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OVERVIEW:

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STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

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February 7, 2003

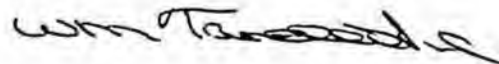
Alaska State Legislature
House Finance Committee Members
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dear Finance Committee Members:

Enclosed you will find the text of an email message I sent to Department of Public Safety employees on February 5, 2003. The message clearly sets out my leadership philosophies and expectations of performance and conduct for all employees. I trust that you will find those philosophies and expectations to be appropriate in ensuring exceptional public safety services to all Alaskans.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



William Tandeske
Commissioner

Enclosure: a/s

Email Message from Commissioner Tandeske

February 5, 2003

Members of the Alaska Department of Public Safety:

It is with great pleasure that I return to the department.

First, let me say that I am honored to have been chosen by Governor Murkowski to head what I have long considered to be the finest, most professional agency in the state.

For those of you who do not know me, I would like to let you know a little about myself and how I intend to lead your department. As many of you know I grew up in this agency. I spent nearly 26-years as a Trooper and retired a few years ago as a Major and Deputy Director of the Troopers. Over the course of my career as a Trooper, I worked closely with all of the other functions in the department at one time or another. As a result, I have a solid understanding and, more importantly, a tremendous respect for the services that each and every one of you provide to the citizens of this state.

Your job has become more and more complex over the years. The demand for the services you provide has steadily risen while at the same time resources have become more scarce. As this has occurred, you have been able to tighten your belts and meet the needs in spite of the challenges. We are at a point where there is little belt left to tighten yet the demands continue to march upward. This means that in order to survive as a viable entity we must rethink how we approach our mission and be adaptable to change.

While I intend to bring about positive, constructive change, I also intend to do it in a careful and thoughtful manner that will have the least impact on you as you continue to provide public service. Some of the changes may be painful, some welcome. My job will be to insure that any and all changes are necessary, purposeful and serve to move the department forward to meet the rapidly changing challenges we face.

At the core of my leadership philosophy are a few basic principles that I will live by and I will expect every employee of this department to live by. Let me start with the three that we see every day in our offices and on our vehicles - loyalty, integrity and courage.

The internal health of this agency is reflected every day by the public face of the agency - how the people we serve view us and the job we are doing for them. I expect every employee of this department to conduct the daily business of the department, both internal and public, in a manner that reflects loyalty to the ideals and laws we live by, with integrity that is beyond reproach and with the courage to do what is right in the face of adversity.

Professionalism - One of my personal goals is to instill a sense of pride and professionalism in every corner of this agency. I will demand that every aspect of the department's business be conducted in a professional manner and done so with a sense of pride in knowing that every action you take, every contact you make and every service you provide reflects positively on you

and on your department. The people we serve may not always agree with us but they will always consider us to be professional.

Fairness - I strongly believe in fair and equal treatment for employees and for the citizenry we serve. No person shall be given better or worse treatment due to any kind of status or condition. All business, whether internal or external, shall be conducted in a fair and honest manner. All decision-making processes shall be conducted in a fair and impartial manner and shall be closely scrutinized and regularly challenged to insure that they are clearly defensible.

Accountability - I will ensure and enforce strict accountability at every level. At the highest level we are all accountable to the people of this State. It is my charge to insure that accountability throughout all levels of this agency and I intend to do just that. Every employee of this agency must understand what their responsibilities are and how those responsibilities fit into the overall mission of this agency.

I intend to be actively involved in the day-to-day activities of this agency. I have a keen interest in what you do and how you do it. My interest stems from two points - a need to insure that this agency is carrying out its appointed mission and a need to insure that we are doing things in the best and most efficient manner possible given the resources we have.

My first days as Commissioner have been largely focused on administrative matters and getting up to speed on budget, performance measures and legislative issues. It is my desire to have a deputy commissioner named and in place in a matter of days. I will do my very best to visit employees throughout the state as soon as feasible. In the interim, I ask for your patience given the timing of my appointment in relation to the legislative session.

I shall continually strive to secure additional resources for you at every opportunity. I strongly believe in what you do and why you do it. I will do my best to serve you and represent you in an exemplary manner and to uphold the proud traditions you have worked so hard to defend. I consider all of you as part of a family that I am extremely proud to once again be associated with.

Bill Tandeske
Commissioner

House Finance Committee

Department of Education & Early Development

Overview



February 7, 2003

Department of Education & Early Development
House Finance Committee Overview
February 7, 2003

The mission of the Department of Education & Early Development is:

to support the development of lifelong learners.

The department has employed six goal areas with various strategies to achieve the mission:

1. To have culturally and developmentally appropriate high quality early care and education programs that improve the well being of young children statewide, ages 0-4, in which children, families, and communities are active partners;
2. To have clear, rigorous, credible student standards and assessments;
3. To have a credible system of academic and fiscal accountability for students, professionals, schools, and districts;
4. To have highly qualified school professionals who have met rigorous and credible standards and assessments;
5. To have schools in which students, staff, families, business, and communities are active partners in learning; and
6. To have an adequate, stable and secure source of funding for schools.

Department of Education & Early Development
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In the current year, the department has approximately 419 full time and 116 part-time positions in its 7 divisions and 4 commissions. Offices are located in five Alaska communities with the main presence in Juneau and Anchorage.

The seven-member State Board of Education & Early Development is the head of the agency. In addition, there are three advisory members; one military and two student representatives. The state board members are appointed by the governor, subject to legislative confirmation. The commissioner is appointed by the state board, subject to approval by the governor. The board establishes statewide goals and education policy through adopting regulations to implement education laws.

The Department of Education & Early Development is responsible for funding and regulating the state's K-12 schools as well as administering school debt reimbursement, grants for school construction and major maintenance, and a comprehensive system of early care and learning.

Independent commissions reporting through the department include the Professional Teaching Practices Commission, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the Alaska State Community Service Commission, and the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.

An organization chart of the department is on page 5.

The Department of Education & Early Development's FY 2003 operating budget is \$1,069,263,000 including about \$769 million from general funds, \$179 million from federal funds, and the balance from other funding sources. Ninety-four percent of the total agency budget, and 96% of the department's general fund budget, is allocated through grants to school districts, non-profit organizations and individuals across the state. The chart on page 4 is a snap shot of the department's current year budget:

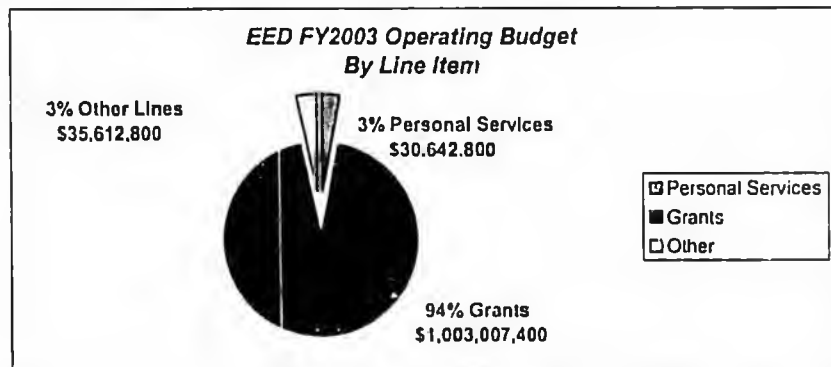
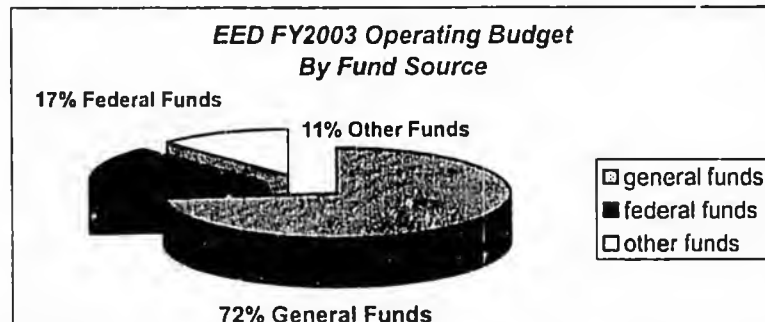
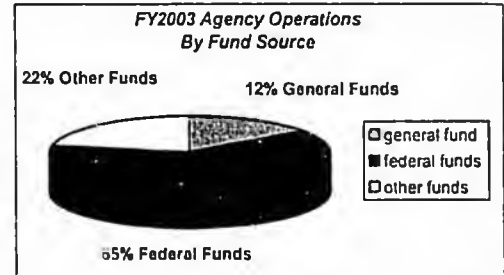
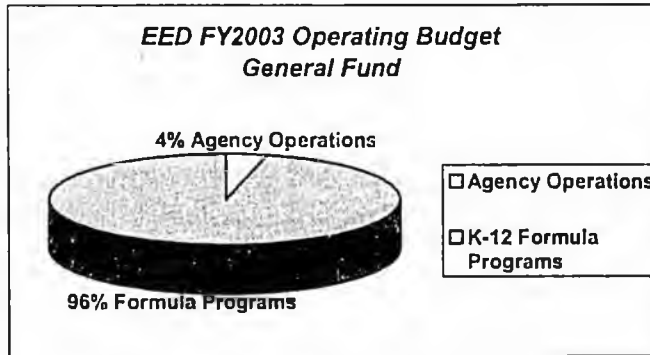
Department of Education & Early Development
House Finance Committee Overview
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Department of Education & Early Development
FY 2003 Operating Budget - Enacted*

**includes school debt reimbursement*

	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total
Agency Operations	29,958.3	158,232.8	52,427.6	240,618.7
K-12 Formula Programs	738,996.4	20,791.0	68,856.9	828,644.3
Total	768,954.7	179,023.8	121,284.5	1,069,263.0

Positions:	
Full-time	419
Part-time	116



Department of Education & Early Development
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Department of Education & Early Development
 Organization Chart

