

**HB**

**336**

**SB 244 / HB 336**  
**Quality Schools Initiative**  
**Grant Funding**

ALASKA  
**QUALITY**  
**SCHOOLS**  
INITIATIVE





## Office of the Governor Press Releases



### ALASKA IN THE NEWS

February 2, 2000

00034

#### **KNOWLES BEEFS UP EFFORTS TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR EXIT EXAM New Legislation Increases School Grant Funding from \$16 to \$52 Per Student**

JUNEAU—During a visit to a sophomore global studies class at Juneau-Douglas High School today, Gov. Tony Knowles outlined proposed legislation that would help finance school district efforts to develop and maintain quality schools and make sure students are getting the academic tools they need to succeed.

The bill, sent to Legislature today, would increase the maximum eligible amount of grants to school districts. In 1998, the Legislature established quality school grants as a component of public school funding. The eligible amount was set at \$16 per adjusted average daily membership. This bill increases that amount to \$52.

The proposed increase, recommended by the State Board of Education and Early Development, is possible because school district enrollment projections are down for next year, saving the state about \$19.9 million. The cost of Knowles' proposal is \$7.6 million.

"If the Legislature approves this bill, these additional dollars will go for one important task - to help improve student performance," Knowles told students. "The money can be used at any grade level, but I expect school districts will put special emphasis on high school. With the Qualifying Exam coming up in March and the first scores due back next September, there is extra interest in helping you get the assistance you need to pass the test."

Knowles said the state has a responsibility to improve student performance and provide them a passport to a bright, successful future. By providing the additional support as a grant, Alaskans can be assured the money will go to support the implementation of the Quality Schools Initiative, including the high school graduation qualifying examination, instead of being absorbed in salaries, building maintenance, or administration.

"All Alaska families are concerned whether their children are meeting the new high state academic standards in reading, writing, and math," Knowles added. "Most school districts are taking extraordinary steps to prepare their students to meet these standards. The increased grant funding will allow a qualifying district to take creative measures to prepare its students, schools, and communities to work toward success on the examination."

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**Contact:**

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Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

Projected FY2001 Quality Schools Grants

Projected allocations based on increase from \$16 to \$52 per adjusted ADM & additional \$7,552,258 million

Prepared 12-6-99

School District	Current law at \$16 per Adj. ADM		Adjusted ADM \$36	Total \$52 Per Adjusted ADM
	Projected FY2001 Adjusted ADM	Projected Quality Schools Grant		
Alaska Gateway	1184.48	\$18,952	42,641	61,593
Aleutian Region	346.69	5,547	12,481	18,028
Aleutians East Borough	959.48	15,352	34,541	49,893
Anchorage	65782.81	1,052,525	2,368,181	3,420,706
Annette Island	628.3	10,053	22,619	32,672
Bering Strait	5465.17	87,443	196,746	284,189
Bristol Bay Borough	636.81	10,189	22,925	33,114
Chatham	628.36	10,054	22,621	32,675
Chugach	309.1	4,946	11,128	16,074
Copper River	1431.31	22,901	51,527	74,428
Cordova	850	13,600	30,600	44,200
Craig	730.12	11,682	26,284	37,966
Delta/Greely	1635.57	26,169	58,881	85,050
Denali Borough	795.01	12,720	28,620	41,340
Dillingham	1153.84	18,461	41,538	59,999
Fairbanks North Star Borough	22318.76	357,100	803,475	1,160,575
Galena	3369.81	53,917	121,313	175,230
Haines Borough	719.24	11,508	25,893	37,401
Hoonah	488.8	7,821	17,597	25,418
Hydaburg	243.43	3,895	8,763	12,658
Iditarod Area	1366.96	21,871	49,211	71,082
Juneau Borough	7784.48	124,552	280,241	404,793
Kake	332.52	5,320	11,971	17,291
Kashunamiut	736.56	11,785	26,516	38,301
Kenai Peninsula Borough	14957.83	239,325	538,482	777,807
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	3625.32	58,005	130,512	188,517
Klawock	400.89	6,414	14,432	20,846
Kodiak Island Borough	4581.81	73,309	164,945	238,254
Kuspuk	1503.7	24,059	54,133	78,192
Lake & Peninsula Borough	1759.6	28,154	63,346	91,500
Lower Kuskokwim	10110.84	161,773	363,990	525,763
Lower Yukon	5217.2	83,475	187,819	271,294
Mat-Su Borough	17540.82	280,653	631,470	912,123
Nenana	899.72	14,396	32,390	46,786
Nome	1443.07	23,089	51,951	75,040
North Slope Borough	4993.86	79,902	179,779	259,681
Northwest Arctic Borough	5759.58	92,153	207,345	299,498
Pelican	95.6	1,530	3,442	4,972
Petersburg	1055.1	16,882	37,984	54,866
Pribilof	487.95	7,807	17,566	25,373
Saint Mary's	396.7	6,347	14,281	20,628
Sitka Borough	2468.01	39,488	88,848	128,336
Skaaway	305.6	4,890	11,002	15,892
Southeast Island	738.13	11,810	26,573	38,383
Southwest Region	2223.7	35,579	80,053	115,632
Tanana	250.3	4,005	9,011	13,016
Unalaska	740.44	11,847	26,656	38,503
Valdez	1445.77	23,132	52,048	75,180
Wrangell	773.89	12,382	27,860	40,242
Yakutat	309.56	4,953	11,144	16,097
Yukon Flats	1292.86	20,686	46,543	67,229
Yukon/Koyukuk	1644.8	26,317	59,213	85,530
Yupit	1189.01	19,024	42,804	61,828
Alaska Central School *	1192.352	19,078	42,925	62,003
Mt. Edgcombe High School	483.28	7,732	17,398	25,130
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>209,784.90</b>	<b>\$3,356,559</b>	<b>\$7,552,258</b>	<b>\$10,908,817</b>



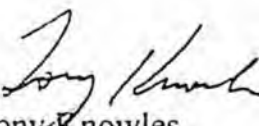
HB 336

The Honorable Brian Porter  
February 2, 2000  
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will have on their ability to deliver a quality program to their students. The increased grant funding will allow a qualifying district to take creative measures to prepare its students, schools, and communities to work toward success on the examination.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this bill.

Sincerely,

  
Tony Knowles  
Governor

# STATE OF ALASKA

## Department of Education & Early Development

### Office of the Commissioner

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

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Juneau, Alaska 99801-1894  
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February 7, 2000

The Honorable Fred Dyson, Chair  
House Health, Education and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 104  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Dyson:

I would like to request a hearing in the House Health, Education and Social Services Committee for HB 336, the Governor's bill to provide school districts with more resources through the Quality Schools Grant.

The Quality Schools Grant is a component of the foundation funding formula, the program used to distribute funds to school districts for the operation of schools. School districts apply for the Quality Schools Grant and are required by Department of Education & Early Development to do four things in order to receive the funds:

- 1) adopt State Performance Standards in reading, writing, and math;
- 2) identify students not meeting standards at benchmark levels;
- 3) design intervention strategies for those students;
- 4) and present professional development plans.

Every school district has a different strategy for making sure students meet standards and are equipped to pass the benchmark exams and graduation qualifying exam. We request more funds for districts to implement necessary programs. One district may choose to spend these funds on after school reading programs, while another funds a summer program. We argue new innovative programs that work will require new resources.

The grant is currently set in statute at \$16 per adjusted average daily membership. This bill increases that amount to \$52. Since the formula saved \$19.9 million in FY 2001, we are asking to reinvest that savings back in classrooms.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and I urge that you hear this bill promptly.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Cross  
Commissioner

EED

# FISCAL NOTE

Bill Version: HB 336

(H) Publish Date: 2/4/00

**STATE OF ALASKA  
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Education & Early Dev.  
 Title An Act increasing the eligible maximum BRU K-12 Support  
amount for quality school grant funding for school districts Component Foundation Program  
 Sponsor Rules  
 Requester Rules Component No. 141

**Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)**

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation will increase the quality school grant funding under AS 14.17.480(a) from \$16 per adjusted ADM to \$52. The estimated increase of \$7,552,300 is included in the Department of Education & Early Development's FY2001 budget in the Foundation Program. School districts need to apply for quality school grant funding. Applications must demonstrate that the school district will use quality school grant funding to assist students in meeting Alaska's academic standards in reading, writing, and math.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager Phone 465-8679  
 Division: Education Support Services Date/Time 1/6/00 4:35 PM  
 Approved by: Richard S. Cross, Commissioner Date 1/6/00  
 Agency: [Signature]

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