

# Pupil Transportation Program

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

Elwin Blackwell, School Finance Manager

March 13, 2023



# Mission, Vision, and Purpose

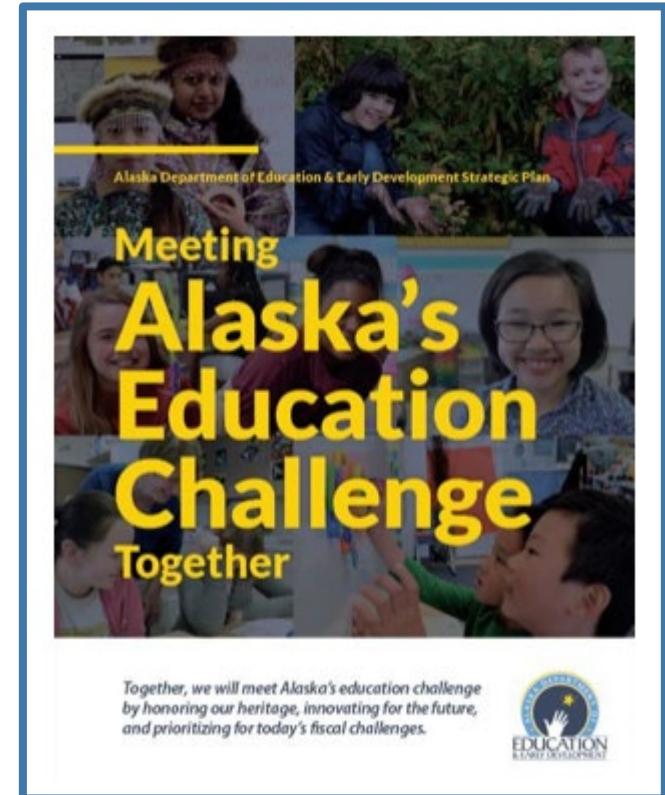
Mission	Vision	Purpose
An excellent education for every student every day.	<p>All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them.</p> <p>- Alaska Statute 14.03.015</p>	DEED exists to provide <b>information, resources, and leadership</b> to support an excellent education for every student every day.



# Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

## Five Shared Priorities:

1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.



[education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge](http://education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge)



# Agenda

- Pupil Transportation Program History
- Pupil Transportation Program
- Department Responsibilities for the Pupil Transportation Program

# Pupil Transportation Program History

- Prior to FY2004, the program was a reimbursement program.
- In FY2004, the program moved to a formula program using a per student amount unique to each district multiplied by the brick and mortar Average Daily Membership (ADM).
- The per student amount for FY2004 was derived by taking the actual school transportation cost in FY2003 divided by the brick and mortar ADM.
- In 2012, SB 182 (Chapter 19, SLA 2012) recalibrated the per student amount for FY2012 and FY2013. In 2013, SB 57 (Chapter 69, SLA 2013) provided for consumer price index (CPI) adjustments for FY2014 to FY2016.

# Pupil Transportation Grant Program

- The Department of Education and Early Development distributes the Pupil Transportation grants in three payments.
- Payments are distributed in August, December, and March.
- The March payment balances the grant so districts only receive the per student cost times the actual brick and mortar Average Daily Membership (ADM) for the year.

# Responsibilities for Pupil Transportation

- Pursuant to AS 14.09.030(b) the department is responsible for the following items:
  1. *The department must establish school bus equipment standards used to transport students to and from school. (4 AAC 27.110)*
  2. *Provide for the inspection of every school bus at least twice per year.*
  3. *Must maintain a record of accidents involving a school bus other vehicle owned or provided under contract to a school district. (4 AAC 27.056(3))*
- The department works with the Alaska Vocational and Technical Education Center (AVTEC) to train school bus driver trainers. These trainers are responsible to train the bus drivers that transport Alaska school children each day. (4 AAC 27.210)

# Contact Information

**Elwin Blackwell, School Finance Manager**

[elwin.blackwell@alaska.gov](mailto:elwin.blackwell@alaska.gov)

(907) 465-8665

**Laurel Shop, Legislative Liaison**

[laurel.shoop@alaska.gov](mailto:laurel.shoop@alaska.gov)

(907) 465-8703

# Stay Connected



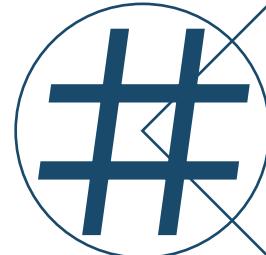
## Website

- [education.alaska.gov](http://education.alaska.gov)



## Phone

- Main Line: (907) 465-2800



## Social Media

- [@AlaskaDEED](https://www.twitter.com/AlaskaDEED)