



AARP Alaska
3601 C Street
Suite 1420
Anchorage, AK 99503

T 1-866-227-7447
F 907-341-2270
TTY 1-877-434-7598
www.aarp.org/ak

February 16, 2010

The Honorable Kevin Meyer, Co-Chair
Senate Education Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 101
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Joe Thomas, Co-Chair
Senate Education Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 514
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: SB 213 (Wielechowski)--Support

Dear Co-Chairs Meyer and Thomas:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the Senate Education Committee to support SB 213, authored by Senator Bill Wielechowski, and co-sponsored by Senators McGuire, Ellis, Paskvan, Menard, Thomas, Davis, French and Kookesh.

AARP is the world's largest organization of grandparents. We are concerned about good nutrition for everyone's grandchildren.

We have many grandparents who are raising their grandchildren.

- As of October, 2007, Alaska had 8,188 children living in grandparent-headed households (4.3% of all the children in the state).
- Of the children living in households headed by grandparents in Alaska, 5,110 are living there without either parent present.
- 5,419 grandparents report they are responsible for their grandchildren living with them (43% are Alaska Natives, 41% are White).
- 67.4% of these grandparents are under age 60. Many of them are still in the workforce.
- 11.5% of these grandparents live below the federal poverty level.

A healthy future for Alaska's children should be something everyone can agree on.

You will see all the statistics about how school breakfasts and lunches improve education for these children. Their test scores are higher, their cognition is enhanced, and they make fewer mistakes and work faster. Children who participate in the school nutrition programs have fewer problems with obesity and school violence even drops. All these factors will help grandparents who are raising grandchildren, especially those who are

still in the workforce and leave home before the grandchildren leave for school. Obviously these programs are even more important for those 11.5% of grandparents raising grandchildren who are themselves below the poverty level.

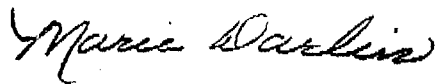
Grandparents don't plan on raising their grandchildren. Circumstances happen to families and these grandparents step up to the plate to take care of these kids and keep them out of the foster care program. SB 213 is one more way that the state can help support the efforts of these grandparents. They can certainly use it.

AARP requests an "AYE" vote on SB 213.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506
Juneau, AK 99801
586-3637 (voice)
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Bettye Davis
Senator Charlie Huggins
Senator Donald Olson
Senator Gary Stevens
Senator Bill Wielechowski

Yupit School District

P.O. Box 51190

aktachak, Alaska 99551

Phone: (907) 825-3600

Fax: (907) 825-3655

RESOLUTION

Supporting for State Funding for School Meals

Passed at Regional School Board Meeting, Nov. 19, 2009

WHEREAS The mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) – a statewide group of 77 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS Yupit School District fully supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experience food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experience food insecurity; and

WHEREAS insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development Of Children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS food security puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement, increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools – most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

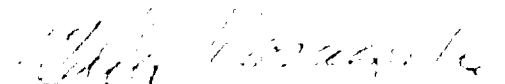
WHEREAS the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 10% of students qualify for free/reduced school meals – over 15,000 students; of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS 104 out of 306 schools in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high cost of food and transportation in Alaska.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Yupit School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

ADOPTED this 19th day of November 2009 at the YSD's Regional Board of Education meeting held in Tuluksak, Alaska, at which a duly constituted quorum of Regional Board members were present



Willie Kasayukie, Chairman


Howard Diamond, Superintendent

Yakutat School District

City & Borough of Yakutat
429 Forest Hwy. P.O. Box 429
Yakutat, Alaska 99689

District Office (907) 784-3317
High School (907) 784-3318
Fax (907) 784-3446



YAKUTAT BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION Support for State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS the Yakutat School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

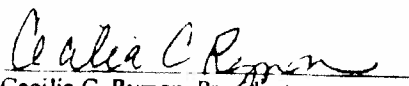
WHEREAS the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

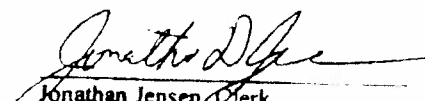
WHEREAS 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Yakutat School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Adopted by the Yakutat Board of Education on the 11th day of January, 2010.


Cecilia C. Ryman, President
Yakutat School Board


Jonathan Jensen, Clerk
Yakutat School Board

ALASKA



FOOD COALITION

RESOLUTION Support for State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS CEO Boris Puvion-Unity, Alaska supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

WHEREAS the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CEO Unity Council Inc. supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Barbara A. Bouyer

Petersburg City Schools

☎ 907.772.4271
Fax 907.772.4719

P. O. Box 289
Petersburg, Alaska 99833-0289

Dr. Robert Thomason
Superintendent

December 21, 2009

Vanessa Salinas
Program Manager
The Alaska Food Coalition
c/o Food Bank of Alaska
2121 Spar Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501-1855

Dear Ms. Salinas:

The Petersburg City School Board at their regular December 15, 2009 meeting passed Resolution 10-03 (A resolution in support of State Funding for School Meals). Please let me know if there are additional places I should send a copy to.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Anderson

Sharon Anderson
District Secretary

enclosure

Resolution 10-03
A resolution in support of State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS, the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS, Petersburg City Schools Board of Education supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS, according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS, federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and


WHEREAS, the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS, 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED on this 15th day of December 2009, that the Petersburg City Schools Board of Education supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.


Jean Ellis, Board President


Randy Lantiegne, Board Vice President



Petersburg Indian
Association
P.O. Box 1418
Petersburg, AK 99833
Phone 907.772.3636
Fax 907 772 3637



RESOLUTION
Support for State Funding for School Meals
Resolution 2010-1-6

WHEREAS the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS Petersburg Indian Association supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

● Page 2

January 4, 2010

WHEREAS food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

WHEREAS the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Petersburg Indian Association supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned hereby certify that the Petersburg Indian Association's Tribal Council is composed of 7 Board members of whom 6 Board members were present at the meeting held on March 10, 2008 and this resolution was adopted by a vote of 6 Council Members for and 0 Board members voting against and 0 Board members abstaining 1 Council member excused.



Derek Lopez, Chairman of the Petersburg Indian Association

01/05/10
Date



John R. Havrilek, Tribal Administrator

1-5-10
Date

Lower Kuskokwim School District Resolution

10-05

RESOLUTION

Support for State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 77 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS the Lower Kuskokwim School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and


WHEREAS the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lower Kuskokwim School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

PASSED THIS 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2009


Richard Curtis, Board President

12/11/09
Date


Gary Baldwin, Superintendent of Schools

12/11/09
Date

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 09-10-2

SUPPORT FOR STATE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MEALS

Pursuant to the filing of Senate Bill No. 213, "An Act providing for funding for school lunch and breakfast", the Board of Education of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District at a meeting held at Soldotna, Alaska on February 1, 2010, proposed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psycho-social dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) lunch and breakfast programs exist as the base support for nutrition to children through the school meal programs, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program; and

WHEREAS, the National School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week. In Alaska schools 40% of students qualify for free/reduced school meals, over 45,000 students; of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's approximately 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS, 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not sponsor/offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

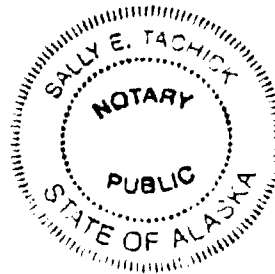
WHEREAS, Alaskan schools primarily do not sponsor National School Breakfast Programs because it is not economically feasible. While USDA funding support per meal for Alaska school breakfasts is 43% greater than support for school breakfasts in the contiguous states, funding levels are still not sufficient for many Alaska school meal sponsors to sustain or enhance nutrition services to students; and

WHEREAS, 29 states do take responsibility for assisting federally supported school meal programs for success in the classroom and relief from food security;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that school breakfast programs and sustainable lunch may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Joe Arness, President
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education

ATTEST: Sally E. Tachick
Sally Tachick
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires 07/25/2013





CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 140 * 100 Fisherman Avenue
Cordova, Alaska 99574-0140
(907) 424-3265 * FAX (907) 424-3271

Cordova Jr/Sr High School
(907) 424-3266
FAX (907) 424-5215

Mt Eccles Elementary
(907) 424-3265
FAX (907) 424-3117

Resolution #10-06

Alaska Food Coalition Support for State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS, the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS Cordova Schools supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS, according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS, federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

WHEREAS, the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and



CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 140 * 100 Fisherman Avenue
Cordova, Alaska 99574-0140
(907) 424-3265 * FAX (907) 424-3271

Cordova Jr/Sr High School
(907) 424-3266
FAX (907) 424-5215

Mt Eccles Elementary
(907) 424-3265
FAX (907) 424-3117

WHEREAS, 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cordova School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Valerie Covell, President
Cordova Board of Education

Pete Hoepfner, Clerk
Cordova Board of Education

Chugach School District

Resolution Number 10-02

Support for State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS Chugach School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

WHEREAS the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chugach School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

PASSES, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE CHUGACH SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, AT ANCHORAGE, ALASKA THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY 2010

Board Member	Approve/Yea	Reject/Nea	Abstain
Charlene Arneson	X		
Terry Bender			
Thelma Vlasoff	X		
Roselene Vlasoff	X		
Katherine Kompkoff	X		

ATTESTED:

Deborah Page

DATE:

1/12/10

TITLE:

Board Secretary