

**LDIR#174**  
**STATE**  
**SCHOOL**  
**SUPPORT**  
**STUDY FILE**



RECEIVED  
NOV 15 1965  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF UTAH  
SALT LAKE CITY

Mr. John C. Doyle, Exec. Dir  
P.O. Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

AIR MAIL

*school support  
study mail  
Nov. 18, 1965  
MHH*

November 11, 1965

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Utah's Legislative Council is presently conducting a study of Post High School Education for Utah. Some of the specific questions we hope to solve are:

- (1) Should there be one or more Boards at the State level to administer the various kinds of schools such as  
a. universities and colleges, b. junior colleges and/or community colleges, c. trade technical institutes or area vocational or technical schools.
- (2) What should be the system of financing the schools?
- (3) Should each school have a separate Board of Control? What should be the method of appointing them? What should be their relationship to the State Board?
- (4) Should the State be divided into districts, such as Junior College Districts or Area Vocational school districts?
- (5) What should be the criteria used for establishing new schools?
- (6) Should Area Vocational Schools or Trade-Technical Institutes be integrated with Junior or Community colleges or should they remain separate institutions?
- (7) Should Area Vocational schools or Trade-Technical Institutes offer transfer college credit in addition to their terminal program?
- (8) What guidelines should the Legislative branch of Government provide for the post high school educational system? How far should they go in helping to establish the educational policy of each educational institution?

*Dr. Norby*

Mr. Jack C. Doyle of the Legislative Council and myself discussed the study of school finance part of which is to be financed by the Ford Foundation. Among the specifics which were clarified were the following:

1. It is contemplated that the study will start by the first of December and conclude by the end of August or first part of September, 1961.
2. Dr. Erick Lindman, Professor of Education, UCLA, will provide the professional leadership for the study.
3. The \$53,000 grant is already on deposit with the State of Alaska. A final statement of agreement with the State of Alaska has been reviewed with the State Board of Education by the Commissioner of Education and will be finalized within the next two or three weeks.
4. There is flexibility in the use of the funds. Adjustments of the proposed budgets may be made at the discretion of the representatives of the State of Alaska.
5. The agenda of the next State Board of Education meeting which is scheduled for Anchorage on December 1, 2, and 3, includes the naming of the Advisory Council.
6. The basic agreement which exists with the Ford Foundation is that a study will be made. The State contributes as outlined in the letter for all practical purposes. For example, the Legislative Council has <sup>had</sup> this under study for the last several months. Obviously the director of this council and his group will want to avail themselves of the information that has already been developed. The State Department of Education, upon the request of the Legislative Council, has employed a person full time to

*not  
so*

SCHOOL LUNCH AND SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS DURING 1958-59 & 1959-60:

	<u>SIP</u>	<u>1958-59</u>	<u>SMP</u>	<u>SIP</u>	<u>1959-60</u>	<u>SMP</u>
Anchorage Ind. School District	\$ 26,833.92	\$ 11,153.26		\$ 36,873.43	\$ 15,447.37	
Juneau-Douglas Ind.Sch.District	5,239.02	3,191.28		5,012.99	3,449.56	
Ketchikan Ind. Sch. District	7,659.17	—		6,961.36	—	
Kodiak Ind. Sch. District	3,112.76	—		2,661.60	—	
Palmer Ind. Sch. District	4,640.19	1,489.04		4,536.92	1,302.92	
Sitka Ind. Sch. District	2,517.85	—		2,457.92	—	
				<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	

\$ 78,780

Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools

1959-1960

School Year

Mr. Crites

<u>Type of School</u>	<u>Number of Schools</u>	<u>Total Student Body</u>	<u>Total Operating Cost per year</u>
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1. Boarding	2	924	1,520,325
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2. Regular day schools	71	4,256	} 2,1374,693 (no break down)
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3. Instructional Aid	4	149
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4. Hospital School	1*	87
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\* Is this Anchorage? - No - There is one in Anchorage, but it is J.O.M.  
This is at mt. edge -

~~1. 2. 3. 4.~~  
L. L. [unclear] Johnson - O'Malley schools -

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

REP. PETER J. KALAMARIDES, CHAIRMAN  
SEN. FRANK PERATROVICH, VICE CHAIRMAN

## SENATORS

WILLIAM E. BELTZ, UNALAKLEET  
EBEN HOPSON, BARROW  
RALPH E. MOODY, ANCHORAGE  
JACK E. WEISE, BETHEL

JOHN C. DOYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## REPRESENTATIVES

ROBERT GIERSDORF, FAIRBANKS  
AXEL C. JOHNSON, KWIGUK  
JOHN E. LONGWORTH, PETERSBURG  
WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

December 19, 1960

Mr. Robert Isaac  
Director of Business Services  
Department of Education  
Alaska Office Building  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Isaac:

It would be very much appreciated if your office could supply us with the following data for the 1959-1960 school year:

1. The average daily membership by grade level in the state schools at Homer, Wasilla and Chugiak.
2. The itemized expenditures for the same year for the same schools.
3. The amount of P. L. 874 and 815 money expended on the same three schools.

Thank you very much for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

by *Donna Spragg*  
Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

*DONNA —*

*I would like to  
discuss this with you.  
MSD*

*6-1121*

## SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

<u>Project</u>	<u>Funding</u>				
	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Appropri- ation</u>	<u>Tobacco Tax</u>	<u>APW (Federal)</u>	<u>P. L. 815 (Federal)</u>
Chugiak #1	71,500	28,833	18,000	28,833	
Addition	125,300	62,650		62,650	
Office	18,000		18,000		
Chugiak #2	172,856	72,856			100,000
Addition	110,000				110,000
Chugiak #3	<u>538,600</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>22,300</u>		<u>480,300</u>
TOTAL	<u>964,756</u>	200,344	40,300	91,483	690,300
Homer #1	36,000 *	36,000			
Addition	223,302	116,651		116,651	
Homer #2	<u>613,000</u>	<u>277,500</u>	<u>96,000</u>	<u>239,500</u>	
TOTAL	<u>872,302</u>	430,151	96,000	356,151	
Wasilla #1	30,000 *	30,000			
Addition #1	27,750	27,750			
Addition #2	362,632	181,566		181,566	
Wasilla #2	<u>534,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>			<u>514,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>954,382</u>	259,316		181,566	514,000

\* Old buildings - costs estimated.

ADM: 290.15

RURAL SCHOOL BUDGET

25 - 20 = 12 - 15 - 349  
9 - 10 - 11 - 12 - TOTAL

School Wasilla

Date 1959-60

Enrollment 35 - 31 - 41 - 35 - 36 - 33 - 37 - 29 -  
1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9

ITEM	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES				FINAL
		1	2	3	4	
INSTRUCTION						
Salaries: Principals	9,006.14					
Teachers	86,842.80					
Sub. Tchrs						
Textbooks						
Library	391.79					
Teaching Supplies	4,617.07					
Other Expenses	114.86					
OPERATION OF PLANT						
Salaries: Janitors	6,570.08					
Janitor Supplies	3,486.71					
Fuel (heat)						
Utilities (excl. heat)						
Other Expenses	1,730.25					
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT						
Miscellaneous Labor	174.25					
Materials & Supplies	490.40					
Other Expenses	146.50					
FIXED CHARGES						
Teachers Retirement						
Insurance	5,875.00					
Rentals						
Other Fixed Charges						
FOOD SERVICE						
Salaries						
Food						
Other Expenses						
CAPITAL OUTLAY						
Teacherage Equipment						
School Equipment	3,122.00					
Other Expenses						
TRANSFER ACCOUNTS						
TOTAL	122,567.85					

Amount of Public Law 874 Assistance Received: \$42,971.00

RURAL SCHOOL BUDGET

20 - 36 - 23 - 13 - 415  
9 - 10 - 11 - 12 - tota

School Homer Date 1959-60 Enrollment 40 - 43 - 46 - 33 - 49 - 30 - 48 - 34 -  
1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 -

ITEM	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES				FINAL
		1	2	3	4	
INSTRUCTION						
Salaries: Principals	8,419.20					
Teachers	135,219.82					
Sub. Tchrs.						
Textbooks						
Library	795.58					
Teaching Supplies	6,594.78					
Other Expenses	520.03					
OPERATION OF PLANT						
Salaries: Janitors	10,041.21					
Janitor Supplies						
Fuel (heat)						
Utilities (excl.heat)			3(a)	34		
Other Expenses			3(b)1	20		
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	15,526.31		3(b)2	39		
Miscellaneous Labor	104.55					
Materials & Supplies	2,152.59					
Other Expenses	137.75					
FIXED CHARGES						
Teachers Retirement						
Insurance						
Rentals						
Other Fixed Charges			\$28,352.00			
FOOD SERVICE						
Salaries						
Food						
Other Expenses						
CAPITAL OUTLAY						
Teacherage Equipment	49.44					
School Equipment	4,618.70					
Other Expenses	570.13					
TRANSFER ACCOUNTS						
TOTAL	184,750.09					

Amount of Public Law 874 Assistance Received:

RURAL SCHOOL BUDGET

ADM: 441.84

School Chugiak

Date 1959-60

Enrollment 93 - 69 - 64 - 65 - 78 - 58 - 57 - 38 - 522

1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - TOTAL

ITEM	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES				FINAL
		1	2	3	4	
INSTRUCTION						
Salaries: Principals	9,969.55					
Teachers	111,566.18					
Sub. Tchrs.						
Textbooks						
Library	349.66					
Teaching Supplies	5,961.58					
Other Expenses	212.05					
OPERATION OF PLANT						
Salaries: Janitors	9,349.64					
Janitor Supplies						
Fuel (heat)						
Utilities (excl. heat)			3(a)			
Other Expenses			3(b)1	37		
			3(b)2	29		
MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	10,609.41			218		
Miscellaneous Labor	35.88					
Materials & Supplies	1,642.37					
Other Expenses	1,202.80					
FIXED CHARGES						
Teachers Retirement						
Insurance	6,000.00					
Rentals						
Other Fixed Charges						
FOOD SERVICE						
Salaries						
Food						
Other Expenses						
CAPITAL OUTLAY						
Teacherae Equipment						
School Equipment	6,016.71					
Other Expenses						
TRANSFER ACCOUNTS						
TOTAL	162,915.83					

Amount of Public Law 874 Assistance Received:

~~\$20,000.00~~ 70,880

*Substudy  
Donner*

February 1, 1960

MR. JOHN D. CONNERS, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AF OF L - CIO  
815 - 16th STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

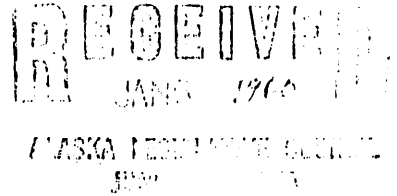
AT SUGGESTION OF HENRY HEDBERG OF ALASKA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR THIS IS TO INQUIRE AS TO POSSIBILITY OF ASSISTANCE TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN MAKING DETAILED STUDY OF STATE SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR ALASKA LEGISLATURE ALONE OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA AND STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. FUNDING AND EXPERT RESEARCH ASSISTANCE ARE NEEDED AND OTHER FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS ARE BEING CONTACTED. STUDY AND REPORT NEEDED FOR OPENING OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION JANUARY 1961. WILL APPRECIATE YOUR ADVISING ME OF POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN THIS PROJECT.

JOHN C. DOYLE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Charge to: Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA

December 30, 1959



Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Reference is made to your letter dated December 22, 1959. I have not written to you sooner because of the fact that we still have little definite information about the directions which the proposed finance study may take.

Slightly more than a year ago, the University of Alaska submitted a research proposal to a federal agency for financial support. The research plan called for a comprehensive study of Alaska's unique problems--population, wealth, etc.--which would need to be considered in setting up a structure for financing Alaska's schools. The end product envisioned was a specific plan which could be put to immediate use in light of the reorganization of the state government. The budget submitted was sufficient to attract a national authority in the field of school finance to direct the research project. In addition, the plan called for an advisory group comprising members from the University of Alaska, the State Department of Education, and others to be selected. The role of this group would be to point out specific areas of concern and problems with which an outsider might not be familiar. However, it was stressed that the person selected to direct the research would be given considerable latitude in conducting the study and would be kept free from pressures which would tend to influence his findings.

After the proposal was submitted to a federal agency, although it was not accepted, we did receive encouragement to resubmit the proposal after suggested revisions were made. At this stage of the project, we delayed an immediate resubmission of the plan until more information could be gathered. We wished to determine the interest of the State Department of Education in participating in such a project. Also, we wanted to know the exact status of your own legislative council study. It is our feeling that a sum of money such as we requested can only be justified if there is assurance that the study will receive support of the agencies involved, and that the findings will be implemented. We see considerable advantage in close cooperation among members of your group, the state department, and the university in participating in an advisory capacity

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## SCHOOL SUPPORT STUDY

House Concurrent Resolution No. 57 directed the Legislative Council to:

"Proceed with the study on state support for public schools and submit a final report by or at the time of the convening of the Legislature in 1961. The Department of Education and the University of Alaska will provide additional staff support for statistical and other services as requested."

### I SCOPE OF STUDY: LIMITATIONS.

The Legislative Council school support study includes only the 28 organized school districts and the state supported rural schools of over 200 average daily membership. Generally the study is limited to expenditures of a general program nature and does not include an extensive analysis of capital outlay and transportation expenditures. The Council is most concerned with the optimum use of state and local financial resources. Matters of general educational policy in the districts and at state level will not be intensively reviewed. Problems resulting from isolation, sparsity, and lack of fiscal data are included.\*

\*to be completed by Legislative Council staff by June 15.

### II DISCUSSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND TRADITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE OF ALASKA IN THE FIELD OF STATE SCHOOL SUPPORT.\*

\*to be completed by Legislative Council staff by June 15.

### III REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF:

- A. Present school support statutes.
- B. State school funds
- C. State minimum requirements in the field of education.\*

\*to be completed by the Council staff by June 15.

### IV PRESENT ORGANIZATION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM OF ALASKA

- A. School districts
- B. Rural schools



# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

January 24, 1961

City Manager  
Prince Rupert, B.C.  
Canada

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Rep. Frank Chapados of the Alaska Legislative Council, who I believe was talking with you on the subject of school support at the recent ferry conference. He said that it appeared that British Columbia had worked out a satisfactory scheme for the equalized assessment of property for tax purposes.

The matter of assessment is drawing an increasing amount of attention here, and since the problems of Alaska and British Columbia may well be similar, I am writing to ask whether you can either supply me with information about the assessment there, or refer me to someone who can. A copy of the applicable laws and of the assessor's booklet or manual, if any, would be very useful.

We would greatly appreciate your help in this matter and hope that if you may be any kind of assistance to you, you will let us know.

Sincerely yours,  
Jonathan N. Wells  
Executive Director

Jonathan N. Wells  
Research Council

JNW:md

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

January 11, 1961

Mrs. Lucy Mick  
Executive Secretary  
League of Alaskan Cities  
Box 1764  
Palmer, Alaska

Dear Mrs. Mick:

It would be very much appreciated if you could air mail a copy of the "Alaska City Officials Directory 1960-61" to H. Thomas James, School of Education, Stanford University, Stanford, California.

Dr. James is one of the chief consultants on the Ford Foundation survey of education in Alaska. He felt that your publication would be of great value to him and asked me to send this request to you.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By: Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

January 11, 1961

H. Thomas James  
School of Education  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California

Dear Dr. James:

Today I have written to Mrs. Lucy Mick of the League of Alaskan Cities requesting that she send you the current directory.

As I indicated, I have developed some comments on this excellent publication for your consideration. First, it should be noted that the directory covers only incorporated cities. It includes no data on the independent school districts (which encompass areas outside cities) or on the one (Angoon) school district which does not contain a city within its boundaries.

The census, revenue, and assessed valuation figures for cities within independent school districts, as noted above, do not include the portion of the districts outside the city limits. Those cities in independent school districts are: (1) Anchorage; (2) Douglas (one of two cities in the Juneau-Douglas Independent School District); (3) Fairbanks; (4) Ketchikan; (5) Kodiak; (6) Palmer; (7) Port Chilkoot (one of two cities in the Haines Independent School District); (8) Sitka; (9) Juneau (one of two cities in the Juneau-Douglas Independent School District); (10) Haines (one of two cities in the Haines Independent School District).

A number of the cities in the directory are cities of the fourth class, and under state law are the only cities not required to operate their own schools. I believe that state schools ("District No. 1") are operated in each of these communities. The taxing power of the fourth class city is limited to the sales tax. I personally feel that had the fourth class statute been enacted prior to 1955, such small and relatively poor communities as Craig, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, King Cove, Klawock, Pelican, Unalaska, and Yakutat would have incorporated as cities of the fourth class rather than assuming the burden of school support as required by the other city incorporation statutes.

Three of the small cities listed in the directory are not operating schools, even though the law requires a local school

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

December 19, 1960

SUBJECT: Draft of School Support Study

TO: William C. Foster

FROM: Donna Spragg

As you know, I am leaving with you and J. C. Doyle a draft of the school support study. As the composition of the actual text progressed it became evident that certain additional material (not in the draft) could profitably be included. I am listing them here for your consideration. Most of this could be compiled with relatively little effort on my return.

1. A concise summary of information and findings.
2. An appendix (see below for possible content.)
3. Definite recommendations for:

a. Clarification of the status of those state school fund that are simply fed into the general fund. Possible elimination of the "school fund-general purpose" and possible elimination of total earmarkings (See Ch. 75, SLA 1951) if mineral lease receipts.

b). Distribution of cigarette tax receipts (for school construction) on different base than now included in rules and recommendations of the Board of Education.

c) Improvement of the tuition rate formula by which the state distributes non-resident reimbursements to school districts. The present formula does not seem realistic to me.

d) Clarification of the statutes under which independent school districts levy taxes within and without cities. This is yet another thing from the assessment problem. A great deal of confusion seems to exist as to whether or not levies (both sales and property) must be the same throughout the district, or whether as long as each area provides its prescribed share all is well. No two independent districts seem to do it the same way.

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

November 2, 1960

Dr. Theo J. Norby  
Commissioner  
Department of Education  
Alaska Office Building  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Norby:

A meeting of the full Legislative Council is scheduled for Anchorage, November 17-19. As you know, one of the priority matters for consideration by the Council, and recommendation to the Legislature during the forthcoming session, is state support for schools.

With your cooperation the Council has proceeded to respond to the directive of the Legislature that a study be made and readied for submission to the 1961 session. While proceeding with the study and gathering facts for Council consideration, negotiations were successfully completed by your office to have Ford Foundation assistance in having a broader study made. It is assumed that the results of this study will be available to the 1962 rather than the 1961 session.

The Council has given the school finance problem a priority classification and when considering the preliminary Council staff work at its meeting this month, the Council will want and need to be informed of the plans and schedule for the accomplishment of the study being supported by the Ford Foundation. With the preliminary staff report and the Foundation study information at hand, the Council can then determine what action, if any, it will recommend to the Legislature. The Council meeting at Anchorage will be attended by carry-over legislators and legislators-elect; many of the former having a particular interest in the school support problem.

At the direction of the Chairman, and with the concurrence of the Governor, this is to request a statement from you on the intended scope of the report, persons who will be involved in the research and analysis work, the composition of the advisory committee and when they will be appointed, and the target date for completion and publication of the report.

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

September 15, 1960

Miss Tyne Haukebo  
Corresponding Secretary  
American Federation of Teachers  
Local 1175  
Spennard, Alaska

Dear Miss Haukebo:

This is in reply to your letter concerning the Alaska Legislative Council study on state school support. The Legislative Council was directed by the legislature to make such a study and to submit a report to the coming (1961) session. At the present time the project is being developed by the staff of the Council, and no official report has been made. It is contemplated that the Council, at its meeting in November, will give consideration to the staff findings and decide the final form and content of the report.

As you very likely already know, the Council study is directed only to state fiscal support of schools, and does not deal with overall educational offerings or opportunities in Alaska, possible curriculum improvements, etc. However, full consideration will be given to alternate plans of school finance in the state, including the "foundation" concept.

Your interest in this project is very much appreciated, and if your group has any specific suggestions as to the present or future financing of the public school system, we would be most happy to receive them.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD/mh

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

September 16, 1960

Mr. Ray Nims  
Superintendent  
Wrangell City School District  
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Nims:

In connection with the Legislative Council's study on school support the Council staff is surveying the income and expenditures of individual school districts. In looking over the copies of the Wrangell City School District budgets for the years 1959-1960 and 1960-1961 we find that we are somewhat confused concerning the sources of school revenue.

It would be very much appreciated if you could send us the current available information in the following categories for 1959-1960 and 1960-1961:

- 1) City property taxes (or appropriation from city)  
City sales taxes for schools  
Other local revenue
- 2) State aid based on approved budget  
Vocational education (state)  
Transportation  
Tuition  
Tobacco tax
- 3) Federal aid (Public Law 874)

For our purposes we are interested only in the revenues of the school district and not the general revenues of the city.

Thanks very much for your assistance in this matter and your earliest possible reply.

Sincerely,

John D. Davis  
Executive Director

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Affairs Assistant

*School Study*

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

August 26, 1960

Mrs. Lucy Nick  
Executive Secretary  
League of Alaskan Cities  
P. O. Box 1764  
Palmer, Alaska

Dear Mrs. Nick:

We are having some difficulty in determining just what sales taxes levied by cities in the state of Alaska are designated specifically for school purposes.

If you have any information on this, as well as any data on the sales taxes levied by independent school districts, we would very much appreciate hearing from you.

Thank you very much for your continuing cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By *James Sprague*  
Public Finance Analyst

MS/tp

*School Duty*

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

August 26, 1960

Mr. Max W. Penrod  
Area Director of Schools  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Juneau Area Office  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Penrod:

Last year I requested and received from you information concerning the operation of Federal BIA schools in Alaska for the school year 1959-60. This material outlined expenditures for boarding schools, day schools, program direction, adult education, Johnson-O'Malley schools and higher education for the 1959-60 school year.

I am curious to know whether any of the amounts shown in this list were in the form of grants to school districts of Alaska and, if so, for what purposes they were allocated. I would also be interested to know if any such grants are continued for the 1960-1961 school year and, if so, would appreciate whatever details you can furnish.

Thanking you very much for your continued cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS/hp

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 15, 1960

Representative Frank X. Chapados  
515 3rd Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Frank:

I am writing to let you know of some current developments in the course of the school finance study.

First, you will be interested to know that we have retained the services of Mr. Richard F. Tuff, an educator with wide experience in Alaska, to survey the school districts of Alaska in an attempt to arrive at a ratio comparing per-pupil levels in the various communities. We think that his survey will be of great help in developing facts showing the ability of school districts to contribute to their own support. Mr. Tuff will be in the Fairbanks area toward the end of this month and I expect to let the school and city officials there know of his pending arrival.

As you know, Dr. Norby is still attempting to obtain funds from the Ford Foundation for a study of Alaska school finance. In connection with his efforts, next week he is bringing Dr. Lindeman, a school finance expert from California, to Juneau for a week of conferences. We will meet with Dr. Lindeman and Dr. Norby and will discuss our outline and the progress of our study with them. Dr. Norby remains confident that funds will be forthcoming from the Ford Foundation.

In the meantime we are proceeding with our study pretty much according to the outline that you and I have discussed.

You will be hearing from me again soon.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By:   
John C. Doyle  
Public Finance Section

ES:mc

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 14, 1960

Mr. Jack Finch  
Superintendent  
Ketchikan Independent School District  
Ketchikan, Alaska

Dear Mr. Finch:

Enclosed is a copy of our working outline on the school support study as requested by your office. This outline is subject to revision and any comments you might have on it would be very much appreciated.

We want to thank you for the cooperation extended to Mr. Richard J. Tuff during his recent visit to the Ketchikan School District.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By:  
Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

Encl.

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 14, 1960

Mr. J. E. Danielson  
c/o University of Alaska  
Summer Session  
College, Alaska

Dear Mr. Danielson:

As you very likely know from discussions with Dr. Ray, the Alaska Legislative Council is currently engaged in a study of state school support in cooperation with the state Department of Education and the University of Alaska. I am enclosing a copy of our working outline of this project for your information.

In my discussions with Dr. Ray we discussed the possibility that your current class in public school finance might have some interest in assisting with our project. If you feel such assistance would be feasible and profitable for your students, I could very likely travel to College to discuss the matter with you and with them.

The enclosed outline is as I have said a working outline and is subject to revision and any comments you might have on it would be very much appreciated.

By the end of this month I expect to have in the mail to Dr. Ray some of the preliminary first sections of the study. If you would also like to have copies of these I would be happy to furnish them. I will hope to be hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By:

Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# Unalaska School Board

UNALASKA, ALASKA  
July 6, 1960

Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Juneau, Alaska

RECEIVED  
JUL 14 1960  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Dear Miss Spragg:

Thank you for the letter about the study of state support of local schools. This school district will be very happy to assist in every way.

Please send us the outline of the work that is being done. We are intensely interested in the work of the Alaska Legislative Council.

Yours truly,

*A. Marie Barber*  
(Miss) A. Marie Barber  
Principal,  
Unalaska Public School  
Unalaska, Alaska

P.S. Mr. Francis J. Hall is at present in Sterling, Alaska and he will be the Headteacher there this coming school year.

**CITY OF**  
COUNCIL - MANAGER GOVERNMENT



**ANCHORAGE**

POST OFFICE BOX 400 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

June 23, 1960

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 24 1960  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Attention of Donna Spragg, Public Finance Analyst


Dear Donna:

Our records indicate the following address for  
Richard Tuff:

Richard J. Tuff  
1005 - 24th Ave. S. E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

If he is available, I am sure that he would do a very  
good job for you in the conduct of your study.

Very truly yours,

  
George C. Shannon  
City Manager

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Box 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

THEO J. NORBY  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

June 6, 1960

MEMORANDUM

TO: John C. Doyle, Executive Director, Legislative  
Council.

FROM: Theo J. Norby, Commissioner of Education. *TJN*

SUBJECT: House Concurrent Resolution No. 50.

We note House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 relating to a feasible study on a state junior college program.

This Resolution indicates that the Legislative Council, in cooperation with the University of Alaska and the Department of Education, are to conduct such a study. We shall be glad to name someone from our Department to represent us in connection with this.

T.J.N.

TJN:vd

cc: Dr. Ernest Patty  
Pres., U. of A.  
Governor Wm. A. Egan

File: (023.4)

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Box 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

THEO J. NORBY  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

June 2, 1960

RECEIVED  
JUN 3 1960  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
P. O. Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

In your letter of May 23 you ask questions about foundation aid for conducting a study of Alaska school finance, and also that we submit to you the names of Alaska people who could be of assistance in the development of this study. We shall give this every consideration and submit to you a list of names in the near future.

I believe we covered the matter of foundation aid in our discussion the other day.

Sincerely yours,



Theo J. Norby  
Commissioner of Education

TJN:vd

File: (100)

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 14, 1960

Dr. Theo J. Norby  
Commissioner  
Department of Education  
Alaska Office Building  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Norby:

This is to inform you that I have recently returned from a trip to Fairbanks and Anchorage where I was able to review the Council school support study with Dr. Weigman and Dr. Ray and with local school officials in both communities. I will be happy to discuss the results of this trip with you at any time.

You will recall that during our last conference you mentioned that you would make available to me a complete file of all statistical releases of your Department for the past year. Since I have not yet received these I thought possibly I should remind you that they would be very helpful to me. I would also like to secure copies of the 1958 Alaska Rural Development Board incorporation studies of Homer, Chugiak, Kenai, and Wasilla. The Local Affairs Agency has no copies available so I imagine that yours is the only agency still in possession of the studies. Should you be short on copies, I would be more than happy to use them on a loan basis subject to recall should you need them.

We have received your memorandum informing us that a member of your staff will be available to assist in the junior college study outlined in House Concurrent Resolution No. 50. At the present time we are awaiting a review of this problem from Dr. Robert Weigman, Vice President of the University of Alaska. When it is received we will be happy to review it with any member of your staff that you designate.

At the time of our last conference I submitted to you an outline of the Council's school support study. You will note that items V, VI and X of that outline include the assistance of your Department and items VIII and IX include the full time services of one statistician from your Department for the time periods indicated. I hope this meets with your approval and that you will be able to let us know who on your staff will be available for this work. In addition, it is our hope that you will also be able to review from time to time all other sections of the study.

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Box 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

THEO J. NORBY  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

June 15, 1960

Miss Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst  
Alaska Legislative Council  
P. O. Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Miss Spragg:

This may be considered a follow-up of our conversation this morning. We shall make every effort to supply you with the materials which you request. Also, I have asked Mr. Borden for suggestions relative to a person who may be assigned to devote full time to assisting the Alaska Legislative Council with this study on school finance. Also, please keep in mind that you may expect that I will not only be able to review the sections of the study, but expect to take an active interest.

As I indicated to you, I did receive a phone call from Dr. Faust of the Ford Foundation when I was in Los Angeles. He indicated that if we revised our request in accordance with the last letter I wrote to him, they would give it favorable consideration. For your information we are including a copy of the last letter I wrote to Dr. Faust.

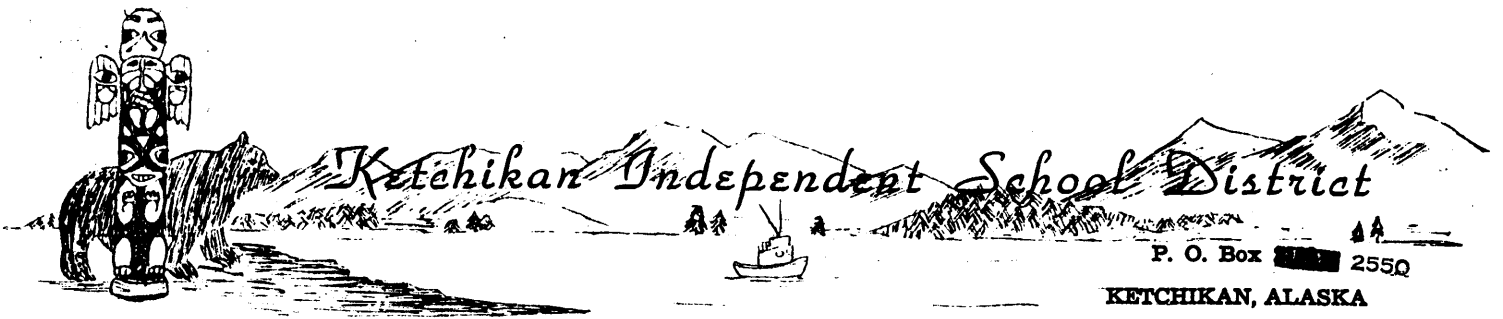
Also, we shall immediately take steps to employ Dr. Lindeman for a relatively short period of time. It would seem that when he is here, we should invite a representative from the University of Alaska, and would suggest that you consider extending a similar invitation to members of the Legislative Council.

It would be my hope that we continue to keep in touch with each other as the study progresses.

T.J.N. 

TJN:vd  
Encl: Copy, Ltr.

File: (100)



June 17, 1960

RECEIVED  
JUN 23 1960  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle, Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

You may depend on our full co-operation in this important study. We would appreciate receiving a copy of your outline. After we examine it, if we have any questions we will write.

Sincerely yours,

*Jack Finch*  
Jack Finch  
Superintendent of Schools

JF:11

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

REP. PETER J. KALAMARIDES, CHAIRMAN  
SEN. FRANK PERATROVICH, VICE CHAIRMAN

JOHN C. DOYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## SENATORS

WILLIAM E. BELTZ, UNALAKLEET  
EBEN HOPSON, BARROW  
RALPH E. MOODY, ANCHORAGE  
JACK E. WEISE, BETHEL

June 15, 1960

## REPRESENTATIVES

ROBERT GIERSDORF, FAIRBANKS  
AXEL C. JOHNSON, KWIGUK  
JOHN E. LONGWORTH, PETERSBURG  
WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

RECEIVED  
JUL 5 1960

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. T. J. Cole  
Superintendent  
Sitka Independent School District  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Cole:

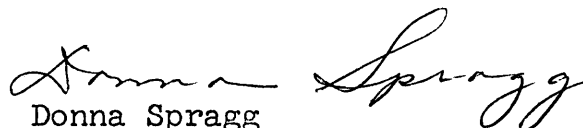
The Alaska Legislative Council has been directed to make a study of state support of local schools in cooperation with the state Department of Education and the University of Alaska. In developing this study, the staff of the Council hopes to be able to rely on the districts for assistance in gathering information and statistics. The project is now underway and is scheduled for completion before the convening of the 1961 legislative session.

Should you have any questions concerning the work we are doing, please feel free to let us know. We have available copies of our outline, should you be interested in receiving a copy.

We are looking forward to cooperating with you in this venture.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By:   
Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

Miss Donna Spragg:

7/5/60

I have been out of town for the past two weeks. I would very much appreciate a copy of your outline of your study of State Support of Local Schools. I would be glad to assist ~~me~~ in any way possible.

Sincerely,

  
T. J. Cole, Supt. of Schools

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 14, 1960

Mr. T. J. Cole  
Superintendent  
Sitka Independent School District  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thank you very much for your reply to our letter concerning the Legislative Council study of state support of local schools.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our working outline for this project. This outline is subject to revision as the study develops and any comments that you might have on it would be appreciated.

In connection with this study, we have retained the services of Mr. Richard J. Tuff, an assessor familiar with Alaska valuation problems, to briefly survey all school districts in Alaska. It is our hope that he will be able to develop ratios and ascertain differences in assessment procedure in such a way as to assist us in attempting to set up an equitable measure of ability to pay in Alaska's school district. Mr. Tuff will be visiting in Sitka early next week and we will notify him that he should contact you at that time.

We most certainly appreciate your cooperation in this study and you will be hearing from us again.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By:  
Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 14, 1960

Dr. Robert Wiegman  
Vice President  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Dear Dr. Wiegman:

According to my calculations, this letter very likely will not find you in College. I realize how busy you must be traveling and re-settling your family. However, knowing of your interest in the junior college study as directed by the legislature, I thought possibly you might have found time to compile some information for us on this subject. Even your general comments in letter form would be valuable to us at this time.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By:

Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 23, 1960

Dr. Theo J. Norby  
Commissioner of Education  
Alaska Office Building  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Norby:

Due in part to the fact that school board business and other duties have kept you away from the office recently, we have been unable, to this date, to follow up the conversation you had with Miss Spragg on May 10. At that time I understand you informed her that you would know in a week or two as to whether the Ford Foundation grant for the school support study would be forthcoming. Since our information in this regard has been limited, we have been proceeding with the development of the study outlines and work schedules on the assumption that we would need to work within our own budget limitations. I hope that late this week or early next week you will be able to go over these outlines with Miss Spragg and that the two of you will be able to settle on the availability of staff from your department in work on the project. We would also like to work out our contact points within the department and coordinate the study with the University of Alaska.

Miss Spragg informs me that in discussing the possibility of the Ford Foundation grant she indicated to you that it would be necessary for the Council and Council staff to actively participate in the conduct and review of even such a broadly based study. We feel that such participation is necessary if legislative and public acceptance of the study results are to be maximum.

At this time we would be interested in receiving from your office the names of any persons in local school administration and PTA groups that you feel would be interested in knowing of and assisting with the developing study.

Thank you very much for your assistance. I feel that our mutual efforts in relation to state school studies are going to be most instructive and profitable.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 23, 1960

Rep. James J. Hurley  
Box C  
Palmer, Alaska

Dear Jim:

In connection with the state school support study, Donna will be in Anchorage June 6. As you have expressed some interest in the development of this study, she would very much like to meet with you and go over the project outlines. I hope this is a convenient time for you.

In addition, we would appreciate hearing from you concerning any persons or groups in the Palmer area that you feel would be particularly interested in the progress of the study. I am thinking in terms of school administrators, PTA and AEA leaders, other public officials and the like.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD/mh

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 23, 1960

Representative Russ E. Neckins  
1540 "K" Street  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Russ:

In connection with the school support study, Donna will be in Anchorage June 6 and would very much like to meet with you to go over the study outlines. I hope this is a convenient time for you.

In addition, we would appreciate hearing from you concerning any Anchorage persons or groups that you feel would be particularly interested in the progress of the study. I am thinking in terms of administrators, PTA and AEA leaders and the like.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD:nd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 23, 1960

Dr. Charles Ray  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Dear Dr. Ray:

You will, I am sure, remember our conversation and correspondence of last fall concerning the Legislative Council assignment on state school support. As you know, to date no grants have been forthcoming for this purpose, so the Council staff is undertaking the study on as broad a basis considering budget and staff limitations.

The legislative directive to the Council reads in part: "Complete the current study on state support for public schools and submit final report by or at the time of the convening of the Legislature in January of 1961. The Department of Education and the University of Alaska will provide additional staff support for statistical and other services as requested."

Miss Donna Spragg of the Council staff will be in Fairbanks June 2 and 3 and hopes to confer with the person or persons at the University who will be in charge of the University's part in this undertaking. As I had noted that Dr. Keller was leaving the University, I felt it would be best to make direct contact with you. Miss Spragg will also be meeting with Dr. Wiegman concerning a junior college study, and I am hopeful that a joint conference might be arranged.

I will hope to hear from you soon as to whether the dates mentioned are convenient.

Sincerely,

John C. Hoyle  
Executive Director

JCH:dnd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 23, 1960

Dr. Robert R. Wiegman  
Vice President  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Dear Dr. Wiegman:

Your letter of May 9 concerning House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 is very much appreciated. In pursuing the study of a full-fledged junior college program, the Legislative Council staff will certainly need to depend on the information and assistance available from the University of Alaska and the Department of Education.

It is our plan to attempt to coordinate the junior college study with the studies of school support and vocational education assigned to the Legislative Council by House Concurrent Resolution No. 57. As you very likely know, that part of the resolution setting up the school support study states in part that "The Department of Education and the University of Alaska will provide additional staff support for statistical and other services as requested." A member of our staff, Miss Donna Spragg, has been assigned to these areas of study. She will be in Fairbanks on June 2 and would appreciate the chance to meet with you on that day or the day following. It is also my intention to write to both Dr. Keller and Dr. Ray to set up preliminary conferences for her on the other subjects under consideration. Possibly a combined appointment could be arranged.

I will hope to hear from you soon as to whether the dates mentioned are convenient.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD/mb

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 23, 1960

Mr. Eugene McLoone  
School Finance Section  
Office of Education  
Health, Education and Welfare  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Gene:

It was a pleasant surprise to suddenly receive a new Government Management address list and thereby to know the whereabouts of many lost classmates. I was interested to note that you are in school finance work. This really dates back to the thesis writing days in a big way.

It seems a most automatic time to make contact as the Alaska Legislative Council has been directed "to study state support for public schools and submit a final report by or at the time of the convening of the Legislature in January of 1961." This assignment has been lodged with me, and needless to say it is keeping me busy. Alaska operates under a flat grant system of aid that dates back to 1917. In addition we have such almost unique situations as no intermediate taxing units (we only have 28 school districts in all), and rural schools operated by the state school board sitting as a local school board. In writing to you, I am not looking for specific information, but rather for a possible additional sounding board as the project develops. Both the University of Alaska and the State Department of Education will be assisting the Council staff in this study.

I hope all goes well for you in Washington. I ran into John Briggs and Phil Strawn at a Western Governmental Research conference last fall. As you may know, Phil is working for John with the Washington State Research Council. Another pair of Republicans in the service of the taxpayers' organizations.

I will hope to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS/ah

# University of Alaska

*College, Alaska*

June 1, 1960

RECEIVED  
JUN 3 1960  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUN 3 1960

Mr. John Doyle, Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I have just returned from a trip to Homer, hence the delay in answering your letter dated May 23, 1960. I have spoken with Dr. Wiegman, who will be available for a conference on either June 2 or 3. Therefore, the three of us can discuss the matter of the finance study at that time. I shall look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,



Charles K. Ray, Chairman  
Division of Education

CKR:ad

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

COLLEGE, ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

May 31, 1960

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
P. O. Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

RECEIVED  
JUN 3 1960  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNE 3 1960

Dear Mr. Doyle:

The date of June 2nd is convenient,  
and I shall look forward to meeting Miss Donna  
Spragg at that time.

Dr. Keller has retired, as you  
probably know, and Dr. Charles Ray has been  
appointed as his successor as Head of the  
Department of Education. Dr. Ray is on a fishing  
trip, but I am sure he will be back by the June 2nd  
date.

Cordially yours,

*Robert R. Wiegman*

Robert R. Wiegman  
Vice President

RRW:bf

*Please Reply by Air Mail*



State of Alaska  
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE  
STATE AFFAIRS—CHAIRMAN

JAMES J. HURLEY  
BODENBERG LOOP ROAD  
PALMER, ALASKA  
(ELECTION DIST. 9)



FIRST LEGISLATURE  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

MAY 27, 1960

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

ATTENTION JOHN C. DOYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEAR JACK:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MAY 23 INDICATING THAT WORK IS PROGRESSING ON YOUR SCHOOL SUPPORT STUDY. I WOULD SUGGEST THAT INTERIM INFORMATION THAT YOU MAY HAVE AVAILABLE WOULD BE MOST WELCOMED BY THE FOLLOWING:

MRS. ALMA BLUNCK	-	PALMER, ALASKA
MRS. ADA BOYD	-	PALMER, ALASKA
MR. PRENTICE GAZAWAY	-	PALMER, ALASKA
MR. AL MORGAN, SUPT. OF SCHOOLS		PALMER, ALASKA

MR. ED SMITH, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IS ALSO ON THE LOCAL BOARD BUT WILL PROBABLY BE RECEIVING THE INFORMATION BY REASON OF HIS POSITION WITH THE STATE.

I HAVE LONG BEEN INTERESTED IN THIS PARTICULAR PROBLEM AND HAVE DONE A LOT OF THINKING ABOUT IT. I AM SURE THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO TALK WITH DONNA WHEN SHE IS HERE AND PERHAPS IN THE MEANTIME, OR SHORTLY THEREAFTER, BE ABLE TO WRITE DOWN SOME OF MY IDEAS.

THANKS FOR THE INFORMATION AND I HOPE THAT YOU WON'T WRITE ME OFF YOUR LIST AFTER MY LAME DUCK TERM EXPIRES. IT WILL ALWAYS BE A PLEASURE TO DISCUSS THESE PROBLEMS WITH YOU.

YOURS VERY TRULY,

*JJH*  
JAMES J. HURLEY  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JJH: BH

DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 26, 1960

Miss Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Donna:

I have been meaning to write for the pass week since Dan Dafoe and Jerry Waddell mentioned that you were possibly working on an education finance study. Since John Hunnewell has kept me pretty well informed about the activities of the members of our class, the new list merely gave me present addresses.

Glad to be sounding board for your project. I am sending you a copy of Public School Finance Programs in case you have not seen it already. If there are other publications by the office that can be of use, please let me know.

It seems that quite a few people are working on school finance these days. John Ingram is in charge of finance task force in Pennsylvania for next year's legislative session.

Glad to hear from you and about the work you are doing.

Sincerely,



Eugene P. McLoone, Assistant  
Specialist, School Revenue

Under Separate Cover

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

COLLEGE, ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

May 9, 1960

RECEIVED  
MAY 11 1960

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. Jack Doyle, Executive Director  
Legislative Council  
P. O. Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

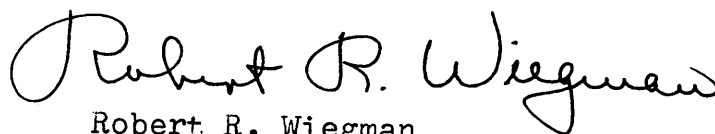
Secretary Wade has forwarded a copy of House Concurrent Resolution No. 50 relating to a feasibility study on a state junior college program.

Reference is made in the resolution of the community college programs which are currently in operation, and the comment is made that they "could be developed into full-fledged junior college programs".

There is a vast amount of material available on community college and junior college programs, and a great deal of confusion about the two terms. Because of the flood of information, it is impossible to do justice to a discussion on post high school educational facilities through correspondence. I believe that the Legislative Council would be interested in the current status of the community college program in Alaska, and I would be most happy to meet with you at anytime at your convenience to discuss this program with you.

Would you please let me know whether or not you would be interested in such a meeting, and if so, when it would be convenient for us to get together.

Cordially yours,



Robert R. Wiegman  
Vice President

RRW:bf

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 14, 1960

Dr. James C. Ryan  
Superintendent  
Fairbanks Independent School  
District  
Box 1250  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Dr. Ryan:

It was a great pleasure to meet and talk with you last week concerning the Legislative Council's school support study. I know that we will find it profitable to call on you from time to time for assistance on this project. As I recall, you stated that at the earliest possible date you would send me a copy of the school district budget for the coming school year. This is certainly appreciated and we will look forward to hearing from you.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our study outline. If a review of this brings any questions to mind, please feel free to let us know.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By: Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

D8:nd  
Encl.

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 14, 1960

Dr. Charles K. Ray  
Director  
Division of Education  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Dear Dr. Ray:

Enclosed you will find an additional copy of the Legislative Council school support study. If any additional questions come to mind, please feel free to let me know.

As we agreed, I will plan to send chapters of the study to you from time to time for review. In addition I am hopeful that I am able to meet with Mr. Danielson late next month in College. I feel that our discussions were most profitable and I feel very encouraged about the study.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By: Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 14, 1960

Dr. Robert Weigman  
Vice President  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Dear Dr. Weigman:

I certainly enjoyed meeting with you and Dr. Ray last week and feel that our conferences were very helpful. I am also looking forward to receiving your summary report on the community college program in Alaska.

I trust that your last days in Alaska are not going to be so terribly rushed as to make this report too much of a burden.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

By: Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 14, 1960

Dr. Hillis K. Idleman  
Superintendent  
Anchorage Independent School  
District  
1602 West Hillcrest Drive  
Spenser Branch  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Dr. Idleman:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and Mr. Fridley in Anchorage last week. As we agreed at that time, I will from time to time attempt to send chapters of the study to your office. In addition I intend to take full advantage of your kind offer for research assistance when needed.

Please feel free to submit any questions concerning the study that may come to mind.

Sincerely,

John C. Boyle  
Executive Director

By: Donna Spragg  
Public Finance Analyst

DS:nd

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

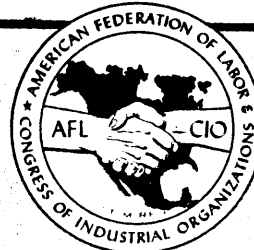
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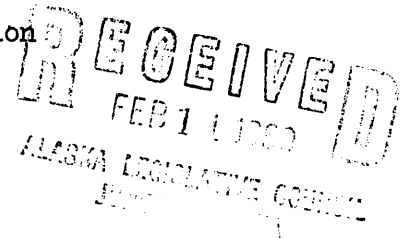


## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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WM. F. SCHNITZLER

815 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C. NATIONAL 8-3870

Department of Education  
February 8, 1960



Mr. John C. Doyle, Exec. Dir.  
Alaska Legislative Council  
State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

This is in reply to your wire received February 2, in which you request assistance to the Legislative Council in making a detailed study of the state school supported program for the Alaska Legislature. You need funds and expert research assistance and are contacting various Foundations in this regard. You ask for any possible assistance we can provide.

We are happy that Mr. Henry Hedberg of the Alaska State Federation of Labor has suggested our organization to you. Unfortunately, we have no facilities to offer either financial assistance or direct research assistance.

I feel sure that you are aware that under Title X of the National Defense Education Act of 1958 federal funds can be made available to state departments of education for reporting and statistical surveys. The Alaska Legislative Council could work to get a quantitative analysis of where school funds come from in all education districts throughout the state.

A state plan for Title X funds was in fact submitted to the U.S. Office of Education, by Alaska on April 27, 1959, according to the Office. We have just conferred with them about this and obtained this information.

It is my understanding that Health, Education and Welfare could supply materials as to what other states have done in statistical surveys of their states by districts to determine where state funds come from on the local level.

As to statistics on local school systems I am sure you know that publications on this score are put out by the Office covering organization, staff, pupils and finances of full-time public elementary and secondary day schools throughout the U.S. Unfortunately, particularly in this instance, these studies do not include information on federal government schools on military bases, provision for Indian schools or programs of adult education.

I hope that the above will be of some assistance to you.

With every good wish,  
*John E. Cosgrove*  
John E. Cosgrove

JEC:ec oei2aflcio

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA

December 30, 1959

RECEIVED  
JAN 1960

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JAN 1960

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Reference is made to your letter dated December 22, 1959. I have not written to you sooner because of the fact that we still have little definite information about the directions which the proposed finance study may take.

Slightly more than a year ago, the University of Alaska submitted a research proposal to a federal agency for financial support. The research plan called for a comprehensive study of Alaska's unique problems--population, wealth, etc.--which would need to be considered in setting up a structure for financing Alaska's schools. The end product envisioned was a specific plan which could be put to immediate use in light of the reorganization of the state government. The budget submitted was sufficient to attract a national authority in the field of school finance to direct the research project. In addition, the plan called for an advisory group comprising members from the University of Alaska, the State Department of Education, and others to be selected. The role of this group would be to point out specific areas of concern and problems with which an outsider might not be familiar. However, it was stressed that the person selected to direct the research would be given considerable latitude in conducting the study and would be kept free from pressures which would tend to influence his findings.

After the proposal was submitted to a federal agency, although it was not accepted, we did receive encouragement to resubmit the proposal after suggested revisions were made. At this stage of the project, we delayed an immediate resubmission of the plan until more information could be gathered. We wished to determine the interest of the State Department of Education in participating in such a project. Also, we wanted to know the exact status of your own legislative council study. It is our feeling that a sum of money such as we requested can only be justified if there is assurance that the study will receive support of the agencies involved, and that the findings will be implemented. We see considerable advantage in close cooperation among members of your group, the state department, and the university in participating in an advisory capacity

November 30, 1959

Dr. Charles K. Ray  
Box 584  
College, Alaska

Dear Dr. Ray:

This follows my telegram of November 26 announcing the endorsement by the Legislative Council of the plan to submit a proposal to federal authorities seeking a grant for a state school finance study to be conducted jointly by the University of Alaska, the state Department of Education, and the Legislative Council.

I know that your discussion with Miss Donna Spragg of my staff and with Dr. Norby have acquainted you with the particular interest of the Legislature in the school finance subject. A research project of the scope which could be made possible by a federal grant would be most welcome and Legislative Council participation on the behalf of the Legislature would enhance its acceptance.

I will appreciate receiving a copy of the proposal submitted to the U. S. Office of Education and being advised of related developments. The Council will have its final pre-session meeting at Juneau on January 19-21. I believe that the federal grant authorities will have made their decision by that time.

When you visit Juneau again I hope that I will have the pleasure of meeting you and discussing this and other subjects of interest.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD:nd

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED  
JAN 5 1960

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
December 29, 1959

TO: Dr. R. R. Wiegman  
Dr. W. K. Keller

FROM: Ernest N. Patty *EN P*

COPIES: Dr. T. Nordby  
Legislative Council

RE: Study of Problem of Financing Public Schools in Alaska

On October 16, 1958, the University of Alaska submitted a proposal to the Commissioner of Education for funds to support research under the provisions of Public Law 531.

July 27, 1959, Dr. Arvid J. Burke, Director of Studies, New York State Teachers Association, visited the campus and discussed the proposal with Dr. Wiegman and detailed some of the questions and objections raised by the Reviewing Committee on the proposal.

On December 7, 1959, Dr. Burke transmitted a letter written to Dr. H. T. James, Association Professor of Education at Stanford University. I judge from this that Stanford have a proposed grant from the Office of Education for conducting fiscal studies of the schools of the Pacific and Northwestern States and that Dr. Burke is suggesting that this study be extended to Alaska and that additional funds be requested to cover this addition.

I judge what they have in mind is:

A study of the legal foundation of State support for the public school system.

A study of the historical and existing conditions of fiscal support; in other words, a preliminary study from existing records to determine the present pattern of State support and to sort out principles that under-ly State financing.

I am agreeable to going along with Stanford on this preliminary study. I am glad that Dr. Keller will be able to go to Stanford for the January 14th and 15th meeting.

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA

December 1, 1959

RECEIVED  
DEC 3 1959  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I appreciate the telephone call from Miss Sprague, your wire, and the follow-up letter concerning the school finance study. Dr. Norby will be in Fairbanks this week, and it is our plan to discuss with him various matters related to the proposed study.

At the present time, we are considering revisions in our original research plan which will be made prior to its actual submission to the U. S. Office of Education or other federal agencies. Be assured, however, that we shall go over the plan with you and the members of your committee prior to its actual submission. It may be that I shall make another trip to Juneau for this purpose, or possibly you can discuss the study with Dr. Norby.

I, too, am sorry that we could not get together during my brief stay in Juneau recently. The next time I am down, I shall plan to see you.

Sincerely yours,

*Charles K. Ray*

Charles K. Ray  
Assoc. Professor of Education

CKR:elc

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA

February 9, 1960

Hon. Alfred A. Owen, Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Owen:

This is in reply to your letter of February 3, regarding the cost of a school finance study for Alaska.

There are many different types of studies which can be visualized in a situation of this sort. These would range from a simple application of known criteria to the development of new criteria applicable to the new conditions which might be found in Alaska.

Since 1920 some 23 or 24 states have reorganized their school finance system upon foundation and equalization principles. Conditions vary slightly between the states, but out of these experiences have come accepted principles which are well-known by school administrators. The common, accepted principles could be set forth by any of several school administrators and used as the basis for a finance system in Alaska with practically no expense involved.

A second possible approach would be to use the principles set forth in the above paragraph, with a determination of the way in which they would affect the local financing for each of our district and rural schools. I estimate that this could be done within about 6 months by perhaps 2 or 3 people detailed for the purpose. Traveling and miscellaneous expenses might bring the total cost to, but certainly not in excess of, \$25,000.

If we wish to develop a model system of school financing based upon accepted principles of school finance, and which will include new bases to meet Alaska's peculiar conditions, it would be necessary to find the ways in which conditions in Alaska vary from other states, and then develop principles to meet the specific conditions. Such a study, with an authority in school finance as director, aided by 2 or 3 people as circumstances warrant, plus the necessary travel, stenographic assistance, supplies, etc. would conceivably take a year to a year and a half. I estimate that such a study would cost about \$75,000, but I think an excellent study could be made for that.



R. VIRGIL ROHRBOUGH  
CHAIRMAN

JOHN A. FIELD, JR.  
MEMBER

GEORGE B. VIEWEG, JR.  
SECRETARY

## State of West Virginia

STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL FINANCE

Charleston

TELEPHONE DICKENS 3-6151  
EXTENSION 186

WILLIAM K. HAMILTON  
SUPERVISOR

August 7, 1959

RECEIVED  
AUG 31 1959  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle, Executive Director,  
Alaska Legislative Council,  
Box # 2199,  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Your letter dated July 27, 1959 to Mr. R. Virgil Rohrbough,  
Superintendent of Schools, has been referred to me.

I am enclosing a copy of our school laws publication which  
contains our state aid formula in Article 9A beginning on page 61.

You will observe that we do not use an index of economic  
ability but determine a Local Share for each county (district)  
by application of a survey technique to the local income source-  
property.

Our sparcity factor is a series of weightings based on  
separate schools populations and on unit transportation costs.

Also included is a copy of our most recent computation for  
state aid allocations.

If I can be of further assistance, feel free to call on  
me.

Sincerely yours

William K. Hamilton  
Supervisor of School Finance  
STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL FINANCE

WKH:rlr  
enclosures



M. F. CODDINGTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

State of South Dakota  
Department of Public Instruction  
Pierre

RESEARCH DIVISION  
M. H. SHAW, DIRECTOR

September 1, 1959

RECEIVED  
SEP 15 1959  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

South Dakota attempted to launch a foundation program of State school support during the last session of the legislature. The foundation program was knocked down and gained very little support from the legislators. We did make some progress in the passage of the foundation bill. Enclosed you will find a copy of this Housebill #665. I am also sending you a copy of our School Law Book. Section on school finance found on pages 165-179.

I hope that these materials will be of some benefit to you. If I may be of further assistance please contact me again.

Sincerely yours,

M. H. Shaw  
Director of Research

MHS:hm  
Enc. 2

P. S. I have just been informed that School Law books are not available through this department since there was no appropriation of funds made available for the printing of these books.



**State of Colorado**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
DENVER 2

*MacB...*  
*...*

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 12 1959  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 30, 1959

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Your letter of July 27 requesting information about our Public School Foundation Act has been referred to me for reply. In your letter you request copies of our school finance statutes and copies of rules and regulations of the State Board of Education for the administration of this act. You also request information concerning the use of a sparsity factor and an index of economic ability in our state program for school finance.

We are enclosing copies of the following materials:

1. Public School Foundation Act (1958)
2. Senate Bill 329, Ch. 217, Session Laws '59
3. A Report to the Colorado General Assembly Concerning the Allowance of Additional Classroom Units for Small School Attendance Centers
4. Memorandum of February 26, 1959 Stating Board Policy Relative to the Allowance of Days of School Due To Emergency Closings
5. Sales Ratio Study, Part One, Prepared by the Colorado Legislative Council
6. Copy of Senate Bill 199 to Amend the Public School Foundation Act and Incorporate the Sales Ratio for the Distribution of State Funds (This bill did not pass.)

You will note that Senate Bill 329 enacted by the 1959 session of our legislature amends the Public School Foundation Act as printed in the 1958 booklet. During the latter part of August we will have the Public School Foundation Act, as amended since its original enactment, published in booklet form. We will send you a copy of this complete statute at that time. In the meantime, you will have the law as amended to date with the 1958 booklet and a copy of Senate Bill 329.

We do not have a sparsity factor as such in our present Public School Foundation Act. From 1952 to 1957, Colorado did utilize a sparsity factor

STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
MONTGOMERY 4, ALABAMA

*Materials  
filed*

July 31, 1959

RECEIVED  
AUG 1 1959

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Your letter of July 27 addressed to Mr. Frank R. Stewart, Superintendent, has been referred to me for reply.

Legal provision for the Minimum Program Fund is found in ARTICLE 3, Title 52, Sections 208-215, inclusive, Code of Alabama 1940. I am enclosing the following materials:

1. ARTICLE 3 (Referred to above)
2. ABC's OF THE MINIMUM PROGRAM
3. ALABAMA'S NEW INDEX OF LOCAL ABILITY TO PAY FOR EDUCATION

Unfortunately, the supply of the Rules and Regulations adopted by the State Board of Education relating to the Minimum Program is exhausted. As soon as revisions can be made following the present special session of the Legislature, copies will be available for distribution.

Sincerely yours,



N. F. Greenhill, Director  
Division of Administration and Finance

NFG:JM



*Separate  
Cover*

TENNESSEE  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CORDELL HULL BUILDING  
NASHVILLE 3

August 4, 1959

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 11 1959

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

MR. JOHN C. DOYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

DEAR MR. DOYLE:

I AM SENDING YOU UNDER SEPARATE COVER COPIES  
OF OUR MOST RECENT PUBLICATIONS CONCERNING THE SCHOOL  
FINANCE STATUTES AND RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STATE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION. I AM ALSO SENDING A COPY OF OUR  
REPORT ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE EDUCATIONAL FUNDS.

I HOPE THESE PUBLICATIONS WILL BE OF HELP TO  
YOU.

SINCERELY YOURS,

*R. E. Brinkley*

R. E. BRINKLEY  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

REB:AB



*Separate  
Cover*

**Superintendent of Public Instruction**  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**Olympia**

LLOYD J. ANDREWS  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

August 4, 1959

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 11 1959

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle, Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Your letter of July 27, addressed to Mr. Andrews, has been referred to me for reply.

We are sending a copy of the State Manual, which will provide the information requested in connection with the statutes as well as the regulations of the State Board of Education. Unfortunately, we are required by law to charge \$1.00 for each copy of the Manual. We are, however, sending a library copy for your use, and ask that you please return it when your review is completed.

We are mailing, also, a copy of the latest published report covering the two school years 1956-57 and 1957-58, together with a statement which was prepared for the information of members of the 1959 Legislature.

Sincerely,

GEO. A. GLENN  
Statistician

GAG:md



THOMAS D. BAILEY  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TALLAHASSEE

July 31, 1959

*Separate  
copy*

RECEIVED  
AUG 11 1959

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I am replying for Mr. Bailey to your letter of July 27 regarding the Florida Minimum Foundation Program. We are glad to offer any assistance possible.

Some materials are being forwarded under separate cover. I believe that these materials will answer most of your questions. However, the Minimum Foundation Program is a very complex operation, almost impossible to explain fully in writing because of the many technicalities. We have had committees or study groups from a number of states come to Florida and spend several days with us studying our system first hand along with the printed materials.

Please feel free to call on us for any additional information or for the answers to any questions that may arise.

Cordially yours,

*Mitchell Wade*

Mitchell Wade  
Specialist in Research  
and Statistics

IMW:mak



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
ALBANY 1

*Seymour*

ARTHUR W. SCHMIDT  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR SCHOOL  
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

THEODORE C. WENZL  
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF SCHOOL  
FINANCIAL AID

BUREAU OF SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID PLANNING  
WENDELL H. SIMPSON, CHIEF  
PAUL A. HEDLUND, STATE AID ANALYST  
CHARLES J. QUINN, ASSOCIATE  
ELVRYN W. THOMAS, ASSOCIATE  
ANTHONY J. CAPUANO, ASSOCIATE

August 11, 1959

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

RECEIVED  
AUG 11 1959  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Your letter to Commissioner Allen has been given to me for reply.

Inclosed are several brief publications on state aid for public education in the state of New York. Under separate cover I am sending you four lengthier publications giving considerably more detailed information on our plan of school support.

We do not use an index of economic ability, but rather assessed valuations as equalized by a state board of equalization and assessment. Indices of economic ability are used in several southern states. For information on these you could write to Dr. R. L. Johns, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

If I can be of further help to you, please write me again.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Hedlund  
State Aid Analyst

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
The State Education Department  
Division of School Financial Aid

THE FINANCING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN NEW YORK STATE  
IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 1956-57

Paul A. Hedlund  
State Aid Analyst  
State Education Department  
Albany, New York

During the 1956-57 school year \$460,079,621 in State aid was paid to the school districts of the State. Since the total cost of operating public elementary and secondary schools in that year was about \$1,194,000,000, the State contributed about 39 percent of the total. Less than 1 percent came from Federal aid and about 60 percent from local taxes.

Money for State aid comes from the State's general fund, and is derived principally from the personal income tax, general business taxes, excise taxes, and taxes on transfers and exchanges. The local school district's share comes almost entirely from taxes on real property.

About 88 percent of all State aid paid in 1956-57 was what is called foundation aid, or equalization aid. Its purpose is to enable all school districts to provide a basic educational program at least up to the minimum level established in the law, an annual current expenditure of \$330 per elementary child in average daily attendance and \$412.50 for each secondary child.

Up to this expenditure level the State shares in educational costs in such a way that the local burden is the same in all districts, regardless of taxable wealth. This is done by requiring each school district to contribute \$6.80 per \$1,000 on the full valuation of its taxable real property. If this amount falls short of the foundation level of \$330 the State contributes the difference.

A district with only \$4,000 in full value per child will therefore contribute \$27 per child, and the State \$303 per child. A district with \$25,000 in full value per child will contribute \$170 per child, and the State \$160. In no case does the State contribute less than \$129 per child. This method of apportioning State aid is generally referred to as equalization, in that the cost of providing the foundation program is equally spread over all school districts. If a local school district chooses to spend more than \$330 per elementary child per year it is free to do so but this added cost is borne entirely by the local district.

If it were not for this large State fund applied to the equalization of school costs it would obviously be impossible for the less wealthy districts to provide an adequate educational program. Even if the district with \$4,000 taxable wealth per child were to tax itself at the very high rate of \$25.00 per \$1,000 of full valuation, it would still raise only \$100 per year per child, an amount far below that needed for a minimum acceptable program of education.

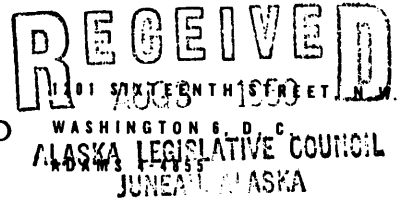
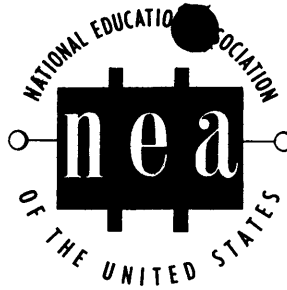
In addition to the equalization aid described above, there are several special aids, such as those for handicapped children, transportation, school buildings, night high schools, summer schools, and adult education. Such special aids accounted for 12 percent of all State aid paid in 1956-57.

State aid is not earmarked as to use, with the possible exception of building aid. It may be used for any purpose for which a board of education may legally spend money.

Foundation  
aid is  
incurred  
by  
1958  
1958

why elementary - secondary difference

# National Education Association



July 31, 1959

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

This is in reply to your letter of July 27. We are enclosing single copies of the reports, Equalization of Property Assessments and Rankings of the States.

Our April 1948 Research Bulletin, "Statutory Bases of State Foundation Programs for Schools" has not been revised. However, we are enclosing the bulletin, Guides to the Improvement of State School Finance Programs which contains similar but not comparable information.

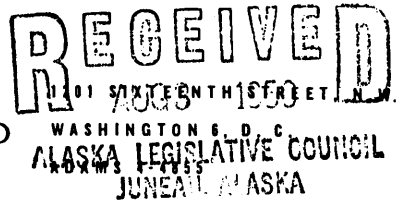
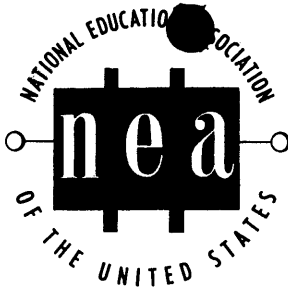
We are glad to be of help to you at this time and hope the materials prove useful for your purposes.

Cordially yours,

Sam M. Lambert  
Director, Research Division

SML:Hss  
Enclosures

National Education Association



July 31, 1959

Mr. John C. Doyle  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Box 2199  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

This is in reply to your letter of July 27. We are enclosing single copies of the reports, Equalization of Property Assessments and Rankings of the States.

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We are glad to be of help to you at this time and hope the materials prove useful for your purposes.

Cordially yours,

Sam M. Lambert  
Director, Research Division

SML:Hss  
Enclosures

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6-1434  
BOX 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

REP. PETER J. KALAMARIDES, CHAIRMAN  
SEN. FRANK PERATROVICH, VICE CHAIRMAN

## SENATORS

WILLIAM E. BELTZ, UNALAKLEET  
EBEN HOPSON, BARROW  
RALPH E. MOODY, ANCHORAGE  
JACK E. WEISE, BETHEL

JOHN C. DOYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## REPRESENTATIVES

ROBERT GIERSDORF, FAIRBANKS  
AXEL C. JOHNSON, KWIGUK  
JOHN E. LONGWORTH, PETERSBURG  
WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

July 27, 1959

National Education Association  
Research Division  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We are interested in obtaining the following publications of the National Education Association for the Alaska Legislative Council reference library:

1. Equalization of Property Assessments, 1958
2. Statutory Bases of State Foundation Programs for Schools (the latest edition)
3. Ranking of the States (the latest edition)

If there is any charge for these publications please send your billing in triplicate. If possible, we would appreciate your forwarding the above pamphlets to us via airmail.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John C. Boyle  
Executive Director

JCD/ds

*Unrecorded*

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 6.1434  
Box 2199  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

REP. PETER J. KALAMARIDES, CHAIRMAN  
SEN. FRANK PERATROVICH, VICE CHAIRMAN

## SENATORS

WILLIAM E. BELTZ, UNALAKLEET  
EBEN HOPSON, BARROW  
RALPH E. MOODY, ANCHORAGE  
JACK E. WEISE, BETHEL

July 27, 1959

JOHN C. DOYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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JOHN E. LONGWORTH, PETERSBURG  
WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

Mr. H. Grant Vest  
Commissioner  
Department of Education  
State of Colorado  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Mr. Vest:

The Alaska Legislative Council is beginning a study of state school finance. In many publications we have read of the progress and success of the Colorado foundation finance program.

We would very much like to review your school finance statutes as well as the rules and regulations of the state Board of Education. We are also interested in any available information on the index of economic ability if one is used, and in any data concerning the use of the "sparsity" factor in state school support in Colorado. Would it be possible for you to send these publications to us?

Thank you in advance for your assistance and early attention to this request.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD/ds

Sent also to: R. Virgil Rohrbough, Superintendent of Schools,  
Dept. of Education, Charleston, West Virginia

# ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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July 27, 1959

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SENATORS  
WILLIAM E. BELTZ, UNALASKA  
EBEN HOPSON, BARROW  
RALPH E. MOODY, ANCHORAGE  
JACK E. WEISE, BETHEL

Mr. M. F. Coddington  
Superintendent  
Department of Public Instruction  
State of South Dakota  
Pierre, South Dakota

Dear Mr. Coddington:

The Alaska Legislative Council is beginning a study of state school finance. We understand that South Dakota has recently launched a foundation program of school support and we are very much interested in your progress to date.

We would very much like to review your school finance statutes as well as the rules and regulations of the state Board of Education. We are also interested in any available information on the index of economic ability if one is used. Would it be possible for you to send these publications to us?

Thank you in advance for your assistance and early attention to this request.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD/ds

*Yellow file copy*

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July 27, 1959

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JOHN E. LONGWORTH, PETERSBURG  
WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

Mr. Lloyd J. Andrews  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Office of Superintendent of  
Public Instruction  
State of Washington  
Olympia, Washington

Dear Mr. Andrews:

The Alaska Legislative Council is beginning a study of state school finance. In many publications we have read of the progress and success of the Washington foundation finance program.

We would very much like to review your school finance statutes as well as the rules and regulations of the state Board of Education. We are also interested in any available information on the index of economic ability if one is used, and in data on the tax equalization program in Washington State as it applies to the Washington State foundation program if such information is available from your office. Would it be possible for you to send these publications to us?

Thank you in advance for your assistance and early attention to this request.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

*Andrews*

JCD/ds

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WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

July 27, 1959

Mr. Frank R. Stewart  
Superintendent  
Department of Education  
State of Alabama  
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The Alaska Legislative Council is beginning a study of state school finance. In many publications we have read of the progress and success of the Alabama foundation finance program.

We would very much like to review your school finance statutes as well as the rules and regulations of the state Board of Education. We are also interested in any available information on the index of economic ability if one is used. Would it be possible for you to send these publications to us?

Thank you in advance for your assistance and early attention to this request.

Sincerely,

John C. Doyle  
Executive Director

JCD/ds

Sent to: Joe Morgan, Commissioner, Dept. of Education  
Nashville, Tennessee *Answered*  
Thomas D. Bailey, Superintendent of Public  
Instruction, Dept. of Education, Tallahassee, Fla. *Answered*  
James E. Allen, Jr., Commissioner of Education,  
Education Dept. Albany, N.Y. (with deletion of  
words "progress and" in 1st paragraph) *Answered*

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WARREN A. TAYLOR, FAIRBANKS

June 29, 1959

Mr. Howard A. Matthews  
Commissioner of Education  
Box 1841  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Matthews:

This is in answer to your letter of May 23 which outlines your concern with the plans of the Legislative Council for the school finance study assigned by Senate Resolution No. 6. The delay in replying has been caused by the recent involvement of the Council staff in post session projects of immediate importance.

A member of the Legislative Council staff, Miss Donna Spragg, has now been given the school finance study as a primary assignment, and preparatory work on the project has begun. You have very likely noted that the intent of SR/6 is that the study and implementing legislation be completed for presentation to the 1961 Legislature. This fact, as well as the general language of the resolution, indicates the desire of the Senate for a truly comprehensive study of this problem. The Legislative Council has placed the assignment high on its priority list.

We are well aware of the basic implications and advantages of the foundation or equalization approach to state finance. However, it should be noted that the wording of the resolution does not directly indicate that the study is to encompass only the possibilities of such an equalization program. Rather, the resolution directs that the Legislative Council "assume full responsibility for developing a comprehensive fiscal study of the various state programs for the support of public schools". In drawing up the project outline we must keep in mind all the implications and limitations of this legislative directive. Obviously, much historical and other data on Alaska's present program of school support must be gathered and analyzed before the Legislative Council will be in a position to propose and support new legislation in this field. The experience of other states must also be carefully weighed, and conditions peculiar to Alaska affecting school finance necessarily must be given full consideration.

TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Box 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

HOWARD A. MATTHEWS  
~~COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION~~  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

May 28, 1959

Mr. Jack Doyle, Director  
Alaska Legislative Council  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I am extremely anxious to learn what plans have been formulated by the Legislative Council to conduct the study of school finance assigned to it by Senate Resolution No. 6. Because the basic legal provisions for school finance in Alaska have remained relatively unchanged since the initial refund laws were passed over 25 years ago, we have a system that is outmoded for the demands of today. There is an urgent need to develop an equalized-foundation program in Alaska. This need has been recognized by school board members, legislators, and educators in Alaska for over at least the last 20 years. Some cursory studies have been made, but with the rise in school costs each fiscal year, caused primarily by enlarged enrollments, the need for a comprehensive study can no longer be delayed. Patch work legislation is not the answer.

The wide diversions between economic ability of communities, as well as the vast differences in numbers of school age pupils, in itself indicates the need for a system of State support which will guarantee a definite level of educational opportunity in each community of the State, irrespective of the relative wealth of that community.

The policy of distributing State funds on the basis of equalization has been well established throughout the United States. At least forty-three States distribute one or more State funds on an equalized basis. The equalization principle of determining State funds is based upon the philosophy that wealth should be taxed wherever it is to educate children wherever they are.

The equalization plan of State support which I am suggesting has some important distinguishing characteristics. The plan involves a definite partnership between the State and the local administrative units. The State defines the minimum program or foundation program of education that should be guaranteed to every child in the State. By foundation program I am talking about that part of the curricula identified as the basic "3 R's." The embellishments, including extra-curricular activities and enrichment activities, are generally conceded to be the responsibility of the local district. In other words, the State minimum

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA

*elmo*

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

*F* March 31, 1959

Acting Governor Hugh J. Wade  
State of Alaska  
Juneau, Alaska

**RECEIVED**  
APR - 1 1959  
**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE**

Dear Governor Wade:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 26th enclosing Senate Resolution No. 6. The University of Alaska stands ready to give maximum co-operation in its support to the Legislative Council as outlined in this Resolution.

Sincerely yours,

*Ernest N. Patty*

Ernest N. Patty  
President

ENP/kb

*Please Reply by Air Mail*

RECEIVED  
APR 2 1959  
ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

ADDRESS ONLY  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
BOX 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

April 2, 1959

TO: Honorable Hugh J. Wade, Secretary of State  
FROM: Howard A. Matthews, Commissioner of Education  
SUBJECT: Senate Resolution No. 8 - Relating to a Study of School Finance

*This is not what I need*

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 27 transmitting Senate Resolution No. 8 relating to a study of State support for schools. We are pleased that formal recognition has again been made of the acute need for a comprehensive review of the relationship of the State to local taxing units in the support of public schools in Alaska. We are very sorry, however, that the Legislature did not see fit to enact a law creating the study and providing definite financial means for it to be accomplished. To my knowledge, each Legislature since 1954 has directed the Legislative Council to make such a study.

I am concerned because of the rather large number of similar study projects being referred to the Legislative Council by the Legislature. Considering that there will be about eight months between the closing of the first Legislature and the opening of the second one, and that during that time reorganization of government must be effected, we fear that there may be already too many projects before the Council for study, with the result that the information that is made available to do the actual study of a particular project is not adequate. Such a study must include establishing an inventory of local taxing units to support maintenance of school buildings. This project in itself will require a tremendous amount of time and effort.

*Wade*

The Department of Education will, to the fullest extent possible, by making available data, files, materials, statistics, facilities, and anything else that is helpful, to assist the Legislative Council in fulfilling this assignment.

HAM  
Howard A. Matthews

TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ADDRESS ONLY  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
BOX 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

March 24, 1958

TO: Office of Governor

FROM: Don M. Dafee, Commissioner of Education

SUBJECT: House Concurrent Resolution No. 20 - Relating to a Long Range Study of the Total Tax Structure

The subject Resolution, while not directly affecting the functions of the Department of Education, does, in my opinion, have long range significance since the financial demands of the educational system are a matter of concern, not only for the State but for local taxing units.

In connection with the school finance study which you have recommended and which we believe is absolutely essential, there is no question but that a long range study of the total tax structure of the State and its political subdivisions will be necessary. In order to equalize the burden of school support, it is necessary to determine an index of local economic ability and in this connection a study of the State tax system and its potential will be required.

I would therefore concur in the intent of this Resolution and believe that the school finance study should be a two part study. The one part would be the determination of the State's basic education program which is the minimum program which should be supported in substantial measure by State funds. The other part of the study would be the determination of the local economic ability in order that an equitable distribution of the burden of support for local political subdivisions could be made in an equalized manner toward the basic school education program.

D.M.D.

RMB:11

cc: Don Dafee

File: 038

TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ADDRESS ONLY:  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
BOX 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

March 9, 1959

TO: Office of Governor

FROM: Don M. Dafos, Commissioner of Education

SUBJECT: School Finance Study

The matter of a comprehensive school finance study was discussed with your office back in January. I was pleased to note that your Message to the Legislature noted the importance of such a study and further to note that in your list of priority legislation you listed a bill to cover such a study.

I discussed this with Burke Riley and just about the time of our discussion, Senator Owen, who had made previous inquiries in regard to a study, introduced a Resolution directing the Legislative Council, with the cooperation of the Executive Branch and the University of Alaska, to initiate and carry out such a study. It is my hope that the Resolution will provide such strength so that the study will surely be taken up at once and completed within the next two years.

For the information of those who will be in a position of setting up criteria and objectives of the study, I am furnishing a copy of a National Education Association publication titled "Guides to the Improvement of State School Finance Programs." I believe that this guide will be of value to all concerned.

I am sending copies to you and to those listed as receiving copies of this memorandum. Since the membership of the Legislative Council has not been finally determined, I am supplying Mr. Doyle with an additional ten copies to be distributed to the Council members.

D.M.D.

DMD:jj

cc: Representative Earl Killip  
Senator Owen  
Mr. Jack Doyle

TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Box 1841  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

*Henry*  
*for your info*

DON M. DAFOE  
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

January 16, 1959

C O N F I D E N T I A L M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Office of Governor  
FROM: Don M. Dafoe, Commissioner of Education  
SUBJECT: School Finance Study

In my memorandum dated January 9th in Item I-b, I mentioned the school finance system. In recent conversation with Mr. Wade and Mr. Riley I developed this point further and mentioned the fact that the Governor's Message might wish to make reference to this need. For purposes of information, I will briefly give facts concerning the present finance system which should point up the need for the school finance study.

The present Alaska system of support to school districts is based on Chapter 49, SLA 1955 which is an amendment of previous laws. The amendment altered only the number of pupils for the percentum groups, clarified language, and provided for audits. This system is based on support for current operating expenses and in the 1957-58 school year, our summary records indicate that 53.43% of the total public school current operating expenses in Alaska came from Territorial funds. 28.34% came from Federal funds and 18.23% from local funds.

The Alaska level of support is higher than the national average which for this same year was 39.9%. However, it must be considered that in Alaska we have no intermediate tax units contributing to the school support program as is the case in most states. In Alaska, our percentage of Federal support is much higher than in the states because of the entire Federal support of the Alaska On Base Schools and because of the high percentage of Federal property in Alaska. In the other states the percentage of support ranges from a low of 5.7% in Nebraska to a high of 81% in Delaware. Our neighboring state of Washington shows 63.8% state support.

Our system has some aspects of a foundation type program. This is a program of school support which provides that the state share in the cost of a basic educational program which should be available on a comparable level to children residing anywhere within the state. Our teachers' minimum salary law provides basic reimbursement to districts varied according to Division, which provides for cost of living differentials between the different areas. By Board Regulation, the maximum allowable number of teachers upon which reimbursement may be claimed is established and budget regulations of the Commissioner establish maxi-

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No

*Stitt*