
From: Lisa Parady <lparady@alaskaacsa.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 3:02 PM
To: Rep. Andi Story
Cc: Tammy Smith
Subject: Follow Up - Civics Survey Responses
Attachments: SB 23_ Civics Education - Cost to Districts.pdf

Importance: High

Representative Story,

In response to your request, we surveyed superintendents about potential costs to school districts for SB23. Please see the attached responses received so far.

Best regards,

Dr. Lisa S. Parady
ASA Executive Director

District	How much would it cost your district to implement SB 23?	Additional comments
UCSD	Professional Development for teacher: \$3K 1 semester salary for 1 class: \$5K	
Nome Public Schools	Curriculum writing would cost approximately \$2-4K and that is IF we can find a teacher willing to draw one up. With turnover that may be difficult or nearly impossible. Purchase of updated textbooks would be in the \$5-6K range.	Adding another mandated course would require time to change Board Policy, and would possibly cause pressure on staffing due to need to offer all courses for graduation with limited staffing in smaller schools.
Haines Borough School District	Nothing.	HBSD currently requires a semester of Government/Civics. I do appreciate that there would be options for a test or project.
Saint Mary's School District	\$10,000 curriculum (est.) + \$10,000 for tutoring to pass the 70% threshold.	It would cost the price of the curriculum as long as the civics course counted toward social studies graduation.
Bristol Bay Borough School District	\$75,000	We have a government class already in which government is discussed and taught. Thank you.

<p>Lower Kuskokwim SD</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>	<p>That is a conservative estimate associated with curriculum mapping and teacher training. If curriculum needed to be purchased, which we recognize is unlikely, the cost would be closer to \$60,000.</p>
<p>Denali Borough School District</p>	<p>~\$10,000 for materials if we do not use free online resources</p>	<p>DBSD currently has a graduation requirement for 0.5 credits of Government. Therefore if this bill becomes statute we would likely review the standards for that course and incorporate the expectations in this bill into those standards. It is also likely we would modify the board policy on graduation requirements so that the existing 0.5 Government credit is not in addition to the potential new civics credit. DBSD also currently requires 1.0 credit of US History and 0.5 credits of Alaska History, out of a total of 3 required social studies credits.</p>

Lower Yukon School District	Teacher Training: \$1,200 iCivics Textbooks \$8000.00 Online iCivics opportunities are free. Total cost just under \$10K	*DEED has already created lessons related to iCivics. That support the online component.
Northwest Arctic Borough School District	Assuming that we would serve 240 freshmen and sophomores, if resources were provided state developed digital resources, and assuming there was no separate textbook or license, costs would be minimal. The cost would be approximately \$3000-\$6000 to produce a local packet model. However, if publisher resources needed to be purchased the range could \$16,800 to \$33,000 not including professional development for teachers.	
Kashunamiut School District	The cost of buying a curriculum might be \$5,000 and we have a lot of teacher turnover on teachers that teach Social Studies in our school; training of new curriculum would be another cost.	
KGBSD	1 FTE or approximately \$143,000 This cost does not include time and labor necessary for exam administration and scoring, tracking students completion of the project / exam, additional work for registrar tracking graduation requirements.	
Petersburg	TBD- But we would need to research and purchase curriculum which takes TIME, the one resource we can't get back in our already overtaxed days. Additionally, there may be training and staffing impacts, thus defining a cost is challenging, but there WILL be costs.	As this would increase requirements it will unintentionally decrease elective offerings which could impact programs and teachers we have on staff. In small schools the more requirements placed on districts the less ability we have to create schedules that are conducive for students. In Petersburg students would lose the opportunity to take music, art, or CTE.
Cordova	Zero dollars, as we already offer a course.	

Hoonah City School District	30,000-50,000	
Kake City School District	It depends on if we can include it as part of our existing Social Studies Curriculum. We would want to pay a teacher a stipend of about \$2500 to research/modify and adapt as well as attend professional development.	
Aleutian Region School District	I don't anticipate any additional costs for implementing SB 23.	
Pribilof	Around \$12,000,	Acellus licenses online course.
Wrangell	10,000	
Southeast Island School District	100,000.00	<p>1. Flexibility in Course Delivery While SB 23 requires districts to offer a one-semester civics course, SISD urges that districts be allowed flexibility in how this requirement is met. For small, rural schools, a traditional standalone course may not be feasible due to limited staffing and scheduling constraints. SISD supports allowing: Integrated or embedded civics instruction within existing social studies courses</p> <p>Distance-delivered or shared instruction across multiple school sites Hybrid models that combine synchronous and asynchronous learning</p> <p>2. Support for Shared and Remote Staffing Models SISD already utilizes a distributed staffing approach to serve multiple sites. The district recommends that implementation guidance explicitly recognize and support: Multi-site teaching assignments Virtual instruction models Use of on-site facilitators to support remote teaching</p> <p>3. Emphasis on Project-Based Assessment SISD strongly supports the provision allowing students to demonstrate proficiency through project-based assessments. Given the diverse contexts of our communities, project based approaches: Provide more equitable opportunities for student success Allow for culturally relevant and place-based learning Reduce the risk of a single high-stakes exam becoming a barrier to graduation SISD recommends that districts retain local control over assessment design while being supported with optional frameworks and rubrics.</p> <p>4. Recognition of Local and Cultural Contexts While the development of no-cost, statewide resources is appreciated, SISD emphasizes the need for flexibility to incorporate: Alaska Native governance systems Local community structures and practices Regionally relevant civic issues This ensures civics education is meaningful and reflective of students' lived experiences.</p>

	<p>5. Consideration of Graduation Requirement Impacts Requiring a minimum score of 70% for graduation introduces a new high-stakes component. SISD recommends: Multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate proficiency Flexible pathways (projects, portfolios, reassessments) Safeguards to prevent disproportionate impacts on students in small or remote schools. Conclusion SISD supports the goals of SB 23 and is committed to providing high-quality civics education for all students. To ensure successful and equitable implementation across Alaska's diverse school systems, SISD respectfully requests that the legislation and subsequent regulations prioritize flexibility, local control, and support for rural delivery models. With these considerations, SB 23 can strengthen civics readiness while honoring the unique needs of SISD.</p>	
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Kodiak Island Borough School District	0	We already require one semester of Civics for graduation and have staff and curriculum.
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