



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Deena M. Paramo

Mission: Mat-Su Borough School District prepares students for

March 12, 2014

Alaska State Senate Education Committee
The Honorable Senator Stevens, Chair
The Honorable Senator Dunleavy, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Senator Huggins
The Honorable Senator Gardner
The Honorable Senator Stedman

RE: Support for Senate Bill 100

Dear Senators,

I'm writing on behalf of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District's support for Senate Bill 100, an act establishing a grant program to be administered by Association of Alaska School Boards for the purchase of student equipment and technology services; establishing a grant program for innovative approaches to learning; and relating to correspondence study programs and student allotments.

The Mat-Su Borough School District seeks the best for the education of its youth. SB 100 will continue to push MSBSD on the path of innovation, choice, and customer service. More specifically, the provision that establishes a grant program administered by the Association of Alaska School Boards for the purchase of student equipment and technology services will build capacity in our district to encourage and sustain technology tools for students. Additionally, the establishment of a grant program for innovative approaches to learning will enable MSBSD to continue to meet the needs of students in the 21st Century. Providing education that students seek is our goal. Finally, in educating over 1,700 students in a homeschool model (both a charter and central school) establishing full FTE funding to these students will only strengthen our program.

The Mat-Su Borough School District operates all of its schools in a resource sharing model allowing students to move in and out of homeschool and neighborhood schools. This allows students to select the courses for which their desired program and career paths take them. SB 100 will provide MSBSD will an additional \$2.1 million dollars to sustain its current effective programs, funds to start new, innovative approaches to education, and will support all of our students in their education equitably.

On behalf of the Mat-Su Borough School District, I thank you for sponsoring SB 100 and for your overall commitment to seeking and providing innovative approaches to learning.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DParamo", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. Deena M. Paramo
Superintendent