



# LOWER YUKON SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 32089 · Mountain Village, Alaska 99632

Phone: (907) 591-2411

[www.lysd.org](http://www.lysd.org)

**Edgar Hoelscher**  
Chairman

**John Hargis**  
Superintendent

## *Resolution: Support for Key Educational Priorities* **Resolution No. 01-2025**

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** the LYSD Regional School Board is committed to ensuring that all students receive a quality education that prepares them for success in their future endeavors;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** adequate funding and resources are essential to maintaining and improving the quality of education within the LYSD region;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** the Base Student Allocation (BSA) is a critical component of education funding, and increasing the BSA is necessary to keep up with inflation and the rising costs of education;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** deferred maintenance of school facilities poses a significant risk to the safety and effectiveness of the learning environment, and continued funding for these maintenance needs is crucial;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** early reading proficiency is a key predictor of future academic success, and providing adequate resources for early reading programs, including support for Alaska Native languages, is essential to improve literacy rates among young learners;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** teacher recruitment and retention are major challenges in rural Alaska, and adequate, affordable housing and public school employment benefits are major factors in attracting and retaining qualified educators in our region;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** residential education programs provide vital opportunities for students in remote areas, and increased funding is necessary to support and expand these programs;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** maintaining local school board governance as the authorizer and overseer of charter schools within public school districts is essential to ensure alignment with district and community priorities;

**\*\*Whereas\*\*** public school choice exists and thrives throughout Alaska in the form of charter schools, correspondence schools, specialized or theme-based programs, and CTE programs, and adequate support for these diverse education options is critical to student success;



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**\*\*Therefore, be it resolved\*\*** that the LYSD Regional School Board calls upon the Alaska Association of School Boards (AASB) to advocate for the following priorities:

1. **\*\*Increased Base Student Allocation (BSA) into Statute\*\***: The Alaska Legislature should increase the BSA to reflect the current cost of education and incorporate it into the statute to ensure consistent and predictable funding. (AASB 2.23 Funding for Schools by Establishing the Base Student Allocation in Advance)
2. **\*\*Continued Deferred Maintenance Funding\*\***: The State of Alaska should continue and expand funding for deferred maintenance of school facilities to ensure a safe and effective learning environment for all students. (AASB 2.67 is a New Topic that is being proposed by the board of directors in order to consolidate 2.8, 2.28, 2.29, 2.12, and 2.51).
3. **\*\*Resources for Early Reading and Support for Alaska Native Languages\*\***: The State should allocate additional resources to support early reading initiatives, including the Alaska Reads Act, and ensure support for programs focused on improving literacy in Alaska Native languages. (AASB 2.6 Funding for Early Learning)
4. **\*\*Teacher Housing and Public School Employment Benefits\*\***: The State should provide funding and support for developing and maintaining adequate housing for teachers in rural areas and improving public school employment benefits, recognizing their importance in attracting and retaining quality educators. (AASB 4.5 Addressing the Teacher, Administrator, School Staff Shortage)
5. **\*\*Increased Funding for Residential Education Programs\*\***: The State should increase funding for residential education programs, including regional boarding home programs, to ensure that students in remote areas can access quality educational opportunities. (Do not currently see in the AASB Where We Stand Document)
6. **\*\*Local School Board Governance of Charter Schools\*\***: The State should continue to support local school board governance as the authorizer and overseer of charter schools to ensure these schools align with district priorities and community needs. (AASB 2.47 Local Control of School Funding)

**\*\*Be it further resolved\*\*** that the LYSD Regional School Board urges the AASB to prioritize these issues in its advocacy efforts during the upcoming legislative session and work with lawmakers to secure the necessary funding and support for these critical areas.

**\*\*Adopted by the LYSD Regional School Board on September 24, 2024.**



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ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edgar Hoelscher".

Regional School Board Chair, Edgar Hoelscher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Hargis".

John Hargis, Superintendent