



Kodiak High School
722 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-7400

February 2, 2023

To Our Alaska legislation:

Rural communities are all too familiar with the challenges schools face to educate all students with limited resources. We write to you today to encourage you to do all in your power to support our Alaskan students.

Our schools are faced with staffing shortages, facility challenges, and limited resources. There are literally no incentives for new teachers to stay nor come to our state because of the exorbitant cost of living and inadequate salaries and benefits, and virtually nonexistent retirement. This constant revolving door of educators does not provide consistency in our schools and our students suffer from this instability.

Districts are being forced to make difficult decisions regarding curriculum, providing obligatory student services, building maintenance, utilities, and more. Living in a rural community, professional development, sports and activity travel, and trainings are inherently more expensive than in urban settings. Our district does really well leveraging technology to help with some of these challenges, but as we know coming out of the pandemic, face to face interactions are more meaningful and effective.

Some may say "throwing more money at the problem" isn't the solution. We would agree. However, the thing is we haven't been "throwing money" and the "problems" of education, as the BSA hasn't changed since 2017! Schools are being forced to close statewide.

Please support our schools. Please support our students. Please support our future.

We thank you for your service to our State. May you keep in mind the future of our schools through your continued service.

Emily WSKU 2024

Sincerely, *Jacob Semovski 2023*

Brian R. Calk 2025

Kyle Pineda 2024

Noaa Daltonotale 2024

Mikyla Madambee 2025

Teagan Cleary 2025

Kodiak High School Student Government
907-486-7400

Pam Caballa 2025

Fernando Escobar

abigail Pratt 2024 2024

Alyssa Walden 2026

Shaneza Visperas 25'

Lisa Malakay 2026
Dianne Delacruz 2025