

**2026 SESSION SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING
AMENDMENT PROPOSAL**

Amendment 1

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Committee

TO: HB 289

OFFERED BY: Representative Himschoot

FISCAL YEAR: FY27

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development
APPROPRIATION: Education Support and Admin Service
ALLOCATION: Student and School Achievement

ADD: \$280.0 UGF 1004

DELETE: n/a

POSITIONS: 2 PFT (2 Education Specialist 2s)

EXPLANATION: This amendment provides \$280.0 for the addition of 2 PFT positions. These reading specialists will benefit direct student education within the Virtual Learning Consortium (VLC) as established in statute under AS 14.30.800 through the Alaska Reads Act. The creation and maintenance of a statewide virtual education consortium is necessary to assist school districts in delivering high-quality reading instruction, particularly in communities with limited local capacity.

Previous literacy initiatives with virtual aspects, including the Alyeska Reading Institute, demonstrated measurable value by providing effective instructional support, curriculum resources, and direct services to rural and remote students. Restoring this statutory program ensures districts have access to consistent, research-based reading supports aligned with the goals of the Reads Act.

VLC has previously been established, yet lacks the staffing needed to sustain robust programming. This amendment solves that issue.



2026 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment 2

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development

TO: HB 263 / HB 265

OFFERED BY: Rep. Rebecca Schwanke

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2027

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development
APPROPRIATION: Education Support and Admin Services
ALLOCATION: Teacher Certification

DELETE: \$490.0 (UGF), fund code 1004, Inc
ADD: \$60.0 (UGF), fund code 1004, IncT FY27-28

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development
APPROPRIATION: School Finance & Facilities
ALLOCATION: Education Support and Administrative Services

ADD: \$344.3 (UGF), fund code 1004, Inc for 2 PFT*
\$85.7 (UGF), fund code 1004, Inc

POSITIONS: 2 PFT

EXPLANATION: The amendment changes Item #9 on the BA sheet.

This amendment retains \$60,000 for operation of the Alaska Educator Retention and Recruitment Center (AERRC), specifically restoring funding for the Alaska Teacher Placement (ATP) function for the contractor, Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA). The original three-year grant was to phase out, transitioning to a user pay model. This is for FY27-28.

The remaining \$430,000 would fund two new PFT positions, a Building Management Specialist 2 and 3, and provide an appropriate in-state travel, training, and maintenance budget to carry out the following Key Component Challenges: Providing technical assistance to school districts of varying sizes, locations, and complexities, continuing to review the annual ranking process for capital project and bond reimbursement payment streams, balancing local control of facility management programs with developing a statewide school capital improvement plan, and updating the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) process to ensure equitable access for all districts. Without adequate support, district maintenance issues escalate and become major maintenance.

FY2026 Budget Summary DEED

PCN	Job Class Title	Time Status	Range	Step	Salary	COLA	Annual Benefits	UGF	Total
051690	Building Management Specialist	PFT	19	C/D	\$83,441	\$3,549	\$59,345	\$146,335	\$146,335

*One PFT

Proposed New Positions

PCN	Job Class Title	Time Status	Range	Step	Salary	COLA	Annual Benefits	UGF	Total
0xxxxx	Building Management Specialist 2	PFT	21	A/B	\$91,670	\$3,899	\$65,198	\$160,767	\$160,767

*Second PFT

PCN	Job Class Title	Time Status	Range	Step	Salary	COLA	Annual Benefits	UGF	Total
0xxxxx	Building Management Specialist 3	PFT	23	A/B	\$104,657	\$4,451	\$74,434	\$183,543	\$183,543

2026 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment 3

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development

TO: HB 263 / HB 265

OFFERED BY: Rep. Rebecca Schwanke

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2027

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development
APPROPRIATION: Education Support and Admin Services
ALLOCATION: Early Learning Coordination

ADD: n/a

DELETE: \$80.0 General Fund (UGF) Inc, fund code 1004

POSITIONS: n/a

EXPLANATION: This amendment changes Item #10 on the BA sheet.

Best Beginnings is a public-private partnership that receives \$320,000 annually from the Department of Education and Early Development. The last impact data available is from 2018, used in a 2021 report. According to the DEED Early Learning Report dated 2.24.2026, 15,398 children, or 28% of Alaska's children under age five, are enrolled in the Imagination Library with a book of the month mailout. However, without quantitative data demonstrating how the books impact Kindergarten readiness, it is difficult to justify increasing funding without data to quantify results in a very tight budget season.

2026 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment 4

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development

TO: HB 263 / HB 265

OFFERED BY: Rep. Rebecca Schwanke

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2027

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development
APPROPRIATION: Education Support and Admin Services
ALLOCATION: Early Learning Coordination

ADD: n/a

DELETE: \$355.8 General Fund (UGF) Inc, fund code 1004

POSITIONS: n/a

EXPLANATION: This amendment changes Item #11 on the BA sheet.

Parents as Teachers receives \$474,700 annually, split between five agencies. The three-year contract ends June 30, 2026, and a new RFP for one year opened in February 2026. It is unclear how many children were served, how many communities, and the outcomes. It is difficult to justify increasing funding without data to quantify results in a very tight budget season.

2026 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Amendment 5

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development

TO: HB 263 / HB 265

OFFERED BY: Rep. Schwanke

FISCAL YEAR: FY 2027

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development
APPROPRIATION: Education Support and Admin Services
ALLOCATION: Early Learning Coordination

ADD: n/a

DELETE: \$3,756.8 General Fund (UGF) Inc, fund code 1004

POSITIONS: n/a

EXPLANATION: This amendment changes Item #12 on the BA sheet.

In FY26, the State of Alaska funded Head Start agency non-federal match with a \$13,038.5 appropriation. According to the DEED-Early Learning Report, the State provided 19% of the required 20% non-federal match in FY26, serving 17 agencies, and approximately 92 communities. The non-profit Head Start agencies are currently providing only 1% of the required match in either funding or allowable in-kind contributions per federal law. This increment would increase State UGF Head Start spending to 22%, during a year when there is no surplus. Given the lack of official request to the Education Committee by Head Start agencies for additional funds, this increment is not warranted in FY27.

