

AMENDMENT TO ASD MEMORANDUM #109:
FY 2024-25 PRELIMINARY FINANCIAL PLAN AND BUDGET

Bellamy/Jacobs/Lessens Amendment #1

I move to amend the FY25 Preliminary Budget by increasing the Municipal Upper Limit of the Anchorage School District's FY 2024-25 Preliminary Budget by \$8,780,991 as noted below, making conforming changes to projected State revenue and expenditures as necessary:

- Reverse the proposed elimination of 10 holdback teacher FTE, at a cost of \$1,237,737;
- Reverse the proposed elimination of 36.30 teacher FTE across the divisions as noted below and at a cost of \$4,548,839, which would otherwise incur a PTR + 1 increase for grades 4-12;
 - 8.5 FTE at elementary schools
 - 9.8 FTE at middle schools
 - 14.2 FTE at high schools
 - 3.8 FTE at alternative schools
- Reverse the proposed elimination of 5 Immersion FTE, at a cost of \$604,399;
- Reverse the proposed elimination of 18 IGNITE FTE, at a cost of \$2,204,016;
- Ensure that the Pupil:Counselor metric is 300:1 or less at all eight comprehensive high schools by allocating an additional 1.5 net Counselor FTE across Chugiak, Service and South high schools, so that each would receive an additional 0.5 Counselor FTE, at a cost of \$186,000.

I move to amend ASD Memorandum #109 with the following language.

“2/27/2024 Addition via School Board Amendment

The Anchorage School Board intends for the Anchorage School District's 2024-25 (FY 25) Budget to provide the best possible learning environments for all students and to support Board goals for Early Reading Proficiency, 8th Grade Math proficiency, and students' College and/or Career and Life Readiness.

The Alaska House of Representatives' historic amendment and passage of Senate Bill 140, which took place on February 22, 2024 and was followed by a Concurrence vote by the Alaska Senate on February 26, 2024, amends the following statutes relating to K-12 education funding:

- AS 14.03.277 (Charter School Coordinator)
- AS 14.03.010(a) (Transportation of Students)
- AS 14.17.430 (State Funding for Correspondence Study)
- AS 14.17.470 (Base Student Allocation)
- AS 14.30.773 (Support for reading improvement plans)

Should Governor Dunleavy support SB 140's passage into law, adjustments to these statutes would generate additional State supports for public education as well as stable and predictable revenue through the State of Alaska's Foundation Formula:

- \$680 to the Base Student Allocation, from \$5,960 to \$6,640; and
- \$500 per Kindergarten-3rd grade student identified to have a reading deficiency; and
- \$50 per pupil for Student Transportation, from \$481 to \$531

The Anchorage School Board recognizes that SB 140 is poised to benefit District students, families, and educators as well as the Anchorage Municipality as a whole. Governor Dunleavy's approval of SB 140 would:

- Support the Board's goal to improve 3rd grade reading proficiency by providing critical resources directly to the classrooms of District students in Kindergarten-3rd grade who are diagnosed with reading deficiencies, as additional State revenue directed at those students will support the accelerated rates of learning required to improve the District's overall level of 3rd grade reading proficiency;
- Help maintain class sizes for grades 4-12 at FY 24 levels, which will support Board goals for 8th grade math proficiency and for students' College and/or Career and Life readiness. The Board recognizes that these changes would also have a positive impact on educators' working conditions and therefore retention and recruitment; and
- Enable the District to maintain valuable neighborhood-school-based programs and charter school options which provide important learning opportunities for students across the District.

It is the Board's intent to reconvene on or before June 30, 2024 and adopt a specific plan for allocating the full funding stipulated by new and amended provisions approved in SB 140 and funded via the State of Alaska's Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget, so as to align all available resources with the District's instructional and fiduciary needs."