

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE SURVEY

Name: FRED DYSON

District: SENATE DISTRICT I

Please limit each response to no more than 50 words.

1. 21st Century Challenges:

The economy and demographics of Alaska are changing in the 21st Century. Even as state and federal standards require districts to bring all students to greater proficiency, employers demand graduates with continually increasing and changing content competencies.

- A. How do you think our schools/district should change to ensure that all students receive an education that will equip them to succeed?

OUR 3 SCHOOLS & TEACHERS ARE EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD - MOST OF THE STUDENT LEARNING PROBLEMS ARE DUE TO ISSUES OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL -
- WE NOW HAVE THE PARADIM WHERE SCHOOLS ARE EXPECTED TO SOLVE HOME & EMOTIONAL/DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES WE MUST EQUIP THE SCHOOL TO DO SO

- B. What, if any, is the role of the legislature in implementing or facilitating these changes?

GIVE THE SCHOOLS THE RESOURCES TO TEACH THE STUDENTS AND TO BEGIN TO SOLVE THE CHILDRENS "OUT OF SCHOOL" PROBLEMS

- C. What ideas do you have to help school districts prepare Alaska's students to meet the current and growing demand for a trained and technically skilled workforce?

THE BASIC SKILLS OF READING, SPEAKING, AND WRITING PLUS MATH TO ALGEBRA & PLAIN GEOMETRY ARE APPLICABLE ON ALL CAREER PATHS
- COMPUTER SKILLS ARE NOW MANDATORY - WITH THESE TOOLS, STUDENTS CAN SPECIALIZE TO MEET DEVELOPING CAREER FIELDS

2. Increasing Technology Needs for Student Learning and Parent Access to Information:

Not always visible, but critical to the success of the whole education program, technology must receive the increased attention required to keep up with ever-expanding demands.

- A. What role do you see technology playing in education of today's students for jobs of the future?

COMPUTER LITERACY IS ESSENTIAL
- GREAT RESEARCH & COMMUNICATION TOOL

- B. What is your plan for providing adequate funding to meet the growing and ever-changing need for technology in our schools to keep our students competitive in the global market?

- ALLOCATE REQUIRED FUNDS WITH LOCAL CONTRIBUTION FROM ALL OF ALASKA

3. Early Childhood Education:

Alaska is one of only ten states that do not offer early childhood education for 3- and 4-year-olds. What are your thoughts about providing early childhood education opportunities in Alaska?

GREAT FOR DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES
- MUST NOT BE JUST A BABY SITTING AND JOBS PROGRAM
- WE NEED TO TRAIN PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS TO STIMULATE LEARNING AT HOME

4. Highly Qualified Staffing Needs:

What ideas do you have to help Alaska school districts attract and retain highly qualified and ethnically diverse teachers, principals and other professional staff?

- TEACHERS MUST BE ABLE TO CONTROL
CLASS ROOM -
- LOWER PTR

5. Capital Needs:

The State of Alaska currently estimates that school districts need about \$1 billion this year to meet current requirements for new schools and major maintenance to existing facilities. Anchorage alone has \$800 million in identified needs (at today's costs) over the next ten years, but outstanding bonded indebtedness has become a concern to local voters. As a legislator, how would you propose that we address this need?

CONTINUE
- CONTRIBUTE STATE PARTICIPATION IN
BOND PAYMENTS - 80% OR 90%

6. Ideas for Improving Alaska's Public Schools:

Please discuss any ideas you have about improving Alaska's public schools or the way we fund them.

GREAT TEACHERS - PREPARED STUDENTS