



April 14, 2021

House Finance Committee Meeting on HB 169

Follow-up on Committee Member Comments

Prepared by DEED Staff

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1) Provide details on what school districts projected for student enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year (for the FY2022 budget).

The Department of Education & Early Development's website includes details on the projected student enrollment counts provided by the school districts. Details can be found here: <https://education.alaska.gov/schoolfinance/foundationfunding>. In addition, enclosed is the FY2022 Foundation Projection data spreadsheet. The second tab of this excel document includes the projected Average Daily Membership (ADM).

2) Provide clarification on the amount of funding saved in the budget based on reduced AADM due to the COVID-19 pandemic compared to the prior fiscal year.

For the purposes of developing the annual budget, AS 14.17.500 outlines that school districts provide an ADM. The appropriations in the operating budget are estimates based on the projected ADM and the language provides "the amount necessary to fund the total amount" to ensure school districts receive the amount of funding based on actual student counts.

The FY2021 budget enacted during the 2020 Legislative Session was estimated to be \$1,260,501.9. The FY2022 Governor's proposed budget under consideration during the 2021 Legislative Session is estimated to be \$1,233,744.4. The difference between these numbers is a reduction of \$26,757.5. This is for both Pupil Transportation and Foundation Programs and for Unrestricted General Funds only.

Enclosed are two documents for the committee's reference:

- Attachment 1 Foundation Formula Enrollment Comparison - This summary provides comparisons for the Foundation Formula based on several points in time (FY2020 Actual, FY2021 Projected, FY2021 Closeout, FY2022 Projected)
- Attachment 2 Foundation Formula Timeline - This provides a visual of the projected and actual student counts that are collected and for what fiscal year and school year.