

**From:** Mara Sheakley-Early <marakearly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 12:13 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Education and Programs Funding

March 26, 2018

Hello,

My name is Mara Sheakley-Early, I am a lifelong Juneauite and I am a parent of a two year old and am expecting my second child in August. I am also a secondary school teacher working for the Juneau School District. I am writing today in support of Early Childhood Education funding from the State of Alaska.

First off, I would like to thank you for your support of early childhood funding in the budget in the past and hope that you will continue to support funding for services for young children, such as Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings, Head Start, and pre-k education. Alaska can NOT afford to neglect children's early education. The price to pay later on is too high. When children don't receive a strong start, and they enter kindergarten unprepared we all pay later in higher special education costs, higher crime and substance abuse and lost earning potential.

I have seen the benefits of early childhood education. Growing up, my father was a teacher at Auke Bay Cooperative Preschool. From a young age, I understood the the fundamentals and values that are being taught at such a young age -- such as sharing, playing together, understanding one's emotions, communication skills, empathy, understanding for others, creativity, play and more. As a secondary teacher, I see the benefits from students who have been lucky enough to have the foundation of early childhood education in their high school careers as students, extra curricular participants, and budding citizens in our communities. My newest and most important role is being a mother to my almost two year old son. I am also currently expecting his sibling sometime in August. I have been lucky enough to participate in AEYC's Parents as Teachers program. Even as a teacher with a background in teaching and with my father who was a preschool teacher, I appreciate and value the community and education that Parents as Teachers provides for me. The consistency, activities provided, check ins and community events with other families with the same age children are important as I develop as a parent of an infant to toddler to young child.

I am asking that you maintain all funding for early childhood education and programs from the Governor and House Budgets.

Thank you,

Mara Sheakley-Early

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alicia Berka <aberka@thrivalaska.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 1:20 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** AnneMarie Mattacchione (amattacchione@alaska.edu); BOD - Art Delaune (adelaune555@gmail.com); BOD - Juanita Frazier (jfrazier@fnsb.us); BOD - Lakesha Jordan (kidsareourstrength@gmail.com); BOD - Laney Turns (lturns@gmail.com); BOD - Mark Lew (melew1124@gmail.com); BOD - Olivia Lathrop (marcus.olivia2011@gmail.com); BOD - Regina Finstad (Regina.finstad@gmail.com); Jazz Gordon-Fretwell (jazzthriv@gmail.com); Jim Sweeney ; kayeor1963@yahoo.com; mjbruso@alaska.edu; nikoles@gmail.com; Steve Bouda (fbksbouda@gmail.com); Lisa McDaniel; Sarah Newton; Shelly Mensch; Teodor Dornea; thread; Stacie Dublin; Kristine Davis; Devin Thompson; Susan Smith; Stacy Story  
**Subject:** Early Care and Learning  
**Attachments:** Kids+Count+Alaska+Economic+Well-Being+2018+full\_report.pdf

I support early childhood education and hope that you will too! The early years from birth to 5 are critical in forming the architecture of a child's brain and ensuring success in school and life. We simply do not have enough funding to keep our youngest children in quality early childhood programs. How can we improve that outcome and improve our State's economic stability and future? By investing more in young children because it makes sense – the earlier the investment, the greater the return. A child's brain development is 90% complete before Kindergarten. Early childhood creates thousands of jobs for Alaskans and generates economic activity and growth – exactly what our state needs right now!

I have worked in the early childhood profession in Fairbanks for 34 years. My children grew up in quality early care and education programs from the time they were 2 and 4 years old – they are successful and viable members of our community today! Quality early childhood can and should be guaranteed to every child living in Alaska. I have spent my career being a voice for children – they are so important to our sustainable future!

The Alaska Children's Trust just released a report – Kids Count Alaska Economic Well-Being which is loaded with information, statistics, research and analysis. Alaska is a child care desert – we have more demand for child care than supply. Especially for infants and toddlers. In my program I have parents who cannot go back to work because they cannot find quality infant/toddler care. They cannot find marginal infant/toddler care. Alaska's families live in poverty and food insecurity. Over one-third of Alaska children live in families where no parent has regular, full time or part time employment. Children make up a quarter of Alaska's population. Please stand for Alaska's children – do not try to balance the budget by eliminating programs that help strengthen our economy.

Thanks so much.



**Alicia Berka**  
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**Member Agency**



## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Marlowe Dunker <marlowe\_dunker@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 3:14 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Ed

Hi, I am writing to express my husband and my support for fully funding Early Childhood including Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings and PreK! As parents of two young children we have come to count on these services and have benefited greatly from them. We felt that the support and information we gained from the Parents as Teachers program was particularly invaluable.

Thank You,  
Marlowe Dunker  
112 Behrends Ave  
Juneau, AK  
99801