

Effects of Public Education Funding in Alaska



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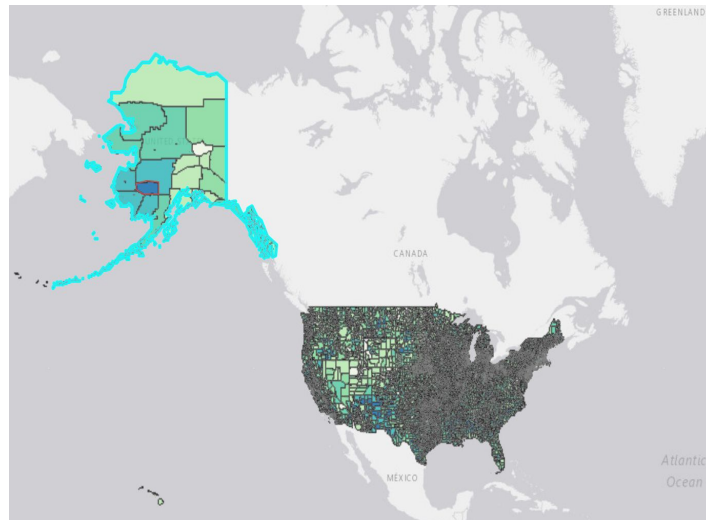
Kuspuk School District Overview

Student Demographics

- **96%** of students are economically disadvantaged
 - **37.4%** of KSD families with children aged 5-17 live in poverty (highest in Alaska)
- **96%** of students are Alaska Native (Yup'ik and Athabascan)

District Funding & Spending:

- Spending per pupil: \$62,963 (statewide avg: \$21,283)
- 50% of operational expenses come from grants



What Cuts Have Been Made?/ Where Are We Now?

Staffing

- **70%** of elementary classrooms are now combined grade levels
 - 13% of district classrooms cut since 2023
- **23%** of classified positions cut (e.g., instructional & SPED aides)
- **68%** of teachers are international hires

Instructional Resources

- Reduced academic programs, including in-person CTE and advanced courses
- Antiquated social student curriculum
- No health/SEL/Physical Education curriculum
- No in person district music, art, or foreign language programs
- Limited sports and cultural programs due to cost of transportation
- Lack adequate technology for students to access online classes

What Cuts Have Been Made?/ Where Are We Now?

Continued

Increased Costs & Infrastructure Issues

- Surging energy cost (electricity rates up to \$1.65/kWh)
- Schools are unable to properly maintain building leading to failing heating systems, leaking roofs, and collapsing walls
- Spent \$200,000 to develop and apply for DEED's Major Maintenance list for one school

Thank you! Questions?

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