



Alaska Council of School Administrators
Leadership, Unity and Advocacy for Public Education

234 Gold Street • Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 586-9702 • Fax: (907) 364-3805
www.alaskaacsa.org

April 13, 2026

House Education Committee members:

On behalf of the Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA), we would like to express our appreciation for the intent behind House Bill 383, which seeks to establish building management specialist positions within the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). Supporting districts with preventative maintenance, facility management, and capital improvements is an important and worthwhile goal, particularly in a state as vast and unique as Alaska.

We write to offer additional perspective, especially from Alaska's Regional Educational Attendance Area (REAA) school districts. REAA districts operate some of the oldest and most logistically challenging facilities in the state, many in remote communities with limited access to contractors, materials, and technical expertise. As a result, these districts often have a deep, longstanding understanding of their facility needs. In fact, many critical projects have remained on the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list for over 15 years, reflecting not a lack of planning, but a persistent gap in funding and implementation capacity.

While House Bill 383 proposes valuable supports such as training, technical assistance, and on-site expertise, we are concerned that without clearly defined and sufficient funding, the bill may not fully address the realities faced by REAA and non REAA districts alike. Instead, it risks creating additional expectations without resolving the underlying challenges that districts have been navigating for decades.

For all districts but for REAA schools in particular, the issue is not identifying what needs to be fixed—it is securing the sustained investment necessary to carry out those fixes in environments where costs are significantly higher and access is limited. Without adequate funding tied directly to both personnel and project implementation, the proposed supports may have limited impact on long-standing facility needs.

ACSA supports the concept and goals of House Bill 383. However, we strongly encourage the legislature to ensure that any new initiatives are accompanied by dedicated, sufficient, and sustained funding. This is especially critical to ensure equitable implementation across all districts, including those in REAA regions that face the greatest infrastructure challenges.

Thank you for your continued advocacy for Alaska's children, educators, schools, and communities. We appreciate your consideration and stand ready to work collaboratively to develop effective, practical, and sustainable solutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa S. Parady".

Dr. Lisa S. Parady
Executive Director
Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA)