DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

17. Education Support and Admin Services / School Finance & Facilities Operating/Capital Budget (CCS HB 268 (Corrected))

It is the intent of the legislature that a school district report to the Department twice annually, once by the end of the count period set out in AS 14.17.500, and on February 1, 2025, the balance of each of the following funds: 1) school operating fund, 2) special revenue funds, 3) capital project funds, 4) other governmental funds. Additionally, each fund shall be reported based on the following classifications: 1) nonspendable fund balance, 2) restricted fund balance, 3) committed fund balance, 4) assigned fund balance, 5) unassigned balance. The Department shall provide these reports and associated data in electronic format to the Co-Chairs of Finance and the Legislative Finance Division by December 20, 2024 and by February 15, 2025.

The Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) shared the legislative intent language with school district superintendents and business managers in communications over the summer and provided the reporting template in early October 2024.

For the FY2025 data collection, the DEED will use the same reporting template collaboratively developed with the Alaska Association of School Business Officials (ALASBO) for the FY2024 reporting. Using the same template supports school district personnel by providing familiarity with reporting and data-gathering processes, as well as ensuring comparability of information across time periods.

The DEED will collect the data on a timeline similar to the FY2024 collection, with adjustments made to align with school district payroll schedules, based on feedback received from school district leadership. For the first round of reporting, districts will report their fund balances as of October 31, 2024 (to be submitted to the DEED by November 20, 2024, for submission to the Alaska Legislature by December 20, 2024). The second round of reporting will show fund balances as of December 31, 2024 (to be submitted to the DEED by January 20, 2025, for submission to the Alaska Legislature by February 15, 2025).

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment: The data was submitted on December 20, 2024, and is included as **Attachment 4** in this packet.