

From: David Nees
To: [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#)
Cc: [Rep. Jennifer Johnston](#); [Rep. Chuck Kopp](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB 339
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2018 9:58:41 AM
Attachments: [StateAid.pdf](#)
[base_allocation_chart.pdf](#)
[ADM.pdf](#)

Please include as my testimony on HB339

I apologize for my delay, and for not staying on like to hear Rep Kopps question, and your response Rep Drummond and Rep Johnson's responses.

I made the mistake of assuming that with 26 testifiers and 3 minutes, no questions would be asked. And in the interest of fairness made my comments brief.

I have included the charts from DEED that do indeed show that ASD and the Big 5 receive 85% of state funding for schools, while housing 51% of the students. (ADM and State aid and BSA 2007-2017)

I know you understand that the BSA is first part of the funding formula equation, (every \$100 raise is \$25 million net gain to districts according to information provided to House sustainable Education by Leg Finance in 2014) and that every factor from school size and area cost acts upon this input. ASD gets funded for 77,000+ students while only enrolling <48,000.

Some of the school Aid is not included in the BSA chart, such as the REAA building fund, and the Moore decision, and the outside the formula funding, but is captured in the school finance charts.

The CEAAC group has been very successful in diverting state money through lawsuits which it has always won, it was able to get PreK funds included due to the Graduation exam requirement.

It will be back with the argument that the state does not adequately fund a basic education.

While the state funds for rural schools that refuse to organize, even to the lowest borough designation, Class 4 which is a school only borough.

You could stem that lawsuit by requiring REAA schools to organize.

The net effect of current funding is that large districts, which house a majority of the students, to receive more funds due to Debt reimbursement and other factors. All receive an amount above that exceeds their seat count.

Raising the BSA inside the formula just continues this unequal allocation.

David Nees
2542 Curlew

FOUNDATION PROGRAM

FY1988 through FY2017

Average Daily Membership's

DISTRICT	FY88	FY89	FY90	FY91	FY92	FY93	FY94	FY95	FY96	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
ADAK	603.70	657.85	696.45	712.00	714.45	681.35	495.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALASKA GATEWA'	502.40	462.70	482.95	501.55	495.45	512.05	525.55	536.15	552.10	572.65	514.35	506.84	485.40	481.05	495.31
ALEUTIAN REGION	104.75	111.00	28.00	33.00	28.00	23.00	16.00	18.00	21.00	34.00	36.45	46.70	75.15	59.40	54.75
ALEUTIANS EAST	274.15	279.30	341.05	371.00	370.00	391.00	369.00	365.00	355.00	372.00	341.35	310.35	299.55	307.75	292.75
ANCHORAGE	38,734.41	38,685.23	39,236.27	40,533.36	43,058.90	44,279.73	45,645.36	45,895.60	46,158.76	46,470.40	47,315.76	48,115.53	48,157.22	48,856.09	49,246.83
ANNETTE ISLANDS	414.50	428.65	404.70	381.00	423.90	397.00	407.00	420.00	444.00	391.00	396.57	355.23	368.00	325.75	311.05
BERING STRAIT	1,259.40	1,250.20	1,326.75	1,356.30	1,433.95	1,476.65	1,539.15	1,600.70	1,679.10	1,706.00	1,759.70	1,782.90	1,775.45	1,760.25	1,728.30
BRISTOL BAY	245.40	249.00	245.35	253.00	272.65	265.35	271.60	271.00	301.00	313.45	305.00	295.65	278.60	243.05	237.45
CHATHAM	316.00	307.05	352.45	382.30	376.30	348.95	326.55	325.85	337.30	334.30	293.00	272.05	257.00	247.50	227.35
CHUGACH	107.00	98.00	106.00	113.90	128.25	132.25	122.75	133.00	144.00	157.00	167.00	161.00	157.35	167.10	207.45
COPPER RIVER	536.45	597.45	583.47	581.95	592.45	607.90	598.25	623.25	658.65	772.60	817.94	713.65	727.29	689.91	714.08
CORDOVA	429.00	428.00	428.00	437.90	478.75	502.50	511.15	528.15	519.15	534.30	514.70	491.34	485.45	475.95	461.45
CRAIG	213.00	217.60	255.00	303.40	314.25	356.45	367.00	396.00	424.00	422.00	428.00	432.00	420.60	516.30	693.95
DELTA/GREELY	929.65	895.40	857.20	841.00	849.70	959.50	989.70	974.00	884.65	843.65	951.01	1,099.75	898.78	801.50	834.77
DENALI	364.10	337.20	347.50	333.20	329.60	369.55	379.65	384.55	384.00	390.90	349.85	362.10	326.50	312.65	287.50
DILLINGHAM	463.25	460.00	449.45	480.50	504.10	488.05	494.45	496.20	524.00	541.25	583.15	548.05	561.80	579.85	540.70
FAIRBANKS	13,194.95	13,188.50	13,538.40	14,245.80	14,883.20	15,250.50	15,408.00	15,406.50	15,816.00	16,131.65	16,347.80	16,093.54	15,804.16	15,546.50	15,254.51
GALENA	151.20	146.80	135.50	121.40	142.30	128.45	133.10	144.00	150.00	165.00	1,359.00	3,234.00	3,660.00	3,373.99	3,669.28
HAINES	365.60	363.30	397.00	433.15	447.90	432.30	409.05	413.15	434.90	444.90	438.40	448.75	413.45	407.15	377.20
HOONAH	239.60	251.33	257.65	234.00	234.95	256.00	267.00	259.40	278.00	271.00	260.15	230.85	236.75	226.90	211.30
HYDABURG	109.40	106.00	101.95	108.40	119.00	115.80	109.20	107.50	113.60	117.00	123.00	110.50	107.85	102.85	100.10
IDITAROD	398.60	398.95	421.00	353.08	388.25	418.20	398.95	417.85	422.55	415.86	457.90	534.18	568.10	638.95	561.12
JUNEAU	4,492.96	4,588.90	4,890.00	5,124.30	5,247.30	5,412.70	5,394.45	5,399.75	5,515.35	5,586.45	5,662.69	5,701.25	5,646.85	5,520.78	5,507.50
KAKE	180.00	181.00	166.00	178.70	185.05	179.00	175.25	185.00	190.00	199.90	194.40	185.80	166.70	165.00	171.62
KASHUNAMIUT	169.00	165.00	154.00	181.70	191.15	191.65	207.60	229.90	244.00	246.95	269.85	279.00	298.20	314.00	321.80
KENAI	8,003.33	8,232.18	8,486.36	9,168.90	9,449.30	9,589.00	9,846.05	10,144.00	10,280.70	10,341.96	10,376.84	10,181.60	9,982.41	9,946.74	9,799.38
KETCHIKAN	2,531.19	2,480.11	2,617.50	2,693.25	2,663.50	2,690.10	2,735.38	2,728.93	2,850.40	2,856.25	2,731.10	2,723.85	2,598.90	2,489.68	2,400.58
KLAWOCK	170.07	185.30	208.85	201.90	211.85	205.75	210.00	206.95	220.15	210.30	220.85	201.00	206.00	207.90	174.00
KODIAK	2,284.76	2,273.36	2,321.14	2,403.88	2,525.08	2,597.81	2,747.82	2,711.45	2,871.76	2,862.01	2,851.30	2,797.64	2,810.05	2,773.95	2,820.84
KUSPUK	375.35	391.85	413.40	426.80	451.30	427.75	451.20	449.85	468.35	473.70	473.03	474.29	493.85	470.15	433.00
LAKE AND PENN.	346.70	357.15	407.35	413.20	446.70	462.85	497.40	507.63	497.65	523.55	522.95	548.85	480.95	462.48	427.80
LOWER KUSKOKW	2,605.95	2,637.90	2,685.73	2,710.75	2,780.33	2,885.80	2,963.73	3,051.05	3,275.15	3,371.53	3,442.25	3,553.70	3,614.00	3,647.53	3,646.73
LOWER YUKON	1,281.80	1,285.70	1,301.57	1,343.90	1,364.45	1,520.65	1,585.25	1,620.65	1,695.20	1,735.95	1,850.20	1,860.95	1,936.15	1,926.70	1,937.85
MATSU	8,605.75	8,430.50	8,824.00	9,459.78	10,141.33	10,677.00	11,336.70	11,894.00	12,037.28	12,352.13	12,777.39	12,713.25	12,513.08	12,752.40	13,156.24
NENANA	201.25	194.80	185.50	195.80	191.50	199.20	184.95	162.91	161.00	173.45	220.00	398.00	1,005.00	1,828.25	1,753.70
NOME	724.85	749.35	754.00	777.95	776.00	727.95	711.75	701.75	732.95	776.55	796.20	776.25	769.10	776.95	737.65
NORTH SLOPE	1,251.50	1,237.14	1,301.80	1,359.40	1,462.45	1,508.09	1,623.05	1,702.10	1,805.90	1,936.80	1,982.95	2,043.90	2,008.90	2,094.20	2,020.78
NW ARCTIC	1,540.00	1,613.97	1,645.75	1,582.10	1,629.45	1,736.80	1,804.25	1,872.80	1,892.05	2,000.10	2,065.55	2,088.30	2,151.50	2,203.15	2,164.35
PELICAN	49.40	42.50	49.00	48.20	45.90	47.00	45.00	44.85	38.25	31.75	33.00	29.80	33.65	23.00	18.65
PETERSBURG	630.03	658.35	685.10	681.20	702.35	706.40	711.10	758.75	753.55	763.05	768.60	752.05	699.10	678.30	652.83
PRIBILOF	151.85	149.10	149.55	143.10	152.90	158.50	168.00	182.00	213.15	197.20	187.00	157.40	158.25	143.50	136.65
SAINT MARY'S	112.40	110.90	111.40	115.60	105.50	97.73	94.60	108.50	129.10	130.00	131.80	129.90	144.15	137.70	152.85
SITKA	1,616.80	1,657.90	1,670.18	1,723.59	1,786.77	1,858.38	1,873.38	1,838.68	1,804.87	1,769.60	1,745.28	1,694.25	1,722.11	1,589.43	1,609.41
SKAGWAY	141.50	144.30	145.15	144.75	145.00	153.00	143.00	127.20	131.30	136.66	131.60	128.60	131.30	136.75	120.20
SOUTHEAST	464.50	517.00	555.10	521.60	415.80	418.00	413.75	381.95	349.85	325.55	277.00	297.78	294.50	281.15	243.60
SOUTHWEST	480.48	466.35	435.60	442.80	472.50	478.85	554.25	568.30	629.80	700.80	743.10	774.70	758.25	767.91	758.60
TANANA	85.00	94.00	88.00	109.00	100.00	98.00	101.00	102.25	94.00	102.00	113.00	104.00	92.75	80.00	64.13
UNALASKA	153.20	188.25	204.20	258.05	304.45	330.20	358.60	356.10	352.80	374.60	380.10	353.03	351.91	351.34	368.90
VALDEZ	693.30	686.00	762.60	781.50	853.75	906.60	896.90	902.75	895.75	877.00	887.75	855.05	865.20	864.75	887.60
WRANGELL	507.00	518.20	508.70	508.90	534.00	519.20	541.20	566.85	555.00	528.00	521.15	526.63	505.05	488.35	465.95
YAKUTAT	133.75	131.30	132.35	150.00	139.00	137.00	150.00	167.00	175.00	160.00	169.00	166.00	159.75	166.25	172.00
YUKON FLATS	361.00	338.00	339.00	374.75	377.87	387.85	398.90	405.15	422.62	444.00	448.25	375.75	352.10	307.00	299.95
YUKON/KOYUKUK	544.90	508.95	529.25	512.40	549.50	584.65	598.80	590.10	625.10	555.60	545.85	548.90	535.85	484.50	496.75
YUPIIT	296.00	307.00	315.00	318.70	360.00	367.00	366.00	367.00	387.00	401.00	397.00	401.95	398.00	420.00	445.60
STATE ACS	973.78	1,407.89	1,437.09	1,984.74	2,079.48	2,280.47	1,475.14	1,477.15	1,568.85	1,626.47	1,568.92	2,628.73	1,419.47	1,306.02	1,465.47
Mt. EDGE CUMBE	-	190.80	189.70	212.50	212.95	267.70	281.60	282.30	275.12	293.00	307.57	307.71	329.00	330.00	329.50
TOTALS	102,115.86	103,040.51	105,662.01	110,364.88	115,640.76	119,201.16	121,429.71	122,511.45	124,752.76	126,464.77	129,553.60	132,904.81	131,696.48	132,256.25	132,669.66

FOUNDATION PROGRAM

FY1988 through FY2017

Average Daily Membership's

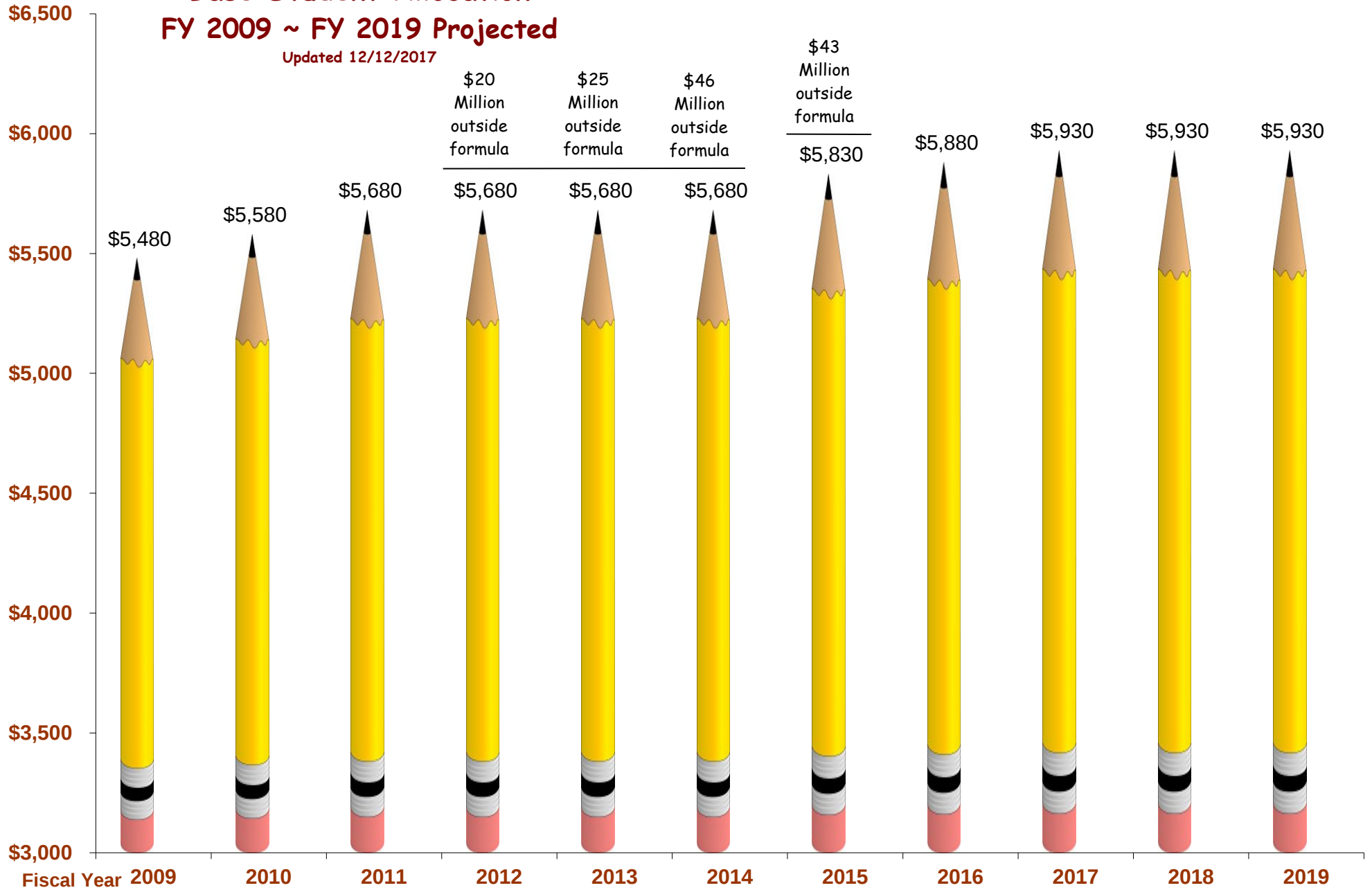
DISTRICT	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17
ADAK															
ALASKA GATEWAY	486.85	493.26	443.25	412.35	412.35	375.21	383.26	361.80	384.80	374.55	361.80	387.65	373.20	370.30	371.70
ALEUTIAN REGION	49.25	41.85	46.00	44.00	42.00	37.45	37.00	37.00	30.65	31.00	25.30	33.00	37.00	34.70	24.50
ALEUTIANS EAST	273.75	278.49	268.55	246.40	233.00	256.50	248.75	237.30	245.00	226.65	234.50	212.70	218.40	220.90	215.95
ANCHORAGE	49,544.94	49,264.98	49,182.37	49,319.56	48,706.93	48,143.53	48,227.36	49,060.82	48,613.23	48,422.26	48,492.96	47,769.85	47,561.60	47,756.28	47,680.17
ANNETTE ISLANDS	290.65	287.50	298.35	291.29	282.35	288.85	267.55	276.75	275.75	275.70	290.45	288.59	357.42	300.80	301.05
BERING STRAIT	1,733.85	1,704.00	1,699.15	1,668.30	1,672.45	1,645.55	1,652.95	1,642.85	1,653.60	1,593.55	1,667.55	1,660.35	1,657.60	1,695.10	1,770.45
BRISTOL BAY	233.60	195.35	184.40	179.00	188.10	182.25	144.65	155.05	160.05	149.74	139.65	138.20	123.00	121.40	117.95
CHATHAM	219.90	215.00	195.10	203.50	194.82	168.39	151.75	156.40	157.25	148.75	144.95	146.50	169.20	166.15	162.65
CHUGACH	200.50	191.10	218.75	214.02	199.63	227.75	224.80	264.00	254.45	245.11	281.40	288.55	276.20	337.09	374.95
COPPER RIVER	675.12	658.25	640.40	610.40	559.55	518.95	502.90	495.71	471.68	489.55	487.30	443.77	437.55	418.30	439.55
CORDOVA	464.10	471.40	451.60	446.95	420.50	408.90	368.40	360.40	337.75	324.50	315.78	312.41	327.00	353.35	313.65
CRAIG	855.40	955.44	656.80	766.25	754.19	748.90	723.32	659.05	624.03	657.30	617.33	565.73	564.45	518.11	529.22
DELTA/GREELY	1,004.31	1,031.24	1,187.81	1,260.60	1,319.77	1,159.73	1,077.44	1,007.38	894.95	916.50	840.45	839.59	806.37	773.45	810.39
DENALI	310.15	571.15	664.20	633.90	548.35	573.65	407.79	461.04	721.15	716.25	854.65	859.20	889.84	900.31	881.20
DILLINGHAM	520.66	513.13	531.80	550.90	531.43	506.70	500.45	469.52	478.70	472.60	490.05	489.80	468.10	449.20	474.85
FAIRBANKS	15,120.94	14,594.39	14,553.71	14,508.60	14,441.99	14,082.48	14,147.57	14,417.84	14,238.23	14,276.63	14,273.49	14,062.59	13,770.11	13,876.09	13,774.48
GALENA	3,767.90	3,890.03	3,680.26	3,638.50	3,727.18	3,759.05	3,649.40	3,683.35	3,813.54	3,741.46	3,745.06	3,985.49	4,146.20	4,146.88	4,208.21
HAINES	323.70	318.99	296.57	290.90	297.75	316.05	305.25	309.09	305.15	307.40	280.30	270.85	268.14	277.02	261.70
HOONAH	188.40	179.40	171.70	166.50	152.95	131.40	123.45	106.07	120.70	113.75	114.30	101.80	112.20	115.45	107.75
HYDABURG	92.20	86.85	74.50	72.50	79.60	75.45	66.63	51.85	62.65	44.00	53.45	65.10	70.00	81.40	73.90
IDITAROD	403.50	376.30	344.53	331.25	338.00	302.25	280.43	305.87	313.03	321.90	222.31	260.90	314.05	286.03	267.40
JUNEAU	5,521.13	5,441.87	5,306.28	5,236.57	5,155.30	5,072.60	4,972.69	5,020.42	4,982.63	4,952.20	4,957.03	4,848.02	4,807.65	4,736.31	4,795.69
KAKE	151.85	155.15	141.75	116.00	103.55	101.45	93.35	88.50	85.40	92.60	105.33	104.00	109.70	107.65	96.00
KASHUNAMIUT	350.40	362.25	354.65	330.55	339.20	325.55	312.50	301.75	305.95	311.65	302.33	316.70	317.15	331.60	342.35
KENAI	9,632.43	9,561.95	9,527.25	9,388.83	9,368.14	9,249.70	9,255.77	9,144.67	9,025.06	8,969.57	8,892.06	8,760.52	8,827.87	8,787.60	8,784.83
KETCHIKAN	2,398.35	2,370.42	2,306.35	2,295.72	2,272.90	2,251.85	2,126.83	2,135.73	2,150.81	2,200.80	2,174.05	2,209.51	2,226.15	2,239.22	2,295.74
KLAWOCK	158.90	147.68	159.60	135.60	140.45	135.50	125.10	136.55	136.80	135.85	130.50	136.35	122.95	114.55	128.15
KODIAK	2,750.35	2,676.63	2,678.45	2,717.72	2,635.82	2,671.40	2,597.89	2,567.04	2,543.27	2,516.98	2,512.65	2,483.02	2,443.61	2,419.72	2,396.99
KUSPUK	426.70	424.10	414.05	415.00	396.60	383.40	339.65	340.90	348.55	345.50	335.40	333.10	345.90	347.35	340.55
LAKE AND PENN.	412.55	418.23	398.57	386.42	378.45	367.75	368.68	343.22	327.30	325.94	329.60	303.60	316.05	318.55	308.53
LOWER KUSKOKW	3,704.69	3,784.60	3,832.13	3,930.25	3,961.85	3,916.70	3,953.55	3,967.85	3,995.15	3,971.75	4,008.22	4,088.50	4,109.40	4,118.90	4,115.75
LOWER YUKON	2,053.15	2,031.80	2,017.45	2,036.75	1,968.30	2,035.15	2,031.10	1,922.35	1,964.05	1,986.65	1,959.75	1,953.55	2,019.15	1,999.85	1,959.60
MATSU	13,547.27	14,304.06	14,661.48	15,438.13	15,846.65	16,115.15	16,480.83	16,663.10	16,964.56	17,337.80	17,247.39	17,476.51	17,757.44	18,464.59	18,809.04
NENANA	1,256.69	931.32	715.52	686.02	601.45	887.58	1,001.66	969.42	1,063.18	947.54	954.75	897.10	977.85	1,042.93	1,072.13
NOME	736.15	715.10	767.40	767.85	748.55	719.52	673.71	667.55	680.25	689.75	680.65	706.15	699.35	732.20	699.50
NORTH SLOPE	1,970.25	1,810.45	1,691.15	1,726.15	1,623.00	1,618.00	1,580.70	1,537.60	1,612.30	1,599.10	1,647.40	1,730.75	1,738.56	1,776.40	1,882.71
NW ARCTIC	2,151.90	2,028.75	1,998.80	2,018.85	1,976.15	1,944.25	1,857.30	1,830.75	1,776.08	1,803.35	1,839.90	1,888.41	1,941.62	2,008.80	1,978.14
PELICAN	18.00	15.00	11.20	13.60	14.95	16.00	14.55	12.90	12.00	18.00	14.75	11.20	11.35	12.55	10.00
PETERSBURG	625.85	657.45	629.60	591.45	588.55	559.60	517.17	510.60	485.83	426.65	451.22	430.25	431.85	460.51	472.36
PRIBILOF	135.50	124.25	127.25	114.75	123.00	111.60	109.65	97.60	86.85	81.50	89.00	81.30	82.10	71.10	59.00
SAINT MARY'S	167.16	147.50	154.70	164.80	185.35	186.30	176.80	164.15	176.50	180.90	182.50	202.85	197.60	193.20	200.55
SITKA	1,548.91	1,466.53	1,478.31	1,476.66	1,453.84	1,377.93	1,316.21	1,315.10	1,299.18	1,312.47	1,312.99	1,338.19	1,314.52	1,314.95	1,274.86
SKAGWAY	109.67	105.83	108.75	109.25	99.50	105.90	94.55	89.85	78.40	58.71	64.05	84.30	84.00	100.85	113.05
SOUTHEAST	223.00	219.80	212.00	206.50	186.90	152.35	167.20	141.10	158.85	164.80	189.88	198.65	190.18	175.72	182.15
SOUTHWEST	721.25	676.95	705.95	668.70	673.65	657.70	633.50	639.85	627.45	633.10	586.10	601.70	588.75	579.96	578.45
TANANA	77.50	92.00	115.05	66.55	53.95	57.40	39.15	43.25	41.45	34.00	48.50	40.60	38.50	39.00	36.00
UNALASKA	392.95	398.55	398.70	397.50	385.75	387.75	402.35	402.70	406.75	413.60	414.55	407.25	395.60	374.60	388.70
VALDEZ	866.70	865.25	827.60	797.13	748.35	724.50	691.60	671.40	675.90	675.50	635.65	609.36	602.16	634.91	637.65
WRANGELL	435.45	391.78	375.30	369.85	354.74	346.45	323.73	314.70	339.25	387.35	385.63	343.75	271.75	269.85	272.65
YAKUTAT	144.25	125.00	133.15	132.50	117.75	121.85	121.25	110.30	119.25	104.90	94.50	96.05	97.30	81.43	79.70
YUKON FLATS	307.25	292.20	275.90	270.33	265.88	280.74	270.80	271.70	246.65	258.75	256.55	243.80	240.00	237.55	248.80
YUKON/KOYUKUK	885.07	1,381.07	1,799.66	1,560.72	1,426.65	1,320.13	1,367.98	1,442.18	1,325.92	1,256.38	1,401.65	1,488.40	1,455.99	1,532.53	1,672.04
YUPIIT	424.00	434.25	445.15	446.15	458.25	460.05	444.75	448.90	450.40	447.80	431.10	438.50	453.65	456.45	470.75
STATE ACS	1,085.84	411.78	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mt. EDGE CUMBE	334.00	334.90	368.75	394.95	407.90	404.45	427.10	395.85	398.40	395.25	396.85	400.65	416.85	425.05	431.25
TOTALS	132,484.79	131,622.55	130,927.70	131,263.47	130,164.21	128,975.24	128,380.75	129,228.67	129,046.71	128,885.84	128,965.51	128,435.21	128,580.18	129,704.74	130,295.33

Alaska K-12 Funding

Base Student Allocation

FY 2009 ~ FY 2019 Projected

Updated 12/12/2017



George Ascott

From: David Boyle <dboyle@alaskapolicyforum.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. Justin Parish; Rep. Chuck Kopp; Rep. Lora Reinbold; Rep. Geran Tarr; Representative.Jennifer.Johnson@akleg.gov
Subject: Testimony on HB339

Request my testimony be made part of the record. This is my testimony I presented to the House Education Committee on HB339 on February 22, 2018.

Chairwoman Drummond, committee members, I am David Boyle and representing the Alaska Policy Forum. We could support this bill to increase the BSA if, and only if, it had some accountability metrics on student achievement required from the districts/schools.

The goal of all on the committee and all of Alaskans regardless of their political bent is to improve student achievement and increase the opportunity for life success for all students. This bill does not do that. As a matter of fact, this bill which throws more money at the education problem actually incentivizes poor performance by schools/districts. You see, if a school improves and does well, then it may lose funding. On the other hand, those schools that perform poorly and do not improve get more funding to improve, which is not in their interest when it comes to funding.

It's kind of like a teenager who gets \$20 from his parents to take his girlfriend to the movies. Then he comes home and asks for more money to get pizza. This routine goes on for multiple times and the parents (legislators) always relent. So, the teenager's behavior is rewarded. We need to start rewarding good behavior and stop funding bad behavior when it comes to school/district improving on their student achievement.

We are all aware of the mediocre PEAKS and NAEP results for Alaska. This has happened on your watch and more funding will not improve these test results.

Now I would like to address the PowerPoint which you have in your packet. This PowerPoint was provided by a current House member and is filled with anecdotes. Overall, this PowerPoint only considers the general operating budget of the schools. It does not include other funds from the State such as transportation, school bond debt reimbursement, PERS/TRS in-kind payments by the State, and other funding streams including Quality Schools. All these funding streams must be included to get a true picture of school/district funding.

Let's take a look at the Anchorage School District which is portrayed in slide #9 in the packet. You have heard from the education industry about the pink slipping of teachers. None of us wants that and **we don't need it.** This is merely a strategy to get parents', Alaskans' and, yes, legislators' attention. The ASD said it had to pink slip more than 220 teachers last year (most all were rehired). However, it did not pink slip any of the following:

1. 268 food service workers
2. 354 custodians
3. 147 principals & assistant principals
4. 95 IT personnel
5. 200 maintenance personnel
6. 141 transportation personnel

(These numbers are from the ASD payroll FY2017)

And why not?

This is like FedEx firing all its pilots and truck drivers while keeping management and other shipping workers on staff. This is like Alaska Airlines firing all its pilots and keeping the flight attendants and reservations folks working. This would never be done by private industry. And **it should never be done by any school district.**

Also slide #9 mentions that ASD had to discontinue 394 FTE positions. Note that these are **positions**, not people. To get a true picture of any staff reductions, one must identify people reductions, not positions.

Slide #9 also mentions that classroom sizes have increased. Fact: according to the ASD CAFR, the pupil to teacher ratio in the District has increased but not dramatically. First grade is 22:1 an increase of 1 student over the previous year; grades 2 to 3 is 25:1 an increase of 1 student over the previous year; grades 4-6 is 26:1 with no increase over the previous year; and grades 7 to 12 ranges from 28.25 – 30.5: 1, an increase of 1 student over the previous year. So, little has changed to impact the classroom size. These are facts from the ASD CAFR, page 159. These are not anecdotes as in the PowerPoint.

Now let's turn to slide #10 of the PowerPoint. It states that healthcare is a fixed cost and is increasing dramatically. It is not a fixed cost. It is a variable cost and can be controlled by the school district. In the ASD the District (taxpayer) pays about \$21,000 per NEA member. This could be reduced considerably by placing ASD employees in the State's Alaska Cares healthcare program. A few years ago, one member of the House actually voted against reducing the healthcare costs of school districts by opposing on the House Floor a bill that would do just that. Combining all school districts into one healthcare consortium would save the state and school districts millions of dollars. By the way, only one of the Big 5 school districts opposed this legislation. That was the Anchorage School District which the aforementioned House member represented.

In 5 years the ASD has lost 1,200 students. This current school year ASD student count is down a whole 667 students. So, the variable costs of the District should also be reduced but instead it wants even more for fewer students.

Finally, I ask that you all look at the root causes of our rather mediocre education system. Do not look at the symptoms or the problem. Look at the root causes and provide a solution to the cause of poor performance of Alaska's K12 education system. Money is not the solution. Accountability for results is.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB339.

David Boyle
Alaska Policy Forum