

From: [Elisabeth Brennan](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Public education funding
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 3:47:50 PM

March 31, 2015

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

Please include this letter in the public testimony.

I am a parent, community member, and school board member living in Nome. I am the proud parent of two children in Nome Public Schools. I am writing to you today to ask you to please keep the promise that was made last year for three years of funding for public schools. Nome Public Schools is willing to make budget cuts and has done just that at our last work session March 10. We have cut 5 full time positions from our staff , while trying to keep those cuts from affecting the classroom. I know this is a time of financial uncertainty, but I ask you to reconsider the drastic cuts to public education. Schools across the state are looking to see where they can find savings. But we need to make thoughtful decisions with caution and precision.

Nome Public Schools already partners with many entities to offer quality education and opportunities to our youth. We work with Nome Eskimo Community, Sitnasuak Native Corporation, Northwest Campus (UAF), Nome Head Start, Nome Preschool Association, and the Nome Community Center. We need to continue these partnerships and lead the way in educating our children to ensure a bright future.

Thank you for your important work as legislators. Please reconsider the drastic cuts in education funding. Please keep Alaska's greatest resource, our children, in mind.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Brennan

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