

From: [Alyse Galvin](#)
 To: [Sen. Alyse MacIsaac](#), [Senate Finance Committee](#)
 Subject: Public Ed Admin Costs and Budgeting: classrooms, teachers
 Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 5:28:33 PM

Hello there,

I wanted to pass this document I saw yesterday along to you in case you had not yet received it.

When I was in the Capitol there seemed to be an understanding/perception that a 5% cut would not make much difference for Public Education. Upon return, I asked for more information. I spent 6 hours learning more about the workings of ASD admin yesterday and talked with many employees. Here is what I learned. There are basic operations supporting the work in schools that would not be cost effective to have in each school and doing without he supports is not workable.

For example, in ASD, 5 payroll employees handle payroll for 93 schools. This would be difficult to do without adding another person to each school, which would be a lot more FTE. Similarly, IT has been extremely pared down in ASD but it serves 93 schools with a few ppl on site in the larger schools. Again, it would not be cost effective to have one in each school. I imagine there are similar stories for other districts.

Anyhow, I now have a better understanding about why they cut 99 teaching positions and 26 other due to flat funding. There is just not much fat left to trim. The admin and support (including all secretaries, BPOs, HR on up to Superintendent) comprises 4.72% of the overall budget in ASD. There still may be a few positions that could be reworked with efficiencies (maybe 5 or 6 nps) but with a 5%, we are looking at 250-300 positions in ASD alone.

Student learning will be greatly harmed. I really feel we need to be spending our time coming up with a plan to teaching EVERY child to read and enjoy learning- not calculating how many more we can cut in districts.

I hope you might help us think of ways to grow more engagement with districts so that schools will better serve EVERY student in learning. I appreciate that we need to change up the way things are done. We need to focus in that way, not in chopping the budget, bringing far fewer professional adults into the building.

Thanks so much for your service,

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Big 5 Analysis: % of total district expenditures: (District Admin + District Admin-Support)

FY16	ASD	MSBSD	Fairbanks	Juneau	Kenai
District admin	5,512,924	1,839,404	1,821,104	641,216	1,266,201
District admin-support	23,471,456	14,606,843	10,881,394	3,210,121	6,144,561
Sum of Admin & Admin Spt	28,984,380	16,446,247	12,702,498	3,851,337	7,410,762
Total expenditures	604,931,733	240,623,678	198,575,066	69,804,510	140,997,864
% of total expenditures	4.79%	6.83%	6.40%	5.52%	5.26%

Big 5 Analysis: Cost per Student & comparison between Admin & Support to total cost per Student

FY16	ASD	MSBSD	Fairbanks	Juneau	Kenai
District admin	5,512,924	1,839,404	1,821,104	641,216	1,266,201
District admin-support	23,471,456	14,606,843	10,881,394	3,210,121	6,144,561
Sum of Admin & Admin Spt	28,984,380	16,446,247	12,702,498	3,851,337	7,410,762
# of Students	48,370	18,745	13,926	4,861	9,132
Total expenditures	604,931,733	240,623,678	198,575,066	69,804,510	140,997,864
Total Cost/Student	\$12,506	\$12,837	\$14,259	\$14,360	\$15,440
Admin & Spt: Cost/Student	\$599	\$877	\$912	\$792	\$812

Talking Points:

Sent from my iPhone