



Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB)
Testimony to the
Senate Finance Education Subcommittee
By Sue Hull, AASB President

September 11, 2013

*“Wisdom is knowing what to do.
Skill is knowing how to do it.
Virtue is doing it.”*



Question #1

***Where Are Alaska's Schools
Headed Educationally?***



The Perfect Storm

Alaska:

***Higher Standards
More Rigorous Assessments
New Teacher Evaluation Systems
New Star Rating System for Schools
90% Graduation Rate Goal***

Nationally:

***Personalized Learning
Rapid Expansion of 1 to 1 Programs
“Raising the Bar” (Common Core & etc.)***



***“The Best Way
to Predict Your Future
Is to Create It.”***

Abraham Lincoln



Creating Our Future

Ten Years Ago...

***AASB Began Creating the Future
By Putting Together the
Consortium for Digital Learning.***

Now

***Alaska Stands on the Brink of
Leading the Nation
By Igniting Digital Learning in Our Schools***



Question #2

***What Do Our Students Need
from a K-12 Education System?***



The Answer... & More Questions

Our students need to be
academically prepared for success
in a rapidly-changing world.

How do we do it?

What will their world look like? How do we meet each student's needs?

How do we keep them engaged?

How do we support their teachers and empower their families?

How do we make sure they come to school ready to learn?

And...how do we fund it?



Question #3

***What Are Five Things
You Would Like to Change?***



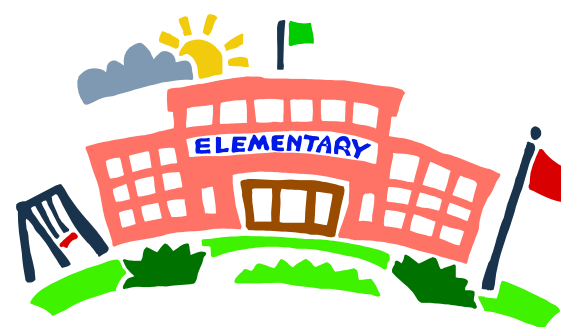
AASB Priorities

Early Childhood Development

Every Student Ready to Learn



Working Together





AASB Priorities

Innovation

Schools Have to Change.

*The strategies are limitless,
but one enhances and enables most all of the others...*

Alaska 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative



What is the 1:1 Initiative?

Base Project Components

- Students: mobile device
- Teachers: mobile device and laptop
- Ongoing Support:
 - Professional Development
 - Technical Services



Reason #1

Expanded Resources

Digital Resources

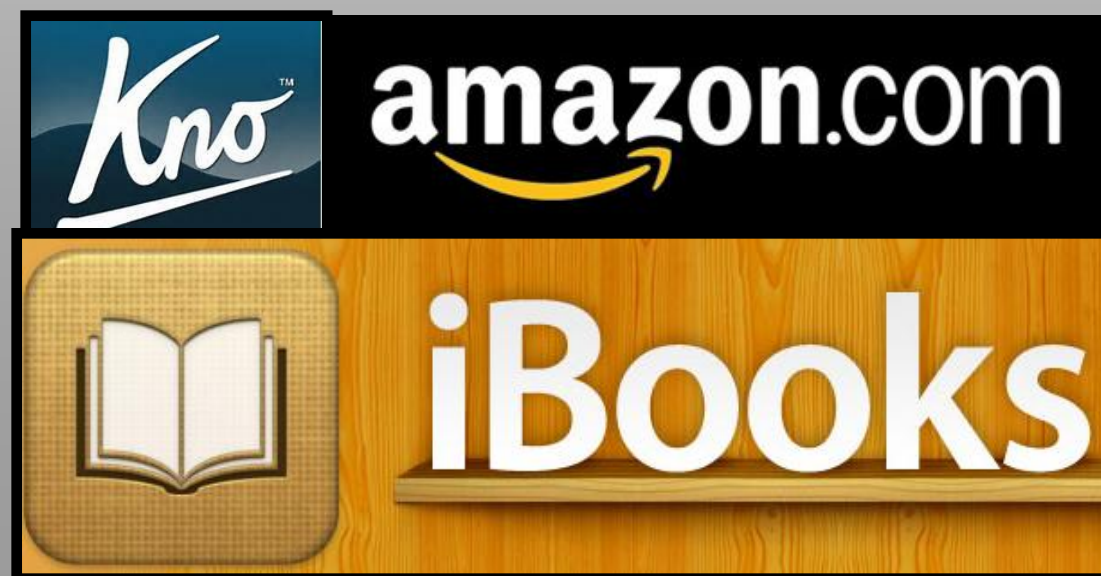
Web Based Resources



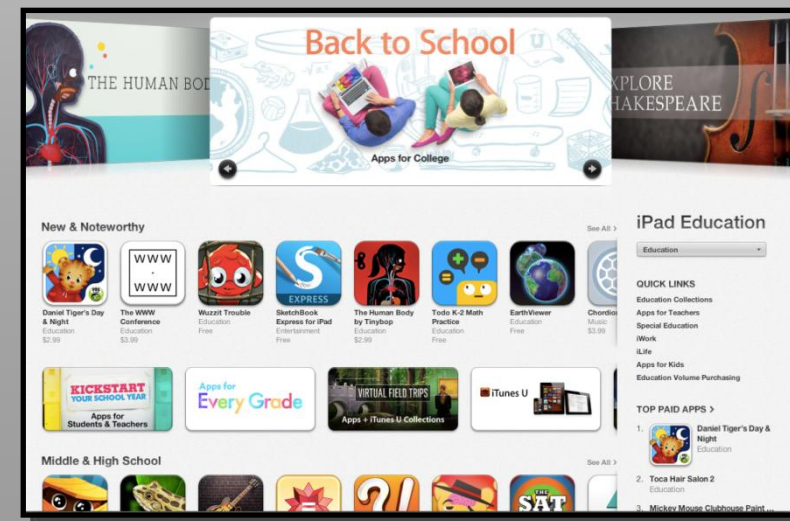
State Digital Repositories



Digital Texts



Apps iTunes



95, 000+ Education Apps

Reason #2

**Deeper Learning &
Increased Engagement**

The Need for Engagement

“Most challenging issue for Alaska schools is **student engagement.**”



What Dropouts Say

- **47%** Major reason for dropping out: classes not interesting.
- **69%** Not motivated or inspired to work hard.
- **43%** Missed too many days, could not catch up.
- **70%** Confident they could have graduated if they tried.

Increased Engagement and Deeper Learning

Visualization and Simulations



The Elements

Rich Resources



Life on Earth

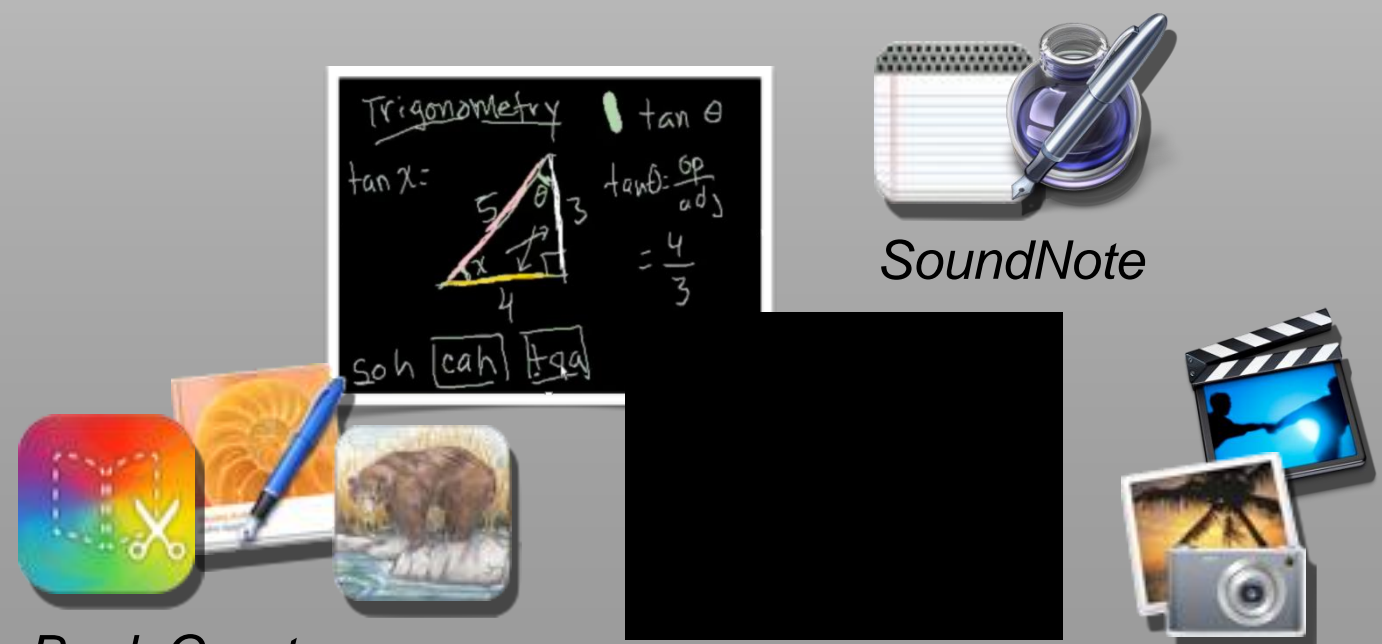
Multi-language



Milly and Molly series

Interactive Content

Graphics, Movies, Images, Audio



Book Creator

Teachers Tell Us

Digital Learning Outcomes

Student
Engagement

Attendance

Behavior
Issues

Differentiated
Instruction

Mainstreaming
Special Needs
Students

INCREASED

INCREASED

DECREASED

INCREASED

INCREASED

Educators
from CDL districts
across Alaska
report results:

Source:
CDL Project Summary Report
Ohler 2011

A Focus on Literacy

Closing the Education Opportunity Gap

3rd grade students
more than doubled
their growth in literacy
in one year
using iPads.

Source: UAF report

86
National
Literacy Gains

189
iPads for Literacy
Project Gains

Reason #3

Transformed Instruction

Changing the Picture of Education

Real-time Assessment	Innovation	Personalized Learning
Portfolios	Activator of Change in All Areas of Education	Remediation
New Assessment Models	Teacher Lesson Plans and Resources	Online Coursework
At-Home School Readiness	Professional Development	Flipped Classroom
Work Force Readiness Tools	Special Education Accommodations	Gifted Coursework

And What If...



**What If Parents Could Check-out an iPad for
Their Preschoolers by Attending
Regular Parent Meetings?**

Reason #4

Personalized Learning

Diverse Group of Students

Each with Different Needs

Instruction Can Adapt to the Learner



Reason #5

Cost Effective

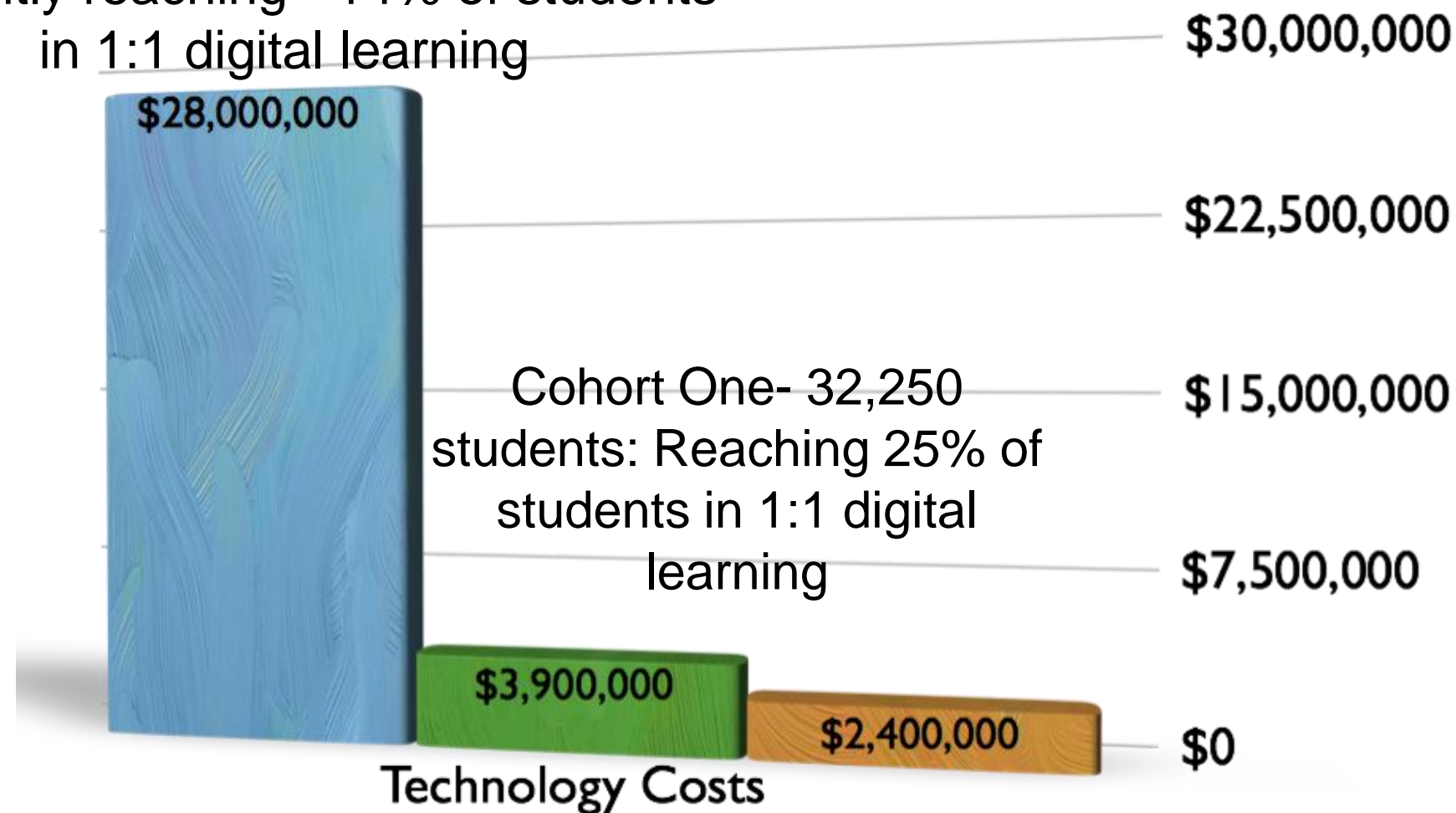
“Bump to Pivot”

Cost Effectiveness

K12 School Districts Spend Money on Technology

A Statewide Initiative Reaches More for Less

Currently reaching ~14% of students
in 1:1 digital learning



- Total District Technology Expenditures per year
- State Cost on 4 year Lease for Cohort 1
- District Cost on 4 year lease for Cohort 1

A Small Investment for Big Impact

.003

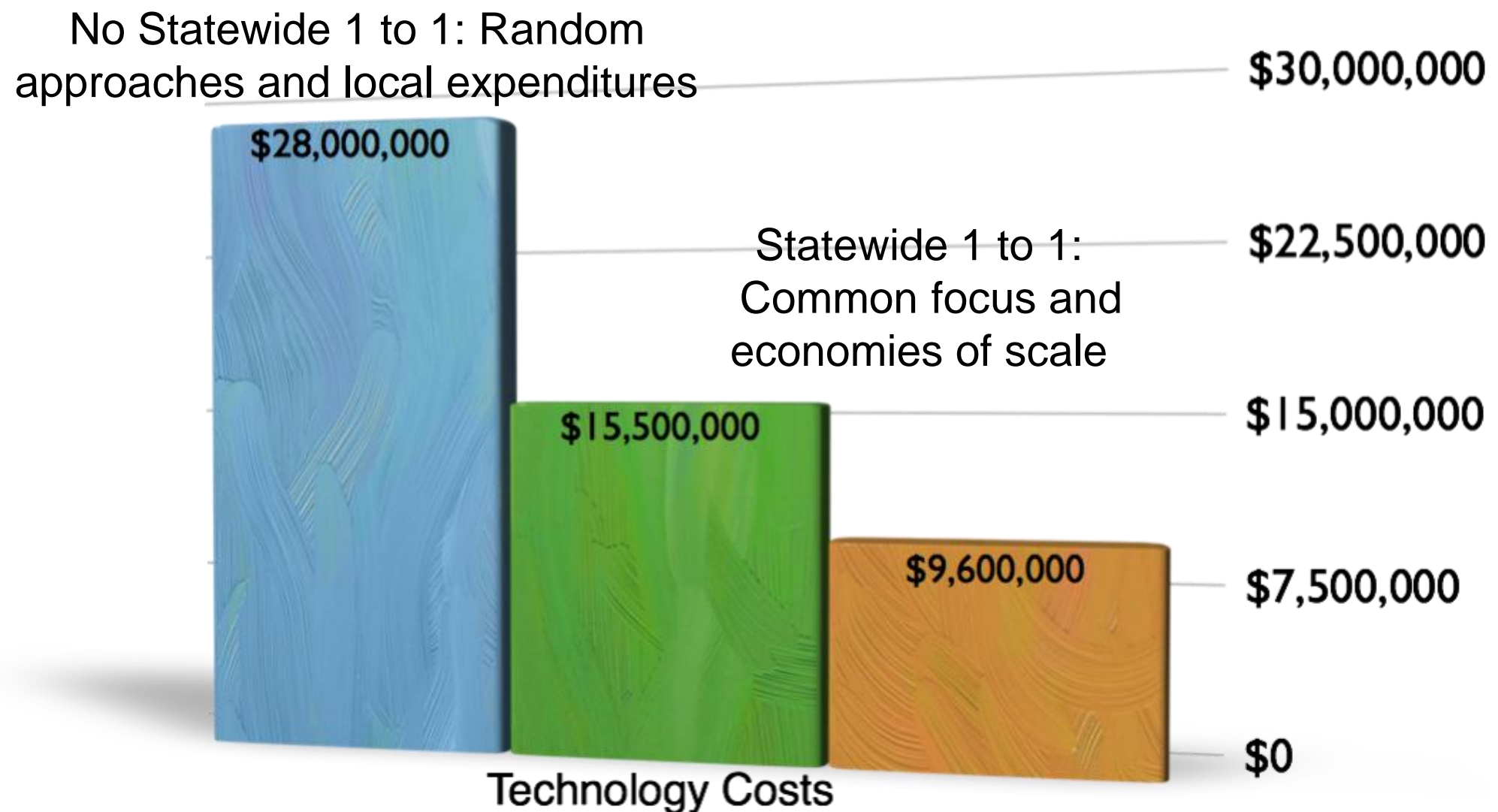
Represents the portion of Foundation Formula funding for the state contribution of each cohort

New Economies of Scale

- **Creates economies of scale**
 - hardware
 - instructional content
 - professional development for teachers
 - technical services for schools
- **Unifies focus**
- **Attracts new talent**

Economies of Scale

A Statewide Initiative Realizes Economies of Scale and Develops Common Vision

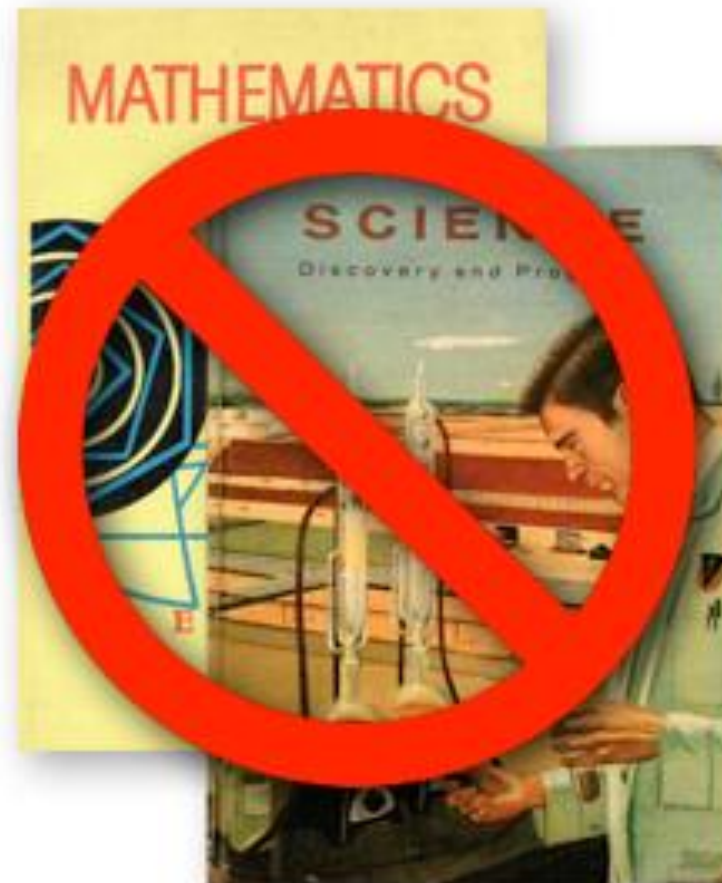


- Total Technology Expenditures per year
- State Cost on 4 year Lease for all students
- District Cost on 4 year lease for all students

Potential Cost Savings



Paperwork Reduction
and Copier Costs



Reduced Costs for
Digital Content
versus print



Reduced Costs for
Consumable Materials

Reason #6

WE CAN DO IT!

**We have the know-how,
experience, infrastructure,
and support to make it happen.**



- **28 School Districts**
- **100+ School Sites**
- **12,000+ Users**

- **9 School Districts**
- **40 School Sites**
- **600 Users**



“Know-How” for Success

Specifically Written for Alaska Schools

One to One 101

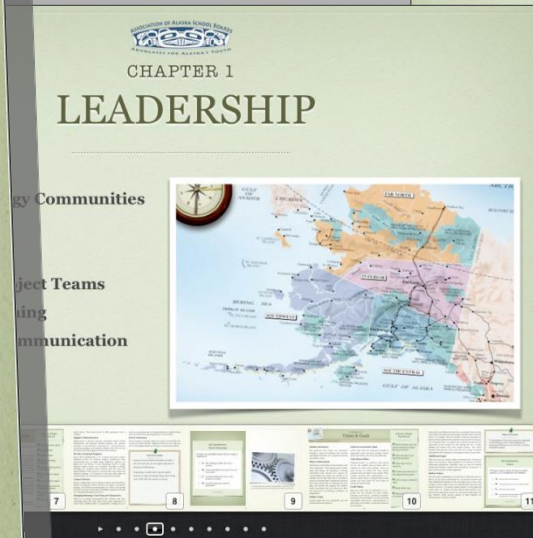


The Journey to a Successful
Digital Learning Project

By Dr. Robert Whicker & Steve Nelson



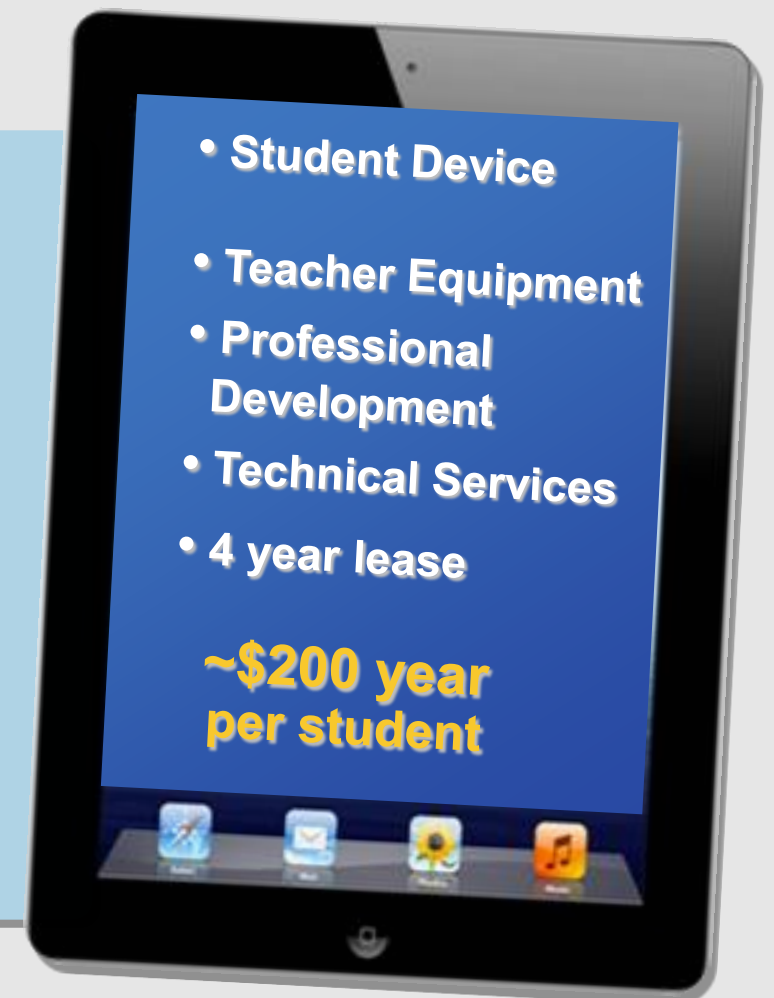
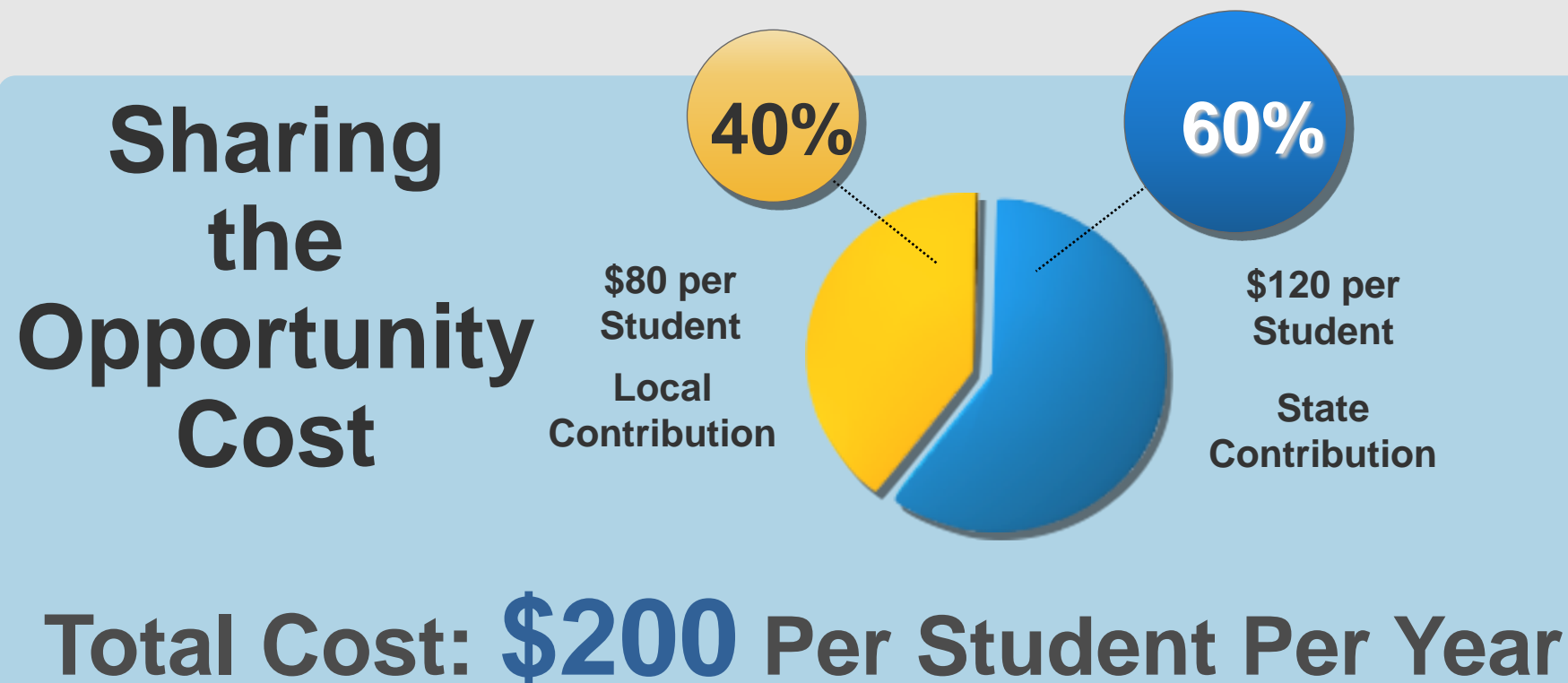
CONSORTIUM FOR DIGITAL LEARNING



Available Free
AASB iTunes U
www.cdl.aasb.org



Financial Structure

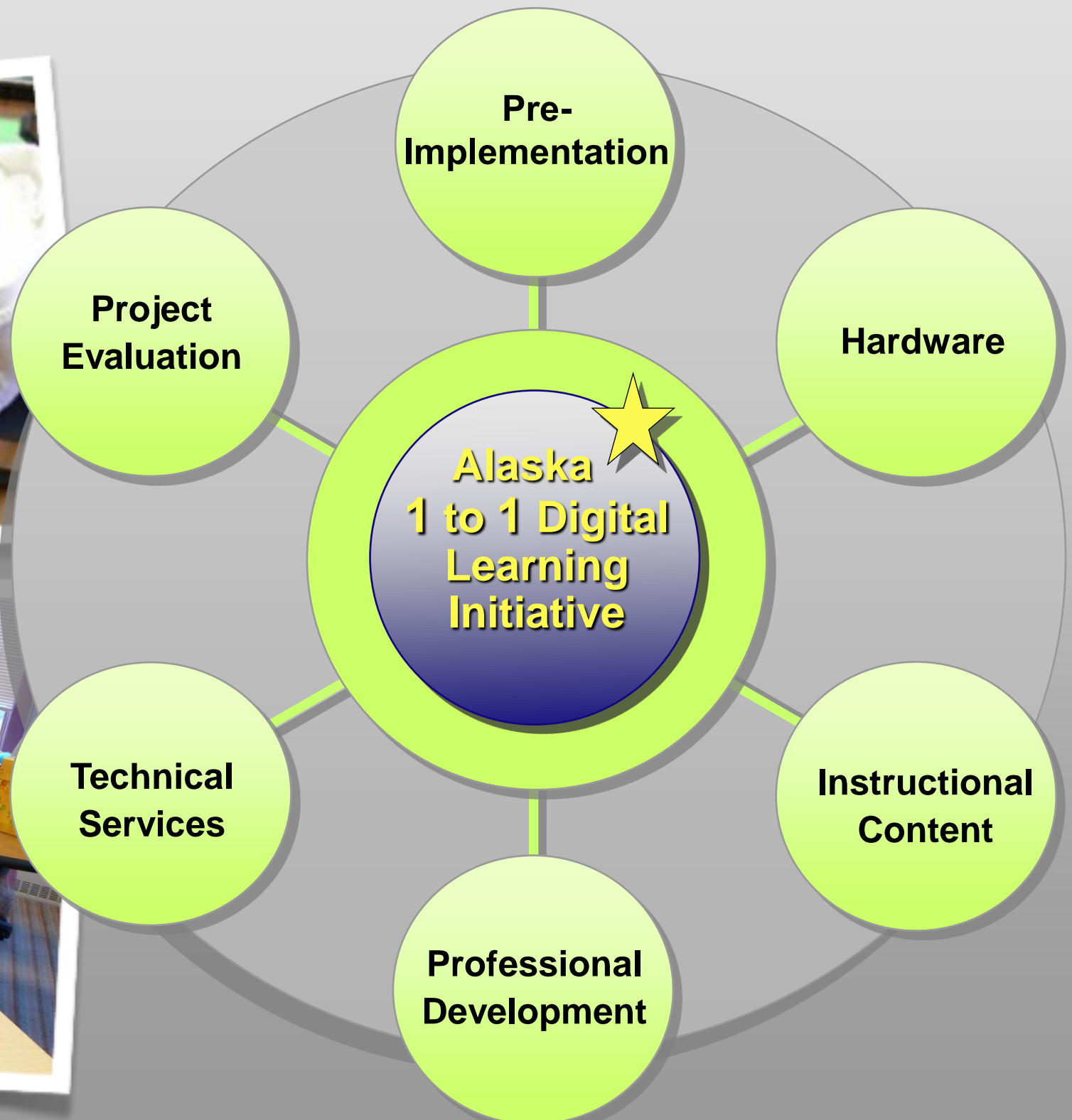


4
Year

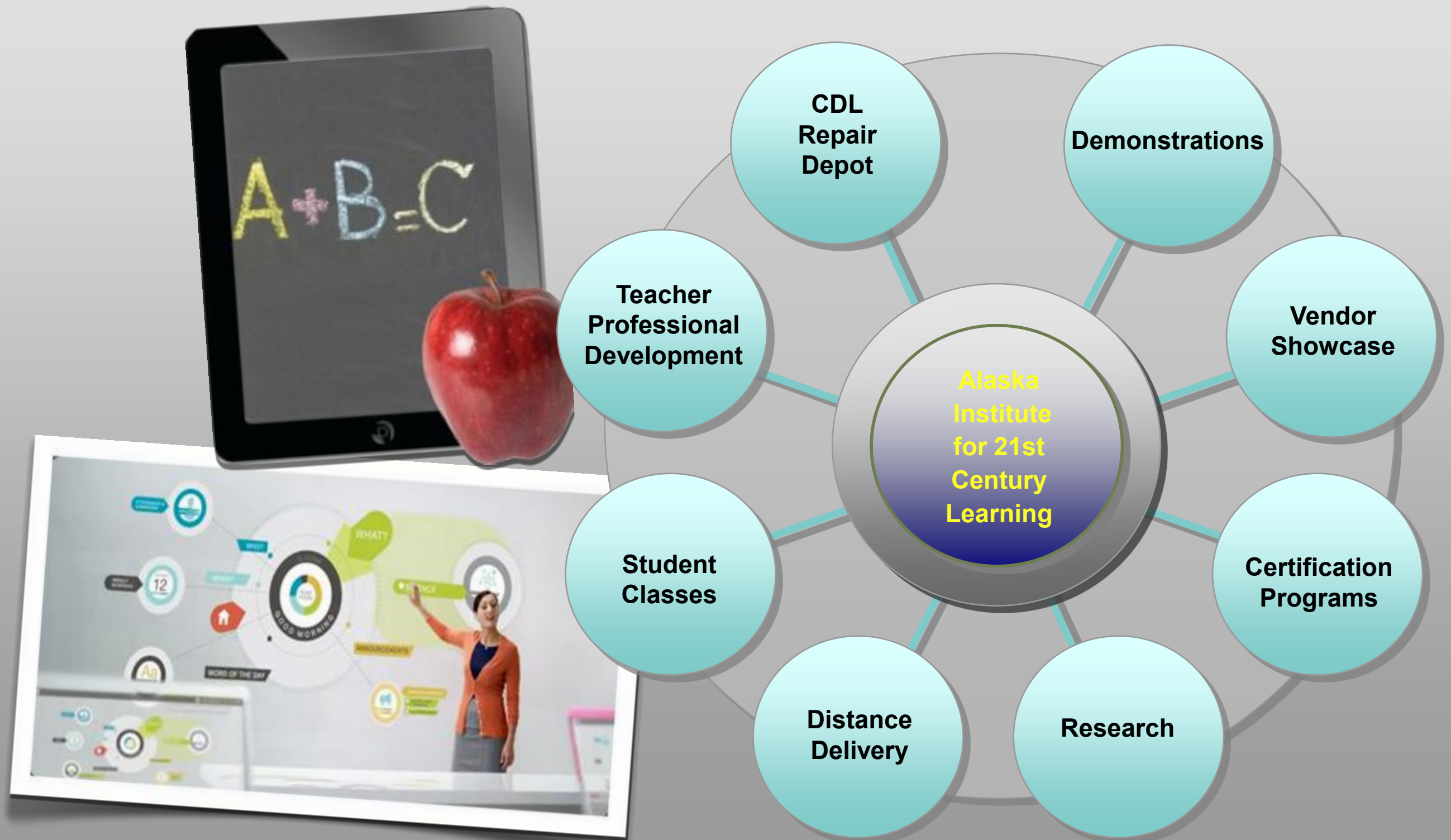
Lease

- Offers Flexibility to Take Advantage of New Technologies
- Enables Ability to Recapture Equity
- Gives Opportunity to Develop Flexible Refresh Schedules

1:1 Initiative Components



Classroom of the Future





Next Steps...

Alaska Could Lead the Nation in Access to the Tools of the Future...

Think What That Could Mean for
Their Future...And Ours

*For more information about the Alaska 1 to 1 Initiative go to
<http://cdl.aasb.org/>*



AASB Priorities

Funding

*Alaska's Schools Need
**Adequate, Equitable &
Predictable Funding.***



Constitutional Mandate



*The Framers Understood How
Important Education Would Be*



Cuts in Recent Years

In Fairbanks:

<i>Website Manager</i>	<i>Counselors</i>
<i>Ledger Clerk</i>	<i>Human Resources Tech.</i>
<i>Payroll Clerk</i>	<i>Systems Administrator</i>
<i>Warehouse Staff</i>	<i>Activities Coordinator</i>
<i>16 Custodians</i>	<i>Tech Support Specialist</i>
<i>Principal Interns</i>	<i>Network Specialist</i>
<i>Printshop Personnel</i>	<i>46 Teachers</i>
<i>IT Teachers</i>	<i>and more</i>

We Can't Cut Our Way to Excellence.



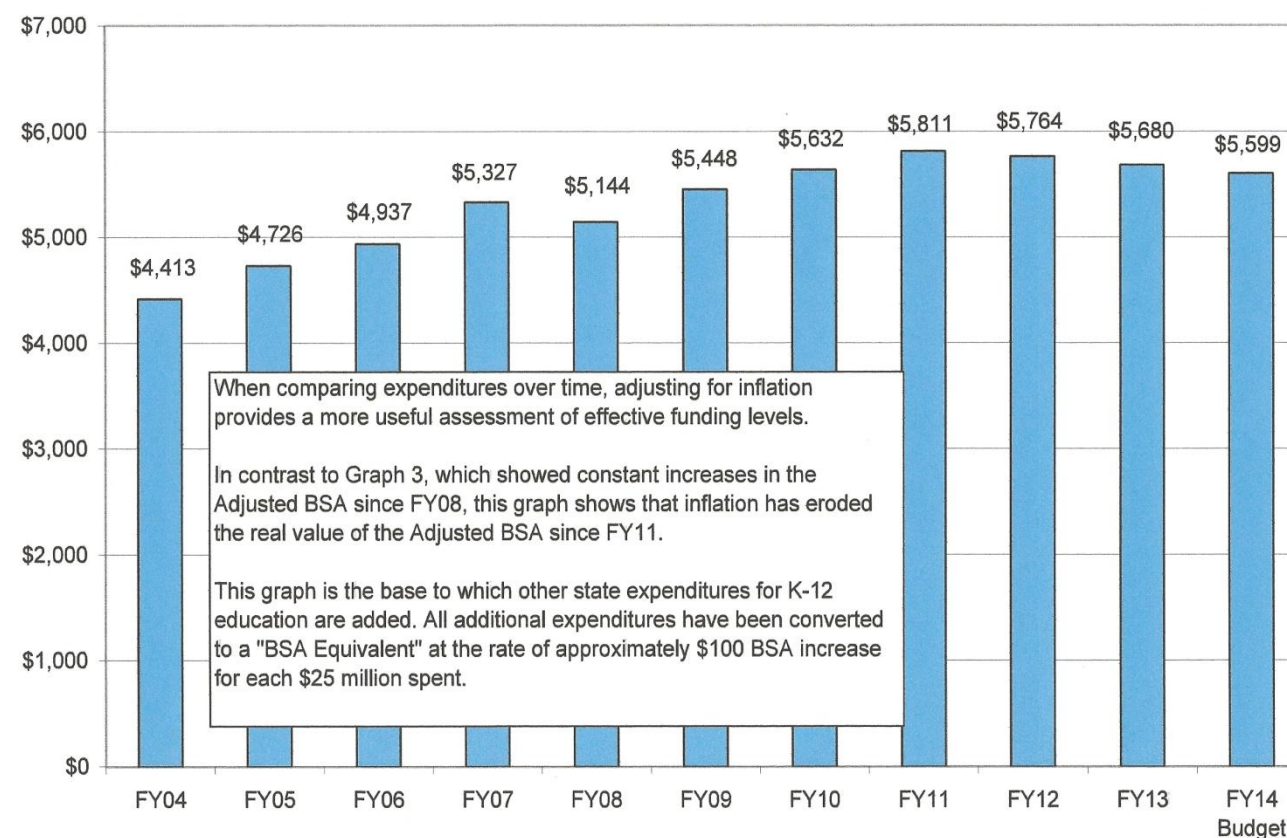


Stagnant Operating Funds

- **Adequate**
- **Equitable**
- **Predictable**

*Investing in Education is
Investing in Alaska's
Economic Future*

C4: Adjusted BSA in FY13 Dollars





One More...for Good Measure

The Terms of Engagement

*We're Partners
with a Common Goal.*



***Thank You for
Asking Good Questions.***

***Let's
“Create Our Future”***

*“Wisdom is knowing what to do.
Skill is knowing how to do it.
Virtue is doing it.”*