

**SB**

**6**

<TARGET><BILL>SB 6</BILL><SUBJECT>SB  
6</SUBJECT><COMM>SEDC28</COMM></TARGET>

# SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

## First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/16/13

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 3/28/13  
 (in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED  
 IN TO OFFICE: 4/5/13

Education Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 6

### SB 6-FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MEALS

"An Act providing for funding for school lunch and breakfast; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  Same Title  New Title
- adopt previous CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  Same Title  New Title
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
EED	✓			1

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Dunsleavy				✓
	Higgins				✓
	Gardner	X			
CHAIR:	Steel	X			

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## Session

State Capitol, Rm. 419  
Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 465-2435  
Fax: (907) 465-6615

## Interim

716 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ste. 540  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 269-0120  
Fax: (907) 269-0122



State Affairs Committee  
Judiciary Committee  
In-State Energy Committee  
Joint Armed Services  
Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

## Sponsor Statement

### Senate Bill 6 – Funding for School Meals

#### **“An Act providing for funding for school lunch and breakfast.”**

Senate Bill 6 will provide a state match for schools participating in the federal Free and Reduced Price School Breakfast and Lunch Program. This legislation will encourage more schools to provide nutritious meals for underprivileged children and allow schools that already do so to improve their programs. Currently in Alaska, twenty percent of schools participating in the school lunch program do not offer school breakfast, impacting 22,253 Alaskan children, 6,850 of whom are children from low income families who qualify for free or reduced price meals. For many children, these are the only nutritious meals they will get on a regular basis.

This legislation will provide school districts with a base amount of 35 cents for each breakfast served and 15 cents per lunch. To compensate for higher costs, rural schools will receive additional assistance through a funding formula based on the applicable School District Cost Factor for each district.

In addition to fighting childhood hunger, investing in school meals has shown to improve school performance, attendance and test scores while reducing violence and combating childhood obesity.

This legislation is supported by the Food Bank of Alaska, the Alaska Food Coalition and the Alaska School Nutrition Association. It has been endorsed by numerous school districts across the state, Alaska Federation of Natives, Action for Healthy Kids, City of Kenai and the Mountain View Community Council.

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 6  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB006-EED-TLS-2-8-13  
Title: FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MEALS  
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI  
Requester: Senate Education

Department: Department of Education and Early Development  
Appropriation: Teaching and Learning Support  
Allocation: Child Nutrition  
OMB Component Number: 1955

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2014 Request	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits	2,334.0		2,334.0	2,334.0	2,334.0	2,334.0	2,334.0
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

1004 Gen Fund	2,334.0		2,334.0	2,334.0	2,334.0	2,334.0	2,334.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>	<b>2,334.0</b>

**Positions**

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

<b>Change in Revenues</b>							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 12/01/13

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:**

Initial version

Prepared By:	Paul Prussing, Deputy Director	Phone:	(907)465-8721
Division	Teaching & Learning Support	Date:	02/08/2013 12:00 AM
Approved By:	Mike Hanley	Date:	03/29/13
	Commissioner		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB6

**Analysis**

This legislation will establish a state school and breakfast grant program to assist districts in offsetting the costs of providing free and reduced breakfast and lunch meals under 42 U.S.C. 1771-1784 for eligible students. School districts will be eligible for 35 cents for each breakfast and 15 cents for each lunch served plus an additional amount generated by applying the specified formula to the district cost factors under AS 14.17.460.

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## Session

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State Affairs Committee

Judiciary Committee

In-State Energy Committee

Joint Armed Services  
Committee

## SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

### Fast Facts: Alaska's School Lunch Program

#### Alaskan Children In Need:

- **One out of every 8 Alaska** families struggles to put enough food on the table.[[USDA](#)]
- According to Hunger in America 2010, **74,000 Alaskans seek food assistance each year**. The study also showed that 43% of households visiting food pantries in Alaska have a child under the age of 18. [[Hunger In America](#)]
- An estimated **42% of Alaska students**, more than 51,000 children, are eligible for free or reduced-cost school meals.

#### School Meals Programs In Need

- The school meal program costs the schools **\$58 million in output**. Currently, the federal government funds the majority of the school meal program **at \$32.5 million**. Alaska students pay approximately **\$23.4 million**, leaving our schools with **at least a \$2.1 million shortfall**.
- Alaska is **one of only twelve states** in the country that does not have any state legislative support for their school meals programs. [[Alaska Food Coalition Hunger Data](#)]
- In Alaska, the school lunch program **feeds over 36,000 students** at a free/reduced rate for lunch. School breakfast participation **is over 18,000 with 14,000** of those being free/reduced price. [[FRAC scorecard](#)]
- Currently in Alaska, **twenty percent (20%) of schools** participating in the school lunch program do not offer school breakfast, impacting 22,253 Alaskan children, 6,850 of whom are children from low income families who qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- There are **six school districts educating 927 students** in Alaska that do not offer the lunch program or the school breakfast program.
- For many children, these are the only nutritious meals they will get on a regular basis.

#### Alaska Missing Out On \$1.9 Million

- Alaska is **in the bottom 10 states** for lowest participation in the School Breakfast Program in the nation.
- Our state is not taking advantage of a large amount of potential federal funding that would come to the state on a per-meal basis.
- If Alaska lifted breakfast participation **from 38.3% to 60%**, the state would receive an **additional \$1.9 million in federal funds**.
- Raising the rate to 60% would entail feeding approximately 8,006 additional free and reduced-price students.[[FRAC scorecard](#)]

# Studies Relating To The Benefits Of School Meals

## Better Memory, Cognition and Test Scores

**Improved School Achievements** A review of 18 studies showed students who ate breakfast consistently showed improvement in verbal fluency, arithmetic, tests of attention, memory, creativity, physical endurance, and general tests of academic achievement and cognitive functioning. - "Nutrition and Student Performance at School." The Journal of School Health 2005

**Improved Standardized Test Scores:** Scores on the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills improved significantly in schools that had larger participation in their school breakfast programs. -- "School Breakfast Program and School Performance." American Journal of Diseases of Children 1989

**Improved Scores in Language, Reading, Math:** Low-income students in a breakfast test program in the United States improved their combined scores in language, reading and math. -- "Breakfast and Cognition: An Integrative Summary." American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 1998

**Improved Math Scores, Participation:** Researchers found students who ate breakfast improved math scores and participated more in class. -- "Diet, Breakfast, and Academic Performance in Children." Annals of Nutrition & Metabolism 2002

**Improved Memory, Listening Skills:** A Tufts University study showed elementary school students who ate breakfast listened better and had both better spatial memory and short-term memory than students who skipped breakfast. -- "Effect of Breakfast Consumption on Cognitive Processes in Elementary School Children." Physiology & Behavior 2005

**Improved Vocabulary:** Research from the University of California showed eating breakfast had a significant positive effect on vocabulary test performance. -- Food and Nutrition Bulletin 1996

**Skipping Breakfast = Slower Brain Function:** A study conducted by the University of California Davis showed skipping breakfast alters brain function and had an adverse affect on the speed and accuracy with which children were able to retrieve information from memory. -- "Does Breakfast Make a Difference in School?" Journal of the American Dietetic Association 1995

## Better Behavior

**Calmer, More Obedient:** Researchers noted a significant decrease in behavioral "oppositional scores" for students eating school breakfast. "Oppositional scores" measure whether or not students are likely to break the rules, have problems with authority or are quick to anger than most individuals in their age groups. -- "Evaluation of the School Breakfast Program Pilot Project: Findings from the First Year of Implementation." U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service 2002.

**Better Behaved:** Researchers found low-income students who ate meals at school were less likely to be hyperactive and had fewer behavioral or attention problems than their hungry peers. -- "Relationship Between Hunger and Psychosocial Functioning in Low-Income American Children." Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry 1998

**Fewer Disciplinary Referrals Needed:** Researchers conclude that classroom breakfast works and that a pilot program in New York resulted in decreased hunger and improvements in factors critical to student learning such as tardiness and disciplinary referral rates. -- "Academics & Breakfast Connection Pilot: Final Report on New York's Classroom Breakfast Project." Nutrition Consortium of New York State. Albany, New York. July 2005.

**Fewer Emotional Problems:** Increased school breakfast participation is associated with fewer emotional or behavioral problems. Teachers at schools that increased participation in their school breakfast programs reported a positive change in student behavior (60%) and improved in student attentiveness (63%). "The Boston Public Schools Universal Breakfast Program: Final Evaluation Report." Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA, 2000

### **Better Attendance Rates**

**Higher Rates Of Attendance:** Studies show that universal school breakfast program participation is associated with higher rates of attendance and declines in tardiness. "Universal-Free School Breakfast Program Evaluation Design Project. Review of the Literature on Breakfast and Learning. Final Report." Mathematica Policy Research 1999

**Lower Rates Of Tardiness:** Schools with increased participation in school breakfast programs had their proportion of children chronically tardy decreased by 67%. -- "Evaluation of a Universally-Free School Breakfast Program Demonstration Project, Central Falls, Rhode Island," Tufts University, 1996

### **Better Health/ Weight**

**Lower Obesity Rates:** Girls from "food insecure" households are significantly less likely to become overweight (68 percent) if they participate in school lunch and breakfast programs. -- "Lower Risk of Overweight in School-aged Food Insecure Girls Who Participate in Food Assistance: Results from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics Child Development Supplement." Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine 2003.

**More Physically Active:** Students who ate breakfast daily were more likely to participate in physical activity three or more times a week than breakfast skippers. -- "Smoking, Physical Activity and Breakfast Consumption among Secondary School Students in a Southwestern Ontario Community." Canadian Journal of Public Health 2003

**More Vitamins:** Children who consumed breakfast at school had significantly higher mean daily intakes of energy and protein were more likely to obtain two-thirds of the RDA for vitamins A, E, D, and B6, as well as other minerals than children who did not eat school breakfast. -- "Breakfast Consumption Affects Adequacy of Total Daily Intake in Children." Journal of the American Dietetic Association 1993

**Mat-Su schools report some success in battling obesity****LESS OBESE: Physical activities, fewer fats, sweets reducing weight.**By ROSEMARY SHINOHARA  
rshinohara@adn.com*(03/03/11 10:37:56)*

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District may be having some success tackling obesity. The first report from a seven-year study shows a drop in the rate of overweight or obese students from 32 percent to 26 percent.

The Mat-Su district is doing things like removing soda machines from schools, offering free breakfasts to all students so they don't get overly-hungry and eat junk food, and talking up healthy eating in physical education classes and the nursing office, said district spokeswoman Catherine Esary. There's a push to provide before- and after-school activities ranging from jump rope groups to dance clubs, she said.

"It's just been a progressive build."

Obesity is considered a major health problem nationally for both children and adults. Diabetes, heart disease, asthma, some cancers and other diseases are tied into being obese.

And a fat child is more likely than other kids to turn into a fat adult. The rate of obesity for U.S. adults has been climbing steeply since the 1980s, when the rate was 13 percent, the report says. Now it's one-third of the population.

The Mat-Su District and the state Division of Public Health collaborated on the study of Valley pupils, which was released Wednesday.

The Mat-Su district collected height-weight numbers from students in kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5 and 7. The report covers the 2002-2003 school year through the 2009-2010 year.

It is the first such effort in the Valley, and the second combined state-school district look at obesity. The first was in Anchorage. Homer is next.

The Anchorage study of all grades found much higher overweight and obese rates, at 36 percent. The trend over 10 years in Anchorage showed the rate of overweight students climbing from 1989 to 2003, from a low of 30 percent to a high of 38 percent; then a drop back down to 36 percent. The most recent Anchorage report includes the 2007-2008 school year.

The Anchorage district has also tried to combat obesity by getting rid of sodas in machines, increasing elementary students' gym time and the like.

Both Anchorage and Mat-Su studies found that many children are already in trouble weight-wise when they enter school in kindergarten or first grade.

The studies cover different grade levels and are not directly comparable as they stand, but the state plans to separate out comparable information, said Andrea Fenaughty, a state epidemiologist and one of the authors of the report. The state also intends to figure out which policies are most successful in the Valley, and why there might be such a difference between Anchorage and the Valley.

When state researchers saw the numbers in Mat-Su, "The first thing we said is what are they doing?" Fenaughty said.

"It turns out when you look at what the CDC says are best practices, they're doing almost every one and have been for a long time," Fenaughty said. "Right now it looks like the beginning of a decline."

CDC is the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The nationally recommended "best practices" include steps such as offering more fruits, vegetables and water to students, requiring that students be active at least half the time in gym classes, and ramping up requirements that students actually take P.E.

The Mat-Su district offers high-quality physical education, opportunities for physical activity during and after school, and healthy food choices for both snacks and meals, says the state report.

A 2005 Mat-Su policy change "essentially eliminated access to high fat, high calorie, high sugar foods and sugar-sweetened beverages ... on school campus," except sports drinks, the report says.

**adn.com**  
Anchorage Daily News

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## School lunches, breakfasts vital to state

**COMPASS: Other points of view**

By MICHAEL SOBOCINSKI

(03/08/10 19:18:14)



"How many more sleeps before we can have meals at school again?"

An elementary school student in the Kenai Peninsula asked her teacher this question recently, just before a long weekend. For this girl and her younger brother, one of the most important things that school provided them was reliable breakfast and lunch.

Congress created the School Lunch Program in 1946 "as a measure of national security" because too many young men were unfit for military service due to malnutrition. The School Breakfast Program was piloted in 1966 and made permanent in 1975. The experience of the Kenai girl, and many others besides, shows that these programs are still vitally needed.

Schools are not required to offer meals, although the federal government provides reimbursement for meals for low income children. Forty percent of Alaska students -- more than 45,000 children -- qualify for free or reduced cost school meals.

Despite the huge geographic and logistic challenges they face, to their credit most schools in Alaska offer lunch. In all, there are 10 school districts educating 1,698 students in Alaska that do not offer the lunch program.

However, breakfast is more of a challenge. One hundred four Alaska schools and eight school districts that offer lunch do not offer breakfast. In total, 15 percent of the students who qualify for free/reduced price school meals do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program -- that's more than 7,000 missed meals each day, more than 1.2 million a year.



Why doesn't every Alaska school offer breakfast and lunch? They cannot afford it. The federal reimbursement is too low to make it economical for schools that serve too few children overall, or too few low income children, or face high food costs because of their remote locations.

Our kids need these meals. While I suspect we would all agree that parents should feed their children, some simply can't. According to Hunger in America 2010, 74,000 Alaskans seek food assistance each year. A significant percentage of these households include children younger than 18.

Children who have breakfast at school attend school more regularly, perform better on standardized tests, pay better attention, and perform better in math and reading. They are less likely to be disruptive or violent, and are less likely to struggle with obesity. In other words, meals at school encourage kids to concentrate on the business of learning, even older children.

On the other hand, teens who are hungry are more likely to be suspended from school, to have difficulty getting along with others, and to have fewer friends. The schools know this, which is why even many schools who don't offer breakfast regularly still manage to offer breakfast during testing week.

The Alaska Senate is currently considering whether to provide state funds to match federal funds

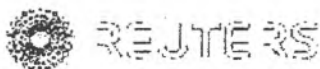
for school meals -- which will make it more economical to provide school meals. To me this is a very straightforward decision that we can make, one that will directly impact the health and education of our children. We should make such a reasonable investment in our children's future, and help give every child the best chance to succeed in school. I am sure that the young girl on the Kenai would agree. Please encourage your legislators to support SB 213 -- for the children and their academic future.

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Michael Sobocinski is a board member of the Food Bank of Alaska.

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(www.adn.com)



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## School lunch programs might break poverty cycle

Tue, Nov 23 2010

By Adam Marcus

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Teens who live in households where food is scarce suffer academically, but a new study has found that government programs to provide meals in schools can reverse this effect.

According to the researchers, the findings suggest that school programs aimed at reducing so-called food insecurity can break an insidious cycle of poverty: poor children go hungry, get bad grades, don't go on to college and fail to rise out of their socioeconomic status — raising children whose lives follow the same unfortunate narrative.

"Food insecurity is more problematic in the long term if it occurs prior to adolescence, but it doesn't mean that adolescents are more resilient than younger children," said study leader Christelle Roustit, of the Research Group on the Social Determinants of Health and Healthcare, in Paris, France. The researchers reported their findings in the medical journal *Pediatrics*.

The severe recession has taken a toll on food security. In the United States, a recent report by the Department of Agriculture found that nearly 15% of American households faced food insecurity at some point in 2009, the highest level since officials began tracking the measure in 1995.

Food insecurity in childhood is thought to undercut scholastic achievement in at least two ways. It deprives the body of nutrients necessary for proper mental and physical development, and it creates an atmosphere of stress and uncertainty that saps a kid's desire to attend school and to perform well.

In the new study, Roustit and her colleagues analyzed questionnaires given to 2,346 public high school students in Quebec, Canada, along with nearly 2,000 of their parents. The surveys asked about issues of school performance and socioeconomic status and included several questions addressing food security at home. These included whether a lack of money prevented the family from eating enough, or from buying a sufficient variety of foods.

Just over 11 percent of teens in the study experienced food insecurity at home, according to the researchers. Of those, two-thirds attended schools that offered free or low-cost breakfast, lunch or snacks, allowing the researchers to look for an effect of the meals program on academic performance.

The study revealed that food insecurity was strongly associated with problems in school. However, children with food insecurity at home performed significantly better academically if their school offered meal assistance. They were much less likely to be held back a year, to score badly in language testing or to rate their overall academic performance as poor.

Although the data come from the 1990s, Roustit said a new survey of Quebec adolescents is now in progress. "We would be able to compare the results of 1999 to 2009 in few years," she said.

Nicola Edwards, a dietician and food policy expert at California Food Policy Advocates, an Oakland-based nonprofit, said the results of the study are unsurprising. If children are hungry they cannot learn, Edwards said. "There is a direct correlation between food insecurity and academic performance," she said.

In the United States, teachers and school administrators report that children who take advantage of food assistance programs in schools have improved behavior, fewer absences and better test scores, Edwards added.

Under the federal Child Nutrition Act, more than 31 million American school children receive free or inexpensive lunches through the National School Lunch Program. Children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the poverty level (\$28,665 for a family of four) are eligible for free meals. Those with incomes between 130 percent and 185 percent of the poverty level (\$40,793 for a family of four) are eligible to receive lunch for a cost of no more than 40 cents.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National School Lunch Program cost \$9.8 billion in 2009. A study of this program that was published earlier this year supports the Canadian findings. Dr. Peter Hinrichs at Georgetown University in Washington DC reported in the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* that for children who participate in the National School Lunch Program, "the effects on educational attainment are sizable."

SOURCES: [link.reuters.com/xyz76q](http://link.reuters.com/xyz76q) *Pediatrics* online November 22, 2010 and [link.reuters.com/syz76q](http://link.reuters.com/syz76q) *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, online June 3, 2010.

December 2, 2010

## Congress Approves Child Nutrition Bill

By ROBERT PEAR

WASHINGTON — Congress gave final approval on Thursday to a child nutrition bill that expands the school lunch program and sets new standards to improve the quality of school meals, with more fruits and vegetables.

Michelle Obama lobbied for the bill as a way to combat obesity and hunger. About half of the \$4.5 billion cost is financed by a cut in food stamps starting in several years.

Mrs. Obama said she was thrilled by passage of what she described as a groundbreaking piece of legislation.

By a vote of 264 to 157, the House on Thursday passed the bill, which was approved in the Senate by unanimous consent in August. It goes now to President Obama, who intends to sign it.

On the final roll call, 247 Democrats and 17 Republicans voted for the bill. Four Democrats and 153 Republicans voted no.

Some liberal House Democrats and advocates for the poor railed against the bill in September, saying it was wrong to pay for the expansion of child nutrition programs by cutting money for food stamps, now known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Democrats put aside their disagreements on Thursday, after concluding that it was better to take what they could get than to gamble on their chances in the next Congress when Republicans will control the House. Mr. Obama tamped down concern by telling Democrats he would work with them to find other ways to pay for the bill, before the cuts in food stamps take effect.

"The president will do everything he can to restore these unconscionable cuts," said Representative Barbara Lee, Democrat of California and chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Democrats and a few Republicans praised Mrs. Obama. "She has been an incredible champion for our children, particularly in the areas of nutrition and obesity," said Representative Jim McGovern, Democrat of Massachusetts.

Mr. McGovern, who is co-chairman of the House Hunger Caucus, said: "Hunger and obesity are two sides of the same coin. Highly processed, empty-calorie foods are less expensive than fresh nutritious foods."

School meal programs have a major impact on the nation's health, and supporters of the bill said it could reduce the prevalence of obesity among children. The lunch program feeds more than 31 million children a day.

Representative Rosa DeLauro, Democrat of Connecticut, said, "The bill sets national nutrition standards that will finally get all of the junk food infiltrating our classrooms and our cafeterias out the door."

But Representative Paul Broun, Republican of Georgia and a physician, said: "This bill is

not about child nutrition. It's not about healthy kids. It's about an expansion of the federal government, more and more control from Washington, borrowing more money and putting our children in greater debt. The federal government has no business setting nutritional standards and telling families what they should and should not eat."

The bill gives the secretary of agriculture authority to establish nutrition standards for foods sold in schools during the school day, including items in vending machines. The standards would require schools to serve more fruits and vegetables, whole grains and low-fat dairy products. And for the first time in more than three decades, the bill would increase federal reimbursement for school lunches beyond inflation — to help cover the cost of higher-quality meals. It would also allow more than 100,000 children on Medicaid to qualify automatically for free school meals.

One of the most contentious provisions of the bill regulates prices for lunches served to children with family incomes over 185 percent of the poverty level (more than \$40,793 a year for a family of four).

"This provision would require some schools to raise their lunch prices," the Congressional Budget Office said.

Representative John Kline, Republican of Minnesota, said this provision was tantamount to a tax increase on middle-class families. The National Governors Association and local school officials objected to it as a new federal mandate.

But Margo G. Wootan, director of nutrition policy at the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a research and advocacy group, said: "The price of paid lunches needs to go up. Schools are not charging enough to cover the cost. As a result, money intended to provide healthy food to low-income kids is being diverted to subsidize food for higher-income children."

School districts that comply with the new standards can receive an additional federal payment of 6 cents for each lunch served. The National School Boards Association, representing local board members, said "the actual increased cost of compliance" was at least twice that amount. The bill was written mainly by Senator Blanche Lincoln, Democrat of Arkansas and chairwoman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, who lost her bid for re-election.

The bill rounds out the tenure of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Democrat of California. When she took the gavel in January 2007, she was surrounded by the children of House members, and she called the House to order in the name of "all America's children."



# CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 1330 \* 675 Second Street  
Cordova, Alaska 99574  
(907) 424-3265 \* FAX (907) 424-3271

February 11, 2013

Senator Bill Wielechowski  
State Capitol Room 419  
Juneau AK 99801

Re: Senate Bill No. 6 by Senators Wielechowski and Ellis, "An Act providing for funding for school lunch and breakfast; and providing for an effective date."

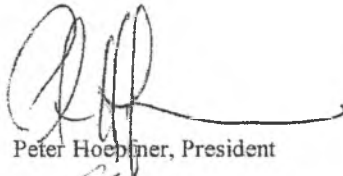
Dear Senator Wielechowski:

Cordova School District encourages you to support Senate Bill 6. This bill will provide additional funding for our lunch program. Cordova Schools currently participates in the Nutritional Alaska Foods for Schools and the Fish to Schools program to help provide diverse and nutritional meals to our students. We are always being asked how to increase funding for schools, and this bill is a great way to provide relief from increasing costs and inflation, coupled with no increases in the base student allocation. Providing state funding will not only bolster our ability to continue to provide breakfast and lunch for our economically disadvantaged youth, but also free a portion of local funding to help sustain our rigorous instructional programs.

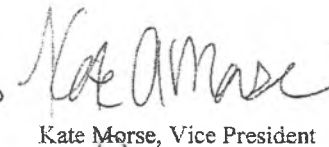
Currently, in Cordova, we spend \$75,000 in general funds to supplement the federal funds and grants we receive to provide students with healthy and nutritional meals. Senate Bill 6 will provide approximately \$12,000 in relief to help fund meals. Although this may seem a small amount, it would free up the local funds that we currently use for meals for use in maintaining and sustaining our instructional programs. As a declining enrollment district, we increasingly struggle with our goal of sustaining our excellent programs, and Senate Bill 6 would provide relief toward that goal.

We appreciate your support for Senate Bill 6. If you have any questions, please contact our Superintendent of Schools, Theresa Keel at 907-424-3265 or email at [tkeel@cordovasd.org](mailto:tkeel@cordovasd.org). Thank you for your time.

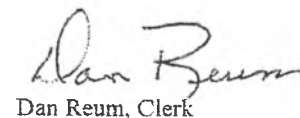
Sincerely,  
Cordova School District Board of Trustees



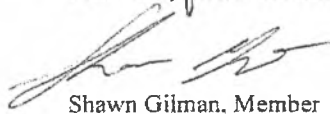
Peter Hoepfner, President



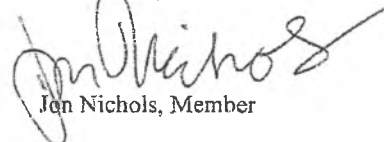
Kate Morse, Vice President



Dan Reum, Clerk



Shawn Gilman, Member



Jon Nichols, Member



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.

2011 ANNUAL CONVENTION

RESOLUTION 11-06

**TITLE:** SUPPORT STATE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM

**WHEREAS:** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports one out of every eight Alaska families struggles to put food on the table; and,

**WHEREAS:** Hunger in America 2010 cites 74,000 Alaskans seek food assistance each year and 43% of households visiting food pantries in Alaska have a child under the age of 18; and,

**WHEREAS:** Inadequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children and is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor test scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and,

**WHEREAS:** Insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system, making them 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health than children with adequate nutrition; and,

**WHEREAS:** The USDA lunch and breakfast programs provide a base level of support for nutrition to underprivileged children in Alaska; and,

**WHEREAS:** Alaskan schools that participate in the USDA School Lunch and Breakfast Programs increasingly struggle with the costs associated for providing the basic nutrition to students; and,

**WHEREAS:** Senate Bill 3 will provide the needed financial support from the State to strengthen and expand the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs in Alaska, so that all eligible children at all schools throughout the state may benefit; and,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Delegates to the 2011 Annual Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., that AFN strongly endorses the passage of Senate Bill 3 by the Alaska State Legislature.

**SUBMITTED BY:** AFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CONVENTION ACTION:** PASSED





**RESOLUTION**  
**Support for State Funding for School Meals**

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS** Alaska State Senators passed SB03 during the 2011 legislative session supporting AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS** Feeding America analysis of 2006-2008 United States Department Agriculture data on food insecurity in America found 14.3%, or 26,534 children in Alaska under 18 years of age are food insecure, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS** insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS** food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

**WHEREAS** federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

**WHEREAS** Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska Food Coalition supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.



Updated 1.31.11

### **SUPPORT FOR ALASKA STATE SUPPORT OF SCHOOL MEALS**

The organizations listed below have signed resolutions in support of State Funding for School Meals:

#### **State Educational Organizations:**

- Aleutians East School District
- Anchorage School District
- Bering Strait School Board
- Bristol Bay Borough School Board
- Chugach School District
- Copper River School District
- Cordova School Board
- Iditarod Area School District
- Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
- Lake and Peninsula School District
- Kuspuk School District
- Lower Kuskokwim School District
- Nenana School Board
- Petersburg City Schools
- Yakutat School District
- Yupiit School District
- Valdez School District

#### **Additional Organizations:**

- ALPHA – Alaska Public Health Association
- Alaska Association of Social Workers
- Homer Community Food Pantry
- Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
- NEA-Alaska Chapter
- Petersburg Indian Association
- Unity Outreach, North Pole, AK

Organizational support through letters, testimony, etc. has been submitted by:

- AARP Alaska
- Alaska Action for Healthy Kids Team
- Alaska School Nutrition Association
- Alaska Youth & Parent Foundation
- Association of Alaska School Boards
- Food Bank of Alaska

**Action for Healthy Kids®****Because healthy kids learn better**Senate Finance Committee  
VIA FAX

February 7, 2011

RECEIVED

FEB - 7 2011

Senators Hoffman and Steadman,

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Action for Healthy Kids team, a coalition of Alaskan organizations, agencies and individuals who support ways to fight children obesity through changes in school policies.

We support SB 3!

Lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Research shows that school breakfast

(1) improves student performance; (2) increases school attendance; (3) decreases school violence; and (4) fights obesity and improves nutrition

\* 42% of Alaska students qualify for free/reduced school meals (over 51,000 students)

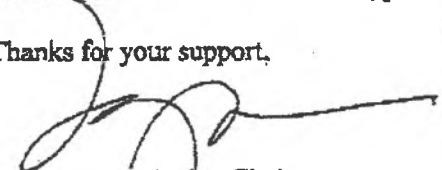
\* 15% of the students that qualify for free/reduced school meals do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program (over 7,000 missed meals) Over 23,000 Alaska students attend a public school that does not offer a school breakfast program.

We urge Alaska join 25 other states that provide state funds to supplement the federal reimbursement so that all Alaskan children have access to healthy meals at school.

"Childhood Obesity: The Preventable Threat to America's Youth" follows this fax. We invite you to [www.actionforhealthykids.org](http://www.actionforhealthykids.org) to find more fact sheets.

If I can provide more information, please contact me at [mary.grisco@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:mary.grisco@elmendorf.af.mil).

Thanks for your support.



Mary Grisco, Acting Chair  
Alaska Action For Healthy Kids Team  
And Executive Director, All Alaska Pediatric Partnership

## Fact Sheet



for **Healthy Kids**<sup>®</sup>

### Childhood Obesity The Preventable Threat to America's Youth

The majority of American youth are sedentary and do not eat well. The resulting poor nutrition and lack of physical activity has created an epidemic of childhood obesity that is preventable, yet shows no sign of decreasing. Action for Healthy Kids helps schools make changes that will make their students healthier, which in turn will improve their achievement.

#### Prevalence and Trends

Overweight and obesity impairs or threatens the health of millions of American children.

- Thirty-two percent of American children and adolescents are overweight or obese, with a 16% of youth 2-19 falling into the obese category.
- Rates of overweight and obesity remain high with 31.9% of children and adolescents aged 2-19 years at or above the 85th percentile of the 2000 BMI-for-age growth charts.<sup>1</sup>
- For children aged 2-19 11% are above the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile, 15% above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile, and 30% above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile. About 2/3 of those with BMIs above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile have BMIs above the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile, indicating much severe obesity.<sup>1</sup>

#### Racial/Ethnic Populations

Although overweight has increased for all children and adolescents over time, data indicate disparities among racial/ethnic groups.

- 28% of African-American girls aged 12 to 19 are obese, as are 20% of Mexican-American girls.<sup>1</sup>
- 18.5% of African-American and 22% of Mexican-American boys are overweight or obese.<sup>1</sup>
- Among 12-19 year olds, those above the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile BMI included 20% of non-Hispanic black girls, 18% of Mexican American boys, and 9% of white girls.<sup>1</sup>

#### Contributing Factors

Poor eating habits and lack of physical activity are root causes of overweight and obesity.

- Only 2% of school-aged children consume the recommended daily number of servings from all five major food groups, and only 30% consume the suggested amount of milk.<sup>2</sup>
- Caloric contribution from sugar sweetened beverages increased significantly from 204 kcal/day in 1988-1994 to 224 kcal/day in 1999-2004.<sup>3</sup>
- 35% of students watch television 3 or more hours per average school day.<sup>4</sup>
- Only 35% of students are physically active for 60 minutes at least 5 days per week.<sup>4</sup>

#### Health Consequences

Childhood obesity is a medical concern, not a cosmetic issue.

- An obese 4-year-old has a 20% chance of becoming an obese adult, and an obese teenager has up to an 80% chance of becoming an obese adult.<sup>5</sup>

- Overweight children and teens have been found to have risk factors for cardiovascular disease (CVD), including high cholesterol levels, high blood pressure, and abnormal glucose tolerance.
- Among 5- to 17-year-olds, almost 60% of overweight children had at least one CVD risk factor while 25 percent of overweight children had two or more CVD risk factors.<sup>7</sup>
- Severely overweight and obese children often suffer from depression, anxiety disorders, isolation from their peers, low self-esteem, and eating disorders.

### Academic Consequences

A growing body of evidence indicates that poor nutrition, physical inactivity and obesity are associated with lower student achievement.

- The psychological stress of social stigmatization can cause low self-esteem which, in turn, can hinder academic and social functioning, and persist into adulthood.<sup>9</sup>
- Hunger, physical and emotional abuse, and chronic illness can lead to poor school performance.<sup>10</sup>
- Overweight kindergartners had significantly lower math and reading test scores at the beginning of the year than did their non-overweight peers, and these lower scores continued into first grade.<sup>11,12</sup>

### Economic Consequences

- Childhood obesity is estimated to cost \$14 billion annually in health expenses.<sup>13,14</sup>
- Severely overweight children miss four times as much school as normal-weight kids.<sup>9</sup> If such health problems keep children out of school just one day per month, this could cost a large school district like Los Angeles about \$15 million each year. An average size school district could likely forfeit \$95,000 to \$160,000 annually.<sup>15</sup>
- Obesity-associated annual hospital costs for children increased more than threefold from \$35 million during 1979-1981 to \$127 million during 1997-1999.<sup>16</sup>

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4. Trends in the Prevalence of Physical Activity. National YRBS: 1991–2007.
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12. Data A, Sturm R, Magnabosco J. Childhood overweight and academic performance: national study of kindergartners and first-graders. *Obesity Research* 2004, 12:58-68.
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16. Wang G, Dietz W. Economic burden of obesity in youths aged 6 to 17 years: 1979-1998. *Pediatrics* 2002, 109: 81-89.



## Anchorage School District

5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504-3436  
(907) 742-4000

### SCHOOL BOARD

John Steiner  
President

Crystal Kennedy  
Vice President

Kathleen Plunkett  
Treasurer

Jeannie Mackie  
Clerk

Jeff Friedman

Pat Higgins

Don Smith

### SUPERINTENDENT

Carol Comeau

February 16, 2011

Honorable Bill Wielechowski  
Alaska State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 115  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: Comments Regarding ASD Support of SB3

Dear Senator <sup>Bill</sup> Wielechowski,

The Anchorage School District Student Nutrition Department has been able to weather the difficult financial challenges over the last five years thanks to the support of the Anchorage School Board.

In 2005-2006 the School Board approved a ten cent increase in all meal prices and a twenty-five cent increase in 2007-2008 and in 2008-2009. The sixty cent increase in that short period of time made it difficult for many families to pay for meals for their children.

In May of 2008 the School Board approved the transfer of \$1.123 million from the general fund to the Student Nutrition fund to cover losses from previous years and help the department for the next few years from increasing meal costs for parents/students.

The Student Nutrition Department has reduced staff to the point that further reductions are no longer possible. Truck and equipment replacement purchases have been severely reduced since 2007. Some equipment parts were taken from units to keep other equipment operational. That only worked until there were no more units available for parts. The School Board has approved use of the Student Nutrition fund balance to offset the need for replacement trucks and equipment. That only works until the fund balance is gone.

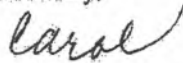
Since 2005 food costs have escalated as shown below and it is predicted that food costs will go up another three to ten percent over the next few years. The new dietary guideline will require ever higher costs especially in Alaska because most fresh fruits and vegetables are not grown in colder climates. According to our records annual expenditures for food products since 2005-2006 are as follows:

2005-2006	\$4,379,194
2005-2007	\$5,076,974
2005-2008	\$4,991,302
2005-2009	\$5,152,219
2005-2010	\$5,328,019

Student Nutrition has done everything possible to control food costs but much of that effort is lost through increases in employee benefits, salaries, and retirement costs.

State reimbursement will help offset increased food costs associated with the new dietary guidelines. Every district in the state will be impacted. The addition of breakfast reimbursement will allow Anchorage School District to evaluate schools not currently served. The additional state funding for breakfast may allow the ASD to provide meals at schools for which it was not previously economically possible.

Sincerely,



Carol Comeau  
Superintendent



Suggested by: Council Member Marquis

**CITY OF KENAI**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011-08**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 3, "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FUNDING FOR SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST."

WHEREAS, Alaska Senate Bill 3 was pre-filed on January 7, 2011 and introduced in the Alaska Senate on January 19, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the bi-partisan bill proposes amendment to the Alaska Statutes, Chapter 14.03, by adding a new section to provide for improved funding of school lunches and breakfasts for eligible students; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska's education policy set forth in AS 14.03.015 states: It is the policy of this state that the purpose of education is to help ensure that all students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 3, if enacted, would supplement the cost of lunches and breakfasts provided to each student who is eligible for a free or a reduced-price lunch under 42 U.S.C. 1771 - 1784; and,

WHEREAS, scientific research shows that adequate nourishment and nutrition is imperative for proper cognitive and behavioral development in students, and that eating quality meals, especially breakfast, is directly related to increases in test scores, decreases in the rate of childhood obesity, and a decrease in school violence; and,

WHEREAS, Alaska is one of only a few states that currently does not supplement school lunch and breakfast funding, and ranks 48<sup>th</sup> in the nation for participation in school breakfast programs; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 3 has the support of the Food Bank of Alaska, the Alaska Food Coalition, and other organizations, school districts and education boards throughout Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, the City of Kenai recognizes the importance of the adequate nourishment and nutrition of our children and students and supports enactment of Alaska Senate Bill 3; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Alaska Senate President Gary Stevens, Alaska House Speaker Rep. Chenault and the

other members of the Kenai Peninsula Legislative Delegation, and the Senate Bill 3 sponsors including Senators Wielechowski, Ellis, Davis, Egan, French, Kookesh, McGuire, Menard, Paskvan, and Thomas.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, this second day of February, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PAT PORTER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol L. Freas, City Clerk

Mountain View Community Council

2011 RESOLUTION

Title: SUPPORT STATE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Hunger in America 2010 cites 74,000 Alaskans seek food assistance each year and 43% of households visiting food pantries in Alaska have a child under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports one out of every eight Alaska families struggles to put food on the table; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is one of only a few states that does not supplement school breakfast and lunch funding, and ranks ninth from the bottom of all 50 states in the participation of low income children in the school meal programs;

WHEREAS, Twenty percent of Alaska's schools participating in the school lunch program do not offer school breakfast, impacting 22,253 Alaskan children, 6,850 of whom are children from low income families who qualify for free or reduced price meals; and

WHEREAS, Inadequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children and is associated tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor test scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS, Insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system, making them 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health than children with adequate nutrition; and

WHEREAS, The USDA lunch and breakfast programs provide a base level of support for nutrition to underprivileged children in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan schools that participate in the USDA School Lunch and Breakfast Programs increasingly struggle with the costs associated for providing the basic nutrition to students; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 3 will provide the needed financial support from the State to strengthen and expand the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs in Alaska, so that all eligible children at all schools throughout the state may benefit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mountain View Community Council strongly endorses the passage of Senate Bill 3 by the Alaska State Legislature.

*dated Oct 10, 2011*

*Don Cranwell  
President, MVCC*

907-465-8427



RECEIVED  
FEB 18 2011

Alaska School Nutrition Association

ATTENTION DARWIN PETERSON:

Office of Honorable Senator Bert Stedman:

We wish to thank the Senator for any and all kind help with the support for Alaska children as reflected in Senate Bill 3.

This school meal assistance is a big deal for those of us tasked with providing the 11 million USDA school meals each year to Alaska Children.

The \$.35 per Breakfast in SB 3 will be partnered with the well established USDA support of \$2.36 per breakfast for students qualifying as free.

The \$.15 per Lunch in SB 3 will be partnered with the well established USDA support of \$4.43 per lunch for students qualifying as free.

The long time successful USDA staffers serving students in Petersburg- Sitka- and all across Alaska need the SB 3 help for supporting school meals.

It turns out, that successful school meal programs are a big deal for success in Alaska classrooms.

The USDA school meal programs in Alaska very successfully comply with and exceed the criteria for appropriate nutrition for student health.

The accountability practices for per meal service are well established for finances and nutrition support.

Audits and trainings and documentation criteria are all well in place for school meal purchases, service, and reimbursement claims.

School Meal providers can be trusted with funding responsibility.

We take great pride in what we do for Alaska kids.

Dean Hamburg—Alaska School Nutrition Association- AKSNA  
P.O.Box 2546  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669      Tel: 907-7154-8830



## Yakutat School District

City & Borough of Yakutat  
429 Forest Hwy. P.O. Box 429  
Yakutat, Alaska 99689

District Office (907) 784-3317  
High School (907) 784-3318  
Fax (907) 784-3446

### YAKUTAT BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION Support for State Funding for School Meals

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS** the Yakutat School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS** according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS** insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS** food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

**WHEREAS** federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

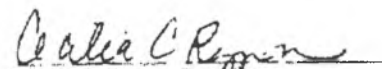
**WHEREAS** the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

**WHEREAS** 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

**WHEREAS** Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Yakutat School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Adopted by the Yakutat Board of Education on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.



Cecilia C. Ryman, President  
Yakutat School Board



Jonathan Jensen, Clerk  
Yakutat School Board

## Petersburg City Schools

☎ 907.772.4271  
Fax 907.772.4719

P. O. Box 289  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833-0289

Dr. Robert Thomason  
Superintendent

December 21, 2009

Vanessa Salinas  
Program Manager  
The Alaska Food Coalition  
c/o Food Bank of Alaska  
2121 Spar Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501-1855

Dear Ms. Salinas:

The Petersburg City School Board at their regular December 15, 2009 meeting passed Resolution 10-03 (A resolution in support of State Funding for School Meals). Please let me know if there are additional places I should send a copy to.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Sharon Anderson*

Sharon Anderson  
District Secretary

enclosure

**Resolution 10-03**  
**A resolution in support of State Funding for School Meals**

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Petersburg City Schools Board of Education supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS**, according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS**, insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS**, food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

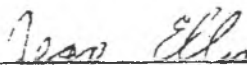
**WHEREAS**, federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

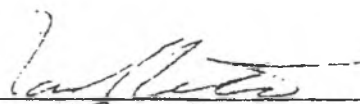
**WHEREAS**, the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

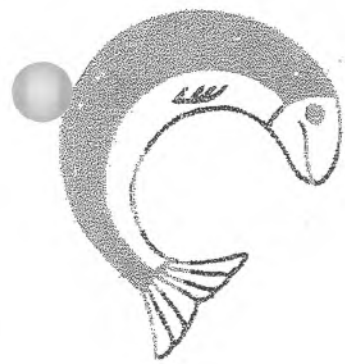
**WHEREAS**, 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

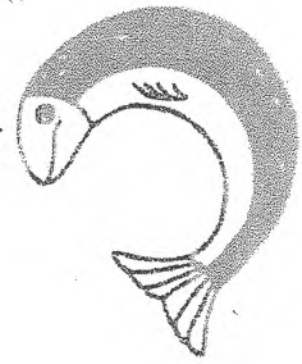
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2009, that the Petersburg City Schools Board of Education supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Ellis, Board President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Lantegne, Board Vice President



# Lower Kuskokwim School District Resolution



**10-05**

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Support for State Funding for School Meals**

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 77 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS** the Lower Kuskokwim School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS** according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS** insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS** food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

**WHEREAS** federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and


**WHEREAS** the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

**WHEREAS** 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

**WHEREAS** Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lower Kuskokwim School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

PASSED THIS 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2009

  
Richard Curtis, Board President

12/11/09  
Date

  
Gary Baldwin, Superintendent of Schools

12/11/09  
Date



## CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 140 • 100 Fisherman Avenue  
Cordova, Alaska 99574-0140  
(907) 424-3265 • FAX (907) 424-3271

Cordova Jr/Sr High School  
(907) 424-3266  
FAX (907) 424-5215

Mt Eccles Elementary  
(907) 424-3265  
FAX (907) 424-3117

### Resolution #10-06

## Alaska Food Coalition Support for State Funding for School Meals

WHEREAS, the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

WHEREAS Cordova Schools supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

WHEREAS, according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

WHEREAS, federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

WHEREAS, the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day. and



## CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mt Eccles Elementary  
(907) 424-3265  
FAX (907) 424-3117

WHEREAS, 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cordova School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Valerie Covell, President  
Cordova Board of Education

Pete Hoepfner, Clerk  
Cordova Board of Education

# **Chugach School District**

## **Resolution Number 10-02**

### **Support for State Funding for School Meals**

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS** Chugach School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS** according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS** insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS** food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

**WHEREAS** federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

**WHEREAS** the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program - that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

WHEREAS 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chugach School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

PASSES, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE CHUGACH SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, AT ANCHORAGE, ALASKA THIS 12th DAY OF JANUARY 2010

Board Member	Approve/Yea	Reject/Nea	Abstain
Charlene Arneson	X		
Terry Bender			
Thelma Vlasoff	X		
Roselene Vlasoff	X		
Katherine Kompkoff	X		

ATTESTED: Deborah Page  
TITLE: Board Secretary

DATE: 1/12/10

**Yupit School District**

P.O. Box 51190  
Akiachak, Alaska 99551  
Phone: (907) 825-3600  
Fax: (907) 825-3655

**RESOLUTION**

**Supporting for State Funding for School Meals**

Passed at Regional School Board Meeting Nov 19, 2009

**WHEREAS** The mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) – a statewide group off 77 non profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS** Yupit School District fully supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS** according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experience food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experience food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS** insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development Of Children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS** food security puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

**WHEREAS** federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

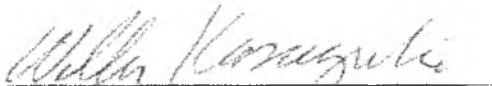
**WHEREAS** the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced school meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and


**WHEREAS** 104 out of 406 schools in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

WHEREAS Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high cost of food and transportation in Alaska;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Yupit School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

ADOPTED this 19th day of November 2009 at the YSD's Regional Board of Education meeting held in Tuluksak, Alaska, at which a duly constituted quorum of Regional Board members were present

  
Willie Kasayulie, Chairman

  
Howard Diamond, Superintendent

## **NENANA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

P.O. BOX 00010  
NENANA, ALASKA 99760  
907-882-5464  
FAX 907-882-5625

### **Resolution Number: 01-2010**

#### **Support for State Funding for School Meals**

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Alaska Food Coalition (AFC) - a statewide group of 80 non-profit, faith-based, tribal and government organizations is working to help feed hungry Alaskans in their communities and strengthen and coordinate public and private food and nutrition assistance programs in the state; and

**WHEREAS** Nenana City School District supports AFC's efforts to ensure children start each school day with a healthy and balanced meal; and

**WHEREAS** according to data from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 15% of Alaskan children experienced food insecurity, compared with 11% of Alaskan adults, meaning they don't have access at all times to enough food for a healthy active life; this problem is more severe in rural Alaska, where nearly one child in four experienced food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS** insufficient nutrition puts children at risk for illness and weakens their immune system. In comparison to food secure children, children from food insecure families are 90% more likely to be in fair or poor health and have 30% higher rates of hospitalization; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of adequate nutrition affects the cognitive and behavioral development of children. Food insecurity is associated with grade repetition, absenteeism, tardiness, anxiety, aggression, poor mathematics scores, psychosocial dysfunction and difficulty with social interaction among 6 to 12 year old children; and

**WHEREAS** food insecurity puts children in development in jeopardy, characterized by challenges with speaking, behavior, and movement; increasing the likelihood of later problems with attention, learning, and social interaction. Young children living in low income and food insecure households are more likely to be developmentally at risk than children from food secure households; and

**WHEREAS** federal programs exist to assist in providing nutrition to children through the schools, most notably the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program; and

**WHEREAS** the School Breakfast Program decreases food insecurity in children by providing five healthy meals a week in Alaska schools. 40% of students qualify for free/reduced schools meals, over 45,000 students, of these, 15% do not attend schools that offer a breakfast program – that's over 7,000 missed meals each day; and

**WHEREAS** 104 out of 406 schools in 46 districts in Alaska did not offer the federal School Breakfast Program in the 2008-2009 school year; and

**WHEREAS** Alaskan schools primarily do not offer breakfast programs because it is not economically feasible. The federal reimbursement for breakfast does not cover the high costs of food and transportation in Alaska;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Nenana City School District supports an adequate financial appropriation from the state to strengthen and expand the School Breakfast Program in Alaska, so that breakfast may be available to all children at all schools throughout the state, including low income children and children with food insecurity. No child in Alaska should go without breakfast.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2010.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Mayrand, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Kauffman, Secretary to the Board

# **Funding For Alaska's School Meals SB6**

1

**SEN. BILL WIELECHOWSKI**

# Three Goals For The School Meals Bill

More schools serving meals

More kids in each school fed

More nutritious meals served

# Problem 1

3

**KIDS IN NEED**

**One out of every eight Alaska families struggles to put enough food on the table each year.**

•USDA, 2010

# Hunger In Alaska 2010

**74,000 Alaskans** seek food assistance each year.

**43% of households** visiting food pantries in Alaska have a child under the age of 18.

•Alaska Food Coalition

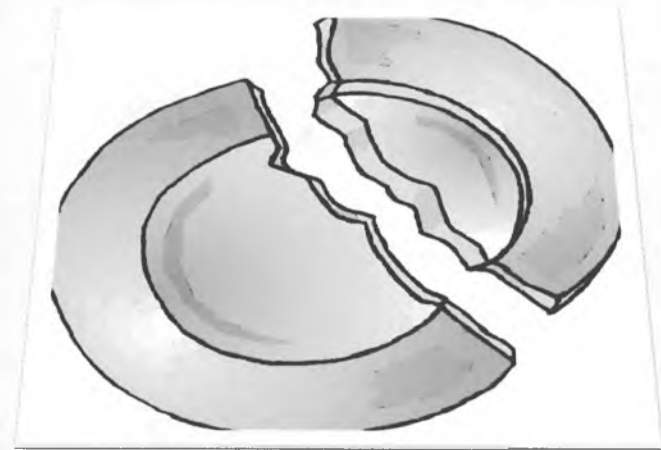
# Students In Need Not Being Reached

6

**51,000 Alaskan children are eligible for reduced or free lunch. However:**

**Six school districts do not offer breakfast or lunch.**

**20% of schools that do participate in the school lunch program do not offer breakfast.**



## Alaska In Bottom 10 For Participation

Alaska ranks ninth from the bottom of all 50 states in the participation of low-income children in the school meal programs.

Bottom 10 States	% Participation
Connecticut	38.9
<b>Alaska</b>	<b>38.3</b>
Colorado	38.2
Illinois	38.0
New Jersey	37.6
Nebraska	37.1
Iowa	36.8
New Hampshire	36.7
Nevada	34.9
Utah	33.7

•School Breakfast Scorecard 2009-2010  
Food Research & Action Center

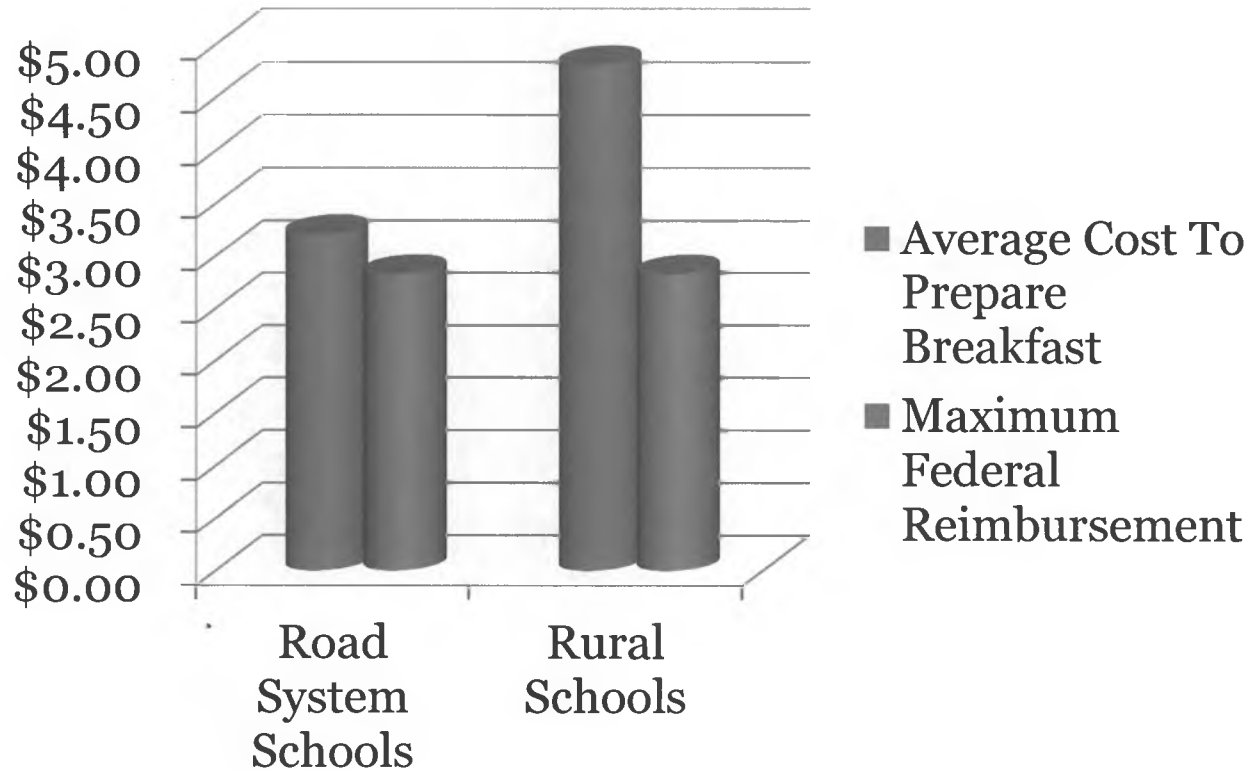
# Problem #2

8

**SCHOOLS IN NEED**

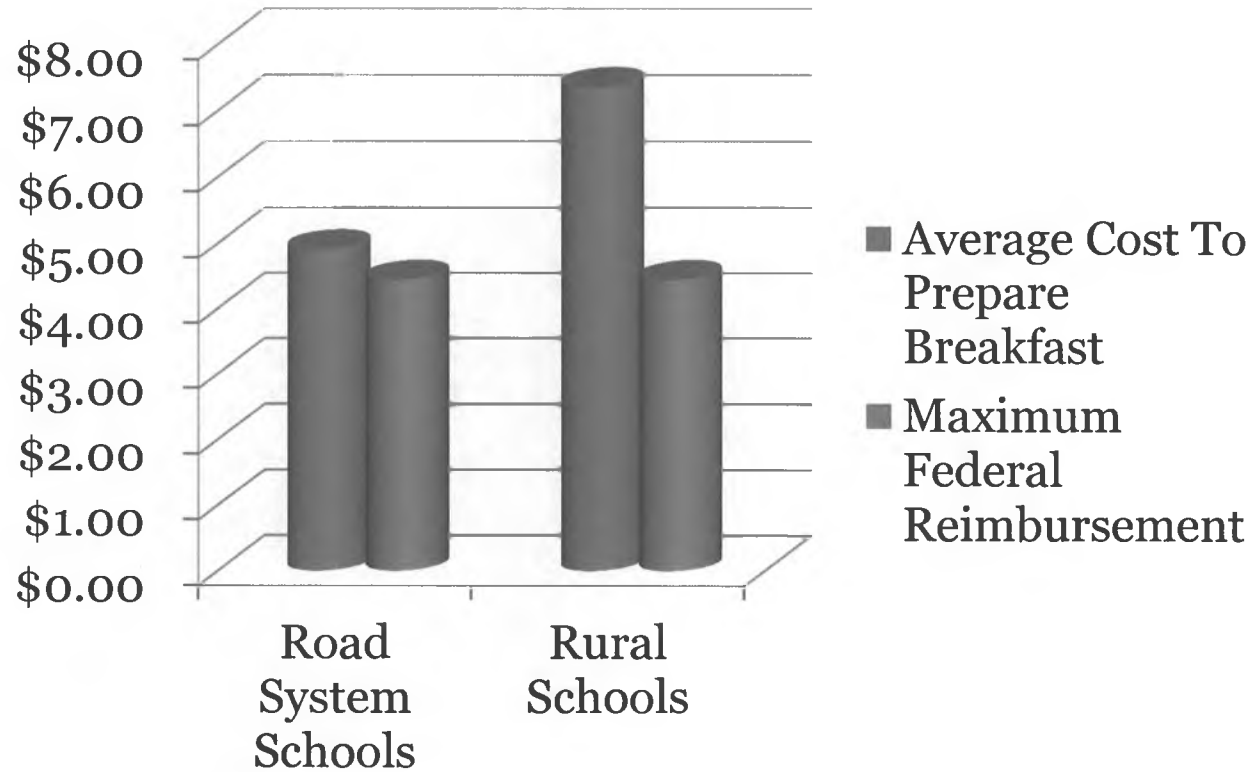
# Current Breakfast Reimbursement Rates

9



# Current Lunch Reimbursement Rates

10

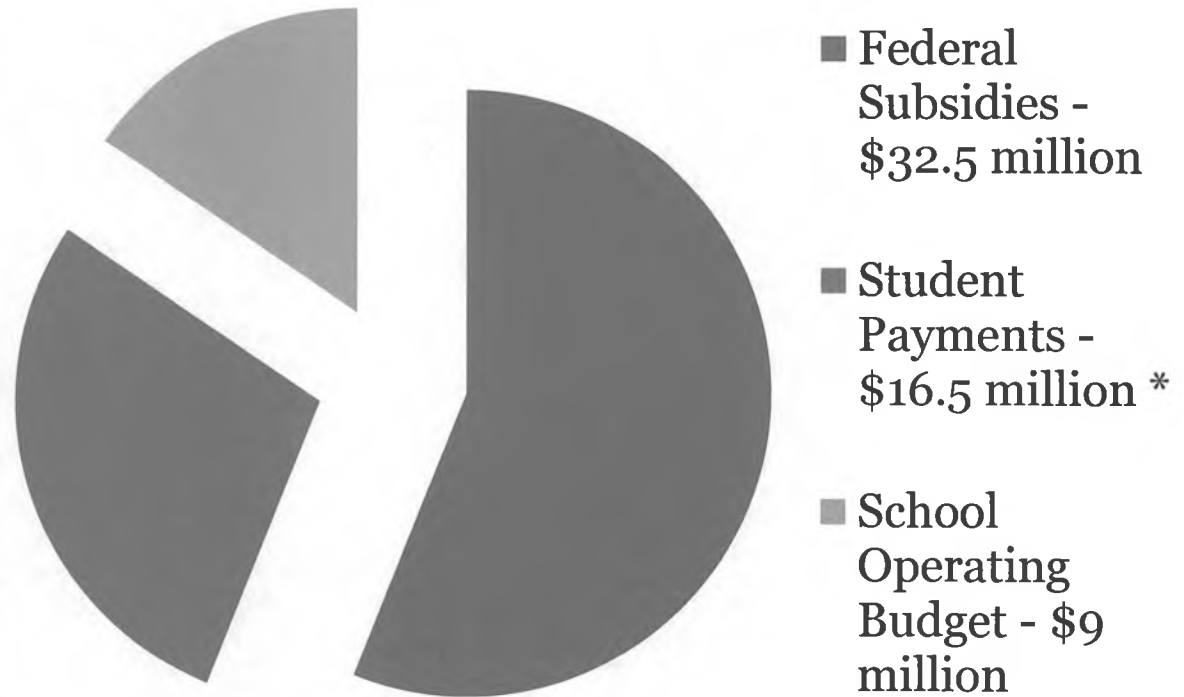


## The Need

Even with federal subsidies, Alaska schools fall \$9 million short.

This money comes out of their operating budgets.

## School Meal Money 2009-2010



\* Extrapolated from Department of Education & Early Development figures

# Smart Investment

12

**ENSURING ALASKAN KIDS ARE FED  
IS A SOLID INVESTMENT  
IN ALASKA'S FUTURE.**

# Investing in School Meals Provides a “Two-Fer” in Returns

## Short-Term

Better academic  
performance

Better behavior

Better attendance

Better health

## Long-Term

Better attendance=  
lower dropout rates

Lower dropout rates=  
lower prison populations

Higher graduation rates=  
higher incomes

Lower obesity rates=  
lower health care costs

# SB6 Short-Term Effects

14

**BETTER ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE**

# Better Academic Performance

15

## Improved School Achievements

A review of 18 studies showed students who ate breakfast consistently showed improvement in **verbal fluency, arithmetic, tests of attention, memory, creativity, physical endurance, and general tests** of academic achievement and cognitive functioning.

--“Nutrition and Student Performance at School.” The Journal of School Health 2005

## Improved Standardized Test Scores

**Scores on the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills improved significantly** in schools that had larger participation in their school breakfast programs.

-- “School Breakfast Program and School Performance.” American Journal of Diseases of Children 1989

# Better Academic Performance

16

## Improved Scores in Language, Reading, Math

Low-income students in a breakfast test program in the United States improved their combined scores in **language, reading and math**.

--“Breakfast and Cognition: An Integrative Summary.” American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 1998

## Improved Math Scores, Participation

Researchers found students who ate breakfast **improved math scores and participated more** in class.

--“Diet, Breakfast, and Academic Performance in Children.” Annals of Nutrition & Metabolism 2002

# Better Academic Performance

17

## Improved Memory, Listening Skills

A Tufts University study showed elementary school students who ate breakfast listened better and had both **better spatial memory and short-term memory** than students who skipped breakfast.

-- "Effect of Breakfast Consumption on Cognitive Processes in Elementary School Children." Physiology & Behavior 2005

## Skipping Breakfast = Slower Brain Function

A study conducted by the University of California Davis showed **skipping breakfast alters brain function** and had an adverse affect on the speed and accuracy with which children were able to retrieve information from memory.

-- "Does Breakfast Make a Difference in School?" Journal of the American Dietetic Association 1995

# SB6 Short-Term Effects

18

**BETTER BEHAVIOR**

# Better Behavior In School

19

## Calmer, More Obedient

Researchers noted a **significant decrease in behavioral “oppositional scores”** for students eating school breakfast. “Oppositional scores” measure whether or not students are likely to break the rules, have problems with authority or are quick to anger than most individuals in their age groups.

-- “Evaluation of the School Breakfast Program Pilot Project: Findings from the First Year of Implementation.” U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service 2002.

## Better Behaved

Researchers found low-income students who ate meals at school were **less likely to be hyperactive and had fewer behavioral or attention problems** than their hungry peers.

-- “Relationship Between Hunger and Psychosocial Functioning in Low-Income American Children.” Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry 1998

# Better Behavior In School

20

## Fewer Disciplinary Referrals Needed

Researchers conclude that classroom breakfast works and that a pilot program in New York resulted in decreased hunger and **improvements** in factors critical to student learning such as tardiness and **disciplinary referral rates**.

-- "Academics & Breakfast Connection Pilot: Final Report on New York's Classroom Breakfast Project." Nutrition Consortium of New York State. Albany, New York. July 2005.

## Fewer Emotional Problems

Increased school breakfast participation is associated with **fewer emotional or behavioral problems**. Teachers at schools that increased participation in their school breakfast programs reported a positive change in student behavior (60%) and improved in student attentiveness (63%).

-- "The Boston Public Schools Universal Breakfast Program: Final Evaluation Report." Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA, 2000

# SB6 Short-Term Effects

21

**BETTER ATTENDANCE**

# Better Attendance

22

## Higher Rates Of Attendance

Studies show that universal school breakfast program participation is associated with **higher rates of attendance and declines in tardiness.**

--“Universal-Free School Breakfast Program Evaluation Design Project. Review of the Literature on Breakfast and Learning. Final Report.” Mathematica Policy Research 1999

## Lower Rates Of Tardiness

Schools with increased participation in school breakfast programs had their proportion of **children chronically tardy decreased by 67%.**

-- “Evaluation of a Universally-Free School Breakfast Program Demonstration Project, Central Falls, Rhode Island,” Tufts University, 1996

# SB6 Short-Term Effects

23

**BETTER HEALTH**

# Better Health

24

## Lower Obesity Rates

Girls from “food insecure” households are **significantly less likely to become overweight** (68 percent) if they participate in school lunch and breakfast programs.

-- “Lower Risk of Overweight in School-aged Food Insecure Girls Who Participate in Food Assistance: Results from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics Child Development Supplement.” Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine 2003.

## More Physically Active

Students who ate breakfast daily were **more likely to participate in physical activity** three or more times a week than breakfast skippers.

--“Smoking, Physical Activity and Breakfast Consumption among Secondary School Students in a Southwestern Ontario Community.” Canadian Journal of Public Health 2003

# Better Health

25

## Alaskan Obesity

**25.4% of Alaskans** are currently considered “obese.”

-- America's Health Rankings 2010

## The High Cost Of Obesity

Recent studies project that, if our national weight problem continues as it has been, obesity will cost the USA about **\$344 billion in medical-related expenses by 2018**, eating up about 21% of health-care spending.

-- USA Today, 11/17/09

# School Meals Legislation

26

## **THE PROPOSAL**

# State Supplement to Federal Funding

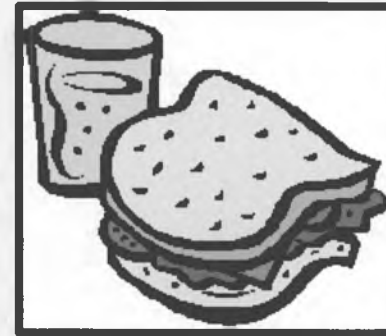
27

## Breakfast



**\$0.35**

## Lunch



**\$0.15**

# Examples of Support

28

## Schools

- Cordova School District
- Kenai Peninsula School District
- Chugach School District
- Yupiit School District
- Petersburg City Schools
- Lower Kuskokwim School District

## School Boards

- Anchorage School Board
- Fairbanks School Board
- Yakutat Board of Education
- Association of Alaska School Boards

## Assistance Groups

- Alaska Food Coalition
- Food Bank of Alaska
- Alaska School Nutrition Association
- AARP

# School Meals Legislation

29

## **THE BOTTOM LINE**



Senate Bill 6 is a **solid investment** in Alaska's future, providing both short-term and long-term payoffs for Alaska's students.



We spend a great deal of money on education in Alaska. This comparatively small investment will help our students **reap the maximum benefits** from our schools.



By setting our kids up for success now, we may be **able to avoid costly problems** in the future.

This concludes our  
presentation for  
Senate Bill 6.

Thank you.