

Major Maintenance Statute Change - Concept

Status Quo

- Chapter 14.11. Construction, Rehabilitation, and Improvement of Schools and Education-Related Facilities governs school construction and major maintenance
- The state provides grants for school construction and major maintenance through a needs-based program governed by regulation. Each year school districts submit projects, and they are ranked in need-order. Based on case law, the state should go down the list in order of need.
- Additionally, the state will reimburse for bond indebtedness between 60 and 70 percent for construction and major maintenance projects
- Major maintenance is defined by AS 14.11.013(a)(1)(C) (D) or (E)
 - (C) protect the structure of existing school facilities;
 - (D) correct building code deficiencies that require major repair or rehabilitation in order for the facility to continue to be used for the educational program; or
 - (E) achieve an operating cost savings.

Problem

- The current system incentivizes districts to go into debt for deferred maintenance/system replacements. If districts do not bond then they must pay for 100 percent of the costs; if they bond, they only pay 60-70 percent of the debt.
- As a result, districts may have higher debt loads than need/prudent or if the voters do not approve bonds, they run the risk for more fatal errors in their buildings resulting in higher costs.

Concept Solution

- Allow districts to obtain state reimbursement for major maintenance with other funding mechanisms, including
 - ◇ Cash
 - ◇ Other bonds such as revenue bonds (future cash)
- Keep all other current oversights and the current system (i.e., projects must adhere to regulations that they are major maintenance)

As a result, communities could choose to pay for their major maintenance as part of regular operations or bond, depending on their fiscal policy and finances.

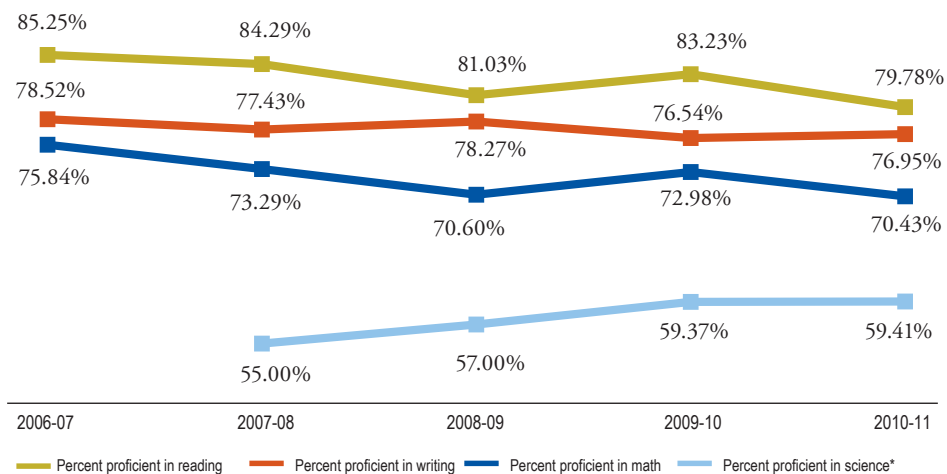
ASD snapshot

26.71% of ASD students do not complete the year at the same school in which they started.

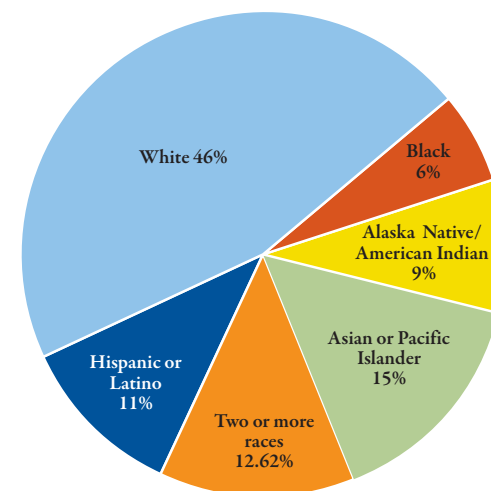
44.26% of students are economically disadvantaged. This means they qualify for free/reduced price meals based on family income levels set by the federal government.

2,439 – ASD students identified as homeless at some point during the 2010-11 school year.

Standards Based Assessments



Race/ethnicity



2012



Anchorage School Board

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Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life



Anchorage School District
Legislative Program

The Anchorage School District depends on the legislature to help us achieve our mission to educate **all** students for success in life, including increasing student achievement and graduation rates and decreasing drop out rates. It is imperative that our youngest learners get the best beginning they can in the initial stages of their schooling, and families must be supported as our partners in our schools. The goal of the Anchorage School Board and administration is to work with local, state, and federal elected officials to secure the necessary legislation for the district to provide the educational and support services needed to fulfill its mission and strategic initiatives and goals.

The Legislative Committee of the Anchorage School Board would like to urge our legislators to look at more equitably distributing their discretionary grant funds to all of the schools in ASD. There is a growing disparity in our schools in the areas of instructional technology, artificial turf fields, playgrounds, etc. We believe this has a direct impact on student achievement, especially in the area of educational technology.

Legislators in the second session of the 27th Alaska Legislature have the opportunity to increase funding for **all** of Alaska's students through an increase in the Base Student Allocation, and for pupil transportation, as well as continuing to assist school districts and municipalities with their high energy and transportation costs. We very much appreciate the legislature's support for the funding of the TRS/PERS unfunded liability payments, the pre-K pilot funding, the pre-funding of the public education fund, the funding in support of the Alaska Performance Scholarship, and for the establishment of separate committees in the House and Senate for Education. The increased funding for Career and Technical Education (CTE) for high schools is highly supported; it is hoped that this funding could be made more flexible in order to be used in our middle and elementary schools where appropriate.

The Anchorage School Board and administration look forward to working with the 27th Alaska Legislature during this legislative session.

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Early Childhood Development and Early Learning

The state can assist in providing a rich learning environment for infants and young

children through community-based, and school-based, programs.

K-3 Proficiency

Parents, families, community organizations and schools can help young students reach academic proficiency by the end of the third grade. Early learning is the key to success in school, and in life. Adequate pro-

grams for our youngest learners set our students on a trajectory of successful academic achievement and an increasing graduation rate.

Technology in the classroom

Alaska and Anchorage students must be prepared for a competitive world. All students should have access to appropriate technology which enhances the teaching and learning environment. Attention must

be paid to a commitment to a consistent plan to refresh educational technology, and to adequate support staff, so that technology is integrated appropriately into the educational program.

Early funding of K-12 schools

At a minimum, the Base Student Allocation should be established at least one, and preferably three, years ahead to provide sufficient time for school districts to prepare and submit their budgets in a timely man-

ner without spending unnecessary time and resources revising budgets based on legislative action after the local budget process has begun.

Increase the Base Student Allocation

The current BSA of \$5,680 has not increased since 2010. This has not allowed

districts to keep up with the increasing costs of energy, transportation, and inflation.

Add Flexibility for CTE factor to include middle school, and elementary, levels where appropriate based on a district's adopted CTE plan

Anchorage's middle schools, and many elementary schools, have embraced career and technical education and applied learning in their instructional program. Many of our schools have developed career planning as integral to our overall CTE plan as a way to add purpose to our students' educational

experience. The legislature increased the CTE factor in the funding formula, but the intent language restricted the use of the funds for high school only. Anchorage believes that the use of the funds for CTE should be a local decision based on a comprehensive CTE plan.

Reinstate the COLA factor for Pupil Transportation

Increasing transportation costs, including mandatory increases for contractors, fuel, tires and other equipment are substantial. Anchorage anticipates that the expiration of the COLA factor in HB 273 on June

30, 2011, will create a reduction of 8.55 percent for the 2012-13 budget year; this would be approximately \$1,823,169 based on a projected ADM of 47,682 or \$407 per student.

Develop an Alternate Statutory Change for Building Systems Renewal and Major Maintenance

Work with the legislature, DEED, and the Governor's Office to develop an alternative method for larger districts to access debt reimbursement for building system

renewal and major maintenance projects that does not require a community to add to their bonded indebtedness. A suggested approach is on the back page of this flier.

Extended Day, Extended Year Funding

The Anchorage School Board supports additional funding to help expand its efforts to create supplemental learning oppor-

tunities for many students beyond the current school day, and outside of the current required 180 days in session.

Change of School Attendance Age Requirements

The Anchorage School Board supports changing the mandatory age for school attendance from the current ages 7-16 to a

proposed age six to either 18 years of age or the acquisition of a high school diploma.

Teacher Certification

Highly Qualified certification for CTE course teachers must be addressed. CTE courses provide extensive content in math, science, language arts, and other areas, but it is difficult for CTE teachers to obtain

Highly Qualified Teacher status. The legislature should encourage and support efforts by the DEED to develop pathways to certification of those teachers.

Maintain and/or Expand Municipal Revenue Sharing and Support for the Continuation of Federal Forest Receipts for Impacted Communities

The Anchorage School Board supports the maintenance and expansion of Municipal Revenue Sharing, and the continuation of federal funding to offset the loss of forest receipts to communities impacted by the loss of tax revenues due to economic chang-

es (Secure Rural Schools Act). If the federal funding is not reauthorized, then the Alaska legislature should use Alaska funds to supplement educational funding for the 24 of 54 districts which would be impacted by the loss of this revenue.

