

Doniece Gott

From: Rebecca Hills <rebeccahills@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please Raise the BSA. pass HB 69 with \$1000 increase to the BSA

Greetings,

Thank you for your service to our state.

At this point, I assume you've heard from many many Alaskans telling you how important it is to raise the BSA and save our schools. Please add my voice to that chorus. People are leaving Alaska because of this issue. We are better than this!

Please prove that you care about the future of Alaska and our kids by passing at least \$1000 increase to the BSA.

I want to share the testimony I gave at the Anchorage School Board meeting last night. My kids attend a great optional school in Anchorage and the school is slated to lose two teachers next year if HB 69 doesn't pass with \$1000 increase to the BSA. This would be devastating for our school and the students who attend.

Here is my testimony from last night's school board meeting:

"Hello, and thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight.

My name is Rebecca Hills and I'm here to urge you to maintain all 11 teaching positions at Chugach Optional Elementary School.

You have already heard from Chugach students and parents about the exceptional nature of the program and the uniqueness of the experience it offers students. I am going to talk to you about the numbers and why the program that has been in place for 50 years is working and should be shared, so that more students can benefit.

I'm sure you know that Chugach students do well on achievement tests. In fact, Chugach is consistently in the top three or four elementary schools in the district for achievement. But let's break it down:

- **Math (MAP Growth):** Only 41% of ASD 6th graders score above the 50th percentile benchmark, compared to **74% at Chugach**.
- **Reading (MAP Growth):** Just 47% of ASD 6th graders surpass the 50th percentile, while **93% of Chugach students** do.

Doniece Gott

From: Melissa Hammes <mlh1980@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:18 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for HB69

To Whom it may concern- I am writing to express my support for Hb69 as it stands now. Our schools across the state are in crisis and it is time for our elected officials to finally do their constitutional duty and give them adequate funding. Please pass HB 69 as it stands now with a BSA increase of at least \$1000. Without this bare minimum of funding, some of our states most successful schools, including Chugach Optional Elementary- where my children attend, will face cuts that will forever change and diminish them. At our school, we will loose at least 2 full time teaching positions, which will make Chugach unable to continue with the longstanding model of multi-age classrooms taught in a 2 yr cycle. This will destroy Chugach's 50 years worth of educational excellence.

Both the Anchorage School Board and the Fairbanks school board have passed resolutions to be very transparent with how their money will be spent and it will go to fund students directly. This will also allow increases in charter school funding and homeschool allotments. Please do your duty and pass HB69 without decreasing the BSA.

Sincerely,
Melissa Hammes

Doniece Gott

From: Kaitlin Reiley <kaitlinreiley@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for BSA increase of \$1000

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of HB 69 to increase the BSA by \$1000. You have the responsibility to provide quality education in our state. Our children are worth the investment. They are the ones you will rely on when you are old and infirm, don't you want to make sure they are educated and competent enough to do their job??

Kait
Mother of 3 and lifelong Alaskan

Doniece Gott

From: Caitlin Sauer <cmsauer16@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:18 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

Caitlin Sauer

Doniece Gott

From: Andrea Eberle <eberleeyecare@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB 69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA-and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Sincerely,
Dr. Andrea Eberle

Doniece Gott

From: Williams Karen <williams_karen5461@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:14 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB69

Hello,
As a retired Alaskan teacher, I feel strongly that our Alaskan kids deserve the best education possible. Our schools are currently starving! PLEASE PASS HB69!

Thank you,
Karen Williams

Sent from my iPhone tree

Doniece Gott

From: Gable Smith <gable76@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:13 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please pass HB 69 with a BSA of \$1000

Please pass HB69 with a \$1000 BSA intact. Thank you.

Gable Smith
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Gable Smith <gable76@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:13 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please pass HB 69 with a BSA of \$1000

Please pass HB69 with a \$1000 BSA intact. Thank you.

Gable Smith
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Elise Davis <eliseldavis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:12 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support HB 69 and the \$1,000 BSA Increase

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I'm writing to express my strong support for **HB 69** and the proposed **\$1,000 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA)**.

Since 2011, Alaska's state funding for K–12 education has **not kept pace with inflation**. In fact, the BSA has fallen behind inflation by **25%**, forcing districts to make painful decisions—**cutting programs, increasing class sizes, and even closing schools**—just to balance their budgets.

This creates instability and inconsistency - two things that do NOT benefit students, nor the professional adults who have bills to pay and families to care for. We are losing good teachers and using band-aid approaches to get by. It's not sustainable and our children, and in the long run, our communities, bear the consequences.

A \$1,000 increase to the BSA is a necessary and meaningful step toward addressing these funding shortfalls and ensuring that all Alaskan children have access to a strong public education, no matter where they live.

Please vote in favor of HB 69 and invest in the future of our students and state.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,
Elise Davis
Anchorage, Alaska
Educator, Parent, Community Member

Doniece Gott

From: Ingrid Petrie <tipetrie1@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:09 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support of \$1000 BSA

Please support a \$1000 BSA increase for our children. I am a lifelong Alaskan resident and a product of our public schools. I am also the parent of 2 who graduated from the Anchorage School District. Supporting a \$1000 BSA increase is imperative to the success of our children in Alaska. We can't provide for the academic needs of our students without a BSA increase.

Thank you again for supporting our public schools.

Ingrid Petrie

Doniece Gott

From: Katrina Stanley <katrinabolt@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:08 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I want to express my support of increasing the BSA by \$1000. Our schools are incredibly underfunded and we have so many areas of need in my children's Ms' schools. The \$1000 is barely covering those needs and to think of increasing by a lower amount would not be acceptable. Please do the right thing for our students and the future of our schools and Alaska.

Katrina Stanley,
Parent of children in Anchorage school district.

Doniece Gott

From: michal <michal_1939@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:04 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please increase school funding

Dear Senators,

Adequate school funding is my top priority for the State legislature. Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. Education should be the first priority for spending. To make this possible this budget year, I support cuts in other areas. I also support eliminating our PFD so that our schools are well funded.

To fund schools adequately in the future, I ask you to please increase the revenue base. Tax the corporations, tax the people, TAX ME. I would happily pay my fair share of taxes (for example a progressive income tax), so that our schools are well funded, so that programs are not cut, and so that teachers can have pensions. It's pitiful that every year for the last several years we've had to plead with the legislature to fund our schools. Funding our public schools is a constitutional mandate. So please do it!

Thank you very much.

Michal Stryszak

Anchorage, AK 99517

Doniece Gott

From: amanda day <dayamanda29@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:58 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: ASD Budget Cuts

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to bring your attention to a critical issue affecting the Anchorage School District (ASD) as we approach the 2025-26 school year. As you may be aware, ASD is currently facing a significant budget shortfall that threatens the quality of education and the resources available to our students and educators. I am a mother of two young girls at Oceanview Elementary and my 1st grader is having to hear that her teacher will not be returning to her school next year due to money issues. This has been the most difficult subject to approach with my children when their main focus should be on their education, extracurriculars, and the building blocks that will help them throughout their short adolescent years.

The proposed budget cuts, if enacted, will have far-reaching consequences, impacting everything from class sizes to extracurricular programs, and potentially reducing the level of support for students who need it most, not to mention medical attention our children need from our nurse department. These cuts will undoubtedly harm the progress we have made in recent years to improve educational outcomes and provide our students with the tools they need to succeed.

To ensure the continued success of our schools and to provide every student with the opportunity for a high-quality education, it is imperative that we reverse these proposed budget cuts and advocate for an increase in the Base Student Allocation (BSA) funding. Increasing the BSA is essential to ensure that our schools remain adequately funded and can continue to meet the needs of a growing and diverse student population.

As we look ahead to the 2025-26 school year, I urge you to prioritize the reversal of budget cuts and to champion efforts to secure additional funding for ASD. From one parent to another I know you understand why our students deserve a future where they can thrive, and this requires a sustained commitment to education funding.

Thank you for your time and attention to this pressing issue. I look forward to working together to support our schools and ensure that every student in Anchorage has access to the resources they need to succeed.

Sincerely,
Amanda Day

Doniece Gott

From: Sara Dykstra <sara.dykstra@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Increase BSA by \$1000

Good evening Senate Finance Members-

School Districts have not had an increase of more than \$30 in over a decade. Clearly costs have gone up as well as inflation. Please pass HB69 and preserve the \$1000 that school districts so desperately need. ASD has already pledge to have 100% of that money go towards instruction and school supports for this year.

Please do the right thing.

Sara Dykstra
Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Gwen Otten <gwenotten@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:54 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB 69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

Gwen Elisa Otten
(970)402-8554
gwenotten@gmail.com

Doniece Gott

From: Brihannala Morgan <brihannala@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:50 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to the BSA

As the parent of an ASD kindergartner, I am writing to ask you to please HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to the BSA (or more!). I would deeply like my child to attend ASD until she graduates - but these cuts make me question if we can live in a place where her class sizes would be so big and opportunities so few. For the future of Alaska and our children - please increase the BSA to \$1000 or more.

Sincerely,
Brihannala Morgan

ASD parent

Doniece Gott

From: Nola Uchtmann <meyerny@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:47 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. And access to quality education affects our and many other families' decision to come to or stay in Alaska. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

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Doniece Gott

From: Terri Davenport <terri.davenport@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:47 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for \$1000 in BSA for HB 69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least the permanent \$1000 increase to the BSA. A lesser amount (such as \$680) is insufficient to adequately fund education in Alaska. While we all understand that the budget is facing enormous difficulties, my children (and all children in Alaska) deserve a quality education, which can only be secured with a minimum \$1000 permanent increase in the BSA. Please pass HB 69 quickly so that our schools and teachers will have the resources they so desperately need. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Terri Davenport
Anchorage, AK Resident
2015 Atwood Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517

Doniece Gott

From: Kari Skinner <karitskinner@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:47 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for HB 69

I am emailing to express my support for HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to the BSA. An increase of \$680 is not enough after over a decade of flat funding however if the BSA by \$1,000, the Anchorage School District can avoid most of the cuts included in the new budget.

Please do your job. You are constitutionally obligated provide quality public education to all Alaskans and therefore you must find the funding for this obligation.

Thank you,
Kari Skinner

Doniece Gott

From: Aubrey Smith <aubrey99664@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:42 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Increase the BSA

To whom it may concern,

I urge you to take action and increase the BSA to \$1000. Our children deserve this, our community deserves this, our society deserves this. We need well educated, well rounded individuals for a healthy and productive society. Do not take away athletics and extracurriculars, Do not increase class sizes, they are already too large!

Thank you for your time,
Aubrey Smith

Doniece Gott

From: Nicholas Miller <millern1234@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:41 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Alaskan Senators,

I am contacting you to advocate the passage of HB 69. As a citizen of Alaska, a working professional, and a father of a school age child, I am very concerned with the constant churn in this state over educational funding. My family and I love Alaska, but as a father I have a duty and an obligation to ensure my child receives a quality education to set him on the best possible path in life. If Alaska cannot do its part provide my child an education, I will be forced to look outside the state for those opportunities and potentially take my skill set with me.

Please do your part to invest in the future professional class of the state, and retain your current professionals.

Nick Miller
Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Tara Gondek <tara.gondek@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:36 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Full \$1,000 BSA Increase in HB 69 – Our Students Deserve It

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge your full support of HB 69 with a \$1,000 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA). After over a decade of flat funding, Alaska's public schools are under enormous strain. Adjusted for inflation, the BSA has lost more than 20% of its value since 2011. This has left districts scrambling to do more with less every year.

The proposed \$680 increase is simply not enough. It would barely keep pace with inflation, and it won't prevent major cuts to programs, staffing, and services. In the Anchorage School District alone, the difference between a \$680 and \$1,000 increase could mean the survival of dozens of teaching positions, special education resources, and essential extracurriculars like athletics and music—programs that research consistently shows improve student outcomes, especially for those from low-income backgrounds.

Statewide, we're already seeing increased class sizes, staff shortages, and a decline in student achievement. Further underfunding only accelerates these issues.

Data from the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) and other education policy experts consistently confirms that investment in public education pays off long-term in higher graduation rates, workforce readiness, and economic stability.

You have a constitutional and moral obligation to provide a quality public education. Fully funding the BSA with a \$1,000 increase is not only fiscally responsible—it's essential for the future of Alaska's children.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Doniece Gott

From: Eve Ryan <l_uniqueve@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:35 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support a \$1000 BSA increase

Please support a \$1000 increase! Our schools desperately need it.

Doniece Gott

From: Jess Sotelo <spacewarrior2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:33 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. High quality education strengthens our community and our state. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

Jessica Sotelo MD
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Tom Miller <tom.miller.ak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:31 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Increase BSA by at least \$1000. Inflation proof BSA. Support schools.

Tom Miller
925 Coral Lane
Anchorage, AK 99515

Thank you.

Doniece Gott

From: Misty Nelson <mdnelson907@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:30 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: BSA \$1,000

Please, please, PLEASE provide \$1,000 increase to the BSA. The future of Alaska depends on it... our kiddos and educators are worth it and deserve it! Taking away programs and increasing class sizes will not increase student outcomes.

Misty
907-301-5855

Doniece Gott

From: Jekka Roder <jekkaroder@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:29 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to the BSA

Hi, I am deeply concerned about our schools. My husband and I have lived here 25 and 15 years respectively and absolutely love raising our three kids in Alaska. The issue that would drive us from our home is if we continue to devalue education at all levels. It is unconscionable to jeopardize the future of our kids, our state and our country by not allocating enough money to properly provide the best education possible. Right now, we sit at the very bottom of the country with our education stats. We can not regain ground without prioritizing it. Please fund the HB 69 at a \$1,000 increase.

Thank you,
Jekka (Jessica) Roder

Jekka Studios LLC
907.903.2293

Doniece Gott

From: Rachel Steer <rsteer78@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69

I am a mother of two children in ASD and my husband is an ASD teacher. It is clear that flat funding and cuts to programs are diminishing the quality of education in Alaska.

Please vote in support of the \$1,000 increase to the BSA. Our communities and our children deserve access to quality education.

Rachel Steer
(907) 301-5526
rsteer78@gmail.com

Doniece Gott

From: Jeremiah Murphy <jeremiah.murphy@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please Pass HB 69 — A concerned parent

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education.

I was just in an Anchorage classroom today and no learning was happening because not enough staff was available to deal with the students who have behavioral needs.

Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

**Jeremiah Murphy
3801 Gardner St., Unit A
Anchorage, AK 99508
3238362670**

Doniece Gott

From: Katrina Hanger <katrina.hanger@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:21 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69 Keep Our BSA at \$1000 Tomorrow

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to implore you to pass a strong BSA of at least \$1000 and continue to fight for education funding into our future. My name is Katrina Hanger. I currently teach 5th grade at Ravenwood Elementary school in Anchorage, Alaska and I was among the many teachers recently displaced. I'm here to tell you about my experience with displacement at Anchorage School District and, from my perspective, the impact it's had on me, my family, our schools, and our greater community. Without a strong BSA, this will continue to be a reality for Alaskan teachers for years to come.

I'm an experienced teacher with over 15 years of teaching experience, I have my Master's Degree and my National Board Certification. I've worked in four different states and in 7 different schools. I've taught multiple grade levels, specialized in Title I and English Language Learners, and have taught in STEM magnet schools. In all of the various systems in which I've worked I've never experienced anything quite like the self-inflicted disruptive effect that our current method of displacement has on our teachers, students, and communities. This inefficient process is not without its consequences - and my anecdotal testimony tonight is just one teacher's example I hope might highlight some of the negative effects and unintended consequences.

My family and I moved to Anchorage three years ago. As a career educator, it should be no surprise that when we were choosing where to live we made that selection based, in no small part, on a school and community we felt would be a good learning environment and community for our three young children. My hope was to be able to teach in their school although I recognized that I might not be able to do that right away. So, I interviewed for schools in Northeast Anchorage hoping to reduce the amount of commuting time and work through various drop-off and pick-up schedules with children in school and daycare. My husband is a firefighter and isn't always able to be around for drop-offs and pickups either. For that year we had to pay for additional child care just for me to be able to work my normal hours as a teacher and then pick up my own children.

While I enjoyed my year working at Ptarmigan Elementary and built some strong relationships with the community and my colleagues, working far away from my young family was a challenge. My principal was very thoughtful and supportive about letting me flex my time to pick up my children from daycare, but I still wasn't able to commit fully to the school because of my responsibilities as a mother. I couldn't participate in after school activities and I often felt behind because I had to leave early to pick up my youngest son from daycare. I enjoy being a part of those after school activities and find that it helps in building relationships with students and building a better community centered around our childrens' growth and development.

In February I applied for a transfer to Ravenwood. I had a great interview but the principal needed to accept a displaced teacher during that hiring period and could not offer me a position since I was a voluntary transfer. I was delighted in July when I received a call that enrollment was very high and I would be able to join the Ravenwood team as a ½ combo teacher. Teaching a combo class is a very difficult job. You need to master two grade levels of standards and fit them all into a regular school day. I excitedly accepted the position though because it was my dream to work at Ravenwood and spend the waning years of my childrens' primary education being able to be with them as a teacher in their school. It's truly been one of the highlights of my life to be able to see my childrens' smiling faces in school and see how happy they are in the community Ravenwood has created. I want to be a part of making their school the best it can be - I have a vested interest in being a part of that and I have had the highest job satisfaction there as a result. I was able to stay late when I needed to because my children were with me. I committed to every after school fundraiser and joined several

Doniece Gott

From: Jeanne Larsen <jeannelarsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:18 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Full BSA increase

Esteemed Senate Finance Committee,

I write this between a late meeting at school and prep for tomorrow's school day.

With full urgency, I implore you to raise the BSA by the full \$1K amount.

As a teacher who works with students from homes where English is not their native language, the resources to support and educate these students (and all students) has been dwindling year over year.

I work at an ABC elementary school - back to basics and high rigor, high structure. Fully 70% of our students are students of color. They have been getting an excellent education, but we are losing 2 teachers to displacement. Others are resigning or retiring.

Class sizes will be rising by at least 4 students each. This includes our youngest learners, and all of this is on the backs of teachers who have worked tirelessly to help their students learn & succeed.

Educator burnout is real, and one thing we know is that excellent teachers are the lynchpin of a great education.

Thank you for your service on behalf of all Alaskans, and with your support, we can see a brighter day ahead for all young Alaskans.

Please pass the \$1000 BSA.

Wishing you well,

Jeanne Larsen
Teacher
Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Bridget McBride <b2mcbride@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:15 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB69 and increase the BSA by \$1000

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Bridget McBride and I am a lifelong Alaskan and parent of school aged children in the Anchorage School District. I am asking you to support House Bill 69 to raise the BSA of a **minimum** of \$1000, and to support **continued funding** for all schools in Alaska. That includes charter, correspondence, and homeschool- chosen by choice- but I'm most concerned about supporting funding for our neighborhood public schools which often serve our most vulnerable. Without the proper funding our children cannot receive the education they need and deserve- manageable class sizes, retainment of quality teachers, necessary supplies, and opportunities for exploration for **ALL** kids- academically, athletically, and socially. Our Alaskan forefathers thought it was important enough to include public education funding in our state constitution. Without proper funding of our public schools we are doing our students a disservice and our school districts across the state will crumble. I am a graduate of the Anchorage School District, and I chose to raise my kids here due to the excellent education I received, but the lack of support I feel from this state has me questioning our decision to stay. Thank you for the opportunity to share my strong support for fully funding HB 69.

Respectfully,
Bridget McBride

Doniece Gott

From: Drew Heusinkvelt <aheusy@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:15 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: In support of HB 69

Good evening,

My name is Drew Heusinkvelt and I am writing in strong support of HB69, contingent on a minimum increase of \$1000 to the BSA.

I teach science at South Anchorage High School, where our administration has told us that we are likely to have class sizes of *at least* 36. I'd ask you to imagine your children in a science class of 36. Do you think that would be a valuable experience for them? Would you be okay with that if it was your own children?

Please vote in support of HB69, with at least the \$1000 BSA increase.

Thank you.

Drew Heusinkvelt

Doniece Gott

From: Erica Arnold <akteacher77@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:13 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please Support HB69

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support **House Bill 69** and increase the Base Student Allocation (BSA) by at least **\$1,000**.

As a lifelong Alaskan, a **mother of two public school students**—one in middle school and one in high school—and a **4th grade teacher**, I see firsthand the devastating impact of underfunded education.

Next year, I am scheduled to have **at least 36 students** in my classroom. This is far beyond what is appropriate for providing a high-quality education, and it puts both students and teachers in an impossible position. My **middle schooler will have no access to sports or extracurricular activities**, robbing him of the enrichment and personal growth these programs provide. My **high school senior's electives have been slashed**, jeopardizing her final year and her preparation for college and life beyond.

These are not just numbers—they are our children's futures.

You **must fully fund public education** in Alaska. An increase to the BSA is not a luxury; it's a necessity. And even that alone is not enough. You must also find **sustainable sources of revenue** beyond the BSA to ensure long-term investment in our schools and students.

Please do the right thing. Support HB69 and stand up for Alaska's kids, families, and future.

Sincerely,
Erica Arnold

Doniece Gott

From: Laura <lgrossman1234@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:09 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Alaska Senate,

Please do not short change Alaska's future by refusing to fund and properly educate our youth. In 15-20 years these youth will be the leaders, the doctors, farmers, natural resource developers/managers, and industry leaders that will be in charge of the health and welfare of our state, country, and ourselves as individuals. This decision to fund and educate will impact everyone who wants to live in this state, regardless of whether they choose to have children, educate their children at home, or utilize the state public education.

Please vote to support the full \$1000 increase to the BSA.

Laura Grossman
Anchorage, AK
907-351-7969

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Becky Hauser <beckysteerhauser@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: More support for HB69

We have 2 kids who depend on middle school sports, theatre, school nurses, low teacher- student ratios and all the things that make schools great. Please add our voices to the thousands who are begging for this to be an easy decision. Please increase the BSA \$1000 and give our kids and our schools the best chance for success. I'm including a picture from one of the middle school XC ski races at Kincaid this season. This is where lessons are learned, kids make friends, and healthy learning opportunities flourish. The value of these programs cannot be overstated.



Doniece Gott

From: Jose Luna <joselunaz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thanks for your service to our state. I know there are a lot of urgent issues you are wrangling right now, but, as a father of an 8 year old who attends Alaska public schools, and someone who cares about investing in what matters most, I am urging you to prioritize funding the education of our children.

Please support HB69 and the \$1000 BSA increase this year, a lower level is simply not enough to fill the gap our schools are facing with inflation and nearly a decade of flat funding. If this increase isn't funded, my daughter's elementary school will lose two gifted teachers and have reduced health and library services. I don't know the full extent of cuts at my son's middle school, but the potential loss of sports at that level is devastating to him and a disservice to kids who are learning about hard work, what it means to be part of a team, and connection with other peers (an important part of mental health).

Me and my family love living in Alaska, but the unwillingness of many leaders to prioritize education (and as a result our schools, teachers and students suffering) makes us entertain leaving the state for a place that chooses to prioritize investing in our youth. These kids are our future residents, innovators, volunteers, business owners, and our country's most valuable asset. They deserve a strong start and they can't do that without the expertise, resources and predictability that a fully funded education system provides.

Thank you for considering and please vote for a \$1000 BSA increase tomorrow.
Jose Luna Zelaya
South Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Jose Luna <joselunaz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thanks for your service to our state. I know there are a lot of urgent issues you are wrangling right now, but, as a father of an 8 year old who attends Alaska public schools, and someone who cares about investing in what matters most, I am urging you to prioritize funding the education of our children.

Please support HB69 and the \$1000 BSA increase this year, a lower level is simply not enough to fill the gap our schools are facing with inflation and nearly a decade of flat funding. If this increase isn't funded, my daughter's elementary school will lose two gifted teachers and have reduced health and library services. I don't know the full extent of cuts at my son's middle school, but the potential loss of sports at that level is devastating to him and a disservice to kids who are learning about hard work, what it means to be part of a team, and connection with other peers (an important part of mental health).

Me and my family love living in Alaska, but the unwillingness of many leaders to prioritize education (and as a result our schools, teachers and students suffering) makes us entertain leaving the state for a place that chooses to prioritize investing in our youth. These kids are our future residents, innovators, volunteers, business owners, and our country's most valuable asset. They deserve a strong start and they can't do that without the expertise, resources and predictability that a fully funded education system provides.

Thank you for considering and please vote for a \$1000 BSA increase tomorrow.
Jose Luna Zelaya
South Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Ocean View PTA <ptaocceanview@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 7:03 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support BSA Increase by \$1000

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

We appreciate the work you all do and urge you to please support increasing the BSA by \$1000. Anything less is simply not enough to keep our schools running at an acceptable level.

As the President of the Ocean View Elementary PTA and mom of 2 young kids (kindergarten & 3rd grade). This is a very important time for me personally, but all the other parents at our school. Our meeting last night brough 17 parents out and as a group we all felt strongly about the need to increase the BSA. Tears were even shed.

We love Alaska and our local school but are growing more and more disheartened by the Anchorage School District and the budget they are provided with. So much so that without an increase, we may consider leaving for a place that better values education.

It is imperative that now we support this bill and increase by \$1000 as the future of our children and community depends on it.

I've personally never been touched by a single issue greater than this.

Thank you and please vote for an increase of the BSA tomorrow by \$1000 (or more!!).

-Carolyn Berg
South Anchorage, AK

--

President
Ocean View PTA
www.facebook.com/oceanviewpta

Doniece Gott

From: Antoinette Guerrero <reyesantoinette@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Full Funding for Public Education – Vote YES on HB 69 with \$1,000 BSA Increase

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to fully fund Alaska's public schools by supporting HB 69 with a \$1,000 increase to the Base Student Allocation.

Our schools are stretched beyond their limits. At my children's elementary school, this chronic underfunding means we're facing the loss of two full-time teachers, and our students will have only part-time access to both a school librarian and a nurse. These are not extras. They are essential services that our children need and deserve.

While a \$680 increase may seem like a step forward, it simply doesn't address the magnitude of the problem. Only a \$1,000 increase will begin to reverse the damage and give our students a fair shot at a strong future. It's your constitutional responsibility to ensure every child in Alaska has access to a quality public education. That requires meaningful investment and not short-term fixes.

Please do what's right and fund our schools fully. Please vote for a \$1000 BSA increase tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Guerrero

Doniece Gott

From: Jo Bennett <jo.bennett907@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support HB 69 with the \$1000 increase to the BSA

Senators;

Please support HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to the BSA. This will help the ASD avoid most of the cuts. Remember, you are constitutionally obligated to provide quality public education to all Alaskans.

Thank you.

Jo Bennett
Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Trina Stauff <trinastauff@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:54 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thanks for your service to our state. I know there are a lot of urgent issues you are wrangling right now, but, as a mother of two kids who attend Alaska public schools, I am urging you to prioritize funding the education of our children.

Please support HB69 and the \$1000 BSA increase this year, a lower level is simply not enough to fill the gap our schools are facing with inflation and nearly a decade of flat funding. If this increase isn't funded, my daughter's elementary school will lose two gifted teachers and have reduced health and library services. I don't know the full extent of cuts at my son's middle school, but the potential loss of sports at that level is devastating to him and a disservice to kids who are learning about hard work, what it means to be part of a team, and connection with other peers (an important part of mental health).

We love living in Alaska, but the unwillingness of many leaders to prioritize education (and as a result our schools, teachers and students suffering) makes us entertain leaving the state for a place that chooses to prioritize investing our youth. These kids are our future residents, innovators, volunteers, business owners, and leaders....they deserve a strong start and they can't do that without the expertise, resources and predictability that a fully funded education system provides.

Thank you for considering and please vote for a \$1000 BSA increase tomorrow.
Trina Stauff de Luna
South Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: amy willett <amylwillett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:53 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: School budget cuts

Hello I'm a parent of a child with Autism who participates in middle school sports. My child struggles to build relationships and connect with people. Through the middle school cross country and track teams he has felt included and part of a community (which is rare!) I've seen his self confidence increase. School has always been challenging but he knows he needs to maintain a certain grade point average to be on the team and that if he misses school he cannot attend practice. This has made a huge difference in his motivation to attend school and his willingness to improve his grades. He attends a title one school with 70% of the students below the poverty level. For many students this is their only affordable opportunity for sports. I am concerned that if the BSA isn't increased to \$1,000 per student we will loose our middle school sports and with it all the positive outcomes for these students. Please, please help our students. Thank you!

Doniece Gott

From: Kevin McElhaney <mcelhakd@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Haley H
Subject: HB69 prioritization

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thanks for your service to our state. I know there are a lot of urgent issues you are wrangling right now, but, as a father of two kids who are currently and will attend Alaska public schools in the future, I am urging you to prioritize funding the education of our children.

Please support HB69 and the \$1000 BSA increase this year, a lower level is simply not enough to fill the gap our schools are facing with inflation and nearly a decade of flat funding. If this increase isn't funded, my son's elementary school will lose two gifted teachers and have reduced health and library services.

We love living in Alaska, but the unwillingness of many leaders to prioritize education (and as a result our schools, teachers and students suffering) makes us entertain leaving the state for a place that chooses to prioritize investing in our youth. These kids are our future residents, innovators, volunteers, business owners, and leaders....they deserve a strong start and they can't do that without the expertise, resources and predictability that a fully funded education system provides.

Thank you for considering and please vote for a \$1000 BSA increase tomorrow.

Kevin and Haley McElhaney
South Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Meghan Redmond <MRedmond@KPBSD.k12.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:49 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: In favor of HB 69

My name is Meghan Redmond. I am the principal of Homer Middle School in Homer, Alaska, but I am also a parent of 4 young children that I want to have the best future possible. I have been a teacher, assistant principal, and principal both on and off the road system in Alaska for the past 15 years. I am writing today in support of HB 69. I am specifically asking for the \$1000 increase to remain in the bill.

Our schools are facing rapidly rising costs in energy, transportation, health care, food service, and so much more. As those costs that are mostly out of our control rise through the roof and our funding remains flat, our districts are forced to find cuts that directly impact the classroom through cuts in staffing. As a principal, when I have to cut staffing, I am faced with an impossible decision of what opportunities to cut for my students or how big to make classes. I am forced to make decisions that I know are not best practices for student learning, when my original plan for next school year was to be moving the completely opposite direction. I can speak from experience that the things everyone calls "extra" are most often the things that get motivate kids to get to school so that they can also get our core instruction.

We need stable, long term, and predictable funding for our schools to be able to focus on long term school improvement, and to retrain and recruit excellent educators to our schools. Being a teacher is hard, being a teacher in Alaska is even harder. We have amazing, dedicated teachers in our state. but when our jobs are constantly on the chopping block due to possible budget cuts that year after year are stayed off temporarily by one-time funding outside the BSA, eventually the amazing teachers we have will have had enough. And I can tell you from personal experience in hiring teachers in Alaska for the past 15 years that we will not be able to replace them.

Our teachers deserve reasonable job expectations. We constantly ask our schools and our teachers to do more and more with less and less every year to the point that being a teacher is an impossible job.

We need stable, long-term funding for our schools. This will make an immediate improvement in the education of Alaska's children.

Last year, you heard the public testimony and the stories. You worked together with the rest of the legislators and found a compromise that nearly ALL of you agreed to. Last year's bill going to law would have made it so that we don't have to go through this awful process again and again just to staff our schools adequately. We aren't asking for a BSA increase to build ourselves a castle. We just want to ensure that every time our electric bill or the costs for insurance or the price of fuel to run our school buses increases, we don't have to make impossible decisions that inevitably take away opportunities for our students.

Thank you taking the time to read my email. Thank you for all you do. You have an impossibly difficult job that I could never do, so please know you are appreciated!

Meghan Redmond
Homer, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: Ashley Dahlin <ashleyadahlin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:43 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69 - please pass

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our wonderful schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ashley Dahlin
Mom of two ASD students

Doniece Gott

From: Amy Beane Rayess <abeane32@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please pass HB69 with a BSA of at least 1K

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

My name is Amy Rayess, and I am emailing to strongly encourage you to pass HB69 with a BSA of at least \$1000. It is time to invest in education, and the future of Alaska.

I am a parent to 3 daughters who will be in the Anchorage School District. We are incredibly happy with our lottery school, Chugach Optional Elementary. It is the kind of school I believe Dunleavy wants to see. Not only are our scores high, there is data to show growth across the board. About 4-5 dozen parents and students showed up to the ASD school board meeting last night to ask that we keep 2 teaching positions that are set to be eliminated next year. Our school is particular with an intentional structure of multi-age classrooms. We cannot just do a combo-class, like other schools might be able to, since Chugach has a 24 month curriculum per "family group" (the school's term for a classroom) with two grade levels. So we cannot just put 4 and 5 grades together, as the 4th graders would have missed 12 months of the curriculum. Our school is at 108% capacity. With the loss of two teachers our pupil to teacher ration would be 30:1. And, since we have multi-age classrooms, some classes will have more than 40 students. This is physically not possible and unsafe.

There has been a long history of success at Chugach Optional Elementary School. It's worked, it works, it's working. Not only are Chugach students high achievers, they demonstrate growth. Here's some data:

In the 2024-2025 school year, 43% of 3rd-6th grade students within ASD scored about the 50th percentile on the MAP growth Math test compared to 67% of 3rd-6th graders at Chugach. For the same time period, 50% of ASD students scored above the 50th percentile on MAP growth Reading test compared to 79% of Chugach students.

I come from a family of educators, and as a speech-language therapist with experience in the school systems, I know highly populated classrooms does not support student success.

My last point is that this is not just about education, it is also about Alaska's economy. I've testified before, that my family along with other families may be faced with a hard choice to leave Alaska if leaders continue to not support our children and their education. My husband is a child psychiatrist, and we both can find work elsewhere. His initial job that brought him to Alaska was looking for a child psychiatrist for 5 years prior to hiring him. Alaska will lose specialists, experts and will not be attractive to recruit professionals. Not to mention teachers! Who would want to continue the time and effort of being a teacher with such high class numbers, and with the district forced to make cuts every year. Something has to change. It's up to you, please stop kicking the can down the road. The time to act is now. So many folks showed up for the town hall meeting on Saturday. Hear our voices, be our leaders. Do what you need to do, a lower PFD is an option, taxes are an option. We are willing, please make the right decision for Alaska.

Doniece Gott

From: Miranda Weiss <mirandaweiss@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:37 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Fund our neighborhood schools!

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

I am a Homer parent with two kids in our neighborhood public schools.

I have witnessed two great educators leaving Alaska public schools because of uncertain state funding. One was a highly trained teacher who came to Alaska from California. She was my younger daughter's first grade teacher. Skilled in handling large class sizes in California, she had incredible classroom management skills, and my daughter made huge advances in her reading with this teacher. But when March of her first year of teaching in Alaska rolled around, and the state was doing its usual dithering on the education budget, the principal couldn't promise her a job, so she left Alaska.

Just last year, one of our local school counselors moved into the private sector because her job wasn't certain either. This school counselor was young and energetic, she connected with students, and was digging into the community. Now we've lost her from the school system, and I'm confident she won't come back.

How in our right minds can we attract high quality educators if the state is not willing to adequately or predictably fund our schools? We can't!

Uncertainty in school funding is undermining education in Alaska. It's hurting our kids, weakening our schools, and making Alaska's youth less competitive. Our kids are our future--our future community members, our future leaders, and our future workforce. The only responsible--and sane--thing to do is to pass HB69. We need to increase the BSA to reflect inflation and growing costs, ensure effective class sizes, and restore our purchasing power lost long ago to stagnant state funding of education.

Thank you,
Miranda Weiss

--

Miranda Weiss
P.O. Box 1498, Homer, AK 99603
907-299-5550
mirandaweiss@gmail.com
www.mirandaweiss.com

[Northern Lights](#) column at The American Scholar

Doniece Gott

From: Christa Beveridge <cbesing17@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:30 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB69 with \$1000 BSA increase

Hello,

I am a registered Alaskan voter in Senate district E from South Anchorage and I am writing in support of the \$1000 increase to the BSA as proposed in HB69. Funding public education must be the top priority for the state of Alaska as it is the principle responsibility of the state to its children and the foundation of the future economy.

We moved to Alaska from Houston in 2023 due to an internal job transfer for my husband with ConocoPhillips. Educational opportunities for our three children were our biggest concern ahead of the move. In Houston, if your school district is underperforming, there are plenty of private options for high level education. Anchorage does not have the same alternatives for private educations. Lack of funding for schools which leads to a lack of educational opportunities is the one reason we would leave Alaska as our kids' education is our top priority, as I'm sure it is for a majority of the skilled, technical people Alaska's economy needs to thrive.

If HB69 is not passed and the public school program is not funded properly, not only will the future Alaskan work force be at risk, but there will be a real risk of an immediate 'brain drain' of families who will leave the state to find better educational opportunities for their children. I am an engineer working for NANAWorley on projects in the energy and minerals sector and I've seen the projections for the required work force to realize the large-scale infrastructure projects that are needed to capitalize on the natural resources of the state, and this is without the potential for Alaska LNG project moving forward. The company is struggling to fill already vacant positions. Recruiting additional engineers will be nearly impossible if there is no faith in the Alaska/Anchorage public school system.

Please do the best thing for the children of Alaska and the future of the state and pass HB69 with the full \$1000 BSA increase.

Kind regards,
Christa Beveridge, P.E.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Carrie <carriesipple@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:08 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Best investment Alaska can make

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with AT LEAST a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less.

Find agreement and overrule a veto.

While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending.

My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Let's keep all of our teachers and schools funded— DONT BE A SHORT SIGHTED SENATOR

Thank you!

-parent of two Anchorage School District students (2nd and 5th grade)

Doniece Gott

From: Stacey Dixon <stacey.dixon@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 6:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please pass HB 69 with no less than \$1000 increase to the BSA!

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!
Stacey Dixon
4600 Southpark Bluff Dr, Anchorage, AK 99516

Doniece Gott

From: Roberts Family <robertsfamilyak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: \$1000 BSA

I am a public school teacher and a mom of 3.
Please increase the BSA \$1000.

This will allow my middle school son to continue his interest in wrestling.

It will also allow my high school son to continue hockey with Bartlett. Hockey truly helped my freshman ensure he maintained grades and kept a good attitude. I don't think his freshman year would have been as successful if it wasn't for the high school hockey program. He's looking forward to continuing hockey with your support by increasing the BSA.

Please do what's best for our students and raise the BSA by \$1000.

Sincerely,
Lisa Roberts
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Lili Misel <lmisel@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:53 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support HB 69

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to you to express my support of HB 69 with a \$1,000 increase to the BSA.

I recognize these are financially challenging times, but having a strong public school system that is adequately funded will ensure that Alaska's children will fill the jobs necessary to fill the needs of our communities and state.

Please vote to support HB 69 and increase the BSA by \$1000 this legislative session.

Thank you,
Lili Misel
Fairbanks

Doniece Gott

From: Nina Anderson <nwoods@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:50 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for HB69

Hello!

As a parent with 5 students currently in the ASD system I am writing in regards to the Senate Finance Committee hearing on HB 69 tomorrow at 9am. I strongly support HB 69 and the \$1,000 increase to the BSA. This is a minimum amount and anything less is simply not enough after over a decade of flat funding.

Our schools are starving - please support funding!

Nina Anderson

Mother of students at South High School, Goldenview MS, and Chugach Optional Elementary.

Doniece Gott

From: Megan Peltier <mkpeltier@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:46 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Maintain \$1000 BSA increase

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

As you discuss HB69 I urge you to keep the \$1000 BSA increase. This is a minimum that schools need this year. It's already been almost halved compared to the initial proposal that would have made up for lost buying power due to inflation.

I also urge you to find new revenue sources. Adjust the S-Corp tax for large companies. Create an income tax - we've had one before and it was short sighted to eliminate it. Reduce the PFD pay out. As evidenced by the past couple of days, oil prices are volatile which makes budget planning very difficult. We need to diversify our revenue sources.

I would even consider dipping into savings at this point, but I would much rather implement new revenue sources and reduce the pfd pay out before doing that.

Without a substantial funding increase my son has the potential to be in a class of 50 second graders next year. Without an increase my children's school will only have a half time nurse. Without an increase in funding my daughter won't have the opportunity to explore new sports in middle school, giving her less opportunity to develop life long healthy habits. Without stable funding we risk losing teachers every year.

Our children are the future of our state. They deserve an adequately funded public education system.

Thank you,
Megan Peltier
District 11F

Doniece Gott

From: Jessica Quinn <jessicaannquinn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:46 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB 69!

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you,
Jessica Quinn
Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Ron Hadden <biancoraven@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:44 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

I urge you to support this bill providing an increase of \$1000 to the BSA. If needed please reduce the PFD to accommodate this increase.

Thanks.

Ron Hadden
3210 Spinnaker Dr.
99516

Doniece Gott

From: Elizabeth <elizabeth_bolling@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:25 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support HB69!

Please support a \$1000+ increase to the BSA. Our schools need the funding to continue to provide the high quality instruction we get at our neighborhood school, O'Malley! And I would like to avoid having combo classes for my daughter in 3rd grade. Right now they are planning to split her class in half and combine one half with 2nd graders and one half with 4th graders. Not ideal for us! We need our 5 displaced teachers and our schools nurse back!

Liz Van Patten
907-229-6234

Doniece Gott

From: Leslie Hiebert <lhiebert5@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:20 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Yes to 1000 BSA

Your job is to provide for quality public education which means adequate funding. I support our schools. The minimum is \$1000 base student allocation.

Leslie Hiebert
2146 Belair Dr
Anchorage AK 99517

Doniece Gott

From: R Brooks <robinbrooks907@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please fund our schools!

Good evening,

My name is Robin and I have two children in the Anchorage School District. My oldest is a sophomore at Robert Service High School, enrolled in the German immersion program after having completed her elementary years at Rilke Schule. She has competed in high school swimming for the last two years, achieving second in the women's 100 breaststroke this past season at State. My son is a seventh grader at Rilke Schule and plans to go on to Robert Service High School, continuing with German. Our family's heritage is partially German, and it's been wonderful to have both of them learn the language of their great-grandparents. He participated in cross country for the past two seasons, and is currently in track and field through Hanshew Middle School. For both of my children, sports have been an amazing opportunity to build new friendships and relationships with their peers, develop healthy training skills, learn to excel in an aspect of a sport, accept encouragement and critical feedback from coaches, and grow as teammates and competitors in a positive educational environment. All these things are helping them mature into responsible, adaptable adults who understand how to work well independently and interdependently.

It's hard for me as a parent to imagine their school experience moving forward without these things. The BSA has not kept up with inflation and increased costs over the years; rather than add a small amount each year, we now find ourselves having to make up for lost time and needing a large increase. Our kids, however, should not be penalized for mistakes made in the past by the adults who were entrusted to fund their education.

Please make every possible effort to pass the budget, including the \$1000 increase to the BSA that will prevent our schools from losing athletics, academic programs, and all the amazing programs that have been built over so many years.

Sincerely,
Robin Brooks

Robin S. Brooks, Anchorage resident & voter
robinbrooks907@gmail.com
907.351.1303

Doniece Gott

From: Dennis Ronsse <dennis.ronsse@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:12 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69 with \$1,000 increase in BSA

I would like for you to know I support HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to the BSA. We have fallen far behind in funding our schools, and need to put our children as a much higher priority!

Best regards,

Dennis Ronsse



Anchorage School District

Education Center

5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd. • Anchorage, AK 99504 • 907-742-4000 • www.asdk12.org

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for your service to Alaska and for the critical work you are doing at a historically challenging time.

As an individual member of the Anchorage School Board and as its Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair, and with an awareness that you will hear HB 69 on Thursday, April 10th but not take public testimony, **I write in strong support of HB 69—as most recently amended by your colleagues in the Senate Education Committee—and with an acute sense of urgency.**

On March 31st, the Anchorage School District administration initiated the backwards-planning process required to navigate its May 15th contractual deadline to lay off teachers in alignment with the balanced FY26 Budget the ASD Board passed on February 25th, 2025. Although this was delayed as long as possible, and although anticipated retirements and resignations have offset some of the District's need to issue displacement notices, the District nevertheless notified **nearly two hundred educators that they will be displaced from their current position for the 2025-26 school year** last week.

Students, their families, and our educators are reeling as programs are poised to end and students' opportunities to play sports, pursue fine arts, study foreign languages, take AP classes, enroll in high-demand CTE coursework, and more will be reduced and/or eliminated.

The process had to be initiated, however, because ASD's balanced FY26 budget was due to the Anchorage Assembly at the end of February. To balance its budget based on existing statute, which has not been adjusted for inflation since the 2010-11 school year, the **Board cut ASD's administrative costs**—which are already among the leanest in

Educating All Students for Success in Life

Anchorage School Board Andy Holleman, President

Carl Jacobs, Vice President

Dora Wilson, Clerk

Kelly Lessens, Treasurer

Margo Bellamy

Dave Donley

Pat Higgins

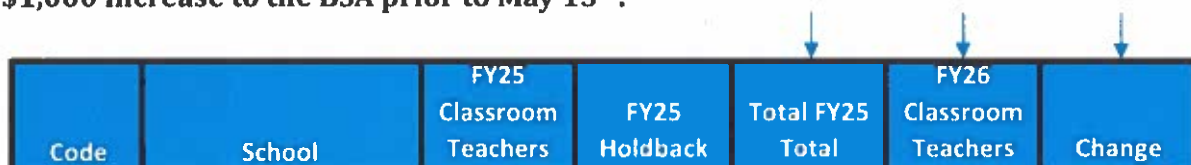
Superintendent Dr. Jharrett Bryant

the State—by **\$8.7 million¹** and **voted to suspend Board Policy in order to spend its unrestricted Fund Balance down to 5%**, rather than maintain it at 8%, so as to minimize classroom cuts to the greatest extent possible.²

But even with its overreliance on Fund Balance and its administrative reductions, ASD’s budgetary “efficiencies” could not offset an \$111 million structural deficit without also **substantially increasing K-12 class sizes and eliminating programs and opportunities for students**. That’s why cuts to kids and classrooms next year are poised to span everything from summer school, Battle of the Books, Middle School sports, and high school hockey, swimming, and gymnastics, to the IGNITE and immersion programs, as well as students’ access to nurses, librarians, reading specialists, holdback teachers, principals, counselors, and more.

For a granular understanding of how **ASD’s FY26 Budget will impact classrooms in every school in the Anchorage School District**, I urge you to review “FY26 Elementary Classroom Teachers.pdf” and “FY26 Secondary and Alternative Teacher Staffing.pdf,” both of which are attached, which the ASD Board reviewed during its February 2025 Finance Committee meeting.

As the screenshot below indicates, these charts compare enrollment-based staffing levels as well as the “holdback” teachers used to address unexpected enrollment bubbles wherever they may emerge at every ASD school this year (FY25) with enrollment-based staffing levels for next year (FY26), based on the adopted FY26 Budget “Pupil Teacher Ratio” (PTR) increase of +4 across the K-12 system. The last column in each of these pdfs highlights **the number of classroom teaching positions which will be eliminated at every school next year if ASD does not receive a \$1,000 increase to the BSA prior to May 15th**.



Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers	Change
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Because two members of this Committee are from Anchorage, it may be appropriate to point out what these cuts will mean in *some* of their schools. **While more than 11 positions will be cut between Chugiak and Eagle River high schools, another 8.5 positions will be eliminated between Gruening and Mirror Lake middle schools. Across town, Hanshew Middle School will lose 9 educators while Service High School will lose 8.9.**

But the changes at those six schools are a drop in the proverbial bucket: all told, **ASD’s FY26 Budget eliminates 357 full time school-based staff reductions**. Although 69 of these reflect predictions for next year’s slightly lower enrollment needs, the remainder ARE very much needed, and their loss reflects the combination of next year’s pupil-

¹ See *ASD Preliminary FY26 Budget*, Appendix C, pages 470-471. Available at <https://www.asdk12.org/cms/lib/AK02207157/Centricity/Domain/1225/FY26%20Preliminary%20Budget%20Book%20for%20POSTING.pdf>

² February 25, 2025 ASD Board meeting.

teacher-ratio increase and the additional layers of programmatic & staffing cuts which are being used to balance the budget.

I write to you because **I believe that the Senate Finance Committee is poised to help change this trajectory.** As outlined via the Jacobs/Lessens Amendment the ASD Board passed on February 25th (which is also attached for your reference; see especially page 3), **your support of the \$1,000 BSA currently encapsulated in HB69 is poised to reverse those cuts, lower class sizes to levels last seen in the 2015-16 school year, and make critical investments in students aligned with the Board's adopted goals for reading, math and graduation rates.** This is a promise and a plan which can be operationalized if your swift, supportive Committee action is followed by timely and necessary levels of support in the Legislature as a whole.

To that end, I wish to draw your attention to two final documents, "FY26 Classroom teachers @ FY16 PTR - Elementary.pdf" and "FY26 Classroom teachers @ FY16 PTR - Secondary.pdf" which the ASD Board Finance Committee reviewed in March and which reflect next year's staffing plans, by school, *if FY26 PTR levels were reduced to FY16 PTR levels*. While still reflecting enrollment projections, **the last three columns in these two documents highlight the school-level impacts that a \$1,000 increase to the BSA would have** via the reduction of PTRs to FY16 levels, the additional staff which will be required to reach those lower PTR levels, and the total number of classroom teaching positions which each school would offer next year.

Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers with +4 PTR	Reinstate PTR to Remain at Current Levels	Additional FTE to Return to FY16 PTR	Total FY26 Classroom Teachers @ FY16 PTR
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For the past four years, it has been my honor to have served as the Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair of the Anchorage School Board. This role helps me understand the gravity and significance of your own work on the Senate Finance Committee. **And so it is with the greatest degree of respect and appreciation that I urge your support for HB 69**, although I would be remiss if I did not also emphasize that a \$1,000 increase without a plan to address inflation will present significant hurdles in less than a year's time, when ASD must pass its FY27 budget.

In closing, I am attaching five documents I have either co-created or asked the ASD Finance Committee to review in recent months, and which I thought could help your own decision-making. Attached, please find the following:

- "CJ-KL Amendment #1" to ASD FY26 Budget (passed by ASD Board 2/25/25)
- "FY26 Elementary Classroom Teachers.pdf" (reviewed 2/13, 2025)
- "FY26 Secondary and Alternative Teacher Staffing.pdf" (reviewed 2/13/2025)
- "FY26 Classroom teachers @ FY16 PTR - Elementary.pdf" (reviewed 3/27/2025)
- "FY26 Classroom teachers @ FY16 PTR - Secondary.pdf" (reviewed 3/27/2025)

Sincerely and respectfully,

Kelly Lessens
Anchorage School Board Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair

Anchorage School District

Elementary Classroom Teachers - FY26 Preliminary Budget

*Classroom teachers only, does not include specialists

Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers with +4 PTR	Reinstate PTR to Remain at Current Levels	Additional FTE to Return to FY16 PTR	Reinstate Immersion Program Support	Total FY26 Classroom Teachers @ FY16 PTR
110	Airport Heights	9.00		9.00	7.00	2.00	-	-	9.00
112	Alpenglow	12.00		12.00	9.00	2.00	1.00	-	12.00
114	Aurora	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	2.00	1.00	-	16.00
115	Baxter	8.00		8.00	11.00	2.00	1.00	-	14.00
116	Bayshore	14.00	1.00	15.00	11.00	2.00	1.00	-	14.00
118	Bear Valley	13.00		13.00	11.00	2.00	1.00	-	14.00
120	Birchwood ABC	9.00		9.00	8.00	1.00	-	-	9.00
125	Bowman	16.00	2.00	18.00	14.00	3.00	1.00	-	18.00
130	Campbell	12.00	1.00	13.00	10.00	1.00	1.00	-	12.00
140	Chester Valley	8.00		8.00	6.00	1.00	-	-	7.00
150	Chinook	15.00		15.00	11.00	2.00	1.00	-	14.00
160	Chugach Optional	10.00	1.00	11.00	9.00	2.00	1.00	-	12.00
170	Chugiak	19.00		19.00	15.00	3.00	1.00	1.00	20.00
174	College Gate	15.00	1.00	16.00	12.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	16.00
180	Creekside Park	14.00	1.00	15.00	12.00	2.00	1.00	-	15.00
190	Denali Montessori	14.00		14.00	11.00	2.00	1.00	-	14.00
200	Eagle River	11.00	1.00	12.00	9.00	1.00	1.00	-	11.00
210	Fairview	12.00		12.00	10.00	2.00	1.00	-	13.00
215	Fire Lake	8.00		8.00	6.00	1.00	-	-	7.00
220	Girdwood K-8	7.00	4.00	11.00	9.00	-	1.00	-	10.00
230	Government Hill	18.00		18.00	14.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	19.00
235	Homestead	11.00		11.00	9.00	1.00	1.00	-	11.00
237	Huffman	11.00		11.00	9.00	1.00	1.00	-	11.00
240	Inlet View	8.50		8.50	6.50	1.00	1.00	-	8.50
242	Kasun	13.00	1.00	14.00	11.00	2.00	-	-	13.00
245	Klatt	9.00	1.00	10.00	8.00	1.00	1.00	-	10.00
246	Kincaid	13.00		13.00	11.00	1.00	1.00	-	13.00
248	Lake Hood	7.00		7.00	-	-	-	-	-
250	Lake Otis	11.00		11.00	8.00	1.00	1.00	-	10.00
260	Mountain View	10.00		10.00	7.00	1.00	1.00	-	9.00
270	Muldoon	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	2.00	1.00	-	16.00
280	North Star	12.00		12.00	9.00	2.00	-	-	11.00
290	Northern Lights ABC	22.00		22.00	20.00	3.00	1.00	-	24.00
300	Northwood ABC	8.00		8.00	8.00	1.00	1.00	-	10.00
310	Nunaka Valley	5.00	1.00	6.00	-	-	-	-	-
315	Ocean View	12.00		12.00	9.00	2.00	-	-	11.00
320	O'Malley	16.00	1.00	17.00	12.00	2.00	1.00	3.00	18.00
324	Orion	15.00		15.00	13.00	2.00	1.00	-	16.00
328	Ptarmigan	13.00	1.00	14.00	12.00	1.00	1.00	-	14.00
330	Rabbit Creek	13.00		13.00	9.00	2.00	-	-	11.00
335	Ravenwood	14.00		14.00	12.00	1.00	1.00	-	14.00
340	Rogers Park	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	1.00	2.00	-	16.00
345	Russian Jack	11.00		11.00	8.00	2.00	-	-	10.00
350	Sand Lake	18.00		18.00	13.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	18.00
360	Scenic Park	16.00	1.00	17.00	13.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	17.00
362	Spring Hill	11.00		11.00	8.00	2.00	-	-	10.00
363	Trailside	14.00		14.00	12.00	1.00	1.00	-	14.00
364	Susitna	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	2.00	2.00	-	17.00
365	Taku	9.00	1.00	10.00	8.00	1.00	1.00	-	10.00
370	Tudor	11.00	2.00	13.00	11.00	2.00	1.00	-	14.00
380	Turnagain	11.00	1.00	12.00	13.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	17.00
384	Tyson, William	13.00		13.00	11.00	2.00	-	-	13.00
386	Ursa Major	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
388	Ursa Minor	13.00		13.00	9.00	1.00	1.00	-	11.00
390	Williwaw	11.50		11.50	9.50	2.00	-	-	11.50
400	Willow Crest	10.00		10.00	9.00	1.00	1.00	-	11.00
410	Wonder Park	10.00		10.00	8.00	1.00	-	-	9.00
418	Gladys Wood	8.00		8.00	7.00	1.00	1.00	-	9.00
		694.00	26.00	720.00	570.00	88.00	44.00	12.00	714.00

Anchorage School District
Secondary/Alternative Classroom Teachers - FY26 Preliminary Budget

Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers with +4 PTR	Reinstate PTR to Remain at Current Levels	Additional FTE to Return to FY16 PTR	Total FY26 Classroom Teachers @ FY16 PTR
700	Central	21.80	1.80	23.60	19.20	2.60	4.00	25.80
710	Clark	29.60		29.60	25.80	3.80	5.20	34.80
730	Gruening	30.80	1.00	31.80	28.20	4.00	5.00	37.20
740	Hanshew	39.80		39.80	29.60	3.80	5.20	38.60
750	Mears	45.00	1.00	46.00	37.20	5.20	6.40	48.80
755	Mirror Lake	24.40	1.10	25.50	20.60	3.80	3.80	28.20
760	Romig	45.00	2.20	47.20	39.80	5.20	7.80	52.80
770	Wendler	25.80	1.00	26.80	21.80	2.60	3.80	28.20
780	Goldenview	42.40		42.40	33.40	3.80	6.60	43.80
785	Beigh	36.00		36.00	29.60	3.80	5.20	38.60
		340.60	8.10	348.70	285.20	38.60	53.00	376.80
800	Bartlett	51.60		51.60	45.60	6.00	2.20	53.80
810	Chugiak	34.00	0.40	34.40	29.40	3.40	2.40	35.20
820	Dimond	51.60		51.60	43.40	5.80	3.40	52.60
830	East	62.00		62.00	52.60	6.00	4.60	63.20
840	Service	56.20	0.70	56.90	48.00	5.80	3.60	57.40
850	West	63.20	2.00	65.20	55.00	7.00	3.60	65.60
860	South	44.60	0.40	45.00	38.60	4.80	3.40	46.80
865	Eagle River	29.40	0.40	29.80	23.60	3.40	2.40	29.40
		392.60	3.90	396.50	336.20	42.20	25.60	404.00
450	Polaris K-12	21.40		21.40	18.00	2.20	1.20	21.40
805	King Tech High School	26.00		26.00	24.80	1.20	1.20	27.20
831	Family Partnership	19.00		19.00	16.50	-	-	16.50
835	Save I	8.00	0.50	8.50	7.00	1.20	-	8.20
845	Steller	15.40		15.40	12.00	1.00	1.20	14.20
870	AMCS	3.00		3.00	3.00	1.20	(0.00)	4.20
875	McLaughlin	10.80		10.80	9.80	1.20	(0.00)	11.00
878	AK Choice	9.00		9.00	8.00	1.00	-	9.00
880	Benson Secondary	13.60		13.60	11.40	1.20	1.00	13.60
882	Special Schools	17.50		17.50	18.00	-	-	18.00
892	ASD Virtual	12.00		12.00	11.00	-	-	11.00
		155.70	0.50	156.20	139.50	10.20	4.60	154.30

Anchorage School District

Elementary Classroom Teachers - FY26 Preliminary Budget

*Classroom teachers only, does not include specialists

Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers	Change
110	Airport Heights	9.00		9.00	7.00	(2.00)
112	Alpenglow	12.00		12.00	9.00	(3.00)
114	Aurora	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	(3.00)
115	Baxter	8.00		8.00	7.00	(1.00)
116	Bayshore	14.00	1.00	15.00	11.00	(4.00)
118	Bear Valley	13.00		13.00	11.00	(2.00)
120	Birchwood ABC	9.00		9.00	8.00	(1.00)
125	Bowman	16.00	2.00	18.00	14.00	(4.00)
130	Campbell	12.00	1.00	13.00	10.00	(3.00)
140	Chester Valley	8.00		8.00	8.00	-
150	Chinook	15.00		15.00	11.00	(4.00)
160	Chugach Optional	10.00	1.00	11.00	9.00	(2.00)
170	Chugiak	19.00		19.00	15.00	(4.00)
174	College Gate	15.00	1.00	16.00	12.00	(4.00)
180	Creekside Park	14.00	1.00	15.00	12.00	(3.00)
190	Denali Montessori	14.00		14.00	11.00	(3.00)
200	Eagle River	11.00	1.00	12.00	9.00	(3.00)
210	Fairview	12.00		12.00	10.00	(2.00)
215	Fire Lake	8.00		8.00	6.00	(2.00)
220	Girdwood K-8	7.00	4.00	11.00	9.00	(2.00)
230	Government Hill	18.00		18.00	14.00	(4.00)
235	Homestead	11.00		11.00	9.00	(2.00)
237	Huffman	11.00		11.00	9.00	(2.00)
240	Inlet View	8.50		8.50	6.50	(2.00)
242	Kasuun	13.00	1.00	14.00	11.00	(3.00)
245	Klatt	9.00	1.00	10.00	8.00	(2.00)
246	Kincaid	13.00		13.00	11.00	(2.00)
248	Lake Hood	7.00		7.00	-	(7.00)
250	Lake Otis	11.00		11.00	8.00	(3.00)
260	Mountain View	10.00		10.00	7.00	(3.00)
270	Muldoon	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	(3.00)
280	North Star	12.00		12.00	9.00	(3.00)
290	Northern Lights ABC	22.00		22.00	20.00	(2.00)
300	Northwood ABC	8.00		8.00	8.00	-
310	Nunaka Valley	5.00	1.00	6.00	-	(6.00)
315	Ocean View	12.00		12.00	9.00	(3.00)
320	O'Malley	16.00	1.00	17.00	12.00	(5.00)
324	Orion	15.00		15.00	13.00	(2.00)
328	Ptarmigan	13.00	1.00	14.00	12.00	(2.00)
330	Rabbit Creek	13.00		13.00	9.00	(4.00)
335	Ravenwood	14.00		14.00	12.00	(2.00)

Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers	Change
340	Rogers Park	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	(3.00)
345	Russian Jack	11.00		11.00	10.00	(1.00)
350	Sand Lake	18.00		18.00	13.00	(5.00)
360	Scenic Park	16.00	1.00	17.00	13.00	(4.00)
362	Spring Hill	11.00		11.00	8.00	(3.00)
363	Trailside	14.00		14.00	12.00	(2.00)
364	Susitna	15.00	1.00	16.00	13.00	(3.00)
365	Taku	9.00	1.00	10.00	8.00	(2.00)
370	Tudor	11.00	2.00	13.00	11.00	(2.00)
380	Turnagain	11.00	1.00	12.00	13.00	1.00
384	Tyson, William	13.00		13.00	11.00	(2.00)
386	Ursa Major	-		-	-	-
388	Ursa Minor	13.00		13.00	9.00	(4.00)
390	Williwaw	11.50		11.50	9.50	(2.00)
400	Willow Crest	10.00		10.00	9.00	(1.00)
410	Wonder Park	10.00		10.00	8.00	(2.00)
418	Gladys Wood	8.00		8.00	7.00	(1.00)
		694.00	26.00	720.00	570.00	(150.00)

Anchorage School District

Secondary/Alternative Classroom Teachers - FY26 Preliminary Budget

Code	School	FY25 Classroom Teachers	FY25 Holdback	Total FY25 Total	FY26 Classroom Teachers	Total Change
700	Central	21.80	1.80	23.60	19.20	(4.40)
710	Clark	29.60		29.60	25.80	(3.80)
730	Gruening	30.80	1.00	31.80	28.20	(3.60)
740	Hanshew	39.80		39.80	29.60	(10.20)
750	Mears	45.00	1.00	46.00	37.20	(8.80)
755	Mirror Lake	24.40	1.10	25.50	20.60	(4.90)
760	Romig	45.00	2.20	47.20	39.80	(7.40)
770	Wendler	25.80	1.00	26.80	21.80	(5.00)
780	Goldenview	42.40		42.40	33.40	(9.00)
785	Begich	36.00		36.00	29.60	(6.40)
		340.60	8.10	348.70	285.20	(63.50)
800	Bartlett	51.60		51.60	45.60	(6.00)
810	Chugiak	34.00	0.40	34.40	29.40	(5.00)
820	Dimond	51.60		51.60	43.40	(8.20)
830	East	62.00		62.00	52.60	(9.40)
840	Service	56.20	0.70	56.90	48.00	(8.90)
850	West	63.20	2.00	65.20	55.00	(10.20)
860	South	44.60	0.40	45.00	38.60	(6.40)
865	Eagle River	29.40	0.40	29.80	23.60	(6.20)
		392.60	3.90	396.50	336.20	(60.30)
450	Polaris K-12	21.40		21.40	18.00	(3.40)
805	King Tech High School	26.00		26.00	24.80	(1.20)
831	Family Partnership	19.00		19.00	16.50	(2.50)
835	Save I	8.00	0.50	8.50	7.00	(1.50)
845	Steller	15.40		15.40	12.00	(3.40)
870	AMCS	3.00		3.00	3.00	-
875	McLaughlin	10.80		10.80	9.80	(1.00)
878	AK Choice	9.00		9.00	8.00	(1.00)
880	Benson Secondary	13.60		13.60	11.40	(2.20)
882	Special Schools	17.50		17.50	18.00	0.50
892	ASD Virtual	12.00		12.00	11.00	(1.00)
		155.70	0.50	156.20	139.50	(16.70)

Jacobs/Lessens Amendment 1: Attachment A
AMENDMENT TO ASD MEMORANDUM #096 (2024-25):
Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Preliminary Budget

Add the following language to ASD Memorandum #096, and include Attachment A as guidance from the Board to the Administration to amend the 2025-26 (FY26) Financial Plan and Budget once the Alaska Legislature successfully increases the Base Student Allocation as detailed below.

The Anchorage School Board intends for the Anchorage School District's 2025-26 (FY 26) Budget to provide the best possible learning environments for all students and to support adopted Board goals for 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency, 8th Grade Math proficiency, and high school graduation rates.¹

Earlier this winter, the Anchorage School Board and Anchorage Assembly asserted their joint support for a substantial State investment in public education which would, at minimum, adjust the Base Student Allocation to account for inflation since 2010-11 (FY11).² According to the State of Alaska's Legislative Finance division, that amount has been calculated to be \$1,808 for the 2024-25 school year (FY25).³

If the Legislature were to successfully amend AS 14.17.470 so as to increase the Base Student Allocation by an amount no less than \$1,000, this action would generate a minimum of \$71.1 million in new revenue for the Anchorage School District.⁴

What follows is a commitment to applying this revenue in alignment with adopted Board Goals, Board Policy,⁵ and in support of class size reductions and the retention of effective and valued programs. These actions would align with desires articulated by members of the Anchorage

¹ For adopted ASD 2023-28 Board Goals and Guardrails, see <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/18195>

² See signed "A joint resolution of the Anchorage Municipal Assembly and the Anchorage School Board in support of the fair, inflation-adjusted State funding required to maintain a quality public school system and increase student performance," passed by the ASD Board 7-0 on Dec. 17, 2024 and by the Anchorage Assembly 11-0 on Jan. 7, 2025 and shared with the House Education committee in support of HB 69 on January 27, 2025. Accessed at https://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=34&docid=96

³ "Memorandum" from Conor Bell, Alaska State Legislature Legislative Budget and Audit Committee Legislative Finance Division, to Senator Löki Tobin, September 30, 2024, as discussed by Anchorage School Board Finance Committee on October 31, 2024. See [https://go.boarddocs.com/ak/asdk12/Board.nsf/files/D9WVNL8192AC/\\$file/2024.10.02%20Legislative%20Finance%20Memo%20on%20BSA%20and%20Inflation%20\(1\).pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ak/asdk12/Board.nsf/files/D9WVNL8192AC/$file/2024.10.02%20Legislative%20Finance%20Memo%20on%20BSA%20and%20Inflation%20(1).pdf)

⁴ Based on projected 2025-26 enrollment and District Adjusted ADM, as detailed in the Anchorage School District Preliminary 2025-26 Budget, p 19. Accessed at <https://www.asdk12.org/cms/lib/AK02207157/Centricity/Domain/1225/FY26%20Preliminary%20Budget%20Book%20for%20POSTING.pdf>

⁵ For ASD Board Policy 3000, see <https://www.boardpolicyonline.com/?b=anchorage&s=318404>

Legislative Delegation and discussed as a prerequisite for supporting a permanent increase to public education funding in this amount.⁶

Therefore, should the Legislature approve a permanent statutory increase to the Base Student Allocation of \$1,000 prior to the Anchorage School District Administration's May 15, 2025 deadline for issuing required layoff notices, the Anchorage School District Administration shall amend the 2025-26 (FY26) Financial Plan and Budget by making the investments detailed in Attachment A.

Should the Legislature approve a permanent statutory increase to the Base Student Allocation of greater than \$1,000 and thus the \$71.1 million noted here, the Board will strategically align additional revenue towards further reductions in class sizes.

⁶ See Alaska Legislature House Floor Session 02/19/2024, Timestamp 02:08:23
(<https://www.ktoo.org/video/gavel/house-floor-session-2025021174/?eventID=2025021174>)

Jacobs/Lessens Amendment #1: Attachment A

Revenue assumption: a \$1,000 increase per pupil through the formula (BSA) will produce \$71.1m in new revenue for ASD

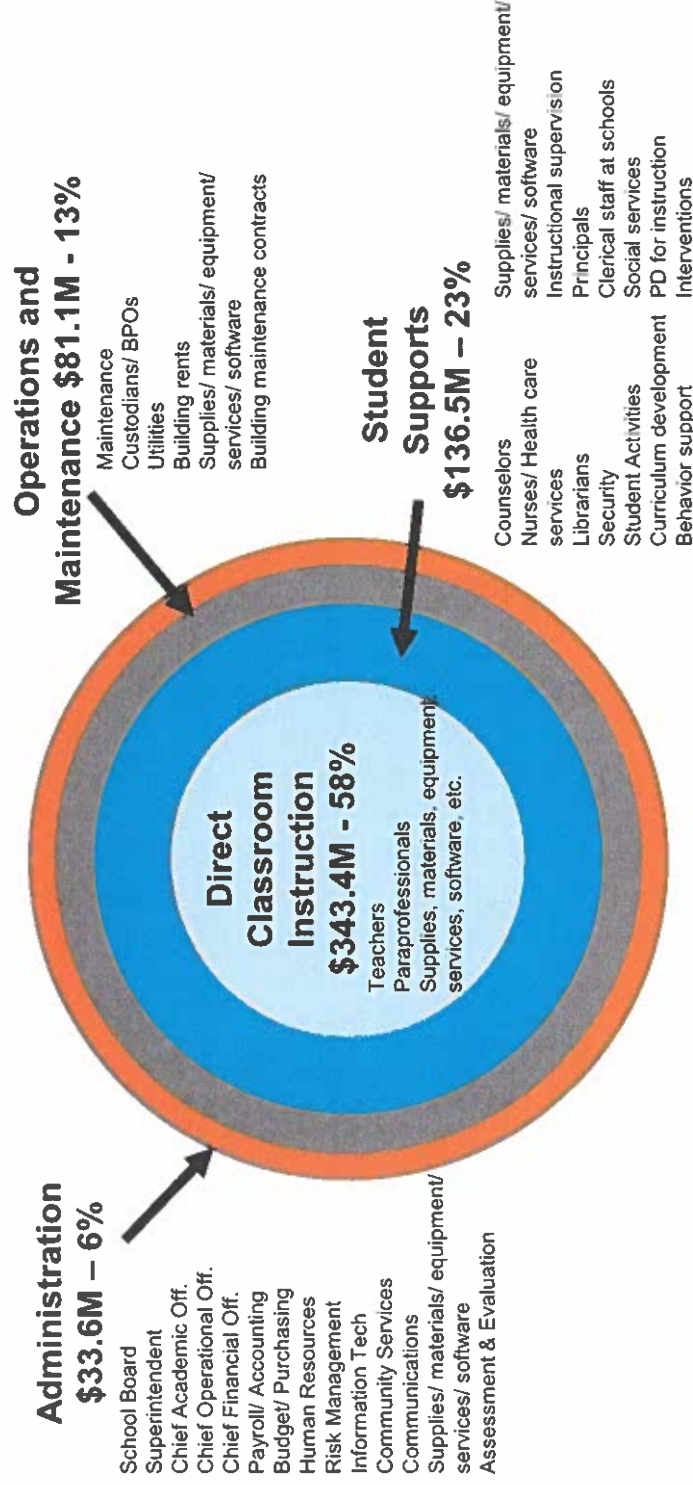
Description		FTE	Cost	Category
Reverse proposed K-12 PTR +4 for FY26		195.40	\$ 24,742,000	Instruction
Revert K-12 PTR to FY16 levels		142.00	18,400,000	Instruction
Charter school additional funding		0.00	4,000,000	Instruction
Invest in high dose reading / math tutoring for students assessed as below/well-below proficiency in grades 4-12		31.70	4,000,000	Instruction
Reverse cuts to Gifted program including IGNITE and testing teachers		23.90	3,049,000	Instruction
Reverse proposed cuts to holdback teachers		16.00	2,056,000	Instruction
Reverse cuts to Special Ed Elementary School (-1 technical, -7.01 paraprofessionals, -8 teachers)		16.01	1,759,000	Instruction
Reverse cuts to elementary immersion school teachers		12.00	1,514,000	Instruction
Correspondence allotment increase		0.00	650,000	Instruction
Reverse cuts to Special Ed Whaley School (-1 teachers, -3 paraprofessionals, +1 behavior)		3.50	300,000	Instruction
Reverse cuts to Elementary paraprofessional educators		6.13	294,000	Instruction
Reverse proposed cuts to Elementary summer school		0.00	200,000	Instruction
Reverse cuts to preschool teachers		1.50	195,000	Instruction
Reverse proposed cuts to Elementary Battle of the Books		0.00	123,211	Instruction
Reverse cuts to Secondary summer school		0.00	102,000	Instruction
New Investments in Instruction		448.14	61,384,211	
Reverse proposed cuts to librarians		12.50	1,708,620	Instructional Support
Reverse cuts to elementary nurses		13.00	1,585,133	Instructional Support
Reverse proposed cuts to Middle school sports		0.00	1,555,000	Instructional Support
Reverse cuts to Teaching and Learning (-10 reading interventionists)		10.00	1,222,000	Instructional Support
Reverse proposed cuts to High school sports (hockey, gymnastics, swim/dive, The Dome)		0.00	1,133,000	Instructional Support
Reverse proposed cuts to principals		5.00	840,625	Instructional Support
Reverse proposed cuts to library assistants		7.87	540,000	Instructional Support
Reverse cuts to counselors		3.50	451,111	Instructional Support
Reverse cuts Special Ed Deaf (-1.75 paraprofessionals, -3 interpreters)		4.75	390,000	Instructional Support
Invest in elementary counselors in alignment with board goals/guardrails		2.50	322,600	Instructional Support
New Investments in Instructional Support		59.12	\$ 9,748,089	
Total additions if a \$1,000 BSA increase is provided		507.26	\$ 71,132,300	

School Type	FY 2025 General Fund PTR - Grade Level Groupings						
	K	1	2	3	4-5	6-8	9-12
Secondary Schools							31.25
Middle Schools							31.25
Elementary Schools	22	23	25	26	27		

School Type	FY 2026 General Fund PTR - Grade Level Groupings						
	K	1	2	3	4-5	6-8	9-12
Secondary Schools							35.25
Middle Schools							35.25
Elementary Schools	26	27	29	30	31		

School Type	FY 2026 General Fund PTR - Grade Level Groupings (if Restored to FY16 Metric)						
	K	1	2	3	4-5	6-8	9-12
Secondary Schools							29.41
Middle Schools							27.25
Elementary Schools	20	21	24	24	26		

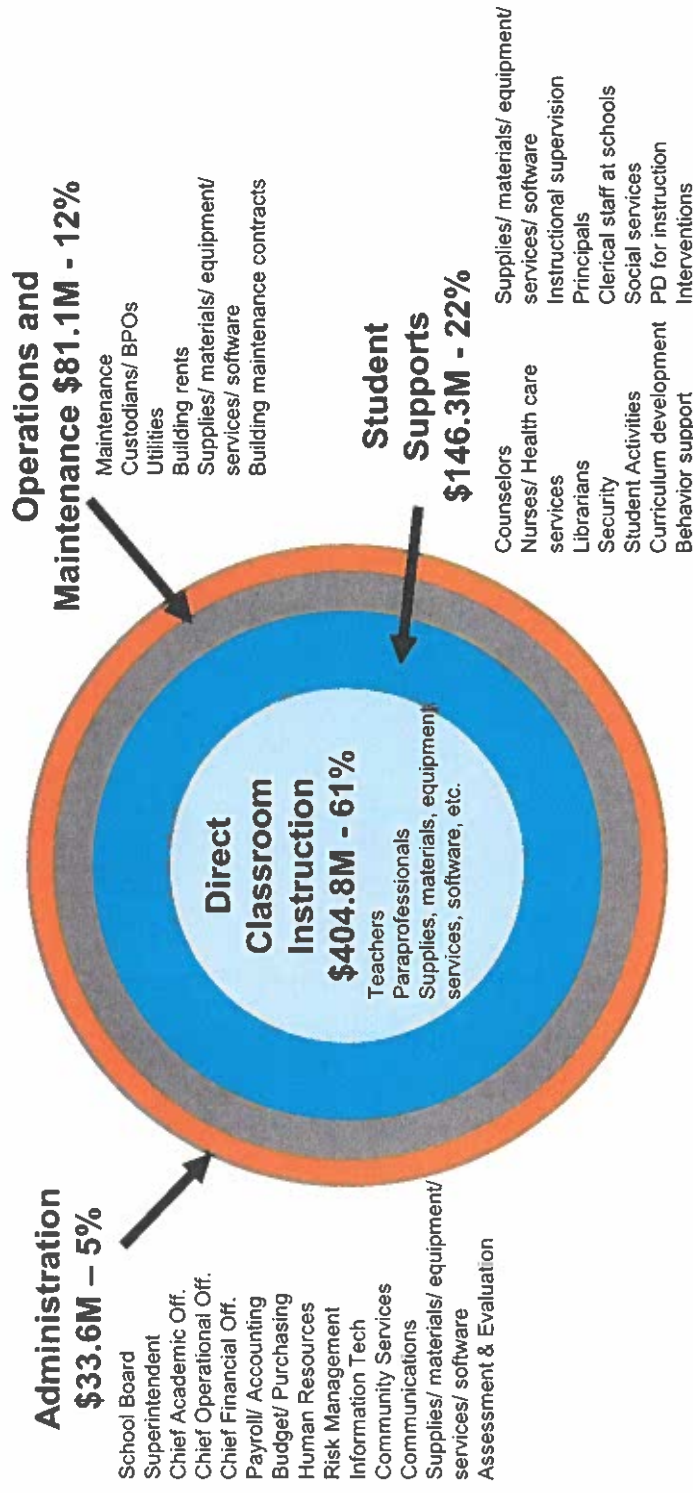
Budget Development – FY26 Allocations



	FY25	FY26	FY25 % of Total	FY26 % of Total
Direct Instruction	\$ 377,608,631	\$ 343,413,250	59%	58%
Student Support	141,259,637	136,528,757	22%	23%
Ops and Maintenance	82,605,045	81,053,842	13%	13%
Districtwide Administration	36,346,507	33,622,980	6%	6%
Total	\$ 637,819,820	\$ 594,618,829	100%	100%

Budget Development – FY26 Allocations with Jacobs/Lessens

Amendment #1



	FY25	FY26	FY25 % of Total	FY26 % of Total
Direct Instruction	\$ 377,608,631	\$ 404,797,461	59%	61%
Student Support	141,259,637	146,276,846	22%	22%
Ops and Maintenance	82,605,045	81,053,842	13%	12%
Districtwide Administration	36,346,507	33,622,980	6%	5%
Total	\$ 637,819,820	\$ 665,751,129	100%	100%

Doniece Gott

From: Benjamin Crawford OD <drcrawford@accuratevisionclinic.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:02 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support HB 69 with \$1000 increase to BSA

Dear Senators,

Please support HB 69 with a \$1000 increase to the BSA. Our kids deserve a fair shot at a quality education. Our future workforce needs to be well educated. To continue to see Alaska grow and prosper we need to nurture the future leaders of our state.

Benjamin Crawford, O.D.

Accurate Vision Clinic
#yourvisionourfocus
3401 Minnesota Dr., Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503
Office 907-272-9800 | Fax 907-277-1398

Doniece Gott

From: Heather Helzer <heather@helzer.me>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:01 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Raise the BSA to \$1000

Alaskan kids need the funding to run our public schools successfully. Please do not settle on anything less than \$1000. We can not compromise for less with so many cuts effecting kids student learning and experience. My children look forward to school because the electives, afterschool opportunities and they're able to be support in school when they're not feeling well because our school nurse. Please fund them fully. It matters to our family and so many Alaskan families.

Sincerely,
Heather Helzer

Doniece Gott

From: Amy <amynico@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 5:00 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Dear Senate Finance Committee, please support HB 69 with the \$1,000 increase to our BSA. Our students, families and communities deserve better! Our schools are starving!

Sincerely,

Amy Nicolaisen
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Amber Shadley <amberdanielle_is@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 4:58 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for HB 69

I support HB 69 for the increase of \$1000 to the BSA. Please support our schools and look out for our children. They are our future.

Thank you
Amber Shadley

Doniece Gott

From: Lauren Blanchett <laurenblanchett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 4:54 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support HB 69 Please

Committee Members,

Please support HB 69 and the \$1000 increase to the base student allocation.

Thank you,

Lauren Blanchett
Midtown Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Cassandra Gardner Raun <cassandraraun@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 4:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: \$1000 BSA Increase

Senate Finance Committee,

Please, please pass HB 69 with the \$1000 increase to the BSA. Our schools are starving and that hunger is harming our communities. You have a Constitutional obligation to provide a quality education to all Alaskans. Passing this bill would be a good start toward fulfilling that duty.

Thank you,
Cassandra Raun
Anchorage, AK
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Cassandra Gardner Raun <cassandraraun@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 4:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: \$1000 BSA Increase

Senate Finance Committee,

Please, please pass HB 69 with the \$1000 increase to the BSA. Our schools are starving and that hunger is harming our communities. You have a Constitutional obligation to provide a quality education to all Alaskans. Passing this bill would be a good start toward fulfilling that duty.

Thank you,
Cassandra Raun
Anchorage, AK
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Minna Allen <minnaputnam@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please Pass HB 69 with a \$1,000 BSA – Our Kids Deserve It

Dear Senators,

As a parent in Anchorage, I am urging you to pass HB 69 with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the Base Student Allocation — nothing less.

Let's be clear: a \$680 increase is not enough. In fact, it's a cut when compared to the real needs our schools are facing. We are already stretched to the breaking point, and anything less than \$1,000 will mean larger class sizes, fewer support staff, and diminished opportunities for our children. Alaska's students cannot thrive under bare-minimum funding.

There are ways to pay for this. The issue isn't feasibility — it's political will. Our state has options for increasing and diversifying revenue, and for reallocating funding in more responsible ways. Please show that our kids' education is a priority.

Superintendent Bryantt has made it clear: additional funding will go directly to students and classrooms — not administrative overhead. This is about giving our teachers the tools they need and ensuring every child has access to a quality education.

This decision will directly impact my child, and every child across Alaska. Please pass HB 69 with a \$1,000 BSA — our children deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Minna Allen

Bear Valley elementary school, Anchorage school District

Doniece Gott

From: Erin Reding <erinareding@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Urgent need!

Dear Senators,

Please pass HB 69 quickly and with at least a \$1,000 permanent increase to the BSA - and nothing less. While we all understand that the budget is tight, education should be the first priority for spending. My children (and every other child in Alaska) deserve a quality education. Please pass HB 69 quickly so our schools and teachers have the resources they need.

Thank you!

Erin A. Reding RN, BSN, AGACNP-BC
907-748-4639
ErinAReding@gmail.com

Doniece Gott

From: Michelle Harris <harrismich05@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:58 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for HB69

Dear Senators,

I am writing in strong support of HB 69 to increase education funding by \$1000. I have three children in the Anchorage School District, and without action, our schools are facing devastating budget cuts next year — cuts that will directly impact their classrooms. Without this increased funding my elementary aged children are projected to have classrooms with 40 students.

I am a nurse and will likely leave the state if education funding does not improve. I know numerous other families that are considering these difficult choices. Stable, adequate funding is essential for strong schools, strong communities, and a strong future for our state. Please support HB 69 and invest in our kids.

Sincerely,

Michelle Tschida

Anchorage, Alaska

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Linda Smith <lindablumbergsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Fund the BSA- \$1000 is needed!

Our schools and our communities are being starved. Past legislatures haven't sufficiently funded our school systems and there's no more wiggle room. They need the full \$1000 to just have a chance. The current budgets are ridiculous and strip everything good and interesting away from the kids.

Stop trying to hustle the schools and our communities while gifting tax breaks and grants to oil and mining companies making ample profits.

The people who voted for you have shown their support for education. Please heed our calls and advance the \$1000 BSA.

Thanks,
Linda Smith
Anchorage parent and voter

Doniece Gott

From: Bryan Miller <Bryan.Miller@hilcorp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:58 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: BSA

I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian (who are not limited to just their titles and play a much larger integral role) which will threaten our entire program.

Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes some common-sense reforms and includes major compromises.

Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Bryan-

Sent from iPhone

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Doniece Gott

From: Frank Witmer <fwitmer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69 support

Dear Senators,

I am writing to express my support for HB 69. As a parent of students in ASD, I see the need first hand to support our teachers and schools. Please increase the BSA by at least \$1000, and don't reduce this number. If you need to balance this expenditure with additional revenue, then pass a progressive income tax so that people with who are fortunate enough to have high paying employment can contribute to growing the economic base of our State through education.

Thanks for your work on this important issue.

-frank witmer

9650 Brien St
Anchorage, AK 99507

Doniece Gott

From: Tiffany Ma <ma.tiffany@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 8:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Hello,

*I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and major compromises. **Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!***

Imploringly,
Tiffany Ma
Parent of THREE Chugach Optional students

Doniece Gott

From: Laura Vernon <lavern@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69: Increase the BSA by \$1000

Hello Senate Finance Committee,

I write to you this evening in support of HB 69 with a \$1,000 increase to BSA. As a parent of two children currently in the ASD, we need to see the BSA increase to \$1,000 so that the future of Alaska is better off with children that are supported with high academic standards and ability to get an education that will serve them and our great state in the short and long term.

Thank you for time and consideration,

Laura Vernon-Elliott

Doniece Gott

From: Katie Kelly <kjoyl85@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please Support HB 69

Dear Senators,

I urge you to pass HB 69, with a **permanent increase of at least \$1,000 to the Base Student Allocation (BSA)**—nothing less will suffice.

While I recognize that the state faces fiscal challenges, investing in education must remain a top priority. Our children—including my own—deserve access to quality education, well-supported teachers, and schools equipped to meet their needs.

Please act now to ensure our schools receive the funding they need to thrive. Alaska's future depends on it.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,
Katherine Kelly

Doniece Gott

From: Marie Hildebrandt <mhildebrandtrdh@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support the increase to the BSA

I am a parent of a student at Chugach Optional School and Romig Middle School within the Anchorage School District. We are currently facing the loss of many teachers and programs which will greatly diminish our children's education. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

***Thank you,
Marie Hildebrandt***

Doniece Gott

From: Jean Miller <jeanerak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support \$1000 increase to the BSA

Senate Finance Committee,

I will keep this brief because I believe that you all understand the urgency of our situation in Alaska. High quality public education is the basis of a strong economy, a strong state and a strong future.

Please expedite this process and approve a minimum of \$1000 increase to the BSA immediately. Alaska is losing families, teachers and businesses when education funding is used as political pawn and becomes an annual game.

Vote for Alaskans! Vote to increase the BSA by a minimum of \$1000.

Thank you for doing the right thing.

Jean Miller

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Doniece Gott

From: William Taff <wmtaff@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA Increase!

As a parent of two children at Chugach Optional School in the Anchorage School District (and one 2 year old who we can't wait to send there), I'm deeply concerned about the impact of the State's budget. Chugach Optional is a high-performing, alternative public school of choice - but we are now facing the loss of valued teachers and our librarian, which puts the heart of our program at risk. I urge you to support the current version of HB69. It represents thoughtful, balanced reform and *includes key compromises*. Please **don't settle for anything less than a \$1,000 BSA**. Our schools, and our children, deserve it.

Will Taff
907-764-1141

Doniece Gott

From: Alaskan Acupunk <brian.yelverton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:09 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69 support, current version

Dear trusted servants,

I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

***Brian Yelverton
Chugach dad
907-306-4044***

Doniece Gott

From: hwbrewster@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:07 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Hello,
I am a parent of students at both Inlet View Elementary and Chugach Optional Elementary in the Anchorage School District. Both schools are facing catastrophic cuts to teaching staff that will harm my children's learning. Education funding in Alaska needs to be a priority and an \$1000 increase to the BSA is imperative. It is time to stop bargaining on the backs of our students and make the future of Alaska a priority. Please do not settle for less than a \$1000 increase, one that will keep teaching positions in schools.

Thank you,
Hannah Brewster
Anchorage, AK

Minoo Minaei
12840 Johns Road
Anchorage, AK 99515

April 9, 2025

Senate Finance Committee
Alaska Legislature
State Capital Building
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing you as a retired Anchorage School District educator of 33 years. I strongly urge you to support passage of HB 69. This is a critical measure to address the chronic underfunding of public education in Alaska. For over a decade, school funding has been either flat or insufficient to meet the growing needs of our students and educators. This has placed an undue strain on our schools, compromising their ability to provide the quality education that is constitutionally mandated for every Alaskan child.

The Base Student Allocation (BSA) must be increased by a minimum of \$1,000 per student to even begin to meet the basic requirements of a robust public education system. This adjustment is not a luxury—it is a necessity to ensure that our schools can offer the resources, programs, and support that our children need to succeed in an increasingly competitive world.

As our elected representatives, you bear both a public obligation and a moral duty to prioritize the future of Alaska's youth. Investing in education is not merely an expenditure; it is a commitment to the prosperity and well-being of our state for generations to come.

I implore you to act decisively and pass HB 69. The time to invest in our children's future is now.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Minoo Minaei

Retired Teacher, ASD 33 years

Doniece Gott

From: sara falkoff <saralaska@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB 69

I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

PLEASE support our children and future.
Thank you
Sarah Falkoff

Doniece Gott

From: Rhianne Christopherson <rhiannechristopherson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB 69

Good evening,

I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Warm regards- Rhianne Christopherson

Doniece Gott

From: Elizabeth Serrano <elizabethnoelserrano@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pass HB69 - support \$1000 BSA Increase

I am a parent of students at Chugach Optional School within the Anchorage School District. Chugach Optional is a high-achieving alternative public school of choice, and we are currently facing the loss of teachers and our librarian, which will threaten our entire program. Please support the current version of HB 69, which includes common-sense reforms and includes major compromises. Do not settle for less than \$1,000 BSA!

Kind Regards,

Elizabeth Serrano
(907) 717-6367

Doniece Gott

From: Pamela Leutz <pleutz@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: HB69 pass with \$1,000 intact

Dear Senate Finance Members,
Please pass HB69 with a \$1,000 BSA in tact.
There are MANY pathways to increase and diversify revenue. Our state desperately needs to do this, and this is worth the effort for our kids.
Thank you,
Pamela Leutz
Anchorage resident

Doniece Gott

From: Bill O'Connell <billoconnell72@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: BSA \$1,000

I support a minimum BSA increase of \$1,000 per student, please approve hb69.

Bill

Doniece Gott

From: Adrienne Michel <adriennemarie17@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2025 9:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for \$1,000 BSA

Hello,

I am writing in support of HB69's \$1,000 BSA increase. The current classroom level education cuts that the Anchorage School District was forced to make due to the lack of funding increases would be IMMEDIATELY reversed in the \$1,000 BSA increase is enacted.

The funding put forth by the Anchorage Assembly would also be immediately approved upon enactment.

Education funding needs to be a priority. Teachers need to be in classrooms with a reasonable number of students. They need to be in safe functional buildings. I implore you to do what's right for our state and our children. Approve the \$1000 BSA increase.