

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #248 (2000-2001)

March 19, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
BIPARTISAN EDUCATION FUNDING TASK FORCE

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution in support of recommendations of the bipartisan Education Funding Task Force.

PERTINENT FACTS:

On December 8, 2000, Governor Tony Knowles appointed a bipartisan Education Funding Task Force to develop a five-year funding plan by February 1, 2001. The development of this task force was another step in fulfilling the goals of the Quality Schools Initiative, which states that ALL children can reach higher standards.

In conducting its work, the task force followed a four-point framework consisting of Quality, Fairness, Performance and Accountability. The goal was to increase student performance through a variety of new programs tied directly to holding schools accountable for increased student performance.

The task force concluded that a general loss of purchasing power has resulted in schools not being able to maintain an appropriate level of education services. These services include updating instructional materials; aligning curriculum and lesson plans; maintaining facilities; providing direct student intervention; meeting the needs of Alaska's diverse student population; and providing competitive salaries and benefits to retain and attract teachers. As a result, it is likely that many students haven't had the opportunity to meet higher state academic standards.

The School Board is committed to providing a quality education for all our students and supports the Education Task Force recommendations.

CC/LW/CW

Attachment

Prepared by: Cindy Wilsbach, Communications Specialist

Approved by: Larry Wiget, Executive Director, Public Affairs

**ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
ASDR 2000-2001-9**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
BIPARTISAN EDUCATION FUNDING TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, in December 2000, as a step in fulfilling the goals of the Quality Schools Initiative and to improve education in Alaska, Governor Knowles appointed an 11 member bipartisan Education Funding Task Force to recommend a five-year funding plan; and

WHEREAS, the bipartisan Education Funding Task Force has presented its report to the Governor and to the State Board of Education and Early Development; and

WHEREAS, in summary, the bipartisan Education Task Force's major recommendations include:

Appropriating funds through the foundation program: \$34.6 million for year one, with approximately a 1.5% increase each additional year; and

Appropriating funds outside the foundation program: \$7 million for year one (increasing to \$8.6 million in year five); and

Providing funds to attract new teachers; and

Developing a new and appropriate methodology for the foundation formula.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage School Board supports the recommendations of the bipartisan Education Funding Task Force.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage School Board this 19th day of March, 2001.

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

Peggy Robinson, President

Tom Anderson
Debbie Ossiander
Harriet Drummond

Rita Holthouse
Dave Werdal
John Floyd

Carol Comeau, Superintendent